



SEQUOIA AUDUBON SOCIETY

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

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There are Many Reasons to Get Out and Bird this Spring! *by Adam Dudley*

It's APRIL! Spring is here, and with it come the first migrants, whetting our birding appetites for the flood of shorebirds and warblers that arrive later this month and into May. But don't wait to **Get Out and Bird** — now is the time to head outside. Bid adieu to the wintering sparrows and ducks and say HELLO to the harbingers of spring!

In the Yard

Golden-crowned Sparrows will be taking flight this month, but before they head north to breed, listen for their spring songs. They have already started tuning up, and the window for enjoying their songs is fairly short. Hooded and Bullock's Orioles are in the area, so keep your eyes open for these early migrants. Lazuli Buntings and Black-headed Grosbeaks can drop in at feeders in April or May — always welcome visitors! And of course, if you haven't had them up during the winter, it's time to put out your hummingbird feeders! Rufous and Allen's Hummingbirds are on their way! Remember to change the nectar every few days and to use a 4:1 water to sugar ratio with no red dye (and no honey).

On the Water

Most wintering waterfowl depart in late April, but you can still see many species before they go. Their exodus gives way to the return of other water birds like terns, Pigeon Guillemots, Sooty Shearwaters, Marbled Murrelets, and Jaegers. And let's not forget the SHOREBIRDS! Thousands and thousands of peeps, pipers, plovers, dowitchers, knots and phalaropes will be descending on the Bay area to gorge themselves as they head north. Can't tell a peep from a plover? No problem! *Sign up for a field trip and learn from an experienced birder happy to share tips and tricks for identifying these feathered, frenzied feeders. See page 5 for details.*

In the Hills

Songbirds are on the move! It's truly exciting to see our long-distance migrants in full flight! Flycatchers, vireos, gnatcatchers, thrushes, tanagers and warblers are back in force in the woods, while Grasshopper, Chipping and Lark Sparrows can be found with luck on our grassy hills. Raptors are busy breeding while Western Bluebirds will be tending their young in the hundreds of bird boxes around the county.

Listen For

EVERYTHING! New birds will be arriving throughout April and May so go out every morning, even if it's just for a few minutes, and listen to find out who's new in the yard! Wilson's, MacGillivray's, Yellow and Black-throated Gray Warblers arrive in mid-to-late April and announce their return with almost constant singing in the morning. Swainson's Thrushes join Hermit Thrushes and provide an excellent opportunity to learn the difference between their haunting songs. There's nothing better than learning songs and calls from an expert — sign up for a "birding by ear" field trip and learn from an experienced birder happy to share tips and tricks! Add a new bird or two to your "birding by ear" repertoire this spring!

Other Arrivals

Western Kingbird, Western Wood-Pewee, Hermit Warbler, Purple Martins and swallows, the vireos, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, and Vaux's and Black Swifts.

In Addition, Do not Miss

The Global Big Day on May 13th! Help protect birds and the natural places needed for the health of our San Mateo Birds. *See page 7 for more details.*

Monthly Meetings

San Mateo Garden Center
605 Parkside Way, San Mateo

April

Thursday, April 13th 7 pm

City Nature Challenge:

Documenting Nature

Alison Young & Rebecca Johnson

May

Thursday, May 11th 7 pm

Using Evolution to Understand

Bird Taxonomy

Rob Furrow

June

Thursday, June 8th 7 pm

Plovers in a Changing Environment

Karine Tokatlian

Upcoming Field Trips

April

Sat. 1st	SCVAS Birdathon - Big Day
Sun. 2nd	Lake Merced
Wed. 5th	Pulgas Ridge OSP
Fri. 7th	Port of Redwood City
Sun. 9th	Edgewood County Park
Fri. 14th	Education Series - Bayside
Sat. 15th	Edgewood County Park
Wed. 19th	Pinnacles National Park
Sat. 22nd	Filoli Estate

May

Wed. 3rd	Burleigh Murray State Park
Fri. 5th	Sweeney Ridge
Sat. 13th	GBD: Bayside by Bike
Sat. 13th	GBD: Owling and More
Sun. 14th	Edgewood County Park
Fri. 19th	Alpine Pond

June

Fri. 9th	Gazos Creek & Pigeon Point
Fri. 16th	Año Nuevo State Park

The SASsy Seawatchers Sit Big League *by Chris O'Connell*



The Big Sit photo by Donna Pomeroy

For more information, visit <https://www.birdwatchersdigest.com/bwdsite/connect/bigsit.php>

The final Big Sit!™ results are in and we won! Bragging rights, at least. Last October 9, our very own SASsy Seawatchers saw 96 species from a perch above the Pescadero State Beach marsh. This tied with Los Osos, CA for most species tallied in the country. We were outdone only by San Blas, Mexico, which recorded an amazing 127 species.

This is a friendly event involving birders across the country and around the world. Participants carve out a 17-foot diameter circle where they are confined while they count birds. Some birders stay all day, while others come and go throughout it.

The event doubles as a fundraiser. This past year, Sequoia Audubon hosted a Big Ride companion event. Our fundraising efforts were supported by many people and we surpassed our goal with a final tally of \$5607 for both events. Special thanks to Leslie Flint and Rob Furrow for their organizing efforts. Mark your calendars. In 2017, the event will take place on October 8.

President's Message: Relentless Conservation Energy and Birding Innovation

By Jennifer Rycenga

A new year, for birders, means new lists, new challenges, and new horizons. For us in San Mateo County, it also meant a new treat: a Ross's Gull graced us with its Arctic presence in mid-January. Unfortunately, our rare visitor proved to be a new treat for a pair of Peregrine Falcons, too: a cycle of nature we birders can understand, even as we shed tears for dear Ross.

This new year, though, brings with it deep angst over the state of the environment. Last year was the warmest year in recorded history, the third such record-breaking year in a row. Political forces hostile to science and environmental regulation are in control nationally. What do these things mean for us in San Mateo County?

San Mateo's extensive shorelines along ocean and bay provide crucial habitats to birds along the Pacific Flyway, from shorebirds to migrating songbirds, pelagic species to rare vagrants like Ross's Gull. While there are many protected lands within San Mateo County, there are still numerous places in need of safeguarding, especially along the bayside.

Our **Conservation Committee** is active on issues in Pacifica, Brisbane, Redwood Shores, and Foster City, to name but a few. They need more advocates for conservation. From letter-writing to attending city council meetings, everyone has a role to play. Many of us are looking for ways that we can make a difference – and this is one of them. Please contact Marshall Dinowitz or Leslie Flint (contacts listed on the back page of this newsletter) to **get involved now!**

Sequoia Audubon members are helping birds in our county, too, by our innovations in Citizen Science. Our joint bio-blitzes with the California Academy of Sciences and San Mateo County Parks are setting a model for the nation: document your own backyards while sharing expertise and knowledge among aficionados of all species and taxa. The next Bio-Blitz is scheduled for Junipero Serra County Park in San Bruno, Saturday March 25th, from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm. In September we will carry the Bio-Blitz express to San Bruno Mountain!

But you don't have to wait for the occasional Bio-Blitz: you can do it every day on iNaturalist! Since April 2013, our chapter has sponsored the repository at iNaturalist for all species spotted in San Mateo county: <http://www.inaturalist.org/projects/san-mateo-county-bio-blitz>. This project provides a well-documented photographic virtual specimen data-base, comprising over 3500 species and 70,000 individual observations. Sequoia Audubon is proud to be a leader in Citizen Science in our region – and hope that everyone reading this will contribute to the project, and start to imagine how we can best utilize this data going forward.

An Update from Audubon Canyon Ranch

By John Epperson

Audubon Canyon Ranch's Mountain Lion Project has successfully put radio collars on two mountain lions, an adult female and her 13-month-old daughter. The capture, collaring and release went off without a hitch and both lions are being tracked as they move together through their territory. The high-resolution maps are not being released to protect the safety of the lions but it already shows clearly how adept the lions are at hunting very close to human habitation while avoiding any interaction with people.

Equally exciting from a research standpoint is that camera traps show that the mother lion is pregnant, so she will soon chase the yearling away before she gives birth to a new set of cubs. That will allow the researchers to track the daughter as she makes her way out to find her own territory. It is a very dangerous time for cubs as they learn to fend for themselves and avoid attack from other adult lions until they establish their own territory, but researchers will be able to track her progress.

The ACR team of professionals has so impressed the state Fish and Wildlife staff who monitored both collaring events that the Department considers ACR to be their go-to lion experts and asked them to help with another mountain lion situation completely unrelated to ACR's project!

On a birding note, ACR is looking for volunteer expert birders to assist them with several bird census programs. Three of these have been going on for more than twenty years: Shorebird Observer (eight counts per year) and Waterbird Observer (four per year, by boat) on the Tomales Bay, and the Heron and Egret Observer program. There is also a newer program called the Pine Flat Road Breeding Bird survey, which involves travel along Pine Flat Road near Healdsburg during the spring and stopping at prescribed intervals to identify birds in the area. This program requires birders who are adept at identifying by ear as well as visual identification.

If you would like PDF brochures regarding the programs, contact John Epperson at johnepperson2010@gmail.com. If you would like to get on the list of volunteers or find out more about the programs, you can contact Emiko Condeso, Research Coordinator at ACR, at emiko.condeso@egret.org or (415) 663-8203.



ACR Field Cam

To learn more about the ACR mountain lion project, see <http://www.egret.org/acr-mountain-lion-project>

Rare Bird Alert – A Notable Winter By Chris O'Connell

The discovery of some especially rare birds has made for a very exciting winter in San Mateo County.

Don Pendleton found a Ross's Gull at Pillar Point Harbor on January 12. It's only the 2nd state record of the bird (Guy McCaskie found the other at the Salton Sea in 2006). Hundreds of birders flocked to see this bird in the brief 48 hours she spent with us.

Paul Donahue located an Emperor Goose at Sharp Park golf course in Pacifica on January 23. This species shows up in California from time to time but this marks the first confirmed record in San Mateo county. The bird was still there over a month later. We can only wonder when she first arrived.

Peter Metopulos discovered a Vermilion Flycatcher wintering at Cypress Lawn Cemetery on November 27. What appeared as a Christmas ornament turned out to be a real bird. This is only the 2nd record of the bird in our county. He was quite cooperative, posing for many photos on both tombstones and trees through February.

Steve Miller found a Magnolia Warbler at a hot spot on Stage Road on December 11. This rare wintering warbler attracted many eager birders, and his discovery illustrates the phenomenon known as the Patagonia Rest Stop Effect. This spot was first put on the map in 2011 when an Eastern Phoebe was located here. The Phoebe is now back for its 6th winter. Meanwhile, a Yellow-bellied Sapsucker has returned for the second straight year. And Ferruginous Hawks are now regularly noted here. Not a bad spot for the birds, and the birders!



Ross's Gull



Emperor Goose



Vermilion Flycatcher



Magnolia Warbler

photos by Donna Pomeroy

MEETING PROGRAMS

April 13, 2017 “City Nature Challenge: Documenting Nature Locally for Science (and Beating LA!)” with Alison Young and Rebecca Johnson



Alison Young and Rebecca Johnson

while simultaneously adding to a global biodiversity database. This talk will familiarize you with iNaturalist and get you ready to help the San Francisco Bay Area win the 2017 City Nature Challenge! This program will be coupled with an iNat mini BioBlitz, Saturday, April 15 at Edgewood County Park - see field trips for more info.

Alison and Rebecca are both marine biologists and they co-lead the Citizen Science program at the California Academy of Sciences. In November 2016, Rebecca and Alison were named by Bay Nature Magazine as their 2017 Local Heroes for Environmental Education, recognizing their significant contributions to public understanding and awareness of our local ecology.

Started in 2016 for the first ever National Citizen Science Day, the City Nature Challenge was a bioBlitz-style competition between Los Angeles County and the San Francisco Bay Area, engaging residents and visitors in documenting nature to better understand our urban biodiversity. Over 20,000 observations were made by more than 1000 people in a one-week period, documenting approximately 1600 species in each location, including new records for each area. This April 14-18, the City Nature Challenge is going national, with cities around the country joining in the competition, and the plan is to take it international in 2018. The City Nature Challenge is an event anyone can take part in and is a fun and easy way to promote urban nature awareness and making contributions to

research and management in your own community,



Citizen Science in Action

May 11, 2017 “Birds in Trees - Using Evolution to Understand Bird Taxonomy and Relationships” with Rob Furrow

Who decides which species goes first in your field guide? Why are falcons next to woodpeckers, and not near hawks? We can use some basic principles from evolutionary biology to understand how the trees of species relationships (phylogenetic trees) are built. With this under our belt, we’ll learn about the taxonomy of North American birds, and make note of some surprising connections.

Rob Furrow works as a biology educator, teaching freshman courses at Stanford University and students of all ages in the Intermediate Birding course at the Palo Alto Adult School. He is passionate about education, birding, and their intersection, and serves on the board of Sequoia Audubon Society.



Rob Furrow

June 8, 2017 “Plovers in a Changing Environment” with Karine Tokatlian

Western Snowy Plovers in the South Bay nest on former salt evaporation ponds, and since 2003, the San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory has monitored these cryptic, federally threatened shorebirds. Unfortunately, their population continues to struggle in the South Bay with mounting predator pressure and habitat loss due to tidal marsh restoration. The San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory is investigating the method of using oyster shell habitat enhancement to maximize breeding success in the wake of their changing environment.

Karine Tokatlian manages the San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory’s Plover Program and oversees plover-related research and monitoring activities. Karine has a B.S. in Field and Wildlife Biology from California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo, and is currently working toward an M.S. in Environmental Studies at San Jose State University. She has nine years of professional experience monitoring protected breeding bird populations along the California coast, including the Western Snowy Plover and California Least Tern.



Karine Tokatlian



Sequoia Field Trips

SCVAS Birdathon -- Sequoia Audubon Society special feature!

Saturday, April 1, Full-day Trip with Rob Furrow; RSVP Required

Team name: Peninsula Plovers

Do you ever wish your Big Days had more ocean views? This all-day San Mateo County Big Day will start with seabirds and lush riparian around Pescadero, work north to the hyper-productive Pillar Point Harbor, then use the remainder of the day to explore mountain and bayside habitats. Come be an April fool with us! This trip is partnered with the Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society's Spring Birdathon fundraiser: www.scvas.org. A donation or fundraising for Sequoia Audubon Society of at least \$50 is requested for participation: www.sequoia-audubon.org/donate.html. 120+ species. **RSVP** to receive location and timing info: robertfurrow@gmail.com.

Lake Merced, San Francisco

Sunday, April 2, 8:00 am - 12:00 pm

Located in the southwest corner of San Francisco, Lake Merced is the largest freshwater wetland between Pt. Reyes in Marin County and Pescadero Marsh in southern San Mateo County. The 509-acre lake is regarded by many birders as offering some of the best birding in the city of San Francisco. Much of the lake is surrounded by marsh and heavy willow growth, providing cover both for water birds and small passerines. The lake is a hot spot for migrating birds and hosts significant flocks of waterfowl in winter. Join leader **Dominik Mosur** as we take an easy walk to explore the lake and Harding park golf course. **Location:** Meet at the Harding Park golf course entrance on Harding Road.

Pulgas Ridge Open Space Preserve

Wednesday, April 5, 8:00 am - 11:00 am

Pulgas Ridge OSP is not as well-known as its neighboring park, across the road, Edgewood Preserve. We will explore this oak woodland and grassland in search of birds, wildflowers and butterflies. **Directions:** From Edgewood Road (near I-280), go north on Crestview Drive, then take an immediate left onto Edmonds Road. The parking lot is clearly marked on Edmonds. The trail is moderately strenuous, but the slow pace should allow everyone to keep up. Bring fluids, sunscreen, hat, etc. **Leader:** Donna Pomeroy. **Contact:** dpom@comcast.net.

Under-birded areas of San Mateo County: Port of Redwood City

Friday, April 7, 8:00 am - 11:00 am

While other birders watch the "well known" hotspots, join leader Adam Dudley on an exploration of some of the most under-birded areas in the county. The Port of Redwood City is an industrial center, surrounded by extensive tidal marshland, bays and inlets, and with a few urban parks. Almost no bird reports come from this area of the county (one eBird hotspot has just 1 species reported!), so we have an excellent opportunity to increase our knowledge of the birds that use this area during late winter and spring migration. We'll time our visit to coincide with a rising tide so we can watch shorebirds coming to roost and ducks feed in the fast-flowing channels. Given the lack of data from this area, who knows what we may see! **Directions:** Meet at the public shore parking lot at the end of Seaport Boulevard (to the west of Westpoint Harbor). **Leader:** Adam Dudley. **Contact:** Adam. Dudley@iCloud.com.

Edgewood County Park from Nature Center

Sunday, April 9, 8:00 am - 12:00 pm

Explore this gem of a park while hiking 3-6 miles through oak woodlands, some hills and natural meadows, **Directions:** Take 280 to Edgewood Rd. in Woodside. Go east down Edgewood to the park entrance on the right. Meet at the Nature Center. **Leader:** Susie Hons **Contact:** susieturtlewings@mac.com

Education Series 3: Peeps, Plovers & Phalaropes (RSVP Required)

Various bayside shorebird locations

Friday, April 14, 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Do you struggle to tell a plover from a peep? Do you want to learn more about some of the longest-distance migrants in the birding world? Join leader Adam Dudley on our third education series field trip, which will help you improve your understanding of the life of shorebirds and improve your shorebird identification skills. Birds will be in their fantastic "alternate" (or breeding) plumage and so we'll be able to appreciate their colors! While focused on this fascinating group, we will also be looking for other birds of interest along the Bayside as we explore several areas as the tide comes in. There will be no specific lunch stop, so bring lunch with you and eat while birding (the best way to eat!). The trip is suitable for beginner and experienced birders alike. **Leader:** Adam Dudley. Please contact Adam if you would like to join this trip and for exact details. **Contact:** Adam.Dudley@iCloud.com.

National Citizen Science Day Field Trip at Edgewood County Park

Saturday, April 15, 8:00 am - 12:00 pm

In celebration of National Citizen Science Day, join San Mateo County's top iNaturalist enthusiasts for a morning at Edgewood County Park. Attend our Thursday night program on 4/13/2017 to become familiar with iNaturalist and spend Saturday morning documenting all of the plants and flowers, insects including butterflies, herps, birds and other animals we can find. Be sure to download iNaturalist before arriving and bring a fully charged smart phone or camera. **Directions:** We will meet at the dirt parking area along Cañada Road, opposite the entrance to the Clarkia trail. From Hwy 280, go west on Edgewood Road to Cañada Road. Turn left on Cañada Road and follow it as it goes under the freeway. Look for the dirt parking area on the right and the trail entrance on the left. **Leaders:** Jennifer Rycenga, Donna Pomeroy and Leslie Flint. **Contact:** lflint@earthlink.net.

Pinnacles National Park

Wednesday, April 19, 8:00 am - 3:00 pm

Pinnacles lies just south of Hollister and affords the opportunity to see California Condor in the wild. We'll also look for canyon wren, Lawrence's goldfinch, prairie falcon and more. **Directions:** Take Hwy 101 south through the city of Gilroy to Hwy 25 south. On Hwy 25, go through the town of Hollister and continue about 30 miles to Hwy 146. Turn right on Hwy 146, then turn left into the Pinnacles Campground and Visitor Center. Allow 2 hours driving time. \$15.00 entrance fee (per car). Bring a flashlight for walking through the caves. Contact Leslie for no-host carpool. **Leader:** Leslie Flint **Contact:** lflint@earthlink.net.

Filoli Estate (RSVP Required)

Saturday, April 22, 2017, 8:30 am to 12:00 pm

Filoli Estate is the property of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. We have been invited for a morning of birding at this beautiful site on the edge of the San Francisco Watershed. In addition to birds, the wildflowers should be very plentiful at this time; especially in the shadier areas on the back roads. The grounds of Filoli have a beautiful 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 this 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 Cañada Road and drive approx one mile to the entrance of Filoli. We will meet in front of the Visitors Center. **Heavy Rain Cancels. Call Sue James at 650-348-0315 to reserve your spot. Leaders:** Sue James and Martha O'Neal.

Burleigh Murray State Park

Wednesday, May 3, 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 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 it 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 further up Higgins-Purisima Road. **Leader:** Donna Pomeroy. **Contact:** dpom@comcast.net.

Under-birded areas of San Mateo County: Sweeney Ridge

Friday, May 5, 8:00 am - 11:00 am

Join leader Adam Dudley on an exploration of one of the most under-birded areas in the county. Sweeney Ridge presents one of the most beautiful hikes in the Bay Area, and we'll be hiking along mainly paved trails for about 3.5 miles (two miles each way along a gentle climb). The northern shore of the Crystal Springs Reservoir opens below you, and panoramic views of the ocean and the entire Bay Area are breathtaking. This is an excellent opportunity to increase our knowledge of the birds that use this area during spring migration, as well as to discover which "early-nesters" are here. Last year at this time two migrating Black Swifts were seen from Sweeney Ridge. **Directions:** We'll approach Sweeney Ridge from the eastern side, South of San Bruno mountain. Access to Sweeney Ridge begins at the end of Sneath Lane in San Bruno. From either El Camino Real, Skyline Boulevard in San Bruno, or Interstate 280 take Sneath Lane west to where it ends at a locked gate. There is parking space for a small number of vehicles in a small paved parking lot. **Leader:** Adam Dudley. **Contact:** Adam.Dudley@iCloud.com.

Edgewood County Park from Nature Center

Sunday, May 14, 8:00 am - 12:00 pm. See April 9 entry for details.

Global Big Day - Gazos Creek/Pigeon Point - RSVP Required

Saturday, May 13, 4:00 am - 11:00 am

Gazos Gazers, led by Jennifer Rycenga & Donna Pomeroy. This trip includes owling. Starts at 4:00 am. We will cover Gazos Creek and Pigeon Point. Last year the highlight of this trip was the phenomenal dawn chorus, which even upstaged the owls! **Trip limited to 5 participants.** **Leaders:** Jennifer Rycenga & Donna Pomeroy. **RSVP TO:** dpom@comcast.net.

Global Big Day - Bayside by Bicycle

Saturday, May 13, 8:00 am - 1:00 pm

May can seem a bit late, but migrating songbirds continuing to filter across our county throughout the month. We will take advantage of our nimble form of transportation to wiggle through the various migration hotspots of Redwood Shores and Foster City. **Directions:** Contact the leader for more details on meeting location. **Leader:** Robert Furrow. **Contact:** robertfurrow@gmail.com.

Alpine Pond and Ipiwa Trail loop – RSVP Required

Friday, May 19, 8:30 am - hike will last 3 to 4 hours

Join Malia and Chris as we hike around Alpine Pond through willows, chaparral, and mixed forest, then onto the Ipiwa trail to open grassland. Our moderately easy hike has some elevation gain and will be 3 to 5 miles. We'll look for May migrants including Ash-throated Flycatcher and Black-throated Gray Warbler. This is a lovely hike with some beautiful vistas. **Please confirm if you intend to attend this field trip as predictions of Heavy Rain will cancel.** **Directions:** Meet at the Russian Ridge OSP parking lot at Skyline Blvd (Hwy 35) and Alpine Road. Temperatures can be cool under the forest canopy and quite warm in the open grassland areas. Bring water and sunscreen. **Leaders:** Chris Hayward and Malia DeFelice. **RSVP:** malia.defelice.sas@gmail.com. If you are running late call 650-346-2009.

Gazos Creek & Pigeon Point Lighthouse

Friday, June 9, 8:30 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. When we return to our cars at the lighthouse, we will spend some time looking at the Pigeon Guillemots, other waterbirds and whales. 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:** Adam Dudley. **Contact:** Adam.Dudley@iCloud.com.

Edgewood County Park from Clarkia Trailhead

Sunday, June 11, 8:00 am – 12:00 pm

Explore this gem of a park while hiking 3-6 miles through oak woodlands, some hills and natural meadows. Look for California Thrasher, Wrentit, Oak Titmouse and Western Bluebird year round. **Directions:** Take 280 to Edgewood Rd. in Woodside. Go west down Edgewood; turn south on Cañada Road to the Clarkia Trailhead (see map at <http://parks.smcgov.org/edgewood-park-trails>) **Leader:** Susie Hons **Contact:** susieturtlewings@mac.com.

Año Nuevo State Park - Swallows and Swifts; RSVP Required; \$10 entrance fee

Friday, June 16, 9:00 am - hike will last 3 to 4 hours

Join Malia and Chris to explore Año Nuevo State Park. Año Nuevo State Park is a wonderful birding location for a variety of seabirds, coastal prairie birds and raptors of all sorts. But this time of year one can see the six expected swallow species, and if we're lucky, Black Swifts. We will focus on ID'ing and comparing the swallow species in flight! A predicted low tide at 9:52 am will allow us access to Cove Beach where we can view the largest Bank Swallow nesting colony in San Mateo county. We will keep our eyes to the skies for Black Swift which also nest in the area. This time of year we can walk out to the point without a docent, so we will go and see what birds we can find out there. **Please confirm if you intend to attend this field trip as predictions of Heavy Rain will cancel.** **Directions:** Meet at the parking lot inside Año Nuevo State Park (http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=523) **There is a \$10 entrance fee.** Wear layers. Temps can be cool this time of year or quite warm in the open dune and grassland areas. Bring water and sunscreen. **Leaders:** Chris Hayward and Malia DeFelice. **Contact:** malia.defelice.sas@gmail.com to RSVP. Call 650-346-2009 if you are running late.

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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.

Sequoia Audubon Society

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Support our Chapter's Work - Donate

Please consider an extra donation to your chapter in support of the work we do to provide birding trips, monthly programs, monitoring conservation concerns around the county, education and outreach. **Thank you!**

Give a Gift Membership or in Recognition

Has someone inspired you, or just done something kind for the world or for the birds? A donation in recognition gives toward supporting our Chapter's work.

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Support SAS through Amazon Smile when you shop online

A percentage of your purchase can be donated to support the work of SAS whenever you shop on Amazon. You get the same products, prices and service **and** support our work to protect native birds and other wildlife and their ecosystems. The only difference is that, to support SAS through Amazon Smile, you must access the site: <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/94-60929053>.

We're looking for Volunteers! Get Involved! Take Action!

You can make a difference! How can you help? Join our team! For more information, email: office@sequoia-audubon.org

Make Sure Your Coffee Supports Birds – Buy Bird Friendly SMBC Certified Coffee

Does your daily coffee support bird habitat or contribute to the demise of Neotropical landscapes? If it doesn't have the Smithsonian Migratory Bird Center (SMBC) Bird Friendly certification seal your money does not support farming practices that support resident and migratory birds. During our monthly public meetings Sequoia proudly serves Certified Bird Friendly coffee, 100% organic and shade grown from *Birds and Beans, The Good Coffee* (<https://www.birdsandbeans.com>) and generously donated for each monthly meeting by Susan Rowinski.



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 _____

P.O. Box 620292, Woodside, CA 94062-0292

Contact us: 650.529.1454

or

office@sequoia-audubon.org

Visit our website: www.sequoia-audubon.org

Check out our Online Birding Guide:

www.birding.sequoia-audubon.org

Join our Yahoo Discussion Group:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/SequoiaAudubon>

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