



SEQUOIA AUDUBON SOCIETY

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

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June - August 2012

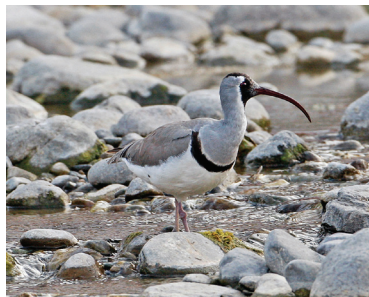
Northern India: Birds, Tigers and the Taj by Leslie Flint

In February/March 2012, several Sequoia Audubon members (Bob and Sue Cossins, Irene Contreras, Pati Rouzer and I) and others, along with our leader, Vivek Tiwari, traveled to Northern India for a two-week birding adventure and with high hopes of seeing Bengal Tiger in the wild.

On our first day we traveled from Delhi to Corbett National Park - some 7 hours by mini-bus. One of the highlights of the trip for me was when we stopped to walk across the bridge that spans the Ganga (Ganges) River. This was just before the festival of Shiv Ratri when streams of pilgrims walk hundreds of miles to and from their villages balancing on one shoulder a single bamboo pole festooned with orange marigolds and from which hang pots of holy water gathered from the Ganges. This combined with the sheer number of people below us in the river bathing, gathering water, children with large magnets capturing the coins tossed into the river, the music, and the endemic white-browed wagtail – it was uniquely Indian.

Later that day we stopped at the Kosi River in search of one of my most wanted birds – Ibisbill (*photo at right*). Ibisbills are in their own family and while not rare, are found only in the high mountain rocky streams of the Himalayas, most often in countries like Kazakhstan. It's a bird that's consistently among the most sought after for ardent world birders. Ibisbill is not often found in India at this time of the year but it had been seen at this location. I had zero expectations but after a few hours of searching and just as we were about to leave, our guide saw one feeding among the rocks. All got great views and photos. And this was just Day 1!

In Corbett we saw Indian Peafowl, Jungle Owlet, Tawny and Brown Fish-Owls, River Tern, and Green Magpie, a stunner of a bird and a treat to actually see this hard to find bird. We were staying in the park that night so took a late afternoon "safari" ride in an open jeep in hopes of seeing tiger (again zero expectations). But within moments of starting, one of the drivers saw a female tiger just 10 feet away from the road in the brush. Heart-stopping. She stood quietly eyeing us and then disappeared into the forest only to reappear farther behind us chasing a monkey into the grass. We raced to a watchtower only to see her disappear again into the tall bushes – the cacophony of deer barking alarm calls and the screeching of the monkeys while the tiger hunted out of our view was unforgettable. Later, Bob and Sue had the good luck to see a male tiger emerge from the forest and snarl at them.



(India - continued on page 8)

Monthly Meetings

San Mateo Garden Center

June

Thursday, 14th 7:00 PM

**Program: Birding Class: High Tech
Innovations in Birding**

July - August

**No Monthly Meetings in July and
August. Next General Meeting**

Sept. 13th

(See program details on page 2.)

Upcoming Field Trips

(See trip details on page 3.)

June

Sunday, 3rd	Pescadero Marsh
Wednesday, 6th	Point Reyes
Sunday, 10th	Arastradero
Sunday, 17th	Pescadero Marsh
Saturday, 16th	Birding Class Field Trip

July

Sunday, 1st	Pescadero Marsh
Sunday, 15th	Pescadero Marsh

August

Sunday, 5th	Pescadero Marsh
Saturday, 18th	Sacramento Valley
Sunday, 19th	Pescadero Marsh

Sequoia Audubon Society

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Ginny Marshall 650-349-3780

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Laurie Graham 650-589-2133

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Audubon Canyon Ranch Advisory

Board Representative

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Online Birding Guide:

www.birding.sequoia-audubon.org

[http://groups.yahoo.com/groups/](http://groups.yahoo.com/groups/sequoiaaudubon)

[sequoiaaudubon](http://groups.yahoo.com/groups/sequoiaaudubon)

Facebook:

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

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MEETING PROGRAMS

High Tech Innovations in Birding By Steve Patt and Melissa Hero

Thursday, June 14, 7:00 PM

Are you tired of lugging around multiple field guides, CDs, tapes, journals, and more into the field when birding? Do you want to carry all of that information, but in the palm of your hand? You can with all the smart phone apps now available. The Information Age has certainly arrived in birding, and this class will

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)

discuss the latest innovations we have available, from smart phone applications to record keeping and the evolution of rare-bird alerts. We'll feature some examples of birding software that is available and in use, along with other readily-available "tricks and gadgets" that you can easily incorporate into your bird-finding ventures.

Steve Patt, an active member of the Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society and owner of Steven Creek Software, has developed Birdwatcher's Diary. Birdwatcher's Diary is an iOS app that allows users to keep lists of bird sightings and share lists and maps through email, social messaging, and eBird.

Melissa Hero, Sequoia Audubon board member and high school biology teacher, avidly uses iPhone birding apps such as Sibley Birds, National Geographic's Handheld Birds, BirdsEye, birdJam, and Birdwatcher's Diary in the field and classroom.

Accompanying Field Trip to the Birding Class

**Meet at the Redwood Shores Public Library Community Room
399 Marine Parkway, Redwood City
Saturday, June 16, 1:30 PM**

Have you purchased some of the birding apps, but don't know where

to start? Are you too afraid to use them? Come out to Redwood Shores and practice using the apps in the field. We will meet at the Redwood Shores Public Library where we will first talk about some of the apps that we will use in the field and change any settings on our devices if needed. Then, we will either bird the slough right outside the library, or drive somewhere nearby. While out in the field, we will practice using the different field guide apps. Afterwards, participants are welcome to meet back at the library to upload data into eBird (bring your laptops) or ask more questions. Note: This field trip is more focused on using and learning the technology than seeing a ton of birds.

Directions: Enter the library and go down the hallway to the right. The library is easily accessible off of 101, take the Marine Parkway exit (Ralston Ave. is the opposite side of 101).

Leader: Melissa Hero, mdhero@msn.com

Election of SAS Board of Directors and Officers

at the June 14, 2012 Meeting

A nominating committee consisting of SAS members Nelle Lyons, Melissa Hero and Ginny Marshall has proposed the following two people for election:

Term ending 2015 – Leslie Flint

Term ending 2015 – George Chrisman
Continuing on the Board of Directors for the 2012-2013 Term:

President - Jennifer Rycenga

Vice President – Ginny Marshall

Treasurer – Michael Roche

Secretary – Laurie Graham

Directors:

Term ending 2013 – Melissa Hero

Term ending 2013 – Nelle Lyons

Term ending 2014 – Susan Stratton

Term ending 2014 - Alvaro Jaramillo

New directors and officers will take office on July 1, 2012

SAS members in good standing may participate in the voice vote.

FIELD TRIPS

BY GINNY MARSHALL

Point Reyes – whole day trip Wednesday, June 6, 2012 – 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Early summer can be a good time to visit Pt. Reyes with the hope of some eastern vagrants and western migrants. Depending on the weather we may walk out to Chimney Rock as well as the Lighthouse so sturdy shoes and the ability to hike a mile are required. Clothing should be layered because the weather at Pt. Reyes is extremely variable. Meet at the Drake's Beach parking lot at 9:00 a.m.

Leader: Leslie Flint, Contact Leslie to carpool from San Mateo lflint@earthlink.net or 650-619-0836

Arastradero Preserve Sunday June 10, 8:00 AM - Noon

The rolling Oak dotted hills of Arastradero Preserve, just south of the San Mateo county line, support a large number of raptors. We will also look for several species of swallow, California Thrasher, Lazuli Bunting, Western Bluebird and House Wren. We will walk 3-4 miles with hills. Bring water.

Directions: Take Highway 280 south to Page Mill Rd. Turn right on Page Mill and right on Arastradero Rd. The parking lot will be on the right.

Leader: Ginny Marshall ginnybird-er@sbcglobal.net

Accompanying Field Trip to the Birding Class

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399 Marine Parkway, Redwood City
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Leader: Melissa Hero, mdhero@msn.com

Swarmin' Swainson's in the Sacra- mento Valley Saturday August 18, 8:00 AM

Each year Swainson's Hawks migrate to Argentina. They gather in the Central Valley before flying south and can be found in large flocks on the ground eating grasshoppers stirred up by tractors plowing fields. We will drive around the back roads near Davis looking for them on the ground and in the air. There can be spectacular numbers of this extraordinary hawk. This trip will also visit the Davis Wastewater Treatment Plant for migrating shorebirds and the Vic Fazio Yolo Wildlife Area in search of yellow-headed blackbirds, white-faced ibis, cattle egrets, and bitterns. This is an early starting trip because the Valley can get quite hot at this time of year.

We will start at the Yolo Basin (Vic Fazio) Wildlife Area. From there we will check the Davis Wastewater Treatment Plant and then spend the afternoon in search of large flocks of Swainson's Hawks.

Directions: From San Mateo, take

(Field Trips continued on page 4)

From the Cornell Lab of Ornithology: The 2012 Great Backyard Bird Count Results

The GBBC held in February was one of stark contrasts. Arctic-dwelling Snowy Owls and redpolls irrupted into the Great Plains and the West in the largest numbers ever recorded in the 15-year history of the Great Backyard Bird Count. Participants reported Eurasian Collared-Doves and Great-tailed Grackles in northerly locations, a sign of the species' continuing range expansion. And spring migration was already underway for several species including Red-winged Blackbirds, Sandhill Cranes, and Snow Geese. Even the Blue Jay, a species often thought to be resident, showed unusual patterns with low numbers recorded in much of the East.

To learn more: <http://www.birdsource.org/gbbc/>



Sequoia Audubon on the Web

Remember to check out our website for updates on field trips, conservation news, and links to great birding sites.

www.sequoia-audubon.org

(Field Trips continued from page 3)

Hwy 101 north toward San Francisco. Take Hwy 80 East over the Bay Bridge and take the Mace Boulevard (74 miles) exit in Davis. Turn left at off-ramp light onto Chiles Road. Go straight through the next light at the Mace Boulevard and Chiles Road intersection. Continue east on Chiles Road. Drive up onto the levee at the end of Chiles Road (do not go under the freeway). Turn left at the top of the levee and enter the Yolo Wildlife area. Meet in the first parking lot (Lot A) on your left at the beginning of the auto tour. This should take you approximately 2 hours depending on your driving speed.

Leader: Leslie Flint (cell: 650-619-0836) lfint@earthlink.net

(Let Leslie know in advance that you are planning to come so she can wait for you if necessary.)

Pescadero Marsh – State Park Docent Nature Walks

First Sunday of each month is a morning walk starting at 10:00 AM till 12:00 Noon

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

Walks in June are on June 3rd and 17th

Walks in July are on July 1st and 15th

Walks in August are on August 5th and 19th

Come and discover Pescadero Marsh. The California State Park Docents will lead a field trip to learn about the marsh. The docents will point out the plants and animals that inhabit this San Mateo County treasure. If it is not raining, meet in the parking lot just over the bridge at Pescadero State Beach. Wear clothing in layers for cold and windy to sunny weather. Heavy Rain Cancels.

For questions contact: Docent Rita Jennings at 650-728-2254

Directions: Go south from Half Moon Bay on Hwy 1, about 12 miles. Just past the bridge over Pescadero Creek, look for the south parking lot. If you get to the intersection of Pescadero Road and Hwy 1 you have gone too far.

Beginner/Family Nature Hike

San Mateo County Birding by George Chrisman

For current updates visit the San Mateo County Year List on SAS's webpage at <http://www.sequoia-audubon.org/SMCbirds.php>. Clearly the most unexpected sighting of the year so far has been the discovery of an overwintering YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER by Ron Thorn at Coyote Point County Park on February 27, 2012. This was the only new discovery with a Rarity Code 6. Previous records have been fall migrants and not chaseable. Fortunately, the bird remained in the area until the first part of March and allowed many county birders to add it to their San Mateo County list.

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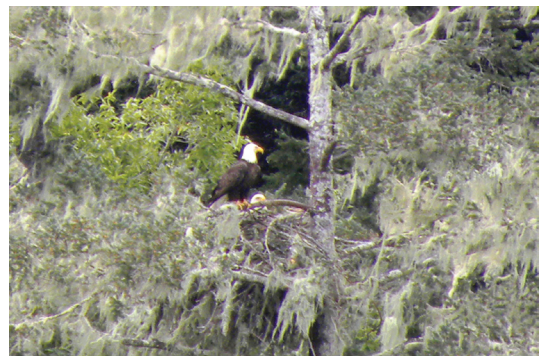
*Crystal Spring's Bald Eagle - Photo courtesy of Greg Koch
www.gkphotography.net*

The Eagle Had Landed! By Jennifer Rycenga

Birders were delighted with the first BALD EAGLE nest in San Mateo county in almost a century, discovered on March 10, 2012 by SAS Board Member, George Chrisman. Because of public interest in the species, the nest, and the return of this bird from endangered species to more robust status, Sequoia Audubon posted volunteers, every Saturday and Sunday, at the location along Lower Crystal Springs from which the Eagles could most easily be observed. The volunteers shared information on Bald Eagles, and had scopes available for viewing them. The eagle watch was planned to continue through the nesting, hatching, and fledgling season.

Unfortunately, the nest failed; the pair was last seen on April 18th. We will not be able to witness breeding success and hatchlings this year. But we feel confident that the eagles will try to nest again next year, and that this breeding failure is not unexpected, due to the age of the eagles in question.

The decision these birds made to nest here in San Mateo county is something we can all celebrate. Many newspapers and radio stations announced the discovery, and the public responded, with as many as 150 people stopping by on weekend days. All of the Sequoia volunteers who spoke with the public at the site knew that the Bald Eagles were inspiring new conservationists, birders, and nature-lovers!



Crystal Spring's Bald Eagles - Photo by Sarah Lenz

OTHER BIRDING ACTIVITIES

(Sequoia Audubon does not sponsor the following activities.)

Bluebird Summer at Edgewood Natural Preserve

This summer, celebrate Western Bluebirds at Edgewood Natural Preserve. From late May through August Friends of Edgewood will sponsor hikes, talks, and activities centered on Western Bluebirds. Visit FriendsofEdgewood.org for more details.

Summer Classes in the Sierra

Golden Gate Audubon Society

GGAS continues to offer its popular BIRDS OF THE SIERRA class, held in a superb place to see Sierra birds in June. As in past years, they will hold two sessions, both of which begin at the Yuba Pass parking lot on Highway 49 between Sierraville and Bassetts. Each class is limited to 35 participants, who are responsible for arranging their own accommodations. You can sign up now for the Sierra classes by calling the GGAS office at (510) 843-2222.

Birds of the Sierra – I

Instructors: Rusty Scalf & Bob Lewis, Rscalf@sonic.net, Bob@wingbeats.org

June 7 (3 PM) to June 10 (noon). Six half-days of exciting field trips, one evening lecture in the Sierra.

Fee includes one group dinner at the SFSU Sierra Campus. \$120 for GGAS members, \$140 non-members.

Birds of the Sierra – II

Instructors: Eddie Bartley & Bob Lewis, Eddie@naturetrip.com, Bob@wingbeats.org

June 14 (3 PM) to June 17 (noon). Six half-days of exciting field trips, one evening lecture in the Sierra.

11th Annual Mono Basin Bird Chautauqua

Lee Vining - CA

June 15 -17, 2012

Three days of evening presentations, workshops, field trips, art, music, food and great birding! All proceeds support continuing research in the Mono Basin.

Live music during the Sunday picnic will be performed by the Adam Burns Band!

Contact: Mono Lake Committee, P.O. Box 29, Lee Vining, CA 93541, 760-647-6595

www.birding@monolake.org

Southwest Wings Birding Festival

August 1-4, 2012, Sierra Vista, AZ

The 2012 Southwest Wings Birding and Nature Festival will be held at Cochise College in Sierra Vista at the foot of the Huachuca Mountains. Sierra Vista at 5,000 feet in elevation is a much cooler climate than the lower desert. August is the Monsoon period in Southeast Arizona which is famous for cooling afternoon rain and great variety of birds. In 2010

our trips totaled 180 species. Spend more time birding and less time riding. Sierra Vista is in the heart of Arizona's best birding areas.

Information: www.swwings.org

14th Annual Kern River Valley Hummingbird Celebration

Saturday, August 11, 2012, 8:00AM - 2:00PM

18747 Highway 178, Weldon, CA

The Kern River Valley - "Hummingbird Viewing Capital of California"

Feeders up March through mid-October

FREE - a no host event held at the preserve. Bird walks, bird feeding workshops, t-shirt sales, information booth. Very low key event.

Contact: http://kern.audubon.org/hummer_fest.htm

37th Annual Conference of WESTERN FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS (WFO)

September 26 - 30, 2012

Petaluma, CA

Please register soon because events are filling quickly. Why? Because there's a great line-up of speakers, field trips, and workshops!

Contact: <http://www.westernfieldornithologists.org/conference.php>

Birding Classes taught by Joe Morlan will be starting up in September 2012. Stay tuned or see Joe's web site at: <http://fog.ccsf.edu/~jmorlan/> for details.

18th Annual Kern River Valley

Autumn Nature and Vulture Festival

Saturday, September 29, 2012

Festival Headquarters: Audubon-California's Kern River Preserve, Weldon, Kern County, California

The Kern River Valley Autumn Nature & Vulture Festival is an annual celebration of the fall migration of Turkey Vultures and the beginning of the fall season in the South Fork Kern River forest.

ACTIVITIES - Our late September festival date also corresponds with what is historically one of the finest weekends for observing fall land bird migration in California. In addition to the presence of many western migrants attractive to eastern birders, there are excellent chances for observing eastern rarities at nearby desert oases. Free Music, Booths, Exhibits at the Kern River Preserve as well as nature walks and nature related workshops. It is with pleasure and anticipation that we cordially invite you to our annual festival. Join us in celebrating the phenomenon of Turkey Vulture migration and the other natural wonders of fall in the Kern River Valley!

Information: <http://kern.audubon.org/tvfest.htm>

Nature Events

California Land Trust

Preserving the lands of the San Mateo County Coast

CLT offers workshops, walks and work parties. Learn about more native and non-native wildflower species abundant on our coast.

Work Parties: Now scheduled for every 1st Saturday & 3rd Wednesday of the month.

Join us for a few hours of work on the land. Depending on what is needed each month we will be pulling invasive species, picking up trash, removing graffiti etc.

Meet at the CLT office, 788 Main Street. 10-noon

Ongoing and Upcoming:

Please “like” us on our Facebook page or follow us @CoastLandTrust

Native plants for sale, 1 gal, \$10 each

Plants & Plant Communities of the San Mateo Coast by Avis Boutell, Toni Corelli & Nancy Frost, \$20

For more information: call Lindsey (650) 726-5056
Coastside Land Trust lindsey@coastsidelandtrust.org

Golden Gate Audubon Society

Announces Wildlife Discoverers, our first summer day camp!

Kids aged 7 through 12 are invited to join in a week of Bay Area birding and wildlife exploration filled with fun and games. Led by our award-winning Eco-Education staff, they'll learn to identify local birds, animals and plants; collect marine life like plankton and crabs; explore beautiful local parks; build animal kites and puppets; make art, sing songs and more.

Wildlife Discoverers camp will run from **July 9 through July 13**. Hours are 9 am to 4 pm, but extended care is available.

Sites include MLK Jr. Shoreline Park, Wildcat Canyon, Point Pinole Shoreline, and Lake Merritt (all in the East Bay).

Cost is \$225. Space is limited to fifteen participants and may fill up fast. Sign up early!

For more information, contact: ggaseducation@gmail.com or (510) 508-1388.

Docents Needed at Audubon Canyon Ranch's Martin Griffin Preserve

Wednesday, June 20, 2012, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

WHAT: Prospective volunteers are invited to a special reception to highlight ACR's 22-week Elementary School Nature Education Program at its Martin Griffin Preserve. The reception will provide an opportunity to learn about the docent training program, meet Audubon Canyon Ranch's (ACR) biologists and active docents.

WHERE: Audubon Canyon Ranch's (ACR) Martin Griffin Preserve, 4900 Shoreline Highway, Stinson Beach, CA 94970

WHY: Each year, the education programs of ACR, provide over 6,000 3rd, 4th and 5th grade students the opportunity to experience nature-based educational experiences at no cost to the schools. Participants in the training learn about local birds, wildflowers, mammals, amphibians, spore and seed producing plants, regional plant communities and nature education techniques. The Docents trained in this program visit elementary classrooms and lead small groups of students on trails at the preserve.

COST: Free

WHO: Amateur naturalists, retired teachers, committed volunteers and people who wish to share their love of nature in order to make a positive difference in the lives of children.

MORE INFO: For more info, call 415-868-9244, email acr@egret.org or visit www.egret.org



*Wrentit - Pigeon Point Road
Photo by Bob Cossins*

Conservation:

EPA Refuses to Address Deadly Wildlife Toll of Toxic Lead Fishing Gear

From the Center for Biological Diversity

www.biologicaldiversity.org

WASHINGTON, Feb 22, 2012 — Ignoring long-established science on the hazards of lead poisoning in the wild, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency today again denied a formal petition to regulate toxic lead fishing sinkers that frequently kill loons, swans, cranes, ducks, geese and other wildlife. Water birds can ingest lead fishing sinkers lost or discarded in lakes and rivers and along shorelines, mistaking them for food or grit, and thousands are needlessly poisoned each year.

Conservation, hunting and fishing, and veterinary groups filed petitions in 2010 and 2011 seeking federal regulation of lead fishing tackle as a toxic substance, but the EPA refuses to act, deferring to localized state regulations and voluntary programs. Roughly 10 million to 20 million birds and other animals die annually from lead poisoning in the United States, mostly from ingesting lead ammunition fragments but also from lead sinkers.

“The EPA is sending a disturbing message that preventable lead poisoning of wildlife is fine as long as states have programs on their books that promote, but not ensure, the use of alternatives to toxic lead fishing tackle,” said Miller. “Getting rid of toxic lead is a campaign that responsible anglers and hunters support, since alternatives safer for wildlife and human health exist” said Jeff Miller, Conservation Advocate with the Center for Biological Diversity.

How You Can Stop the NRA's Lead Poisoning Legislation

A bill has been introduced in Congress that would prevent lead bullets and shot from being regulated by the Environmental Protection Agency as a toxic substance. We need your help to make sure the NRA doesn't get its way and to stop the cruel and misguided “Sportsmen's Heritage Act of 2012.”

To participate in this action alert go to: [http://action.biologicaldiversity.org/p/dia/action/public/?action](http://action.biologicaldiversity.org/p/dia/action/public/?action_KEY=10065)

KEY=10065

You can also help by writing or signing on to an editorial, opinion piece, or letter to the editor in local or regional newspapers, supporting efforts to get the lead out.

We particularly need veterinarians, wildlife rescue centers, scientists, hunters and public health professionals weighing in on the importance of getting the lead out of hunting ammunition. If you can submit an opinion piece to newspapers or professional journals, or are available to talk to media when we get queries from reporters, contact:

Jeff Miller <jmiller@biologicaldiversity.org>

From the Sierra Club: Protect Our Wildlife and Stop the Taxpayer Bailout of Sharp Park

Sharp Park is a failing golf course and by using taxpayer dollars to bail it out, San Mateo County will continue the needless killing of the threatened red-legged frog and endangered San Francisco garter snake.

It is up to us to urge Assistant County Manager, David Holland, to cease bailout plans for Sharp Park golf course. Please write or phone: dholland@co.sanmateo.ca.us 650-363-4131



George Chrisman and Sonny Mencher along with Nelle Lyons represented SAS at the SurvivalFest held at Hillview Middle School in Menlo Park on April 12. SAS's exhibit focused on birds that are *California Species of Special Concern*, (birds that are threatened, endangered or recovered under the Federal Endangered Species Act).

Photo by Nelle Lyons

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 _____

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(India - continued from page 1)

From here we traveled to the high mountains above Naintal to Pangot where the feeder birds included Black-headed Jay, White-throated Laughingthrush, Rufous Sibia, and Rusty-cheeked Simitar-Babbler. We drove on narrow mountain roads to 10,000' to see Koklass Pheasant, Altai Accentor, Eurasian and Himalayan Griffons and Lammergeier at eye-level, and spectacular views of the cloudless Himalaya.

At the Naintal "dump" (literally dump over the edge of the road to the valley below) we had extraordinary views of hundreds of Steppe Eagles feeding. Near Sat Tal our guide found Eurasian Woodcock (totally unexpected and a lifer for Vivek) as well as Chestnut-headed Tesia (tiny, skulky and cute).

All told we traveled within a 200 mile radius of Delhi including visits to the National Chambal Sanctuary (Indian Skimmer and Black-bellied Tern – two species in severe decline), Bharatpur (Painted Stork), and Sultanpur Lake. We saw many wonderful and amazing things, over 350 species of birds and 20 species of mammals, including two more tigers in Ranthambhor National Park and of course the UNESCO World Heritage Site – Taj Mahal.

This trip was special to me in another way, too – I saw my 5,000th life bird at the Chambal River Sanctuary– Crested Bunting.

Welcome!

Sequoia Audubon Society is the San Mateo County affiliate of the National Audubon Society. If you are a new member or have recently renewed, thank you! If you have yet to join, we look forward to meeting you. Please join in the activities of your local organization.

If you'd like to join the local chapter you can find membership information above, or on our website:

<http://www.sequoia-audubon.org>.

Please note: Due to cost constraints the printed newsletter will only be mailed to National Audubon members once a year. Local members (unless indicated otherwise) will receive five issues a year. If you'd like to continue to receive printed newsletters, please check the renewal date above your address and make sure you're up to date. If you prefer e-mail, you can subscribe to our e-mail newsletter any time on our website

Bay Area Birding Events:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/birding-events>

Sialia:

<http://digest.sialia.com//region=2>

Penbird:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/peninsula-birding>

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.