



SEQUOIA AUDUBON SOCIETY

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

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Try this new book: *Bay Area Birds*

Did you know that Rock Pigeons are monogamous and mate for life? Read about this and more in the amazing new reference guide by David Lukas, that's jam packed with essential information about our local birds. It's also compact and easy to carry in the field – a wonderful compliment to any of the illustrated field guides.

David gives us a glimpse into the process of writing such a book:

The Writing of *Bay Area Birds* By David Lukas

What is it like to write a book on birds, especially a book on a bird-rich area like the Bay Area? Well, I just wrote a brand new book called *Bay Area Birds* and I can tell you it's a lot of work! But it was also fascinating to dig deeply into questions about the lives of local birds and piece together disparate pieces of evidence to build a comprehensive picture like a jigsaw puzzle.

I think there has never been a more exciting time to be a bird-watcher in the Bay Area. Recent breeding bird atlases have been completed for nearly every Bay Area county, providing detailed snapshots of birds on a county by county basis. There are also multiple online discussion groups that cover all parts of the Bay



Canyon Wren is one species that has not been well studied and documented in the Bay Area. Photo by Alan Beymer

(The Writing of Bay Area Birds- continued on page 6)

Monthly Meetings

San Mateo Garden Center

November

Thursday, 8th 7:00 PM

Thinking Like a Naturalist

December

Thursday, 13th 7:00 PM

Brazilian Pantanal

January

Thursday, 10th 7:00 PM

The Farallones - Current Research

Upcoming Field Trips

November

Sat., 3rd Coyote Hills

Sun., 4th Pescadero Marsh

Redwood Shores

Wed., 7th Las Gallinas

Weekend, 10th - 11th

Cosumnes River

Sun., 18th Pescadero Marsh

Sun., 25th Arastradero

Preserve

December

Sat., 1st Cowell - Purisima

Sun., 2nd Pescadero Marsh

Wed., 5th Foster City

Sun., 16th Pescadero Marsh

January

Wed., 2nd Cosumnes River

Sun., 6th Pescadero Marsh

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www.birding.sequoia-audubon.org

http://groups.yahoo.com/groups/sequoiaaudubon

Facebook:

https://www.facebook.com/sequoiaaudubon

MEETING PROGRAMS

Thinking like a Naturalist: Reclaiming the Art of Natural History

By John Muir Laws

Thursday, November 8th, 7:00PM

Learn how to get more out of every nature ramble. Developments in neuropsychology have opened doors in our understanding of the brain and cognition and how you can train yourself to see more and to be more curious about what you discover. Naturalist and illustrator John Muir Laws will demonstrate simple and fun techniques you can incorporate into your own recreational nature study or to share with others. A perfect experience for naturalists, teachers, home school parents, and anyone interested in taking their birding and nature study to the next level.

The Laws Guide to DRAWING BIRDS

Written and Illustrated by John Muir Laws
Foreword by David Allen Sibley



The Laws Guide to Drawing Birds is John's latest book. A book signing and sale will accompany the program.

The Brazilian Pantanal: Birds and Jaguars in the World's Largest Wetland

By Paul Donahue

Thursday, December 13th, 7:00PM

The Pantanal of southwestern Brazil is the world's largest wetland, a vast mosaic of rivers, creeks, marshes, swamps, lagoons, tall riparian forest, lower dry forest, and savanna. The area

extends into extreme eastern Bolivia and extreme northern Paraguay, but the majority lies in the Brazilian states of Mato Grosso and Mato Grosso do Sul. This much water attracts abundant wildlife, and the Pantanal is home to large numbers of wading birds and other fish-eating birds, and holds the world's densest population of jaguars, the largest cat in the Americas.

Paul Donahue, a naturalist, bird artist, photographer, environmentalist, and tree climber, has been working in South America since 1972. Most of his time has been spent in the rainforests of the western Amazon Basin doing bird survey work and tape recording bird vocalizations. Paul and his wife, Teresa Wood, have constructed two canopy walkways and dozens of canopy observation platforms to view and study the wildlife of that stratum of the rainforest. Lately, he has been researching jaguars and Zigzag Herons in the Pantanal.

Current Research and Conservation at the Farallon National Wildlife Refuge

By Melissa Pitkin

Thursday, January 10th, 7:00PM

Melissa Pitkin, Education and Outreach Director from PRBO Conservation Science will present on current research and conservation at the Farallones. PRBO, in partnership with US Fish and Wildlife Service, has been conducting research on the Farallones every day and night since 1967. Melissa will present on some of the latest news and give an overview of PRBO's work there. In addition to directing PRBO's Education and Outreach programming for the last 15 years, Melissa spent two winters on the Farallones studying elephant seals. Melissa Pitkin, Education and Outreach Director

Point Reyes Bird Observatory
www.prbo.org

FIELD TRIPS

BY GINNY MARSHALL

Coyote Hills Regional Park

Sat, Nov. 3rd, 8:30AM – 11:30AM

Fall is a great time of year to sample the diversity of Coyote Hills. From wintering waterfowl and passerines to raptors, we can hope to find upwards of 50 species, maybe even some surprises like Golden-Crowned Kinglet. Meet at the Visitor Center at 8:30. We'll walk a few miles of paved and dirt trails checking out the best spots in a variety of habitats from marsh to pond to rocky hillside to bayshore. Scopes are helpful. Rain cancels.

Directions: Take the Paseo Padre Parkway/Thornton Avenue exit from Highway 84 on the east side of the Dumbarton Bridge. Go north on Paseo Padre Parkway about one mile and turn left on Patterson Ranch Road to enter the park. Parking fee \$5.

Leaders: Stephanie

Floyd scfloyd2000@yahoo.com_and Rich Nicholson

Pescadero Marsh – State Park

Docent Nature Walks

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

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

Walks in Nov. are on the 4th and 18th

Walks in Dec. are on the 2nd and 16th

Walks in Jan. are on the 6th and 20th

The California State Park Docents will lead a field trip to learn about the marsh. 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.

Questions: Call Rita Jennings at 650-728-2254

Directions: 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**

Redwood Shores

Jointly sponsored by SAS and Birder's Garden

Sunday, Nov. 4th, 9:00AM – Noon

Upon our return to the store at noon we will be treated to refreshments and a pre-holiday open house and sale.

Additional discounts will be available to SAS members during this sale, even if you can't attend the field trip.

We will visit the birding hot spots of Redwood Shores including Radio Road and Nob Hill Pond with their bounty of ducks and shorebirds. Of course, we'll watch out for the sparrows and warblers, too. Bring binoculars if you have them but extras will be available.

Directions: Meet at 9:00am in the rear parking lot of the Birder's Garden store, 926 El Camino Real, San Carlos. 650-595-0300

We will form carpools for the short drive to Redwood Shores leaving some cars behind at the store.

Co-Leaders: Sonny

Mencher soccerquiz@yahoo.com and Roy Carlson rbcarlson1@aol.com

Beginners are welcome.

FIRST WEDNESDAYS:

Weekday Walks and Field Trips with Leslie Flint on the First Wednesday of every month to some places we may not normally bird and not necessarily in San Mateo County. For all trips carpooling is preferred. Contact Leslie (lflint@earthlink.net) to arrange if a carpool location is not already suggested. Rain cancels trips.

Las Gallinas Wildlife Ponds, San Rafael

Wed. Nov. 7th, ½ day trip 8:30AM – Noon

Las Gallinas Ponds provide an opportunity to study ducks, geese, and raptors. There is always something

(continued from page 1)

January

Fri., 11th Gazos Creek Owling

Sat., 12th Wavecrest

Sun., 20th Pescadero Marsh

February

Weekend, 16th - 17th

Panoche Valley and Merced County

interesting to see and over 100 species have been reported here over the course of a year. Beginner birders are especially welcome on this trip.

Directions: From San Mateo take the Golden Gate Bridge and Highway 101 to the Smith Ranch Road exit just north of San Rafael; go east toward the McInnis Park entrance. Turn left immediately after crossing the railroad tracks and go the end of the road to the Las Gallinas Storage Ponds parking lot. Meet the group by the bridge just past the parking lot. Carpooling encouraged.

Leader: Leslie Flint lflint@earthlink.net

Cosumnes River Preserve

Sat. Nov. 10th and Sun. Nov. 11th

The Cosumnes River is the only remaining unregulated river on the western slope of the Sierra Nevada. In its lower reaches, it flows through one of the biologically richest regions in California's Central Valley, before merging with the Mokelumne River to flow into the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and eventually the Pacific Ocean. The Cosumnes River Preserve was created to safeguard much of this unique landscape.

Please join us on Saturday and/or Sunday, November 10th & 11th, 2012, as we explore Cosumnes River Preserve. On Saturday, there will be a

(Field Trips continued on page 4)

(Field Trips continued from page 3)

River Walk Bird Count at 6:15 am. On Sunday, there will be a Tall Forest Bird Count, also at 6:15 am. These two walks will take place in areas of the Preserve that are not open to the public. For the Saturday walk, meet at the Visitor Parking Lot. For the Sunday walk, meet at Farm Center Gate. For a map and more information about the Preserve, click on this link: <http://www.cosumnes.org/>.

If you don't wish to take part in these walks, you can arrive at the Preserve at your leisure, and meet us at the visitor center at noon. After lunch, we will walk the trails in the Preserve for a total of 4 miles. As the evening descends, we will repair to Woodbridge Road Ecological Reserve to watch the arrival of Sandhill Cranes. We have reserved 8 spaces for docent-led tours for both evenings beginning at 3:30pm; but if a lot of people want to go, we can try to arrange a group (15 or more). The suggested donation is \$10 per person, and needs to be made up front. Therefore we need people to reserve ASAP! If we don't get any takers, we will have to cancel the reservations. People can come on the Crane Tour without coming on the Cosumnes field trip. For more information about Woodbridge Road, click here: <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/delta/cranetour>.

Cosumnes River Preserve is located off Interstate 5 between Sacramento and Stockton

For Direction contact leaders: Laurie Graham and Jeff Fairclough fair80@comcast.net

Arastradero Preserve

Sun. Nov. 25th, 8:00AM -12:00 or so

Let's walk off our Thanksgiving turkey in Arastradero's rolling hills. We'll walk 3-5 miles and watch for wintering raptors, woodpeckers and whatever shows up. Heavy rain cancels, but be prepared for showers.

Directions: Take 280 south to Page Mill Rd. Go right (west) on Page Mill. Turn right on Arastradero Rd. The preserve parking lot is on the right side of the road.

Leader: Ginny Marshall ginnybirder@sbcglobal.net

New Cowell-Purisima Trail

Sat., Dec. 1st, starting at 8:30AM

Work off those Thanksgiving meals with a long, but easy, hike along our sumptuous coast! This morning's field trip will explore the new Cowell-Purisima Trail, opened by Peninsula Open Space Trust last year. We will be looking for raptors, sparrows, and sea birds. This area features the coastal terrace prairie habitat, similar to Wavecrest and Blufftop parks further north in Half Moon Bay. This trip would be especially appropriate for photographers - both new and experienced - because of the sweeping vistas and hawks in flight. This is the first in a planned series of bird trips to new parks along the coast.

Directions: meet at the parking lot on California Route 1, about three miles south of 92, across from the produce stand. Information: http://www.openspacetrust.org/activities/outings_cowell_purisima_trail.html

Leader: Jennifer Rycenga - smcbgeditor@earthlink.net

Foster City

Wed., Dec. 5th, ½ day trip - 8:30AM - Noon

Explore the ins and outs of Foster City – the Shell Bar, Sea Cloud Park, Port Royal and other little known spots. This will be a walking/driving field trip. Dress in layers, wear good shoes and bring a scope if you have one. Meet at the small parking lot at Port Royal and Rock Harbor Lane.

Directions: from Hwy 101, take Hillsdale Blvd east. Turn right on Edgewater Blvd. and follow to the second Port Royal turn. Turn right on Port Royal and at the point where the road turns right, turn left into the little parking lot at Rock Harbor Lane.

Leader: Leslie Flint lflint@earthlink.net

Cosumnes River Preserve, Stockton

Wed., Jan. 2nd, 2013, 8:00AM to dusk

The Cosumnes River Preserve is located halfway between Stockton and Sacramento. This 1500 acre preserve has rich stands of valley oak, riparian forest, and seasonal wetlands. We will look for Ross, Snow and White-fronted Geese, ducks, and Tundra Swans. We hope to see lots of Sandhill Cranes. Bring lunch, liquids, scopes and cameras. We will meet at 8:00 a.m. at the Cosumnes River Visitor Center. Reservations are requested so I know who to expect. For carpooling, contact Leslie. **Directions:** Take Interstate 5 to the Thornton-Walnut Grove Road exit. Go east towards the Chevron gas station onto Thornton Rd, Follow Thornton Road north for about 2 miles and it will turn into Franklin Blvd. Continue north of Franklin, crossing over the Thornton-Franklin Bridge. The visitor center and parking lot are on the right just after crossing the bridge.

Leader: Leslie Flint lflint@earthlink.net

Gazos Creek Owling trip

Fri., Jan. 11th, 2013, 5:00PM - 9:00PM

Must make a reservation on first-come, first-serve basis, with preference to people who were NOT on last year's owling trip. To join this field trip, and receive the details of when and where we are meeting, contact:

Leader: Jennifer Rycenga, at smcbgeditor@earthlink.net.

Wavecrest - Raptors, Sparrows, and Short-eared Owls

Sat., Jan. 12th, 2013, 2:30PM - 6:30PM

The North Wavecrest area is considered by the Sequoia

(Field Trips continued from page 4)

Audubon Society as the most important habitat for wintering raptors in San Mateo County, supporting a greater diversity of raptors and number of individuals than any other site. We expect to see Red-tailed and Red-shouldered Hawks, Northern Harriers, White-tailed Kites, American Kestrels and then at dusk we will make a special effort to see the Short-eared Owl (a species of special concern) that winter here every year. If we are lucky, we may see rarities such as Ferruginous Hawk or Rough-legged Hawk.

Directions: Take Hwy 1 South from Hwy 92. Turn right (west) on Wavecrest Road. Meet at the ball field at the end of Wavecrest Road at 2:30PM.

Leaders: Gary Deghi gdeghe@h-bgroup.com and Jennifer Rycenga

Beginner/Advanced/Family Birding Trip

Panoche Valley and Merced County Wildlife Refuges - Weekend Field Trip

Feb. 16th-17th, 2013

Panoche Road

Sat., Feb. 16th - 8:00AM- 5:00 PM

This trip traverses raptor habitat, which usually produces Golden Eagle, Prairie

Falcon, Ferruginous Hawk and more. We also hope to see Mountain Bluebirds, Mountain Plovers, Roadrunners, and various sparrows. At Mercy Hot Springs we will look for Long-eared Owls. A fee of \$5 per person is required for this location. Spend the night in Los Banos, followed by a day in Merced County.

Directions: Meet at 8:00 AM at the Paicines Reservoir, on the right just past the intersection of Hwy 25 and J-1 in Paicines, 12.5 miles south of Hollister. From there we will drive east through Panoche Valley, ending at I-5 and Little Panoche Road. Be sure to start from Hollister with a full tank of gas.

Leader: Leslie Flint lflint@earthlink.net

**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)

OTHER BIRDING ACTIVITIES

(Sequoia Audubon does not sponsor the following activities.)

16th Annual Sandhill Crane Festival

November 2, 3 and 4, Hutchins Street Square, Lodi, CA
General admission to the Sandhill Crane Festival is free.
Contact: info@cranefestival.com or 800-581-6150

16th Annual Central Valley Birding Symposium

November 15-18, Stockton, CA

Stockton Hilton Hotel, 209-957-9090 (hotel reservations)

Contact: <http://www.cvbs.org> or Frances Oliver's email: cvbsreg@gmail.com

17th Annual Morro Bay Winter Bird Festival

January 18-21, 2013, Morro Bay, CA

Keynote Speaker: Alvaro Jaramillo will give a talk on "Birding Outside the Box: How Our Brain Identifies Birds" on Saturday evening, January 19, 2013.

Contact: <http://www.morrobaybirdfestival.org/> or 866-464-5105

14th Annual Snow Goose Festival of the Pacific Flyway, Butte County, CA

January 24-27, 2013, Chico, CA

Registration begins in early December.

Contact: (530) 345-1865 www.snowgoosefestival.org
email: info@snowgoosefestival.org

Conservation

Sharon Park is saved from development.

In early September, 2012 it was revealed by Menlo Park city officials that the city has to comply with a lawsuit settlement over state-mandated housing quotas and was considering fourteen sites in the city to build a total of 1,975 new homes. Sharon Park was listed as a site for 60 homes. After a flood of emails from residents opposed to the Sharon Heights location, city officials removed Sharon Park from consideration.



Visitors to Sharon Park can find native trees such as Coast Live Oak and California Buckeye and an abundance of bird life. Photo by Bob Cossins

(The Writing of Bay Area Birds- continued from page 1)

Area, and maintain extensive archives of thousands of observations and discussions about particular birds or locations or phenomena.

The Bay Area does not suffer from a lack of expertise or knowledge – if anything the abundance of riches is so overwhelming that there has been no way to easily dig through the data in search of a simple clear understanding about the lives of local birds.

My goal in writing Bay Area Birds was to tackle this mountain of data and translate it into highly readable life history accounts, but just the task of managing the paperwork alone meant that I had to have a friend build me two special ten-foot long desks that allowed me to line up all my research materials and take notes while standing up.

In order to maintain a dedicated focus on the book and to keep all the fragments of data straight in my head I worked 12 hours a day, every single day for four months. The sheer physical and mental effort meant that I had to mix up my activities to avoid fatigue, so I set up work stations around the perimeter of my dining room and divided the research into tasks I could do at the computer, while standing up, and while sitting outside on the porch.

Each bird was a different case. Some species, such as Western Gulls, White-crowned Sparrows, and Acorn Woodpeckers, have been intensely studied and documented. Other species, such as Rock Wrens or Canyon Wrens, have been almost entirely overlooked.

It might seem like everything is known about the lives of local birds, especially due to the extensive documentation provided by breeding bird atlases, but in fact there are many, many gaps in our knowledge about the lives, status, and distribution of local birds. For instance, David Suddjian has done some remarkable work revealing that the Santa Cruz Mountains hold a treasure trove of new discoveries. One of my goals in Bay Area Birds is to not only point out what is known, and also what is not known in hopes that bird-watchers will be encouraged to investigate, explore, and contribute to our understanding of the birds that live around us.

David Lukas is a California naturalist and the author of six books, including Sierra Nevada Natural History and Sierra Nevada Birds. David grew up in Oregon but has been living in the Sierra Nevada and leading bird programs in California for nearly 20 years. His newest book is called Bay Area Birds and it is the first comprehensive guide to the status, life history, and distribution of all the birds that occur in the Bay Area (www.lukasguides.com).

Additional details and information on ordering this book can be found at www.lukasguides.com, or from David Lukas, david@lukasguides.com.

Girl Scouts Birding Field Trips 2012

By Nelle Lyons

Sequoia Audubon sponsored and led birding trips for Girl Scouts in 2012. Kris Olson was an avid birder and was also dedicated to working with the Girl Scouts. The remaining donations made to Sequoia Audubon in memory of Kris and some funds from the Nancy Lechich bequest to Sequoia Audubon made it possible to sponsor four trips for girls participating in the Girl Scouts' special DOF program.

Three trips were held in July. Funds provided buses to bring girls from Gilroy for a day of birding on the ocean at Pescadero and in the redwoods at the Girl Scouts' Camp Butano. The girls saw birds including Brown Pelicans, Heermann's Gulls, and Black Oystercatchers. They learned about the Marbled Murrelet on their way to the camp. They saw Acorn Woodpeckers, California Quail and banana slugs at the camp and then were able to participate in archery. The Gilroy group that visited on the third day actually got to see Marbled Murrelets on the ocean!

The fourth trip was held in September. This group of girls was from Half Moon Bay and they spent the afternoon

birding at Pillar Point. They also saw pelicans, Heermann's gulls, and oystercatchers. They too were treated to seeing Marbled Murrelets! Sooty Shearwaters and Red-necked Phalaropes were also among the birds they saw.

More than 50 volunteer hours made these trips possible. Thirteen Sequoia Audubon members volunteered their skills and shared their passion for birds to create these special experiences for these girls. Thank you to all who participated.



Girl Scouts at Pillar Point Sept. 11, 2012

Photo by Marisa Cidre

2012 was an Interesting Year at Pescadero State Beach.

By Nelle Lyons

In June, Kathy Alberts, a Sequoia Audubon Society member was walking the beach with Garth Harwood when she spotted an adult male Snowy Plover with three chicks. Appropriately, it was Father's Day. According to Peter J. Metropulos, who has records dating back many decades, it is the first record of a sighting of Snowy Plover chicks at Pescadero State Beach since June 18, 1980.

Snowy Plovers lay their eggs in simple scrapes in the sand. It takes four weeks for the eggs to hatch and another four weeks before the chicks can fly, leaving them vulnerable to numerous predators and to human disturbance. State Park Plover Watch volunteers installed symbolic fencing to provide an area of refuge from human activity. The father stays to brood the chicks when they hatch and the mother leaves, often to have a nest with another male. One of the chicks was lost in the first ten days, but two of the chicks fledged making them the first Snowy Plover success story on that beach in more than thirty years. *(see photo page 8)*

The father was a plover banded with uniquely colored leg bands. He is referred to as RA:RO because he has a red band over an aqua band on the left leg and a red band over an orange band on the right leg. PRBO's records show that RA:RO hatched in 2011 on a beach at the Salinas National Wildlife Refuge near Monterey. He was observed at Pescadero Beach in the fall and will likely spend the winter there. He may attempt nesting there again in 2013.

Another unusual event occurred in July at the south Pescadero State Beach parking lot. State Park employees responded to a report of an owl in the pit toilet. Indeed, a Barn Owl was discovered in the sewage vault of one of the restrooms. An animal control officer was requested while park employees considered different options of getting the owl out of the vault. An eight foot board was inserted into the vault pumping access door to give the owl the chance to use it to climb out. After some time the owl did climb out avoiding the need to be extracted with a net. The Peninsula Humane Society animal control officer arrived moments after the owl climbed out and captured it so it could be cleaned and treated. The owl was released back at Pescadero after several days at Wildlife Rescue.

The heron rookery at Pescadero Marsh was also very active this summer. State Park volunteer and Sequoia Audubon member, Suzanne Black, led the survey team that tracked 19 nests. Four species were identified nesting in the rookery – Great Blue Herons, Great Egrets, Snowy Egrets and even a few Double-crested Cormorants. The data was submitted to SFBBO as part of a larger project they have in conjunction with ACR.

In 2013, Snowy Plover monitoring and heron rookery surveys will continue. More formal surveys of all bird species at Pescadero State Beach and Marsh are planned for 2013. If you are interested in participating in these monitoring activities you can become a State Park volunteer. There may be other opportunities around San Mateo County to participate in Citizen Science with Sequoia Audubon.

Contact Nelle Lyons at (650)515-9052 if you would like to get involved.

Conservation

(continued from page 5)

Threatened Grasslands in South San Francisco

From <http://baynature.org> 9/20/12.

The grasslands alongside Sign Hill Park in South San Francisco are being threatened with development.

The land consists of three parcels, and the owner of the largest of them, a 20-acre plot on the eastern edge, wants to put in a housing complex. This area is the last intact remnant of California's Franciscan bioregion and is home to the endangered Mission Blue butterfly, as well as other insects, reptiles and up to 15 native plants. A recently formed "Save Sign Hill" campaign, led by non-profits San Bruno Mountain Watch and Friends of Sign Hill are working to protect this habitat.

Bird Kills by House Cats

News from the American Bird Conservancy (Washington, D.C., August 6, 2012)

A new study of house cats allowed to roam outdoors finds that nearly one-third succeeded in capturing and killing animals. Based on these results, American Bird Conservancy and The Wildlife Society estimate that house cats kill far more than the previous estimate of a billion birds and other animals each year.

The study was carried out by scientists from the University of Georgia and the National Geographic Society's Crittercam program.

View video and photos from the KittyCam at the University of Georgia's website.

<http://www.kittycams.uga.edu/photovideo.html>

Sequoia Audubon Society Membership Form

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

Total \$

Yes, I am interested in volunteering _____

Newsletter Preference:

_____ Mail and / or _____ E-mail

E-mail address _____

Sequoia Audubon Society

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2012 Christmas Bird Counts

The annual Christmas Bird Counts for San Mateo County are among Sequoia Audubon's favorite traditions. Sequoia's first Crystal Springs count was in 1948 with Santa Clara Audubon and began regular annual counts in 1955. The Ano Nuevo Count began in 1972. This year participation in the count will be free.

Crystal Springs CBC, Sat., December 15, 12012

The Crystal Springs CBC is one of the top counts in the country consistently placing in the top 10 in terms of number of species seen. The count circle is centered on the Peninsula and includes the Burlingame shoreline to Redwood Shores on the Bayside and southern Pacifica through Half Moon Bay on the Coastsides with the Watershed, Skyline Blvd., and the suburbs in between. The compilation dinner will take place at Bel-Mateo Shopping Center Round Table Pizza, 61 – 43rd Ave. San Mateo.

Ano Nuevo CBC, Sat., December 29, 2012

The Ano Nuevo Count is also one of the highest ranking counts, consistently in the top 50 counts in the Country. This Count circle includes the area from Pescadero south to Ano Nuevo and up as far as Big Basin and Sam McDonald State Park. This year our compilation dinner will again be held at a Ranch on the Coast with guests invited.

How to Register for the Christmas Bird Count

Participants can register online, using a form that will be linked from the CBC announcement on the webpage or they can contact the CBC Coordinators directly via email. Registration for the Crystal Springs Count will close on December 10 and December 25 for the Ano Nuevo Count to give the coordinators time to organize the teams and provide all participants with instructions and information.

Questions? For more information about the two Christmas Bird Counts, send an email to Leslie Flint, Coordinator at lflint@earthlink.net



Snowy Plover Chicks

Pescadero State Beach, June 2012

Photo by Sonny Mencher

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.