



SEQUOIA AUDUBON SOCIETY

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

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January - March 2016

Welcoming Wintering Birds to Our Shores, Fields and Backyards

Shorebirds



Wandering Tattler

Warblers



Townsend's Warbler

Sparrows



White-crowned Sparrow

Raptors



Merlin

Fall may mean migration, but one bird's north is just another bird's south.

By Ashley P. Taylor

photos by P. McGann

Sad some of your favorite birds are going south for the winter? Don't worry—others are coming to take their places. As birds that breed in the lower 48 states head to Central and South America, those from the boreal forests of Canada and Alaska are also heading south in search of warmer climes. One study found that in California's Central Valley, there are just as many different bird species around in the winter as in the summer. While there isn't good data showing whether this seasonal trade-off is just as balanced in other locales, "winter visitors" can be found all over the country, says Jeff Wells, Science and Policy Director for the Boreal Songbird Initiative. "There's this massive sea of a billion or more birds that come down into the U.S. and become, often, the common birds of backyards and parks and lakes and ponds," says Wells. "Yet we don't think so much about where they're coming from and what their needs are."

Helping these winter visitors out could help sustain their populations in both their wintering and summering grounds. Birds have the same needs—food, water, shelter—in winter as they do any other time. Winter habitat has also been shown to affect breeding success, according to studies on tropical-wintering birds, and the same could be true for the boreal birds wintering here, says Kristen Dybala, who led the California study. If the birds don't find quality habitats with good food, their health suffers, Dybala explains, and it may take them longer to gather the energy to migrate back to their breeding grounds. When they finally arrive, the best breeding spots might be taken. "Each stage of the annual cycle kind of depends on the previous one," says Dybala. Basically, it's a snowball effect.

While conservationists tend to pay the most attention to habitats during breeding season, "there's this whole other season that we haven't been paying nearly as much attention to, and there may be opportunities to do a better job providing higher-quality habitat during the winter," Dybala says.

Tips to welcome wintering birds

- prevent collisions at home with window deterrents (see p.6)
- provide food (keep seed dry), water and shelter. Leave a brush pile, plant for winter berries
- cats indoors. PHS has a demonstration 'cat patio' to let your furry predator enjoy outside and protect yard birds
- avoid chemicals in your yard, street, and home as much as possible (including medications)
- nest boxes cleaned out for winter roosting
- go birding and post your sightings! It helps scientist know who and how many are using your habitat

Monthly Meetings

San Mateo Garden Center

January

Thursday, Jan. 14th 7 pm

Hummingbirds, Tanagers & More

Peter Shattner

February

Thursday, Feb. 11th 7 pm

How Do Burrowing Owls
Spend Their Winter?

Lynne Trulio

March

Thursday, March 10th 7 pm

The Naturalist's Notebook:
Tricks from the Tool Kit

John Muir Laws

Upcoming Field Trips

January

Wed. 6th Pillar Point Harbor

Sun. 10th Edgewood Co. Park

Sat. 23rd Panoche Valley

Sun. 24th Merced Co. Backroads

Sun. 31st Bedwell for Beginners

February

Wed. 3rd Pescadero State Beach

Sat. 6th Raptors of San Benito

Fri. 12th Pillar Pt. & Princeton Harbor
Plus Great Backyard BC!

Sun. 14th Edgewood Co. Park

Sun. 14th Laurelwood & Sugarloaf Mtn.

Sun. 14th Radio Road

March

Wed. 2nd Nob Hill & Redwood Shores

Sun. 6th Candlestick & Heron's Head

Sun. 13th Edgewood Co. Park

Sun. 26th Burlleigh Murray State Park

A Very Big Thank You!

The Big Sit and now our new green event, The Big Ride, is our biggest fundraising event of the year. **Thank you** to all who participated and all who donated! The funds go towards supporting Sequoia Audubon Society in our mission to protect birds and their habitats in San Mateo County.

The Big Sit – 85 Species by Jennifer Rycenga

The Big SIT! was a big hit, with 16 participants across the day spotting/detecting 84 species. Highlights included a RED KNOT in the North Pond, a steady stream of BLACK-VENTED SHEARWATERS and two PINK-FOOTED SHEARWATERS, a BARN SWALLOW, AMERICAN PIPITS, and at least two HOUSE WRENS. The heroes of the morning watch - Mark Kudrav and Gena Zolotar - made a bigger difference than we even guessed at the time, because about 8:30 am the fog settled down, and never lifted! Never! This meant a ridiculously low number of passerines, adding to the drought-caused decrease in waterfowl. The fact that we pulled 84 species from this pea-soup is stunning, really. As evidence, I offer our two biggest misses, birds never before missed on the Pescadero Big SIT!- Red-throated Loon, and Red-tailed Hawk. That's right, RTHawk!

Big Ride by Rob Furrow- Exactly 100 species!

On Sunday, Oct 11th, our BIG RIDE team had a very different weather experience from the Big SIT! team. Cloudy and sunny, but never foggy, until we reached the Pescadero Marsh. We logged 13 miles of bike-birding, starting at Gazos Ck. State Beach to Pescadero along Cloverdale Rd., and finishing at Pescadero Marsh. Over that distance, we managed to find 100 species and enjoy a lovely ride. Our two major highlights were a PRAIRIE WARBLER and a CHESTNUT-SIDED WARBLER at Water Lane. Other highlights included: many Black-vented Shearwaters heading north along the coast, along with Common and Pacific Loons, and very determined northbound flocks of Elegant Terns, a California Thrasher on Gazos Creek Road, as well as a Black-throated Gray Warbler mixed into a Townsend's Warbler flock nearby, many Golden-crowned Kinglets and Red-breasted Nuthatches along Gazos Creek Road among the Douglas Firs, a flyover Lawrence's Goldfinch on Cloverdale Road, a beautiful array of rocky shorebirds at the southern rocks of Pescadero State Beach, including several Wandering Tattlers, Surfbirds, Black Oystercatchers, and Black Turnstones.



Left photo: Big Riders going green (left to right): Chris O'Connell, Leader Rob Furrow & Malia DeFelice. Photo by Chris Hayward.

Right photo: Big Sit Team (left to right): Doug Pomeroy, Lisa Kelly, Donna Pomeroy, Nelle Lyons, Ginny Marshall, Leslie Flint, Jennifer Rycents, Anne Kelley. Photo by M. Dinowitz.

Malia's Column – Bird Sightings San Mateo County from Bay to Mountains to Coast

January 2016! Everyone's end of year's totals from the previous year gets set to zero and birders hit their favorite patches on New Year's Day finding birds, creating lists and seeing how many species they can get on day "one". All in all, San Mateo county birders are out and about setting the pace for the New Year! Why do folks get out birding in the middle of winter? Birder's are not only compiling lists of expected winter birds but can also be delighted to find the rarer one's as well. To inspire you, the following is a compilation of highlights from the last 3 Januarys from 2013-2015. Snow Goose, Ross's Goose, Rough-legged Hawk, Rock Sandpiper, Horned Puffin, Slaty-backed Gull, White-winged Dove, Common Poorwill, Williamson's Sapsucker, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Red-naped Sapsucker, Eastern Phoebe, Lapland Longspur, Black-throated Blue Warbler, Harris's Sparrow, Summer Tanager and Baltimore Oriole. The record high number of species for the month of January since the cumulative yearlist began in 2009 is 221, set in January 2014. Let's see if we can beat that in 2016!

Every month of the year the volunteer team for the cumulative yearlist tallies up all the "new" birds seen for that month. The tally is then kept on the San Mateo County cumulative yearlist which can be found on Sequoia Audubon's website here: <http://www.sequoia-audubon.org/SMCbirds.php> This year's cumulative yearlist volunteer team is **Error! Contact not defined.** and Chris Hayward. Please report all your bird sightings to the Peninsula-birding Yahoo group <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/peninsula-birding/> or to eBird <http://ebird.org/> Happy New Year and Good Birding!

MEETING PROGRAMS

The monthly meetings, held at the San Mateo Garden Center, 605 Parkside Way, San Mateo, includes timely announcements, news of interest to the birding community, occasional Chapter business and exceptional speakers. The doors open at 6:30 pm for reception and light refreshments, followed by announcements and the speaker presentation at 7:00. Meetings conclude at approximately 9:00 pm.

January 14, 2016 “Hummingbirds, Tanagers and More” with Peter Schattner

This program will focus primarily on the spectacular hummingbirds, tanagers and other colorful birds of Ecuador, Panama and Mexico. Besides highlighting the intrinsic beauty of these birds, Peter’s images often present striking examples of bird behavior as well as of the remarkable similarities and differences among bird species. Although the emphasis definitely will be on colorful birds, other dramatic creatures – including a newly identified mammal species, the Western Hemisphere’s largest eagle and most poisonous snake as well as a surprise or two – may well also work their way into the presentation.

Peter Schattner is a retired biologist, physicist and photographer. His recent book ‘Sex, Love and DNA’ entertainingly describes how our genes and proteins affect our lives.



Sword-billed Hummingbird by P. Schattner

February 11, 2016 “How do Burrowing Owls Spend Their Winter?” with Lynne Trulio, Ph.D.

Much of the research on western burrowing owls (*Athene cunicularia hypugaea*) has focused on breeding birds in the spring and summer, but how they spend their winter has been a mystery. However, recent data from studies are beginning to shed light on this critical question. In our region, Lynne, Phil Higgins and Debra Chromczak, have begun a study of our local wintering burrowing owls. She will summarize the literature on wintering western burrowing owls and provide preliminary data from our first year of the Santa Clara County wintering burrowing owl study.

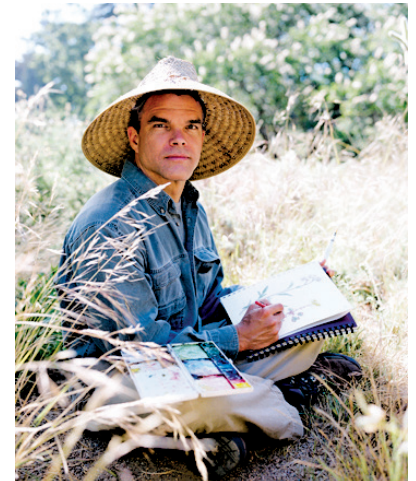
Lynne Trulio, Ph.D., is the Chair of Environmental Studies at SJSU and has been researching the ecology and recovery of the western burrowing owl in California for over 20 years.

Note: The correct date for the following event is March 10, 2016.

March 1, 2016 The Naturalist’s Notebook: Tricks from the Naturalist’s Tool Kit with John Muir Laws

How can you become a better observer and naturalist? Bring pad and pencils for an evening of drawing and journaling tricks and techniques that you can apply immediately. A journal or logbook of discoveries in nature is a ubiquitous part of a naturalist’s gear, more important than binoculars or a microscope. Learn how to keep your own notebook to open the door to richer discovery, better memory, and more fun in nature. Discover key tools to help you focus your observations, organize your thoughts, enhance recall of critical details, stimulate creativity, and expand the possibilities for your adventures and discoveries in nature.

John (Jack) Muir Laws a wildlife biologist, writer, nature educator and Research Associate with the California Academy of Sciences. He has written and illustrated several books about art and nature and is a regular contributor to Bay Nature magazine with his “Naturalists Notebook” column. He is the founder and host of the Bay Area Nature Journal Club.



John (Jack) Muir Laws

Pillar Point Harbor



Sequoia Field Trips

Wednesday, Jan 6, 9 am – 12 pm

This hot spot for birding year-round has a variety of resident birds and wintering shorebirds. Most of the walking is on fairly level dirt trails, but we may hike up onto the bluff top for a better view out to sea. Scopes will be useful here. Bathroom available. **Directions:** From Highway 1, turn west at the stoplight at Capistrano Road and continue along the north side of the harbor to Prospect Way, right on Broadway, left on Harvard Ave., then right onto West Point Avenue which curves around a marshy area and heads uphill to an Air Force Radar Facility. Meet at the “West Shoreline Access” parking lot below the “Golf Ball”. **More information:** <http://birding.sequoia-audubon.org/description.php?loc=18&p=0>.

Leader: Donna Pomeroy: dpom@comcast.net

Edgewood County Park

Sunday, Jan 10, 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 east down Edgewood to the park entrance on the right. Meet at the Nature Center. **Leader:** Susie Hons: susieturtlewings@mac.com

Panoche Valley, San Benito County

Saturday, Jan 23, 8:30 am - 5:00 pm

Winter in Little Panoche Valley is great for raptors! Golden Eagle, Ferruginous Hawk, and Prairie Falcon are all possible. We also hope to see Roadrunner, Lewis's Woodpecker, Phainopepla, Mountain Bluebird, Rufous-crowned and Vesper Sparrows with possible Mountain Plover, Chukar, Sage Thrasher and Bald Eagle. Bring lunch, liquids and a full tank of gas. **Directions:** Meet at 8:30 am at Paicines Reservoir, on the right just past the junction of Hwy 25 and County Road J1, 13 miles south of Hollister. From San Mateo, take Hwy 101 south to Hwy 25; follow Hwy 25 through Hollister to Paicines. **Call if you are running late or lost; heavy rain cancels. Leaders:** Gary Deghi (gdegghi@h-bgroup.com or 650-208-8711) and Francis Toldi (ftoldi@earthlink.net or 650-678-1864)

Backroads of Merced County

Sunday, Jan 24, Meet-up time: To Be Announced

This trip explores some of the lesser known parts of Merced County. We'll search out alternative birding locations and perhaps manage to find some species not usually seen at the usual destinations. The precise itinerary will depend on conditions and further research and thought by the leaders. **We'll meet in Los Banos**, on Sunday, January 24 at a location and hour in the morning to be decided later, and we'll take it from there! This trip can be enjoyed in combination with the Panoche Valley trip of January 23, or separately. **Please contact Francis Toldi** to join and for exact details. **Leaders:** Francis Toldi (ftoldi@earthlink.net or 650-678-1864) and Gary Deghi

Bedwell Bayfront Park for Beginning Bird Enthusiasts

Sunday, Jan 31 10:00 am - 1:00 pm

Want to learn something about our wintering ducks and shorebirds, but feel intimidated by people who seem already to know it all? This outing is for people who aren't “birders” – yet – but who are curious about the natural world of birds. Notice differences between ducks, color patterns, small brown shorebirds, learn a little about how form fits behavior, migration and the mysterious “Pacific flyway”, or practice ‘finding’ a bird in your binoculars. Trails are unpaved flat paths, walking is less than a mile. **Directions:** Marsh Road exit from Highway 101 and go Bay-ward straight through traffic light at Bayfront Expressway and Haven Ave into the park. Meet in the parking lot (by the restrooms). **Leader:** Chris MacIntosh: cmaci@sbcglobal.net, 650-464-2877

Pescadero State Beach

Wednesday, Feb 3, 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Meet at the furthest end of the second (middle) parking lot for Pescadero State Beach, in the northern end of the lot. This is the dirt parking lot just south of the creek mouth (no fee required). We will look for shorebirds and seabirds from the bluff, then drive a short distance to explore another part of the park. There are a wide variety of habitats in this park and we will hope to see quite a few species. Scopes will be very useful. Expect cool and breezy weather. **Directions:** From Half Moon Bay, take Highway 1 south about 15 miles. As you approach Pescadero, you will see extensive marsh on the east side of the highway and the second parking lot will be on your right, just after you cross the bridge over Pescadero Creek mouth.

Leader: Donna Pomeroy: dpom@comcast.net

Raptors of San Benito County

Saturday, Feb 6, 8:30 am - 3:00 pm

Let's explore the backroads of San Benito County in search of Golden Eagles, Ferruginous Hawks, Prairie Falcons (and whatever else we might find). **Directions:** From San Mateo, take Hwy 101 south to Hwy 25; follow Hwy 25 through Hollister to the small town of Tres Pinos. Meet at the large white Catholic Church in Tres Pinos (located on the right side of the road). **Please note:** This is the weekend of the Super Bowl – traffic on Hwy 101 may be heavy, consider taking I-280 to Hwy 85 south to Hwy 101 and then to Hwy 25 as above. **Contact Leslie for carpooling info. Heavy rain cancels. Leader:** Leslie Flint lflint@earthlink.net

Pillar Point and Princeton Harbor GBBC

Friday, Feb 12, 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

This trip is intended for both beginning and experienced birders to explore this bird rich area while collecting data for the annual **Great Backyard Bird**

Count. Please join us, and encourage friends, family, children, and adults to discover the joys of birding! This is popular destination without the weekend crowds, a hot spot for birding year-round with a variety of waterbirds. The dirt rails are fairly level, and we may hike up onto the bluff top for a better view out to sea. Bring binoculars, camera, and a scope (if you have one), water, sunscreen and snacks. Bathroom available. **Directions:** From Highway 1, turn west at the stoplight at Capistrano Road, continue along to Prospect Way, turn right on Broadway, left on Harvard Ave. then turn right onto West Point Avenue which curves around a marshy area and heads uphill to an Air Force Radar Facility. Meet at the “West Shoreline Access” parking lot below the “Golf Ball”. More information: <http://birding.sequoia-audubon.org/description.php?loc=18&p=0>. Call if late or lost. **Heavy rain cancels.** **Leaders:** Malia DeFelice: malia.defelice.sas@gmail.com, 650-346-2009 and Chris Hayward

Edgewood County Park

Sunday, Feb 14, 8:00 am - 12:00 pm

For the trip description see Sunday, Jan 10th. **Leader:** Susie Hons: susieturtlewings@mac.com

Laurelwood Park and Sugarloaf Mountain – GBBC

Sunday, Feb 14, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

This trip is intended for both beginners and experienced birders. We will explore this bird-rich area, collecting data for the annual **Great Backyard Bird Count**. Please join us, and encourage friends, family, children, and adults to discover the joys of birding! Explore this under-birded area in the heart of San Mateo. Riparian, oak, and open habitats combine to make what appears to be a small municipal park into an expansive mix of habitats. We can expect to see Nuttall’s Woodpecker, Oak Titmouse, Townsend’s Warbler, and raptors overhead. This walk will include some climbing, so wear good shoes. **Directions:** Park on Glendora Drive in San Mateo, and meet at the playground area below. **Heavy rain cancels.** **Leader:** Ginny Marshall: ginnyrider@sbcglobal.net

Radio Road-GBBC

Sunday, Feb 14, 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

This trip is intended for both beginners and experienced birders. We will explore this bird rich area, collecting data for the annual **Great Backyard Bird Count**. Meet at the Radio Road Pond in Redwood Shores. **Directions:** From US 101, take exit 411 and go east on Redwood Shores Parkway for a few miles. Go past Shearwater Parkway, and look for the tall electrical towers just past a slough on your right where a sign there that says “SBSA 1400 Radio Road,” turn right and you are now on Radio Road. You will come to a stop sign; in front of you are the ponds of Radio Road; to your right is the Dog Park; to your left is the left spur of Radio Road. Take a right to reach the main parking for Radio Road and South Bayside System Authority. **Heavy rain cancels.** **Leader:** Ginny Marshall: ginnyrider@sbcglobal.net

Nob Hill Pond and Redwood Shores

Wednesday, Mar 2, 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

This is a very productive area for a variety of ducks and other waterbirds. Time permitting, we may check some other excellent birding sites nearby. Easy walking on mostly level ground. Bring scopes if you have them. Restrooms in the nearby shopping center. **Directions:** Take the Redwood Shores Parkway exit east from Hwy 101, past the Nob Hill shopping plaza, turn right on Bridge Parkway, then almost immediately turn right at Tiller Lane (there is a small city park in front of you, named “Mariner Park”). Follow Tiller Lane to its end point, where you take a left on Spar Lane to its end, where there is a small cul-de-sac that has a few parking spaces (you can also park in the residential area if necessary) where we will meet. **Leader:** Donna Pomeroy: dpom@comcast.net

Candlestick & Heron’s Head Parks

Sunday, Mar 6, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Between September and April it is possible to see most of our local shorebirds on the mudflats along the entrance road and in the protected cove north of Candlestick Point. The open water is usually good for diving ducks including Scaup, Scoters, Common Goldeneyes, Buffleheads, Red-breasted Mergansers, plus Western, Clark’s, Horned, and Eared Grebes. Then we will caravan to Heron’s Head, a site notable for breeding Black-necked Stilts, rare in San Francisco. **Directions:** From Hwy 101, take exit 429A toward Candlestick Park. Turn slight right onto Alanna Rd., left onto Harney Way and right onto Jamestown Ave. Use the main entrance by the kiosk and drive to the southern end of the parking lot. **Rain cancels.** **Leader:** Robbie Fischer: robbie22@pacbell.net

Edgewood County Park

Sunday, Mar 13, 8:00 am - 12:00 pm

For trip description see January 10th. **Leader:** Susie Hons: susieturtlewings@mac.com

Burleigh Murray State Park - Spring Bird Walk

Saturday, Mar 26, 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Celebrate Spring with a bird walk at this former ranch along the old ranch road. The habitats include mature eucalyptus groves, grassy valleys, and an extensive riparian corridor. The one mile road rises gently, appropriate for people with mild mobility issues. Possible spring migrants are Allen’s Hummingbird and Wilson’s Warbler, plus California Quail, Red-tailed and Red-shouldered Hawk, Band-tailed Pigeon, Downy and Hairy Woodpeckers, Northern Flicker, Hutton’s Vireo, Bewick’s and Pacific Wrens, Wrentit, and finches. Bathroom available. **Directions:** South of Half Moon Bay, turn right onto Higgins-Purissima Road (where Main Street ends). Visible as a landmark from Hwy 1, look for a Fire Station at the corner of Main St. and Higgins Canyon Rd. The park entrance is about 1.5 miles. Call if late or lost. **Heavy rain cancels.** **Leaders:** Malia DeFelice: malia.defelice.sas@gmail.com (650) 346-2009, and Chris Hayward

Conservation & Climate Change

Individual actions do make a difference, from voting representatives who support climate action, to following your Audubon Action Alerts (it just takes a click of the link), adapting your backyard to native birdscaping, reducing consumption and moderating the use of gasoline - it all counts and it **does** make a difference. At AudubonAction.org

San Mateo County Rain Barrel Rebates. The program has been extended to June 2016.

Check it out here: <http://flowstobay.org/rainbarrel>

Bringing Wildlife Home. A guide to birdscaping your backyard is found on the SAS website.

Preparing for Spring Migrants. Careful pruning to avoid disturbing nesting, avoidance of chemicals, planting for nectar, fruits and seeds.

Welcoming Winter Migrants and Preparing for Migration by Making Windows Bird-Safe by Avery Cullinan.

Fall migration presents bird lovers with many amazing opportunities to spot birds as they pass overhead, but one cannot forget the dangers birds face on their journeys. One of the most dangerous is window collisions. With a DIY activity you can both be a champion for birds and decorate your home in fun and creative ways by making glass window decals. Using patterns to break up the reflections and transparency of your windows can help prevent collisions. Be sure to post your homemade decorations on the outside-facing side of your window in order to disrupt the perilous reflections.

- 1 Find stencils online, at your local craft store, or freehand your designs. Any pattern can divert birds, but why not get in the fall migration spirit with bird or leaf shapes?
- 2 With waterproof adhesive paper found at your local craft store, trace and cut out your designs. Adhesive paper can be found in an array of colors, any of which will work as a window decal for birds.
- 3 Place them closely together on the outsides of your windows no more than 4 inches apart—patterns with negative space no greater than the size of your hand are most effective.

You can also hang ribbons, or even clear tape, from the tops of, again, the outside of your windows and no more than 4 inches apart. While these preventative measures are not 100% effective, they can make a difference particularly when combined with other measures such as turning your lights off at night, relocating feeders within 3 feet or more than 30 feet away from windows, and installing window screens.

Silhouettes of raptor decals do not deter bird strikes. Do you have other effective solutions? Please share with us!

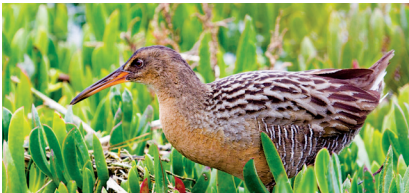
Monthly Nature Walks Offered by California State Park Docents at Pescadero Marsh:

Docents lead nature walks the first Sunday of each month from 10:00 - 12:00 noon, and third Sunday from 1:00 - 3:00 PM. Check it out January 3 and 17, February 7 and 21, and March 6 and 20. Dress in layers, bring binoculars, water, wear a hat, and enjoy the marsh. Meet the volunteer docents in the middle parking area for Pescadero State Beach on Highway 1. Pescadero State Beach has three parking areas. **Directions:** From the north, the parking area for marsh walks is immediately south of the bridge, on your right. From the south, the lot is 1/4 mile past the flashing light at Pescadero Road and before you reach the bridge, on your left. **More info:** http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=26931

Featured Photographer — Donna Pomeroy



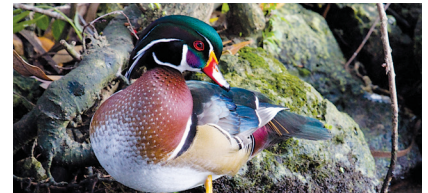
Humpback Whale lunge feeding surrounded by shearwaters, gulls, cormorants, pelicans and common murrelets in HMB



Ridgway's Rail



Rock Sandpiper



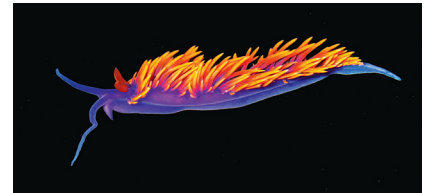
Wood Duck



Lorquin's Admiral



Western Pygmy Blue



Spanish Shaw (marine nudibranch)

A BioBlitz? What the ?

It's the latest cool nature/science/techie/citizen science/teen/nerd happening in the Bay Area. Spearheaded by Nerds for Nature, the California Academy of Science and partnered with Sequoia Audubon, Blitzers find and identify as many critters they find in a prescribed area and record the biodiversity – for science and their own Blitz-list. Too much fun in immersion nature day tripping. Find upcoming bioblitzes at <http://nerdsfornature.org/index.html>

Featured Birding Festival -The 20th Annual Morro Bay Winter Bird Festival, January 15-18, 2016

MORRO BAY, CALIFORNIA – Come to where the birds are and join us for our 20th Annual Morro Bay Winter Bird Festival. Located on California's scenic Central Coast, Morro Bay is an important stop on the Pacific Flyway and one of the country's pre-eminent birding spots. The area is recognized worldwide for its diversity of both resident and wintering birds, and at last year's festival, over 200 species of birds were identified! Field trip group sizes are limited to maximize spotting and identification opportunities. The festival also offers workshops aimed at sharpening your birding skills, as well as evening programs with outstanding speakers. To register and for more information go to www.morrobaybirdfestival.org. The deadline for pre-registration is January 5, 2016 but early signups are encouraged as the most popular events fill up quickly.

OFFICERS

President: Jennifer Rycenga
Vice President: Ginny Marshall
Secretary: Melissa Hero
Treasurer: Aakansha Mehrotra

At Large: Leslie Flint, Nelle Lyons,
Malia DeFelice, Edwin Geer, Rob
Furrow, Pati Rouzer

Consulting Biologist

Alvaro Jaramillo

Sequoia Chapter Coordinator

Pati Rouzer

COMMITTEES

Audubon Canyon Representative

John Epperson

Bluebird Recovery

Open

Christmas Count

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Leslie Flint 650-573-6279

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Leslie Flint 650-573-6279

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Education Committee

Nelle Lyons

Field Trips

Malia DeFelice 650-346-2009

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Editor

Pati Rouzer 650-529-1454

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.

amazonsmile

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>.

Have fun and help birds – volunteer!

We're looking for an Environmental Educator, Graphic Designers, Field Trip Leaders and a home office. If you have skills, talents and enthusiasm, we want you!

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

Pati Rouzer - Chapter Coordinator 650-529-1454

office@sequoia-audubon.org • www.sequoia-audubon.org

Online Birding Guide:

www.birding.sequoia-audubon.org

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

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