



sequoia needles

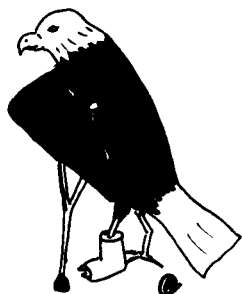
SAS GENERAL MEETING

Our program this month will feature the often humorous, sometimes dramatic, and always worthwhile efforts of WILDLIFE RESCUE, INC.

Juanita Heineman, a Sequoia member, will - with the help of a few of WILDLIFE RESCUE's beneficiaries, demonstrate the work of this organization.

Juanita will also explain how cancelled postage stamps can be saved to help the Bald Eagle Habitat Project.

Please bring your cancelled postage stamps - trimmed with a wide margin of envelope around them to the meeting.



COMING EVENTS

May 5/6-Sacramento-Bobelaine F Field Trip. Leader - John Siliman. Call Cliff Richer 355-4058 for details.

May 17&19-Wildflowers of Edgewood Park - SNHS Seminar - See page 7 for details.

Dates to be announced:

Alum Rock Park - Roy & Fran Nelson

Grant Ranch - Kathy Graves

Yuba Pass - Donna & Pete Petersen

Point Reyes - Cliff Richer
Steinhart Aquarium - SNHS

FROM THE PRESIDENT

NEW CHAPTER OFFICERS

It gives me a great deal of pleasure to announce the Board of Directors at their March meeting elected ANN SCANLAN-ROHRER to fill the position of Vice-President of Sequoia Audubon. MARY BRESLER was then elected to the position of Secretary which Anne vacated upon becoming Vice-President.

ANNE SCANLAN-ROHRER has made many contributions to the chapter this past year, as Secretary, working on the birding guide, handling the chapters publicity, participating in and leading field trips, and working on the Sequoia Natural History Series. We are most fortunate to have Anne take on the added responsibilities as Vice-President.

MARY BRESLER has been active with Sequoia and several other environmental groups since moving here from Illinois recently. She is a member of our Conservation Committee, the Co-ordinator for the Audubon Observers committee, and now is taking on the position of Secretary. Mary believes if you belong to an organization, you should participate and does exactly that.

I am looking forward to working with both Anne and Mary in their new positions. I'm sure our entire chapter joins with me in thanking these two fine Audubon members for their time and efforts in making Sequoia Audubon a better chapter.

PESCADERO MARSH UPDATE

There have been several positive developments in our Chapter's efforts to quickly bring about the implementation of a marsh management program at Pescadero Marsh. If you have been reading the Pescadero Marsh column in the Needles (page 7) you are aware these past two years have been most disastrous for Pescadero Marsh. A great deal of siltation has taken place which will very quickly make this beautiful marsh into a meadow. Your Chapter has thus made the restoration of Pescadero Marsh one of its highest priority items.

Earlier this year, Sequoia Audubon contracted with POST (Peninsula Open Space Trust) for the consulting services of John Wade. John's task was to prepare an action plan which could be used to guide our Chapter's activities in negotiating with the State Park and Recreation Department regarding the marsh restoration. During the time John was working on this study for Sequoia, POST became very interested in the conditions at Pescadero Marsh and its future. They suggested that having POST and Sequoia Audubon working together on this project would improve the chances of success. Our Pescadero Marsh Committee agreed and we have now joined forces in this effort. More details about this co-operative arrangement will come next month in the Needles.

CALENDAR



APRIL 1
SUNDAY

SAN MATEO COAST FIELDTRIP - PESCADERO TO ANO NUEVO
Although we will spend some time at Pescadero Marsh, we will concentrate primarily on the birds found on the rocky shoreline. We will plan to have lunch at Ano Nuevo and bird portions of the Reserve in the afternoon. The extent to which we will be allowed to enter the Reserve is still under discussion. We will meet at 9:00 AM at the parking lot just south of and overlooking Pescadero Beach. Go south on Hwy. 1 past Pescadero Beach. After crossing the bridge over Pescadero Creek, continue to the top of the hill and take an immediate right into the parking lot.

LEADER: Cliff Richer 355-4058

APRIL 5
THURSDAY

SAS BOARD MEETING. 7:30 PM at the Sears Savings Bank Building, 1820 S. Grant St., San Mateo. ALL MEMBERS ARE WELCOME!

APRIL 7
SATURDAY

BAY AREA AUDUBON COUNCIL MEETING at the Richardson Bay Audubon Center and Sanctuary, 376 Greenwood Beach Rd., Tiburon. SAS is hosting the B.A.C.C. and all members are welcome. Refreshments will be available at 9:30 AM with the program starting at 10:00. Bring a lunch and enjoy the beautiful surroundings. To get there take Hwy 101 North across the Golden Gate Bridge and exit at Tiburon Boulevard. Go east on Tiburon Blvd. approximately one-half mile and take a right on Greenwood Beach Road. Follow this for about one-half mile more to the Education Center.

APRIL 8
SUNDAY

HAYWARD REGIONAL SHORELINE - Many of the shore-birds will have begun their transition into their more colorful breeding plumage by this time and this should pose a good opportunity to see them in numbers. Meet at the parking lot outside the entrance on West Winton Rd. at 9:00 AM. To get there, cross the San Mateo Bridge and exit at Hesperian Blvd. Proceed north on Hesperian to Winton and take a left on West Winton. Follow this to the gate. Trip should last about 2 1/2 hours and includes about 1-2 miles of easy walking.

LEADER: Sharon Hom 592-0243

APRIL 12
THURSDAY

SAS GENERAL MEETING: WILDLIFE RESCUE, INC. with Juanita Heinemann. See article on page 1 for details. At the San Mateo Garden Center, Parkside, west of the Alameda, San Mateo. Social mixer begins at 7:30 PM.

APRIL 14
Saturday
APRIL 17
Tuesday

NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY WESTERN REGIONAL CONFERENCE 1984 - Water and Wildlife: An Audubon Perspective. Programs and priorities related to the major issues of water and wildlife will be showcased via panel presentations, displays and workshops during the four day gathering of Audubon members from throughout the west. All members should have received a mailing with full details. If you did not receive one or have misplaced yours contact the Audubon office at 593-7368.



NEWS FROM THE RANCH -Cliff Conly

Audubon Canyon Ranch maintains three environmental centers - the original Audubon Canyon Ranch on Bolinas Lagoon; Bouverie Audubon Preserve, a relatively new acquisition in the foothills of the Sonoma Valley; and Audubon Cypress Grove.

Audubon Cypress Grove is still a privately owned preserve and is being slowly given to Audubon Canyon Ranch. The many buildings - 104 years old - will eventually house a study facility directed towards the marine environment alongside the property. The deep water of Tomales Bay, the beaches, the tidal flats, the meadow uplands and the freshwater Livermore Marsh will serve as outdoor laboratories for students. This facility comprises 123 acres.

In addition the Ranch owns 179 acres around the bay - including the just dredged and restored Olema marsh, the west shore lands known as the Shields Marsh and numerous small tidal flats and beaches along the eastern shoreline of the bay. Hog and Duck Islands and the delta of Walker Creek are also owned by the Ranch.

The public season continues at Picher Canyon with Sequoia Audubon providing the hosting during the month of April.

Volunteer Canyon weekend classes continue to be held by Ray Petersen as follows:

Apr.27-Breeding Birds of Palo
Marin with Dave deSante
Apr.28-Spring Wildflowers with
Apr.29-Ray Petersen
May 5 -Egrets and Herons with
May 6 -Helen Pratt
May 19-Capture-Identify-Release
May 20-with Ray Petersen

(Editor's Note - The author, Cliff Conly, is the owner of Audubon Cypress Grove and the "study facility" to which he refers is now his private home. All Audubon members and other friends of A.C.R. owe their thanks to Mr. Conly for his past, continuing and future support of Audubon Canyon Ranch.

MINES ROAD - THE LOST VALLEY

A favorite subject of old science fiction movies was the lost valley where extinct plants and animals - usually dinosaurs - flourished away from the influences of civilization.

Perhaps the closest any of us will ever come to finding a lost valley will be a trip along Mines Road through San Antonio Valley and Del Puerto Canyon.

Dotted with played out cinnabar diggings and unsuitable for most agricultural and industrial uses, this valley has become the last haven of a number of relict avian species whose Central and Livermore Valley habitats have been destroyed

Most notable of these are the road-runners and phainopeplas which are no longer found on the floor of the Central Valley. Also to be found with some reliability are isolated populations of Lewis' woodpecker, Lawrence's goldfinch, rufous-crowned sparrows, grasshopper sparrows, wood ducks, golden eagles, Costa's hummingbird, purple martin, sage sparrows and wild turkeys (introduced).

Add to these the occasional rarity such as a black-chinned sparrow or a calliope hummingbird and the isolated and elusive resident such as the yellow-breasted chat or the canyon wren and you have a resident avian community unmatched anywhere in the Bay Area.

In spring, this community is supplemented by both valley and coastal migrants and the arrival of the more common summer residents. During April and May, a day list of 100 species is easily attainable and lists of 80 or more are difficult to avoid.

The key to locating these birds is experience. Most of these species have very specific habitat requirements and have been returning to the same area year after year. Knowledge of the birds' preferences is important, but even more important is knowing where the bird was found last week or last year or the year before that.

To get the maximum benefit from a trip to this area, an experienced leader is a necessity on your first few trips. After that, all you will need is an excellent memory or detailed notes.

CALENDAR



APRIL 15
SUNDAY

MINES ROAD FIELD TRIP - See the article on this page for additional information. SAS is fortunate in having secured the services of Art Edwards, whose knowledge of Mines Road and whose ability as a leader are well known to most of our members. We will meet in Livermore at 8:00 AM at the Nob Hill (formerly the Redwood) Shopping Center on S. Livermore Ave. To get there cross the San Mateo Bridge and follow the signs to I-580. Stay on 580 for approximately 25 miles to the Livermore Ave. exit. Take a right on Livermore Ave. and follow it through the center of town - where it becomes S. Livermore Ave. If you should miss us at the starting point, continue on S. Livermore, which now becomes Tesla Rd. and in less than a mile you should take a right on Mines Rd. It should not take long to catch up with the group as stops are frequent and may be lengthy. This is an all day trip so take adequate supplies of food and liquids. Restroom and service station facilities are virtually non-existent so be prepared. Trip ends at dusk. Weather is highly unpredictable. In the last three years temperature at this time of year has varied from 40-90° on similar field trips.

LEADER: ART EDWARDS

SAS COORDINATOR: Cliff Richer 355-4058

APRIL 17
TUESDAY

FILOLI FIELD TRIP. For the past five years, Sequoia Audubon has conducted a survey of the birds of this beautiful woodland area. We'll walk the non-tour areas, observing birds and plants until 2:00 PM. The trip will be limited to 15, so call the Allens to reserve your space. Wear hiking boots and bring a knapsack lunch. We will meet at the first gate south of Pulgas Water Temple on Canada Rd. at 8:30 AM/

LEADERS: Frank & Jean Allen 344-9339

APRIL 17
TUESDAY

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING - Call Rick Johnson (349-4546) or the Audubon Office (593-7368) for details as to time and place.

APRIL 28
SATURDAY
APRIL 29
SUNDAY

BIRDATHON WEEKEND - Details are still indefinite but SAS will field an official team on the previous weekend so as to give everyone something to shoot for. We suggest you begin lining up pledges now - either in support of your own efforts or the SAS-sponsored team. All funds raised will go to the Mono Lake Defense Fund and all pledges are tax-deductible. Call the SAS office, 593-7368, to record your pledge or get further details.

the Birdathon is similar to walk-, bike-, and jog-a-thons in which participants seek pledges from sponsors. In the case of Birdathons, sponsors promise an amount (usually small, but there's no limit) for each species the counter records in a single day. Last year's event raised \$110,000, which all went to further the Audubon Cause.

There are national and regional prizes for the most species counted, most money raised, most sponsors etc. These include wildlife art prints, bird sculptures and trips. The grand prize, a birding trip on the Texas Coast, was contributed by Victor Emanuel Nature Tours.

CONSERVATION NOTES

A kick-off meeting for Audubon Observers was held Sunday, February 26 at the home of Rick Johnson, Conservation Committee Chairman.

This new group was created for the purpose of observing the proceedings of City Councils and County Commissions, particularly when they deal with projects or planning of interest and concern to Sequoia Audubon.

Volunteers who will report their observations to the Conservation Committee include:

South San Francisco	- Emily Freeman and Ruth Simonson
San Carlos	- Sharon Hom
Menlo Park	- Elgin Juri and Ruth Smith
Daly City	- Mary Bresler (Coordinator)
Burlingame	- Pete and Donna Petersen
Belmont	- Linda Kypta

Observers are needed for the other peninsula cities. Other Audubon members who are interested in serving as Observers should contact the coordinator at 994 3587.

-----Mary Bresler

Loss of Rare Birds Raises Questions - From the Audubon Leader Vol.25, No.2, February 1984.

A whooping crane died of lead poisoning in New Mexico after being shot and after swallowing some 200 lead shotgun pellets near the Bosque del Apache NWR. A California condor was poisoned by an M-44 cyanide trap used by Federal Animal Damage Control agents to kill coyotes. Both incidents put the spotlight on conflicts in the policies that govern management of threatened wildlife and its habitat and raised questions about the balances and compromises struck among competing interests for that habitat.

The whooping crane, a male from the Greys Lake, Idaho flock, was captured and treated but to no avail. The bird was a victim of the goose hunts that take place four times a year on the Bosque del Apache Refuge. Although hunters are given instructions on avoiding accidental shooting of cranes they are vulnerable to the shots of less well-trained hunters when they feed in the surrounding countryside and when they pick up expended shot as they forage for grit to grind food in their digestive systems.

The problem is not irresponsible hunters but an inherent conflict in Interior Department policy. On the one hand, the Fish and Wildlife Service is working to save endangered species, on the other, it is expending a large portion of the Bosque refuge's resources to promote an activity detrimental to an endangered species welfare. National Audubon has called members to write their congressmen, urging an immediate end to hunting on the Bosque del Apache and a ban on lead shot throughout the Rio Grande valley in New Mexico.

The condor's death remained a mystery for weeks until scientists found traces of a marker chemical used in the M-44 coyote-getter. There were 22 M-44 cyanide traps on the ranch where the bird was killed.

The M-44s have been removed from the ranch and the Fish and Wildlife Service is modifying its predator control activities to reduce risks to the condor in the future. Conservationists will be keeping a close watch on the effectiveness of those policy changes.

PROJECT NETWALK -1984

Wendy Lieber will be reviving Project Netwalk and is once again asking for volunteers to monitor the impact of gill-netting on coastal wildlife.

Restrictions imposed during the last two years were temporary in nature and the gill-netters are expected back in greater numbers than before.

Approximately 20 volunteers are needed. Training will be provided. Pairs of volunteers will cover a 1 or 2 mile section of beach twice a month to gather data on beached birds and and marine mammals. This data was vital in the imposition of restrictions in the last two years.

For more information, call Wendy Lieber at 726-9278.

For a dramatic accounting of the results of both gill-netting and Project Netwalk (mistakenly called Netwatch by your editor) see the December and January issues of Needles.

SEQUOIA AWARDS PROGRAM

The Awards Committee thanks all those who have submitted nominations for Sequoia's First Annual Awards Program. At press time nominees include: James V. Fitzgerald, former San Mateo Co. Supervisor; Tom Taber, SAS Board member, and author of numerous outdoors books, including The Santa Cruz Mountain Trailbook; Cliff Richer, Needles editor, weekend fieldtrips chairman & SAS Board member; Al Seubert, a South San Franciscan who has planted an estimated 25,000 trees on San Bruno Mountain for erosion control purposes; and Wendy Lieber, a State Parks Ranger and SAS member, who has organized and run Project Netwalk for the past two years.

Nominations are still being accepted so if you have been procrastinating, you have one last chance to submit your candidate.

The winners of awards will be announced in May and the awards will be presented at the June 14 Potluck Dinner.

FIELD REPORTS



The weather gods have continued to favor us and ideal conditions prevailed for both the Thornton Island and Sunol field trips.

Gil West changed the itinerary on the Thornton Island trip and began instead at the famous Stockton Sewage Ponds where after diligent elimination of thousands of Bonaparte's gulls, the little gull was identified.

A trip to the Lodi Sewage Ponds had us repeating the exercise; with plovers, eliminating all killdeer and hundreds of black-bellied plovers to find a pair of lesser golden plovers.

Caravaning along Pelter Rd., Gil produced sandhill cranes and a lone cattle egret.

The trip ended on a humorous note when Nancy Richer spotted an American bittern frozen into its alarm posture in open water, yards from the closest camouflaging reeds.

Another large group, including two visitors from New York, turned out for our Sunol trip. Glorious weather, but an amazingly small number of birds greeted us. Even the golden eagles failed to make their usual noontime appearance.

Nevertheless, ideal weather and congenial company were more than enough to make the day.

SIGHTINGS

2/14-Howard & Muriel Lochner observed about 60 cedar waxwings feeding in their yard.

2/22-The Tuesday Birders identified a Clarkii (light phase) western grebe on their field trip to Lake Merced.

2/20-Ted Brucker observed a mature bald eagle, with full white head and tail, feeding on a fish on the shore of Crystal Springs Lake.

2/27-Cliff and Nancy Richer identified a rough-legged hawk (in the rare dark phase) on the utility poles near the entry road to the SFBNWR Educational Center.

TRAIL DAYS TO BE CONDUCTED

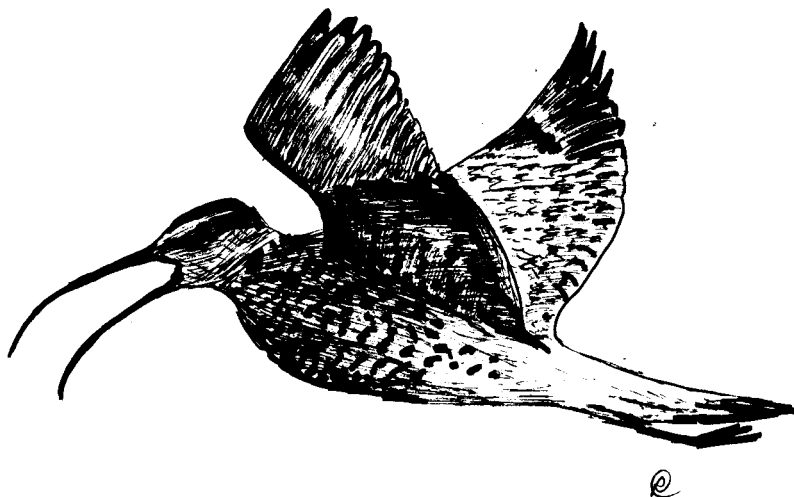
The sixteenth annual Santa Cruz Mountain Trail Days will be a two day event this year. On April 28 work will be done on trails in the Santa Cruz Mountain State Parks, Santa Clara County Parks and Mid-peninsula Open Space District lands. On May 12, the San Mateo County Parks and Mid-peninsula open space lands will be worked.

Trail Days is sponsored by the Santa Cruz Mountain Trail Association and Sempervirens Fund in cooperation with California Department of Parks and Recreation, MPROSD and the counties of San Mateo and Santa Clara and is coordinated through the Trail Information and Volunteer Center in Palo Alto. Volunteers will repair trails damaged by winter storms as well as build new trail segments.

1983's Trail Day saw the completion of a new trail connection from Lohry Forest in Castle Rock State Park as well as the repair of 12 miles of storm-damaged hiking and equestrian trails.

Volunteers are needed. For more information or to register, call the Trail Information and Volunteer Center between one and five in the afternoon, Monday through Friday at 324-8482.

--- Georgia Perkins



LISTER'S LUNACY

In 1979, Jim Vardaman, a Mississippi businessman and weekend birder tried to do the impossible - See 700 birds in the United States in one year. He fell **short** by two species but still set a new North American record.

In 1983, Benton Basham, a genuine hard-core, heavy-duty birder set his own goal of "703 in 83" and smashed Vardaman's record with 711!

Not to be outdone, Vardaman has now come back with a new goal for 1984 - to see half of the species in the world in one year!

Fun is fun - but whatever happened to quiet contemplation by a babbling brook and all that good stuff?

SOME NOTES ON SERPENTINE SOIL

Extracted from Introduction to California Plant Life by Robert Ornduff (California Natural History Guides-1974)

Serpentine formations are common in the North Coast Ranges and the Bay Area - less common in the southern part of the state. The rocks consist mainly of magnesium silicate and are greenish in color. Serpentine soils, however, are red-dish.

Because of their chemical composition, serpentine soils are unproductive from an agricultural or grazing standpoint. Few crops or forage grasses can be grown successfully but many other beautiful and interesting plants have adapted to the unique soil conditions - some to the point where they cannot survive on normal soils, including some species of the jewel flower (Streptanthus spp.)

Characteristics of serpentine soil that are unfavorable to plant growth are:

1) Low calcium and high magnesium content: Both are essential nutrients in the metabolism of plants but where excessive magnesium is present, plants are unable to take up sufficient calcium through their roots. This imbalance may result in stunted plants.

2) Low nitrogen and high nickel content: Nitrogen is essential for adequate growth and nickel may be toxic to plants. The soil is also deficient in other trace elements needed by most plants.

3) Extremes of wet or dry conditions: Serpentine soils are often waterlogged in the winter and excessively dry in the summer. The transitional periods may be quite short, with the result that a perennial plant on serpentine soil must be able to tolerate these extremes. Such contrasts in water content are characteristic of other soil types in California, but few other soils offer as well the peculiar set of characteristics of mineral composition.

In San Mateo County, Edgewood Park is an excellent park to visit to experience serpentine soils and the profusion of wildflowers that occur each spring. Jasper Ridge is another serpentine area, but a reservation is needed well in advance to join one of the regular docent tours.

----Donna Kirsacko

INEXPENSIVE BIRDING TOURS

The San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory is organizing some tours "with the adventurous and parsimonious" in mind. This is for the birder who doesn't mind camping out and providing his or her own transportation or car-pooling. Campgrounds are reserved and the two guides (minimum) are professionals. Other than that, individuals are on their own.

SFBBO Birding tours welcomes novices, senior citizens, students and anyone interested in natural history - particularly birds.

Tentatively planned for this year are:

April	Salton Sea-4 days-\$90.	July	Yosemite-4 days-\$90.
May	Death Valley-4 days-\$90.	August	Arizona-9 days-\$280.
June	Kern River-4 days-\$90.	August	Condors-3 days-\$70.

Call or write Don Starks, 2076 Foxworthy Ave., San Jose 95124 (408) 371-9720 (evenings).

SUNBEAM ECOLOGY TOURS

Maryann Danielson will be leading an extended field trip to the Salton Sea and High Desert Areas from April 23 to April 29.

Primarily a car camping trip, transportation and food will be the responsibility of the participants.

The itinerary will include Mojave Narrows, Salton Sea, Morongo Valley, Joshua Tree National Monument and the Providence Mountains east of Barstow. Each area will be birded for its specialties - fulvous whistling ducks, gull-billed terns, black skimmers, vermilion flycatchers, gray flycatchers and pinyon jays - and time will be taken to observe the wildflowers, natural features and wildlife of each area.

Carpooling and other detailed arrangements are to be worked out at a pre-trip meeting on April 16. Fee is to be \$90-100. depending upon the number of participants.

For further information call Maryann Danielson at 342-6919.

THE NATURE CONSERVANCY

With springtime upon us, The Nature Conservancy has come up with a full schedule of field trips and tours of their preserves and other associated areas.

Most of these require reservations and we suggest you refer to their Feb/Mar. California Newsletter for details, or call the Northern California Field Office at 777-0487.

One exception is the Jepson Prairie Preserve which will be open every Saturday until May 12. Docents will escort you to point out the special features of the preserve. Trips start at 10 a.m.

Call John and Barbara Hopper (707) 874-3109 for directions.



PESCADERO MARSH

Reservations are now being accepted for WILDFLOWERS OF EDGEWOOD PARK to be taught by Susan Sommers, renowned naturalist and Edgewood Park expert.

The class lecture will be on Thursday, May 17 at the Sears Savings Bank on S. Grant St. in San Mateo and the field trip at Edgewood Park will be on Saturday, May 19.

The fee for the series is \$10 per person and the seminar is limited to 20 participants.

Checks should be made out to Sequoia Audubon Society and mailed to SNHS (Edgewood), Sequoia Audubon Society, PO Box 1131, Burlingame, Ca. 94011 and should include name, address and telephone number. Reservations will be accepted in the order in which checks are received until the class is filled. Call Louise, your class coordinator at 341-9322 for details.

Edgewood Park is one of our outstanding local examples of serpentine soil. To learn what this means in terms of wildflowers and other unique plant associations see the article on the opposite page.

SAWDUST - FROM THE BOARD

The Board of Directors met on Thursday March 1 and elected Anne Scanlon-Rohrer to Vice-president and Mary Bresler to Secretary.

Expenditures were authorized for the printing of a Foster City checklist - authored by Nick Coiro - and the updating of the County and Pescadero Marsh lists by Barry Sauppe and Peter Metropulos.

Birdathon was discussed and suggestions taken from the Board as to its conduct.

The President was authorized to complete and forward a letter opposing the nominations of John Redding, John Dustin and Angelo Siracusa to the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission.

On February 24, 1984 a meeting was held in Sacramento between representatives from Sequoia Audubon and personnel of the California Department of Parks and Recreation.

The Audubon group was led by President Rick Baird and included John Wade, Peninsula Open Trust Consultant (and SAS member) and Dan Taylor from National Audubon's Regional Headquarters.

Representing the DPR were Maurice H. "Bud" Getty, Chief of the Resource Protection Division; Jack L. Hiehle, Supervisor of the Natural History Section; David B. Schaub, Senior State Park Resources Ecologist and Tom Taylor, Associate Fisheries Biologist.

A friendly and cooperative atmosphere prevailed throughout the meeting and the DPR personnel expressed considerable interest in working with us on a marsh restoration plan and has already undertaken some work towards that end. A hydrology study of the marsh was commissioned and Phase I of the study had been completed by U.C. Santa Cruz scientists. Unfortunately funds for completion of this survey were deleted from the most recent budget. Individuals from Santa Cruz, however, are proceeding in the anticipation of funds being restored in the future.

This study has disclosed that Butano Creek is the major source of the siltation problem with anywhere from five to nine feet of silt having been deposited on the Butano side of the marsh in the last two years.

The next meeting was scheduled for 10:30 AM on March 21 at the marsh itself. The purpose of this meeting will be to assess the roles - present and future - of the various organizations involved in preservation of the marsh.*

Rick Baird reported that all parties at the meeting came away with a sense of "cautious optimism".

*Needles "goes to press" on the fifteenth of the month -- Ed.

BIRDS OF PESCADERO MARSH

Barry Sauppe, Squoia's Christmas Bird Count Compiler identified a Ross' goose at Pescadero Marsh in January. This is North America's smallest goose and was first described to science in 1861. There is no secret about its wintering place - in California's Central Valley - but it was not until June 1938, 77 years later, that its nesting territory was discovered in Canada's Northwest Territories on an island in a small lake 12 miles up the Perry River from Queen Maud Gulf. Snow-white with black wing-tips, this mallard-sized goose once was considered rare. But its present population is estimated at 70,000 and it now winters as far east as Louisiana.

---Jerry Perkins

The second development is the meeting we recently had in Sacramento with the State Park and Recreation Department. The Park and Recreation people were very pleased to see our interest in the Marsh and delighted to hear we were willing to assist in not only developing the necessary planning, but also to assist in the funding required to implement a management plan. The three and one half hour meeting ended with the agreement of the State Park and Recreation Department to investigate how we can accomplish this Marsh restoration project on a collective basis. Another meeting is set for March 21 where we hope to develop the agreement between the Sequoia/POST team and the State which will allow us to begin the real work of restoring Pescadero Marsh.

Thus there is a feeling of cautious optimism among us at the present time. There is a tremendous amount of work to be done at Pescadero. Hopefully Sequoia and Post working together can be a catalyst in getting it underway.

Rich Baird



THE FIELD GUIDES ARE IN!

If you haven't already picked up your paid-for copy of the National Geographic Field Guide to the Birds of North America call our office to make arrangements to pick it up or have it mailed.

If you haven't paid for yours yet, then please call immediately as we have a waiting list of people who want "any that are left over".

OFFICERS:

President Richard B. Baird 574-1067
Vice-Pres. Anne Scanlan-Rohrer 571-7972
Secretary Mary Bveslew 994-3587
Treasurer Nick Coiro 349-1834

DIRECTORS:

Past Pres. Wilma Rockman 366-3434
Elected for 3 Year Term Ending:
June '84 Frank Allen 344-9339
Elain Juri 325-7470
June '85 Dr. Ruth Smith 322-5279
Tom Taber 571-8685
June '86 Kathy Graves 368-0087
Cliff Richer 355-4058

STANDING COMMITTEES:

Audubon Cyn. Donna and
Ranch Hosts: Pete Petersen 344-5582
Christmas
Bird Count: Frank Allen 344-9339
Conservation Rick Johnson 349-4546
Development Charles Newman 697-5601
Field Trips:
(weekend) Cliff Richer 355-4058
(weekday) Jean Allen 344-9339
Finance Frank Allen 344-9339

Hospitality Bob and May Blossom
(Pot Luck) Wilkinson 347-8367
(General) Charlie and Mary
Beth Singleton 341-7602
Membership Jean Allen 344-9339
Pescadero Bill Johnson 728-7916
Program
Publicity Anne Scanlan-Rohrer 571-7972

IMPORTANT NUMBERS:

Sequoia Audubon Activities 593-7368
Rare Bird Alert 843-2211

SEQUOIA NEEDLES EDITOR:

Cliff Richer 355-4058

SEQUOIA NEEDLES IS PUBLISHED MONTHLY EXCEPT JULY & AUGUST. DEADLINE IS THE FIRST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH FOR INCLUSION IN THE FOLLOWING MONTH.

INFORMATION FOR ALL OFFICERS AND CHAIRPERSONS -- INCLUDING EXCHANGE BULLETINS -- SHOULD BE MAILED TO P. O. BOX 1131, BURLINGAME, CA., 94011-1131.

SUBSCRIPTION TO NEEDLES SEPARATELY IS \$5.00/YEAR

MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO SUBMIT MATERIAL TO BE PUBLISHED IN SEQUOIA NEEDLES. MATERIALS MAY BE ORIGINAL ARTICLES, UNCOPYRIGHTED ARTICLES FROM OTHER SOURCES AND ORIGINAL ARTWORK OR CARTOONS. ITEMS DEALING WITH CURRENT CONSERVATION ISSUES MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE CONSERVATION COMMITTEE PRIOR TO PUBLICATION.

NON-PROFIT ORG.
US POSTAGE PAID
Burlingame, Ca
PERMIT NO. 152

TIME VALUED MATERIAL!
DO NOT DELAY!

NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY— Membership Application

☐ YES, enroll me as a member in the National Audubon Society and my local Chapter. Start my subscription to Audubon magazine and send my membership card. (Chapter C16)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY DESIRED

☐ Individual/\$30 ☐ Contributing/\$250 ☐ Student/\$18
☐ Family/\$38 ☐ Donor/\$500 ☐ Senior Citizen/\$21
☐ Sustaining/\$50 ☐ Life/\$1,500 ☐ Sec./Family/\$23
☐ Supporting/\$100 ☐ Dual Life/\$2,000

My check for \$ _____ is enclosed.

Please make checks payable to:
National Audubon Society, & Mail to: Sequoia Audubon Society
P.O. Box 1131
Burlingame, Ca 94011-1131

Sequoia Audubon Society
P.O. Box 1131
Burlingame, Ca 94011-1131

