



SEQUOIA AUDUBON SOCIETY

*Bulletin of the Sequoia Audubon Society, San Mateo County
Founded 1949*

*Volume 65, No. 2
April 2014 - June 2014*

Sequoia Audubon On The Cutting Edge By President Jennifer Rycenga

What a remarkable three-plus years it's been at Sequoia Audubon. I've been honored to serve as the President of this dynamic group of birders, conservationists, and citizen-scientists. Together we've leveraged our knowledge, passion, and commitment to local birds and their habitats, with the result that Sequoia is one of the most dynamic birder organizations in the state. Sequoia Audubon has achieved national recognition for being on the cutting edge of twenty-first century birding!

We've produced three successful coastal San Mateo mini-festivals, in partnership with the American Birding Association, the Coastside Land Trust, and the Gay Birders of North America. These have raised the profile of birdwatching as part of local tourism, while also fostering community spirit. The camaraderie of the annual Big Sit in mid-October epitomizes how a fund-raiser can double as a fun-raiser.

Our conservation efforts have helped preserve land throughout the county. Together we helped keep Portola Redwoods State Park open when the budget crisis threatened it. Sequoia and Pacifica activists have secured grant money to protect endangered Snowy Plovers on the north county coast. Our always fruitful Christmas Bird Counts are models of efficiency and coverage, cultivating a valuable conservation record over the decades. The results of these efforts are apparent in a spectacular event like the return of nesting Bald Eagles to Crystal Springs, or in the increase of Western Bluebirds due to Sequoia Bluebird Box monitors.

Thanks to you, our members, Sequoia Audubon remains fiscally strong and stable; we've increased our local membership this year. Look around, and you'll see more talented youngsters attending our meetings, participating on the Christmas Bird Counts, and attending field trips. Recently, Sequoia members led a group of young birders from the Student Conservation Association to Ravenswood, in an expansion of our ongoing educational programs.



Jennifer Rycenga
Photo by Peggy Macres

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Monthly Meetings

San Mateo Garden Center

April

Thursday, Apr. 10th 7 pm

Wildlife - Tropical Pacific

May

Thursday, May. 8th 7 pm

Butterflies

June

Thursday Jun. 12th 7 pm

Marbled Murrelets

Upcoming Field Trips

April

Wed. 2nd Horseshoe Lake

Sun. 6th Pescadero Marsh &

Jasper Ridge

Sun. 13th Edgewood Park

Sun. 20th Pescadero Marsh

Sat. 26th Russian Ridge OSP

May

Sat. 3rd Mitchell Canyon & Filoli

Sun. 4th Pescadero Marsh

Wed. 7th Burleigh Murray

Sat. 10th Mines Road & Butterflies

Sun. 11th Edgewood Park

Sat. 17th Bird banding

Sun. 18th Pescadero Marsh

Sat. 24th SF Watershed

Sat. 31st Horseshoe Lake

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Sequoia Audubon Society

OFFICERS

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Online Birding Guide:

www.birding.sequoia-audubon.org

[http://groups.yahoo.com/group/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SequoiaAudubon)

[SequoiaAudubon](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SequoiaAudubon)

Facebook:

[https://www.facebook.com/](https://www.facebook.com/SequoiaAudubon)

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MEETING PROGRAMS

Wildlife of the Eastern and Central Tropical Pacific

Speaker: Sophie Webb

Thursday, April 10, 7pm

About 12 years ago Sophie Webb started to spend up to 7 months a year at sea working on a variety of research cruises censusing seabirds. The long cruises were run by the Southwest Fisheries Science Center (SWFSC) a lab of the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) based in La Jolla California. The main purpose of the expeditions was to census marine mammals in either the US EEZ in the central Pacific (Hawaii, Palmyra, Johnston Atoll), the Pacific Coast of the US or in the Eastern Tropical Pacific (ETP) a vast area about the size of Africa, extending from San Diego to Hawaii to Ecuador or Northern Peru. Sophie's talk will focus on the wildlife (mainly birds and marine mammals) encountered. Many species of seabirds, some little known, migrate to or through the region from remote Pacific Islands. The data gathered on the cruises have increased our understanding of seabird ranges away from their breeding colonies and marine mammal distribution and recovery (or lack of) in the Pacific.

Sophie Webb has travelled from the Antarctic to the Arctic and numerous places in between to both draw and study birds. She co-authored and illustrated a Guide to the Birds of Mexico and Northern Central America (OU Press) and a Field Guide to the Marine Mammals of the Pacific Coast (UC Press). She has contributed illustrations to a variety of bird guides, books and magazines. In recent years she has written and illustrated three children's books about her research projects. One of her favorite past-times is to sketch wildlife in the field. She is a director of Oikonos: ecosystem knowledge, a research associate of PRBO Conservation Science (now Point Blue) and a sometime employee of NOAA's South West Fisheries Science Center.

Tigers on Market Street! A Remarkable Tale of Butterfly Habitat along San Francisco's Busiest Urban Corridor

Speakers: Liam O'Brien and Amber Hasselbring

Thursday, May 8, 7pm

May 10 – Field trip to Edgewood Park for Butterflies

Not long after the transit tunnels of Muni and Bart went in below Market Street in the 70's, a San Franciscan butterfly - the Western Tiger Swallowtail (*Papilio rutulus*) discovered an ecosystem freshly lined with one of the butterfly's larval food, or host trees: the London Plane sycamore (*Plantanus acerifolia*). Males fly among the treetops, females lay eggs on the leaves, caterpillars feed and pupate, and adult butterflies emerge. This creature's entire lifecycle has played out for years unheralded by the thousands who walk below this canopy daily. As the city re-imagines our grandest boulevard with the Better Market Street Project, join us to learn about a creature that seems to be keeping up in this human-altered landscape. And, add your two cents to this fascinating convergence of city coexistence. Lepidopterists and artists Amber Hasselbring and Liam O'Brien will "tell the tale of a swallow-tail" and propose novel ideas of connecting our two species."

Liam O'Brien is an illustrator, lepidopterist and conservationist. In his former life, Liam was a stage actor. At the time he was living off the Dubose Triangle and a Western Tiger Swallowtail flew into his yard. He watched it for a long time – not knowing that his life had just made a giant shift in a new

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FIELD TRIPS

BY GINNY MARSHALL AND MALIA DEFELICE

Pescadero Marsh – State Park Docent Nature Walks
First Sunday of each month is a morning walk starting at 10:00 am till Noon

The Third Sunday of each month is an afternoon walk starting at 1:00 pm till 3:00 pm

Walks in April are on the 6th and 20th

Walks in May are on the 4th and 18th

Walks in June are on the 1st and 15th

Skyline Open Space Preserve – Horseshoe Lake

Wednesday, Apr. 2, 8:00 am -12:00 pm

Skyline Open Space Preserve attracts an abundance of spring migrants and breeding birds as well as a wonderful variety of resident species. Horseshoe Lake is just one of the many diverse habitats in this park. The hike we will take around the lake will be relatively easy and we will take our time exploring this gorgeous park. Dress in layers.

Directions: The main entrance to this 2,143-acre preserve is located .9 miles south of the Alpine Rd. and Skyline Blvd. intersection on Skyline Blvd. (Hwy 35). The turnoff is on the west side of the road. We will meet in the equestrian parking lot, the southern-most lot of the three parking areas.

Leader: Donna Pomeroy dpom@comcast.net

Jasper Ridge Biological Preserve, Stanford University

Sunday Apr. 6, 8:00 AM (Half day)

There is a fee of \$5 per person for the Jasper Ridge Field Trip. Meet in the parking lot on the right side of Sand Hill Rd as you head west toward the Preserve (near the freeway at the intersection of Lawler Ranch Road and Sand Hill Rd.) to form carpools. Caravan with a leader from the parking area between 7:50 AM and 8:00 AM only. (DO NOT LEAVE EARLIER, AS PARKING OUTSIDE THE GATE IS NOT ALLOWED, SINCE IT POSES AN UNACCEPTABLE TRAFFIC HAZARD!). Trip involves 2-3 miles of moderately strenuous walking, and goes rain or shine.

Leader: Sonny Mencher soccerquiz@yahoo.com.

Trip is limited to twenty people; E-mail Sonny to reserve a space. Those without e-mail call (650) 814-8028

Edgewood County Park

Sunday, Apr. 13, 8:00am - hike will last 3-4 hours

Explore this gem of a park with Susie Hons. Hike through oak woodlands and natural meadows. Look for California Thrasher, Wrentit, Oak Titmouse and Western Bluebird year round. Hike 3-5 miles with some hills. **Directions:** Take 280 to Edgewood Rd. in Woodside. Go east down

(Upcoming Field Trips from Page 1)

June

Sun. 1st Pescadero Marsh

Wed. 4th Gazos Creek &

Pigeon Point

Sat. 7th-9th Northern Sierra

Sun. 8th Edgewood Park

Sat. 14th Marbled Murrelets

Sun. 15th Pescadero Marsh

Wed. 18th San Pedro Park

Edgewood to the park entrance on the right. Meet at the Nature Center. **Leader:** Susie Hons

susieturtlewings@mac.com

Alpine Lake and Ipiwa trail loop

Saturday Apr. 26, 8:30am - hike will last 3 to 4 hours

Join Malia and Chris to explore Alpine Lake and vicinity. We will hike around Alpine Lake through willows, chaparral, and mixed forest, then onto the Ipiwa trail to open grassland. Our moderately easy hike has some gain and loss in elevation and will be 3 to 5 miles. We'll look for Ash-throated Flycatcher and Black-throated Gray Warbler. This is a lovely hike with some beautiful vistas. **Directions:** Meet at the Russian Ridge Open Space Preserve parking lot at the intersection of Skyline Blvd. (Hwy 35) and Alpine Rd. Restrooms are located at the parking lot and at the south end of Alpine Lake. Wear layers. Temps can be cool under the forest canopy and quite warm in the open grassland areas. Bring water and sunscreen.

Leaders: Malia DeFelice and Chris Hayward

maliadances@yahoo.com 650-346-2009

Mitchell Canyon

Saturday, May 3, 8:00am-2:00pm

Mitchell Canyon, on the north side of Mt. Diablo is a great place to see a good variety of oak woodland and chaparral birds. We can hope for migrants and there should still be some wildflowers. We will look for multiple species of flycatchers, vireos and warblers. With luck we may find Western Tanager, Orioles, Lazuli Bunting and with a little more luck, we'll find Hammond's and Calliope Hummingbird and the recently split, Bell's Sparrow. Expect a gentle incline with a steeper trail to the chaparral habitat. Bring lunch and liquids. **Directions:** Take Hwy 92 east to 880 north; continue on to 238 and 580. Take 680 north to Ygnacio Valley Road. Follow Ygnacio Valley Road to a right turn on Clayton Road. Turn right on Mitchell Canyon

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Road and go to the end. Meet in the Parking Lot. There is a \$6 entrance fee. Those who have State Park passes can park free. Roy can take 3 passengers. Contact Roy for carpooling. **Leader:** Roy Carlson
Rbcarlson1@aol.com 650-576-4602

Filoli Estate

Saturday, May 3, 8:30 AM to Noon

We have been invited for a morning of birding at this beautiful site on the edge of the San Francisco watershed land. The grounds of Filoli have a formal garden surrounded by large oaks and trails leading to riparian, redwood and farm habitats. Over 96 species of birds have been found here. **Reservations required as trip is limited to 20 people maximum (sorry, no children under 14).** Participants may remain after the field trip to walk through the house and /or formal gardens at no charge. No food or picnicking is allowed but light food and beverages at the Cafe are available for purchase and the gift shop will be open. **Directions:** Take Hwy 280 to the Edgewood Road exit; go west. Turn right/north on Canada Road and drive approx. one mile to the entrance of Filoli. We will meet in front of the Visitors Center. Heavy Rain Cancels.

Leaders: Sue James and Martha O'Neal Call Sue James (650) 348-0315 to reserve your spot.

Burleigh Murray State Park

Wednesday, May 7, 8:00 am – 12:00 pm

Burleigh Murray State Park is a hidden treasure on the coast. It has very low visitor usage and a very high density of breeding birds. The only trail is the mile-long, old ranch road that leads up to an historic and picturesque old barn. The high number of singing birds will keep this walk at a slow pace. This is a great location to learn and practice birding by ear. Morning fog is common here, but it usually burns off and can be warm and sunny. **Directions:** We will meet at the lower parking lot to the Johnston House, located on Higgins-Purisima Road in Half Moon Bay. Higgins-Purisima Road begins just off of SR1, going east where Main Street ends. The Johnston House is the big white 1850s farmhouse on the hill. We will caravan to Burleigh Murray, which is 1 ½ miles up Higgins-Purisima Road from the Johnston House parking area.

Leader: Donna Pomeroy dpom@comcast.net

Mines Road – The Ultimate Spring Birding Trip

Saturday, May 10, 8:00 AM (all-day)

The variety of habitats in the Mines Road area provides a fascinating array of birds not found elsewhere in the Bay Area. On this trip to the Coast Range east of Livermore, we will look for Phainopepla, Prairie Falcon, Lawrence's

Goldfinch, Lewis's Woodpecker, and Golden Eagles. Bring a full tank of gas, water, and food. Only two reliable restrooms, one at the lunchtime stop and one in mid-afternoon, are available. Weather is unpredictable, from cold and windy to hot and dry. Heavy rain cancels.

Directions: Take the San Mateo Bridge (Hwy 92) east. Follow the signs to I-580; stay on 580 for about 25 miles to Livermore. Take the South Vasco Road exit and follow Vasco to Tesla Road. Turn right on Tesla; go about ½ mile and turn left on Mines Road.

Follow Mines Road about ¼ mile to the Murietta Wells Winery on the right. Pull up to the new gate; go through, and park in the area by the winery, where we will meet. Contact George for carpooling.

Leader: George Chrisman
geodani55@yahoo.com (510) 719-2747

Edgewood Park - Butterflies

Saturday, May 10

Details to be announced.

Leader: Leslie Flint lfint@earthlink.net

Edgewood County Park

Sunday, May 11, 8:30am- hike will last 3-4 hours

See write-up for April 13.

Contact: Susie Hons susieturtlewings@mac.com

San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory

Bird Banding Demonstration, Milpitas, CA

Saturday, May 17, 8am – 10am

SFBBO is a nonprofit with the mission to conserve birds and their habitats through science and outreach. SFBBO conducts research about birds throughout the Bay Area, including mist netting and bird banding studies at its Coyote Creek Field Station in Milpitas. SAS is invited to attend a group tour of the banding station to learn about SFBBO's bird banding research and see several different bird species as they are banded. Participants will also get to tour mist nets and explore a restored riparian habitat. Cost is \$10 a person, and RSVP is required. To become a member of SFBBO and attend future SFBBO banding demonstrations, bird walks, and other events for free, please visit www.sfbbo.org. **Contact:** susancossins@gmail.com to reserve a space. **Directions** will be sent with a confirmation email, along with a description about what to wear and bring.

San Francisco Watershed Walk

Saturday, May 24, 9:00am - 3:00pm (approx.)

Enjoy a leisurely hike in the San Francisco Watershed. We will hike 5 nearly flat miles through chaparral and Douglas

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Fir forests, birding as we go as well as learning about the ecology and history of the area. This area is not open to the public and we should have the trail to ourselves.

Leader: John Fournet, Watershed Docent

Please RSVP to Ginny Marshall ginnybirder@sbcglobal.net
Directions will be provided to those who RSVP.

Skyline Open Space Preserve - Horseshoe Lake

Saturday May 31, 8:30am hike will last 3 to 4 hours

Join Malia and Chris and explore Horseshoe Lake and vicinity. We will hike through diverse habitat of chaparral, willows, and mixed forests. This easy hike will be 2 to 3 miles. **Directions:** The main entrance is .9 miles south of the intersection of Alpine Rd. and Skyline Blvd. (SR35). The turnoff is on the west side of the road. We will meet in the equestrian parking lot, the southern-most lot of the three parking areas. Restrooms are located at the northern and middle parking lots. Wear layers. Bring water and sunscreen.

Leaders: Malia DeFelice and Chris Hayward Contact: maliadances@yahoo.com 650-346-2009

Gazos Creek & Pigeon Point Lighthouse

Wednesday, Jun. 4, 8:00 am - 12:00 pm

Gazos Creek is a prime location in the county to see and hear our summer resident woodland birds such as grosbeaks, warblers and thrushes. This lush coastal canyon, with its permanent stream and light traffic, is an excellent birding location. We will meet at the parking lot at the lighthouse and then carpool to Gazos Creek, since there is limited parking along the pullouts on Gazos Creek Road. When we return to our cars at the lighthouse, we will spend some time looking at the Pigeon Guillemots and other waterbirds. Scopes will be useful at the lighthouse, when we look for seabirds. The weather at the lighthouse can be cold and windy. Bring layers.

Directions: Take Hwy 1 south from Half Moon Bay for 20 miles. Turn right at the lighthouse and drive to the end of the road to the parking area.

Leader: Donna Pomeroy dpom@comcast.net

Northern Sierra Weekend

Yuba Pass, Sierra Valley, Gold Lakes and Other Stops in the Area

June 7, 8 and 9, 2014

Join Martha, Sue and Bob in traveling to the Northern Sierras for a reprise of the SAS yearly trip that Martha led with her husband, Joe Macho, several years back.

The northern Sierra offers a spectacular array of nesting birds. Past trip highlights have included Black-backed and White-headed Woodpecker, Williamson's Sapsucker, Evening Grosbeak, Cassin's Finch, Chipping Sparrow, Hermit Warbler and many more.

The leaders plan to stay at Herrington's Sierra Pines Resort in Sierra City (104 Main St. 430-862-1151), but feel free to choose any other accommodation in Sierra City. Carpools are encouraged. Please register with trip leaders. Trip is limited to 12 participants. **Leaders:** Martha O'Neal monealbirds@att.net, Sue and Bob Cossins susancossins@gmail.com

Edgewood County Park

Sunday, June 8, 8:30am- hike will last 3-4 hours

See write-up for April 13.

Contact: Susie Hons susieturtlewings@mac.com

Mysterious Marbled Murrelets

Saturday, June 14

Location and other details to be announced (reservations only).

Leader: Leslie Flint lfint@earthlink.net

San Pedro Valley Park.

Wednesday, June 18, 9:00am -11:30am

San Pedro Valley County Park is a beautiful wilderness area located in the foothills of the Santa Cruz Mountain Range in the city of Pacifica. We will visit the Old Trout Farm Trail and the picnic groves. Expect to see or hear riparian breeders such as Black-headed Grosbeak, Swainson's Thrush, Wilson's and Orange-crowned Warblers.

Directions: Take SR 1 to the city of Pacifica, 10 miles south of San Francisco or 12 miles north of Half Moon Bay. Turn east on Linda Mar Boulevard. Drive for about two miles, to the end of Linda Mar. Turn right here on Oddstad Boulevard and make an immediate left into the Park. To park inside the park there is a \$6.00 fee. Seniors park free during the week. We will meet at the Visitor's Center.

Leader: Robbie Fischer robbie22@pacbell.net



Mark Kudrav set a new Big Green Big Year record with 326 species seen in 2013. Leslie Flint took this photo on January 9, 2014 as Mark was awarded an SAS Outstanding Accomplishment Award. Congratulations Mark!

The birding community in San Mateo County has grown larger, stronger, and closer over the past three years. We've celebrated our own: Joe Morlan winning the Ludlow Griscom award, and Mark Kudrav setting the Big Green Big Year record with his astonishing 326 species in 2013! We've lost some great friends, too, like inspirational former president and conservationist Robin Smith. But we're sharing our memories, building a history page on our website, and, forging ahead into the era of e-Birding and e-data to preserve sightings and records.

Everything that Sequoia has accomplished can be credited to our members, volunteers, and a remarkable board. Recently someone asked me how Sequoia accomplishes so much as a largely volunteer organization, and I responded that our Board was wholeheartedly talented and (fortunately) tireless! So, I want to acknowledge all the Board Members with whom I've worked as president; each one made unique contributions: Laurie Graham, Sue Cossins, Alvaro Jaramillo, Leslie Flint, Nelle Lyons, Melissa Hero, Susan Stratton, George Chrisman, Malia DeFelice, Edwin Geer, Patty Rouzer, Ginny Marshall, Michael Roche, Don Pendleton, and Nancy Arbuckle.

The bridge Sequoia helped install at Pescadero symbolizes my term as president. First, this bridge spanned the terms of five presidents of this organization: environmentalism calls for long-term patience and persistence. Second, the bridge made our Big Sit possible by providing access to the hilltop. Third, the bridge symbolizes the connections being built between birders, across generations, and into the future with our participation in eBird, iNaturalist, and the growing Bio-Blitz movement. Fourth, we've built bridges to other communities, as in our 'sister' relation with Panama Audubon. Fifth, previous generations of Sequoia members helped preserve Pescadero; now we have to do our part. Sixth, the bridge is visible, reminding me, whenever I see it, how Sequoia is entwined in the warp and woof of San Mateo county.

Forward into the future: there's much we can do to expand our efforts, to record more data, and to celebrate the birds that we love to watch. Thank you for your confidence in sharing your birding life with me and Sequoia!

(Programs Continued from Page 2)

direction. He joined the Lepidopterists' Society that year and started traveling around the country, keeping an intense field journal. He would paint or photograph a location and then illustrate the butterflies and moths that flew there. In 2007 he decided to see what was flying in San Francisco and has visited every vacant lot, every park, every open space, even the islands in search of things on the wing.

Mysterious Marbled Murrelets

Speaker: Portia Halbert, California State Parks

Environmental Scientist

Thursday, June 12, 7pm

Field Trip: June 14 – Dawn Marbled Murrelet Survey – reservations only.

Discover the elusive, endangered Marbled Murrelet, which lives most of its life at sea, but nests only in old-growth. The story begins with how this mysterious bird was "re-discovered" following a winter storm at Big Basin Redwoods State Park in the early 1970s. Learn about marbled murrelet habitat, life cycle and the efforts underway to prevent its extinction in the Santa Cruz Mountains.

Portia Halbert is an Environmental Scientist with the Santa Cruz District of California State Parks. For 13 years she has been part of a resource management team who works to manage parkland and restore habitat in the 70,000 acres of Parks in Santa Cruz and San Mateo counties. Her experience

is based in field work: restoration using heavy equipment for earthmoving, planting and maintaining large areas with native plants, refining the work on invasive exotic plants and incorporating early detection and rapid response, and working with sensitive species such as the California red-legged frog and San Francisco garter snake. As a last and personal favorite, she is also a member the statewide burn crew, helping to reintroduce fire to the landscape.

Monthly Meetings

**San Mateo Garden Center
605 Parkside Way, San Mateo**

*(Parkside Way is west of Alameda de las Pulgas,
between 26th and 28th Avenues)*

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Election of SAS Board of Directors

A nominating committee will be proposing a new slate of officers (check our website for nominees).

SAS members in good standing may participate in the voice vote to be held at the June 12, 2014 general meeting. Officers and directors will take office July 1, 2014.

Other Birding Activities

(SAS does not sponsor the following activities)

Godwit Days

April 16 – 22, 2014

Arcata, CA

Come celebrate the Marbled Godwit and explore the lush Redwood Coast. Observe many bird species and wildlife through our selection of field trips, lectures, workshops, and boat excursions led by experienced local guides. Keith Hansen will be keynote speaker.

Info: www.godwitdays.org

ABA Convention: Corpus Christi, Texas

April 22nd - 26th, 2014 For more INFO: Contact us at events@aba.org, or call (800) 850-2473.

ABA Convention Staff: Jeff Gordon (ABA president), Tom Johnson (Birding photo quiz editor), Jen Brumfield (Tropical Birding Tours and Leica Birding), Jennie Duberstein (Editor of The Eyrie), and George Armistead (ABA Events Coordinator), among others.

Point Reyes Birding and Nature Festival

April 25-27, 2014

The 2014 Point Reyes Birding & Nature Festival will feature David Allen Sibley for the Saturday evening keynote address and a book signing event. The full schedule of events is now available. Join many of the Bay Area's finest naturalists and bird guides for this fantastic 3-day birding bonanza in beautiful West Marin. The Point Reyes Birding Festival is organized by the Environmental Action Committee of West Marin and supports their habitat protection work.

Info: www.pointreyesbirdingfestival.org

Heron Days – Pontoon Boat Bird Tours

Saturday, May 3, Lakeside County Park, Lakeport, CA

Sunday, May 4, Redbud Park, City of Clearlake

Presented by the Redbud Audubon Society, Inc.

There are few other opportunities for Lake County residents or visitors to get out in a boat on Clear Lake to see, learn about, and come to value the nesting herons, osprey, and grebes that breed here during the spring and summer.

Info: www.heronfestival.org or 707-263-8030

Mountain Bird Festival

May 30th to June 1st, 2014.

Ashland, OR

A new eBird Festival, the Mountain Bird Festival, will be hosted by Klamath Bird Observatory and held for the first time this spring in Ashland, Oregon. These festivals are nurturing citizen-driven conservation by helping each attendee contribute to one of the largest and fastest growing biological data resources in existence, eBird.

Info: <http://www.klamathbird.org/education/mountainbird>

13th Annual Mono Basin Bird Chautauqua

June 20-22, 2014

Lee Vining - CA

Three days of evening presentations, workshops, field trips, art, music, food and great birding!

Each year a portion of the proceeds fund a small grant that supports continuing research and education connections. The grant is named in honor of Jeff Maurer, a dedicated field biologist, educator, and long-time Chautauqua presenter. This year we hope to fund up to \$4,500.00 for Mono Basin/Eastern Sierra research. Presented by the Mono Lake Committee, P.O. Box 29, Lee Vining, CA 93541 760-647-6595 **Info:** www.birdchautauqua.org

Conservation

Egret/heron rookery at the Port of Redwood City

In June 2012 an egret and heron breeding colony was discovered at the Seaport Center and Port property in the tall trees mostly along Chesapeake Drive, with the largest concentration at the intersection of Saginaw Drive and Chesapeake Drive. Last year's colony was large and thriving with a total of 75 nests.

The three bird species in this rookery were Black-crowned Night Heron (49 nests), Snowy Egret (18 nests), and Great Egret (8 nests).

We are hopeful for another productive year beginning this Spring.

SAS would like to offer education and outreach opportunities for the community at the site during the height of the breeding season. We plan to have a table staffed by volunteers 2 days a week for a few hours with information, art materials for children to draw the birds, and a scope for better viewing.

If you're interested in assisting in this effort, please notify Sue Cossins susancossins@gmail.com or call 650-347-9358.



Snowy Egret Chicks

Photo by Bob Cossins

Sequoia Audubon Society Membership Form

Individual membership for seniors (>62)
and students (<25) \$15.00
Individual membership \$20.00
Family membership \$25.00
Donation to SAS \$ \$
Total \$ \$

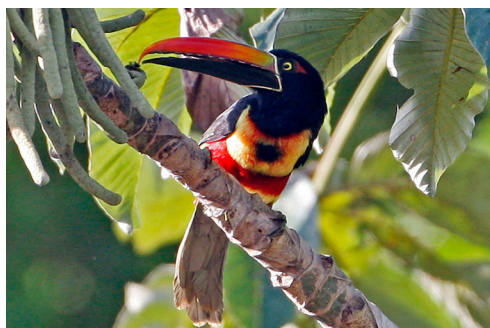
Yes, I am interested in volunteering _____

Newsletter Preference: _____ Mail and / or _____ E-mail

E-mail address _____



During our monthly public meetings SAS proudly serves Bird Friendly coffee certified by the Smithsonian Migratory Bird Center. SMBC Bird Friendly® coffee is 100% organic & shade grown. SAS serves SMBC coffee because it supports our mission, to conserve and educate. For more information on SMBC coffee and how to purchase some visit: <http://nationalzoo.si.edu/SCBI/MigratoryBirds/Coffee/default.cfm>



Fiery-billed Aracari, Shade Grown Coffee Farm, Panama
Photo by Bob Cossins

Sequoia Audubon Society
P.O. Box 620292
Woodside, CA
94062-0292

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Local Nature Events

Free Docent-led Wildflower Walks at Edgewood Park Every Saturday and Sunday from March 15 – June 8, 2014

Walks begin at 10am and end at around 1pm.
Edgewood's serpentine grasslands are renowned throughout California for their lush wildflower carpets and rich biodiversity. The walks vary according to what's in bloom and you might see dozens of flower species on a single walk! Walks cover about 3 miles, at a moderate pace, with frequent stops. No reservation needed. Meet at the Education Center.
Info: <http://www.friendsofedgeswood.org/springtime-wildflower-walks>

Portola Valley/Woodside Earth Fair Saturday, April 26, 11am – 3pm

Portola Valley Town Center
The theme for this year's free Earth Fair is water conservation.
Info: www.portolavalley.net

Mission Statement

Sequoia Audubon Society protects native birds and other wildlife and their ecosystems in San Mateo County by engaging people of all ages in conservation, education, advocacy, and enjoyment.