



# SEQUOIA

## AUDUBON SOCIETY

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

*Volume 69, No. 1*  
*January - March 2018*

### **Rare Birds: The Year in Review** *by Chris O'Connell*

San Mateo County is a rich place to bird, and it had better be with these rent prices! Over 300 species are recorded in the county every year we can always count on many rarities. In 2017, we had more than our fair share.

In January, a rare Alaskan bird showed up in the parking lot at Pillar Point Harbor. The beautiful, dove-like Ross's Gull attracted hundreds of birders during its 3-day stay (and who knows how long it was here before the discovery). Unfortunately, it was preyed upon in a tag-team assault by two Peregrine Falcons, not an unexpected demise for such a far afield vagrant.

San Mateo County had a banner year for gulls, with a plethora of rare birds showing up on the coast in early 2017. Along with an infusion of Black-legged Kittiwakes, we had Black-tailed, Slaty-backed, Lesser Black-backed, and a couple of Laughing Gulls. See page 2 for more on County gulls.

The community was still abuzz over the Ross's Gull when an Emperor Goose was spotted in Pacifica at the Sharp Park golf course in late January. The goose hung around for about 6 weeks so everyone had a good chance to see it.

It was quite a year for the Sulids. Early in the year, a Brown Booby showed up bayside and spent at least a week at Coyote Point. A Red-footed Booby was spotted at Pillar Point towards the end of the year. The bird continued to be seen on an almost daily basis as we go to press. And of course, we have the resident Northern Gannet.

The wayward gannet showed up on the Farallon Islands in 2012, the first ever reported sighting in the Pacific Ocean. This Atlantic species generally does not fly over land so it's a bit of a mystery how it got here. It spent some time in the North Bay, and checked out Alcatraz, but for the last couple of years has only been seen along the San Mateo coast and at the Farallon Islands. This past year it was seen repeatedly at (where else) Pillar Point. It has also been reported as far south as Año Nuevo State Park and to the north at Devil's Slide Trail.

The birds listed above are large and out in the open, the charismatic megafauna of the bird world, if you will. That doesn't mean they are necessarily easy to see as the gulls especially seem to roam far and wide. But they are not the same challenge as, say, a furtive Dusky Warbler or a skulking LeConte's Sparrow. And yes, we had those extreme rarities in the county this year, too!



Red-footed Booby photo by Donna Pomeroy



Ross's Gull photo by Donna Pomeroy

### **Monthly Meetings**

2<sup>nd</sup> Thursdays 7:00 pm  
 San Mateo Garden Center  
 605 Parkside Way, San Mateo

#### **January**

Thursday, January 11<sup>th</sup> 7 pm  
 4 Seasons of Montana  
 Ed Harper

#### **February**

Thursday, February 8<sup>th</sup> 7 pm  
 Details, Details  
 Joe Morlan

#### **March**

Thursday, March 8<sup>th</sup> 7 pm  
 Arctic Wildlife  
 Donna Pomeroy

### **Upcoming Field Trips**

#### **January**

Wed. 3<sup>rd</sup> Pillar Point  
 Sat. 13<sup>th</sup> Bedwell Bayfront  
 Sun. 14<sup>th</sup> Edgewood Park  
 Fri. 19<sup>th</sup> SSF Bay Trail  
 Sat. 20<sup>th</sup> Coastside Gulls  
 Sun. 21<sup>st</sup> Biking Seal Point

#### **February**

Wed. 7<sup>th</sup> Las Gallinas  
 Sat. 10<sup>th</sup> Bedwell Bayfront  
 Sun. 11<sup>th</sup> Edgewood Park  
 Fri. 16<sup>th</sup> Slow Birding

#### **March**

Wed. 7<sup>th</sup> Nob Hill, etc.  
 Sat. 10<sup>th</sup> Bedwell Bayfront  
 Sun. 11<sup>th</sup> Edgewood Park  
 Sat. 24<sup>th</sup> Burleigh Murray

*(continued on page 2)*

(continued from page 1)

The Dusky Warbler visited Coyote Point County Park in October, the second year in a row this Eurasian species has been found in the county. The long-distance migrant breeds in Northern Asia and sometimes migrates down the “wrong” coast. Meanwhile, around the same time on the coast, a LeConte’s Sparrow visited, a first ever record for the county. Rarities like this attract birders from far and wide, although the reaction to the warbler was a bit restrained since so many saw the species in 2016.

Other improbable birds seen this year include Yellow-throated Vireo, Philadelphia Vireo, Vermilion Flycatcher, Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, Eastern Phoebe, Summer Tanager, Black Tern, Royal Tern, Wedge-tailed Shearwater, Prairie Falcon, Broad-winged Hawk, Prothonotary Warbler, White-winged Dove and the expanding Great-tailed Grackle.

This is not meant to be comprehensive list and many pelagic rarities have been given short shrift. It is also not meant to detract from our usual wide variety of birds. It is easy to take for granted the common birds that are spectacular in their own ways. These woodpeckers and ducks and shorebirds and flycatchers are motivation enough to go birding. And who knows what you may find when you are out there.



Emperor Goose photo by Donna Pomeroy



White-winged Dove photo by Donna Pomeroy



Slaty-backed Gull photo by Donna Pomeroy

## County Gulls by Andrew Howe

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Several years ago, I compiled a list of California counties with high numbers of gull species. With the Ross’s Gull discovered in San Mateo and the Black-tailed Gull discovered in Monterey, I thought I’d update accordingly.

San Mateo has added to its lead, now boasting an astonishing 21 of the 27 gull species that appear on the state list. It is easier to keep track of what San Mateo is *missing* rather than what they have recorded: Swallow-tailed, Ivory, Yellow-footed, Great-black Backed, Belcher’s, and Red-legged Kittiwake. Additionally, San Mateo has recorded Vega Gull, which some consider to be a valid species.

Two counties have recorded 20 species, each sharing the “standard 15” of Glaucous, Glaucous-winged, Sabine’s, Little, Bonaparte’s, Franklin’s, Laughing, Heermann’s, Mew, Ring-billed, Western, California, Iceland, Herring, and Black-legged Kittiwake. The five additional species for these counties are as follows:

- Orange: Yellow-footed, Ivory, Black-headed, Lesser Black-backed, Red-legged Kittiwake
- Los Angeles: Kelp, Yellow-footed, Lesser Black-backed, Black-headed, Black-tailed

As impressive as San Mateo’s 21 species of gull is Riverside’s 19, as this inland county has only the northern third of the Salton Sea--which although excellent does not get birded by a lot of people--and a few dairies/chicken farms in the Lakeview area.

The Pinos Point Black-tailed Gull brought Monterey to 19, joining San Diego, Marin, Santa Clara, San Francisco, and Humboldt. Alameda, Del Norte, Imperial, Ventura, and San Joaquin each have 18. Several inland counties, although not having reached this threshold, have also done quite well considering their limited water. San Bernardino and Kern each have 17; Lake, Mono, and Yolo each have 16. [Ed. Note: Some totals have not been corrected for the Iceland/Thayer’s Gull reclassification.]

Much of the above has been gleaned from CBRC reports, Audubon Field Notes, eBird, etc. I may have missed some reports so if any of these numbers seem off, please let me know.

## MEETING PROGRAMS

2nd Thursday of each month  
San Mateo Garden Center, 605 Parkside Way, San Mateo

**January 11, 2018, 7 pm**

### **“Birding the Four Seasons of Montana” *with Ed Harper***

Join us as Ed takes us through Montana’s varied seasons, sharing the great diversity of birds he has managed to photograph over many years of intensive coverage. Whether it is a majestic Gyrfalcon in winter or an Upland Sandpiper in summer, you will find a myriad of images that are not only pleasing to the eye, but also convey a wealth of information. Bring a friend to share in this fine program.

Born and raised in Montana, Ed’s vibrant passion for the Big Sky Country is evident through his superb photography and informed narration. Ed has photographed over 2000 species of birds, with many of his photos found in books and periodicals. In Alaska and the Lower 48, he has photographed over 800 species of birds. Starting out as a tour leader for the Massachusetts Audubon Society in 1980, Ed now operates Sandpiper Journeys with his wife, Susan Scott. Together they have conducted many birding and natural history tours throughout the world.



**February 8, 2018, 7 pm**

### **“Convincing Details and Other Birding Fiction” *with Joe Morlan***



Many articles have been published detailing how to write convincing bird descriptions, but who are we trying to convince? How many of those details are remembered correctly and how many are a product of wishful embellishment? Are we convincing a records committee, an eBird reviewer, or maybe we are trying to convince ourselves? Joe Morlan will discuss how to prepare bird descriptions while exploring the importance of integrity in birding. He will include a brief history of scientific and ornithological fraud in what promises to be an informative and entertaining presentation.

Joe Morlan is a California birding legend and has taught field ornithology at City College of San Francisco since 1978. He is the coauthor of “Birds of San Francisco and the Bay Area” and “Birds of Northern California.” He has served as Chair of the California Bird Records Committee and was the recipient of the 2010 ABA Ludlow Griscom Award for contributions to regional ornithology.

**March 8, 2018, 7 pm**

### **“Polar Bears and other Arctic Wildlife” *with Donna Pomeroy***

To take the sting out of sending their only son off to college, Donna and Doug Pomeroy made a dream come true and traveled to Churchill, Manitoba to see Polar Bears in the wild. This was followed by trips to Nome and Gambell, Alaska. Donna has always had an obsession with the Arctic, and the Churchill trip has started what she hopes will be many return trips to visit this incredible region of the world. This program will focus on polar bears and their natural history, along with how the changing climate is affecting their survival. Her talk will include other species of Arctic wildlife, including seabirds, owls, foxes, and other mammals.

Donna started birding in high school, a natural extension of a nature-obsessed childhood. As a budding child-naturalist, her bedroom was filled with pressed plants, pinecones, shells, fish and lizards. While pursuing a BS in Wildlife Management from Humboldt State University, Donna found time to attend classes in between chasing down rare birds and meeting future husband, Doug. Donna has been a photographer since a teenager and combines this passion with nature and Citizen Science. She spends much of her time photographing wildlife, leading walks for Sequoia Audubon Society, as well as volunteering with the California Academy of Sciences intertidal monitoring project at Pillar Point. Donna and her husband are long-time residents of Half Moon Bay.





## Sequoia Field Trips

### Pillar Point Harbor

**Wednesday, January 3, 9:00 am -12:00 pm**

Pillar Point is a hot spot for birding year-round. Most of the walking will be on fairly level dirt trails, but if time permits, we may hike up onto the bluff top for a better view out to sea. Scopes will be useful here so if you have one, bring it along. A primitive restroom is available at the parking lot. Heavy rain cancels. **Directions:** The harbor is located 4 miles north of Half Moon Bay. From Hwy One, turn west at the stoplight at Capistrano Road and continue to Prospect Way. Turn left onto Prospect, then a brief jog right on Broadway, to an immediate left on Harvard Ave. At the end, turn right onto West Point Avenue, which heads to an Air Force Radar Facility. Meet at the "West Shoreline Access", popularly known as the parking lot to Mavericks, just below the radar station. **Leader:** Donna Pomeroy. **Contact:** [dpom@comcast.net](mailto:dpom@comcast.net).

### Beginner Bird Walk, Bedwell Bayfront Park

**Saturday, January 13, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm**

All are welcome to join Friends of Bedwell Bayfront Park and Sequoia Audubon Society for a 1 to 2 hour beginner bird walk. We should see wintering ducks and shorebirds, perhaps egrets, a raptor (hawk) or two, and some LBBs (little brown birds). Bring binoculars if you have them: if not, we'll share ours with you. **Directions:** Meet at the parking lot by restrooms at Bedwell Bayfront Park, 1600 Marsh Road, Menlo Park. **Heavy rain cancels. For more information:** Adam Dudley. **Contact:** [adam.dudley@icloud.com](mailto:adam.dudley@icloud.com).

### Edgewood County Park

**Sunday, January 14, 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 & Western Bluebird year-round. **Directions:** Meet at the Education Center near the main parking lot off of Edgewood Rd. **Leader:** Susie Hons. **Contact:** [susieturtlewings@mac.com](mailto:susieturtlewings@mac.com).

### Exploring South San Francisco's Bay trail--RSVP Required

**Friday, January 19, 8:00 am - 11:00 am**

The Bay Trail in South San Francisco supports a fantastic variety of ducks, grebes, gulls, shorebirds, sparrows, and raptors in winter. This walking field trip will visit several hotspots and explore this lightly-birded area. It will take us past Colma Creek, Littlefield Ave., Haskin's Way and Morro point, a distance of about 2 miles. We will visit on a rising tide, and there is a chance of seeing up to 60 species in a morning here! The trip is suitable for beginner and experienced birders alike. Join leader Adam Dudley, who visits this area daily, to explore this fantastic winter birding location! Due to limited parking availability, please contact Adam at [Adam.Dudley@iCloud.com](mailto:Adam.Dudley@iCloud.com) for more information and to reserve your spot.

### Gulls! Gulls! Gulls! – RSVP

**Saturday, January 20, 9:00 am - 1:00 pm**

Back by popular demand. This field trip will help you improve your understanding of the life of gulls and develop your gull identification skills! Gulls are easy to see, but can be frustratingly difficult to ID. In January, there is the potential to see 7 species of expected gulls along with the chance of something rare! Our goal is to view and learn the field marks of the common gulls we typically see at this time of year. We'll start at Pilarcitos Creek mouth in Half Moon Bay and may move around the coast in search of gull flocks. Bring cameras. We'll photograph the gulls we identify. **Please confirm if you intend to attend this field trip as predictions of Heavy Rain will cancel. Directions:** From Hwy 1 in Half Moon Bay take Kehoe Ave West. At the T-junction, turn right on Pilarcitos Ave. Drive to the northernmost end and we'll meet at the junction of Wave and Pilarcitos Aves. **Leaders:** Chris Hayward and Malia DeFelice. **Contact:** [malia.defelice.sas@gmail.com](mailto:malia.defelice.sas@gmail.com) to RSVP.

### Birding by Bike, Seal Point to Coyote Point

**Sunday, January 21, 9:00 am - 12:00 pm**

On this biking trip we'll enjoy the many shorebirds, ducks, and other waterbirds migrating or wintering along the San Mateo County bayshore. We will explore Seal Point and the 3rd Avenue Marsh, then head along the bay trail towards Coyote Point. 3-4 miles of biking in total. Heavy rain cancels. Any bike is fine, but you should come prepared with binoculars, water, sunscreen, warm clothes, and snacks. **Directions:** We'll meet at the westernmost parking lot of Seal Point Park. After you enter Seal Point Park from J. Hart Clinton Drive (3rd Ave.) in San Mateo, head west out of the roundabout, and drive to the final parking lot. **Leader:** Rob Furrow. **Contact:** [robertfurrow@gmail.com](mailto:robertfurrow@gmail.com).

*Check our website and Facebook page for updates and new listings.*

### **Winter Birding in the Central Valley--RSVP Required**

**Friday, January 26 & Saturday, January 27, 7:00 am - 4:00 pm**

We'll visit 2 premier birding areas on this visit to the Central Valley: Gray Lodge Wildlife Area and Colusa National Wildlife Refuge. Together these refuges provide one of the greatest wildlife spectacles still found in California. Most notable are the huge wintering concentrations of ducks and geese - we could see over 20 species of wildfowl during the day. Raptors are equally well represented: more than 20 species of eagle, hawk, falcon, and owl have been seen in the area in winter. We start the day at dawn after breakfast at our hotel, driving towards Gray Lodge Wildlife Refuge through an area good for Tundra Swans. This reserve is filled with ducks and provides a good opportunity to see Eurasian Wigeon. It also hosts the greatest concentration of Ross's Goose in the US. After the morning exploring the trails and auto tour, we'll head West, caravanning around past Sutter Buttes (the world's smallest complete mountain range), looking for Sandhill Cranes, Ferruginous Hawk, Prairie Falcon, Mountain Bluebird, Rock Wren, Yellow-Billed Magpie, and Golden Eagle. We'll end the day birding at Colusa NWR where at any time there may be huge numbers of wildfowl in the air putting on a spectacular visual and aural show. The trip is suitable for beginner and experienced birders alike. The tour is predominantly by car, with some walking along nature trails (between 0.5 and 1.5 mile in length). There are outstanding opportunities for bird photography. There is a \$4.00 per person charge at Gray Lodge. Since there are limited hotel rooms available, please contact Adam Dudley ([Adam.Dudley@iCloud.com](mailto:Adam.Dudley@iCloud.com); 650-278-5995) if you would like to join us for this trip and for exact details.

### **Las Gallinas Ponds, San Rafael**

**Wednesday, February 7, 8:30 am - 12:00 pm**

The Las Gallinas Ponds include the treatment ponds, tidal marsh and surrounding agricultural fields at LGVSD's Wastewater Treatment Reclamation Project. This is an excellent area to view a wide variety of waterfowl and other wetland birds and maybe even a chance to see one of the resident River Otters. These are level trails along a series of levees. This is a slow-paced trip, excellent for all levels of birding. A scope is useful here, if you have one, but many of the birds are close enough for great photo opportunities. **Directions:** from Hwy 101 take the Smith Ranch Road exit, heading east toward the McInnis Park entrance. Turn left immediately after crossing the railroad tracks, staying on Smith Ranch, and go about .5 miles to the end at the Las Gallinas Ponds parking lot. Heavy rain cancels. **Leader:** Donna Pomeroy. **Contact:** [dpom@comcast.net](mailto:dpom@comcast.net).

### **Beginner Bird Walk, Bedwell Bayfront Park**

**Saturday, February 10, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm**

All are welcome to join Friends of Bedwell Bayfront Park and Sequoia Audubon Society for a 1 to 2 hour beginner bird walk. We should see wintering ducks and shorebirds, perhaps egrets, a raptor (hawk) or two, and some LBBs (little brown birds). Bring binoculars if you have them: if not, we'll share ours with you. **Directions:** Meet at the parking lot by restrooms at Bedwell Bayfront Park, 1600 Marsh Road, Menlo Park. **Heavy rain cancels. For more information:** Adam Dudley. **Contact:** [adam.dudley@icloud.com](mailto:adam.dudley@icloud.com).

### **Edgewood County Park**

**Sunday, February 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 & Western Bluebird year-round. **Directions:** Meet at the Education Center near the main parking lot off of Edgewood Rd. **Leader:** Susie Hons. **Contact:** [susieturtlewings@mac.com](mailto:susieturtlewings@mac.com).

### **"Slow birding" Coyote Point and Seal Point Park--RSVP Required**

**Friday, February 16, 8:00 am - 11:00 am**

This "slow birding" trip to Coyote point and along the Bay Trail to Seal Point Park will complement our visit to this area by bike in January! It is a great area for winter birding: most of the species of ducks, grebes, gulls, shorebirds, sparrows, and raptors that occur along the Bay in winter can be found here. We will take our time, walking slowly along the flat Bay Trail between Seal Point Park and Coyote Point, round trip distance about 2 miles. We will visit on a rising tide, and there is a chance of seeing a great variety of species in a morning here! The trip is suitable for beginner and experienced birders alike. Join leader Adam Dudley to explore this fantastic winter birding location! Please contact Adam at [Adam.Dudley@iCloud.com](mailto:Adam.Dudley@iCloud.com) for more information.

*Check our website and Facebook page for updates and new listings.*

### **Nob Hill Pond and Redwood Shores**

**Wednesday, March 7, 8:00 am - 11:00 am**

This is a very productive area for a variety of ducks and other waterbirds. Time permitting, we will check some other excellent 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 Pkwy past the Nob Hill shopping plaza, turn right on Bridge Pkwy, then right again at Tiller Lane. At the end, take a left on Spar Lane to its end. There is a small cul-de-sac that has a few parking spaces where we will meet. Heavy rain cancels. **Leader:** Donna Pomeroy. **Contact:** [dpom@comcast.net](mailto:dpom@comcast.net).

### **Beginner Bird Walk, Bedwell Bayfront Park**

**Saturday, March 10, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm**

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### **Burleigh Murray State Park - RSVP**

**Saturday, March 24, 9:00 am - 1:00 pm**

It's a tradition! Come celebrate Spring with a bird walk! Burleigh Murray State Park is a former ranch. The park's only active trail consists of the old ranch road. The habitats include mature eucalyptus groves, grassy valleys, and an extensive riparian corridor along the ranch road. It is a pleasingly birdy hike of just over a mile from the parking lot to the barn, with nearly constant activity and bird sounds. The road gains elevation quite slowly, and would be an appropriate trail for people with mild mobility issues. There are bathrooms on site. **Please confirm if you intend to attend this field trip as predictions of heavy rain will cancel. Directions:** Burleigh Murray State Park is located on Higgins-Purisima Road in Half Moon Bay. From Hwy One, the park is about 1.5 miles east on the left side of Higgins-Purisima Road. **Leaders:** Malia DeFelice and Chris Hayward. **Contact:** 650-346-2009 (call if you are running late or lost), email: [malia.defelice.sas@gmail.com](mailto:malia.defelice.sas@gmail.com) to RSVP.

## **OTHER TRIPS**

### **Monthly Nature Walks Offered by CA State Park Docents at Pescadero Marsh**

Docents lead nature walks the first Sunday of each month from 10:00am - 12:00pm (Jan 7, Feb 4, Mar 4); and third Sunday from 1:00 - 3:00pm (Jan 21, Feb 18, Mar 18). 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](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=26931).



## Spring Birding Classes in San Francisco

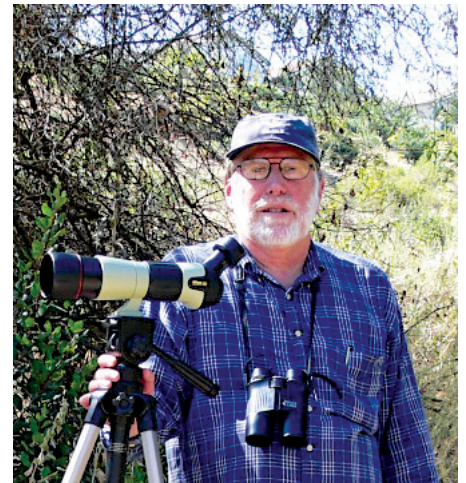
Evening bird classes taught by Joe Morlan start on January 17, 2018. Classes meet from 7-9:15 pm in Room 317 at City College of San Francisco, John Adams Center. Free parking is in the school lot adjacent to the building at 1860 Hayes Street.

Topics in Field Ornithology - Part A (EA110) meets on Wednesdays January 17 through February 21. It is an in-depth study of North American pigeons, doves, and cuckoos.

Topics in Field Ornithology - Part B (EA115) meets on Wednesdays April 4 through May 9. It is a continuing in-depth study of North American owls, and nightjars.

The instructor is coauthor of “Birds of San Francisco and the Bay Area” and “Birds of Northern California.” He is also past chair of the California Bird Records Committee, and winner of the 2010 Ludlow Griscom Award for contributions to regional ornithology. Slides illustrate all lectures, and the text is “A Field Guide to Birds of North America,” 7th edition, by the National Geographic Society. “The Sibley Guide to Birds” is recommended as an adjunct text.

The instructor may arrange optional field trips on weekends. Please bring binoculars and field guides to class if you have them. Fees are \$140 for each six week class but there is a \$15 discount if you pre-register at least a week early. For further information call (415) 561-1860.



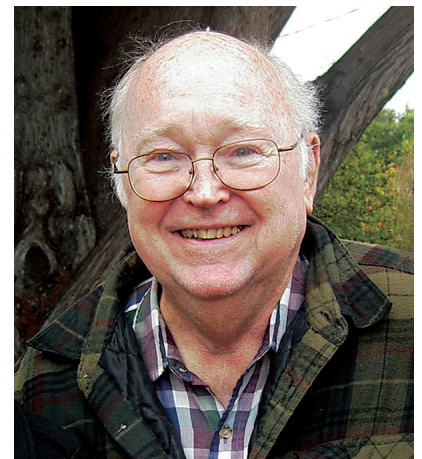
Joe Morlan

## In Memorium by Francis Toldi

I just made a special contribution to Sequoia Audubon in honor of my recently deceased old friend, compatriot, and mentor, Rick Baird. Rick left the area and moved on from his Sequoia Audubon involvement before many currently present with Sequoia had arrived, so some of you might not know who he was. Rick was a really great guy. He was extremely intelligent and passionate about the organizations he committed to. Lucky for us, Sequoia was one of those, as was our cousin organization, Audubon Canyon Ranch.

Rick (along with the other Rick—Rick Johnson—and Cliff Richer) were the ones who pulled me in for what turned out to be a very long engagement with Sequoia Audubon. I had just moved to San Mateo County in the mid-1980's. As a lifelong Audubon Society member, my membership transferred to the local chapter jurisdiction—in those days National Audubon shared a percentage of the dues it collected with local chapters. National Audubon had made some major changes I did not favor, and I wrote a scathing letter to the local chapter newsletter, The Sequoia Needles, then edited by Cliff Richer. Cliff shared my view and reprinted the letter in the next issue of the Newsletter. Rick and Rick responded with a vehement defense of National Audubon and strong disagreement with my letter. Then they promptly invited me to attend an upcoming Sequoia Audubon planning retreat and get more involved in the chapter. “You’re the kind of person we want to have in our organization,” they said.

That perfectly illustrates Rick’s style. He was bold and opinionated, most often—but not always—right, and always looking to make whatever organization he was in better. He was very much one of the pillars that brought Sequoia into the modern era. The same goes for Audubon Canyon Ranch, where he was a longtime board member and ultimately President, later receiving the honor of Emeritus Director. I have recollections of many good times with him. It was an honor knowing him. Sequoia Audubon forever!



Rick Baird

## OFFICERS

**President:** Jennifer Rycenga  
**Vice President:** Ginny Marshall  
**Secretary:** Rob Furrow  
**Treasurer:** Kriti Diwan

**At Large:** Doug Brown, Marshall  
Dinowitz, Adam Dudley, Nelle Lyons,  
Doug Pomeroy, Susan Stratton

## Consulting Biologist

Alvaro Jaramillo

## COMMITTEES

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**Administrative Assistant**  
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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

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

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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.

**amazon smile**

## 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](mailto: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

|                              |          |
|------------------------------|----------|
| Senior or Student membership | \$15.00  |
| Individual membership        | \$20.00  |
| Family membership            | \$25.00  |
| Supporter                    | \$100.00 |
| 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](mailto:office@sequoia-audubon.org)

Visit our website: [www.sequoia-audubon.org](http://www.sequoia-audubon.org)

## Check out our Online Birding Guide:

[www.birding.sequoia-audubon.org](http://www.birding.sequoia-audubon.org)

## Join our Yahoo Discussion Group:

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

## Like us on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/SequoiaAudubon>