Bulletin of the

SEQUOIA AUDUBON SOCIETY

San Mateo County, Ca.

APRIL 1987 Vo

Vol.35,#8

# SAS' GENERAL MEETING

California State Park Ranger and nationally published photographer Frank Balthis will present this month's program on "Gray Whales and Orcas".

Mr. Balthis is a ranger and naturalist at Ano Nuevo State Reserve, where he is involved in resource protection, law enforcement and nature protection for visitors along 30 miles of the central California coast between Santa Cruz and Half Moon Bay.

As a photographer, he has multiple credits in such prestigious magazines as Sierra, Natural History, Sunset, Vermont Life and National Hildlife indicating that we can look forward to a superb slide program.

#### NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Board of Directors of Sequoia Audubon Society unanimously approved President Linda Kypta's selections for the 1987 Nominating Committee.

Chaired by Rick Baird, a past president, the Committee also consists of Rick Johnson, presently a member of the Board and Conservation Chair, and Nick Coiro, our former treasurer.

In addition to the regular elective officers and two Board members, one additional Board member will have to be selected as Win Dye will be moving out of state shortly.

If you know of anyone who wishes to serve Sequoia Audubon and is worthy of nomination, please bring their name to the attention of Rick, Rick and Nick.

Rick Baird	574-1067
Nick Coiro	349-1834
Dial. Johnson	571_0577

The selections of the Nominating Committee will be presented to the membership at the Annual General Meeting in June at which time other nominations may be made from the floor so long as the nominee agrees to having his or her name placed in nomination.

#### MONO LAKE UPDATE

The heavy rains of 1982, '83 and '85 have resulted in Mono Lake rising to 6381 feet, its highest level since 1974. This is still 45 feet below its natural level and 8 feet below the recommended stabilization level proposed by the 1979 Interagency Task Force. A temporary restraining order in a suit brought by the Mono Lake Committee, requires the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power to provide a minimum flow of 10 cubic feet per second in Lee Vining Creek. Grounds for the suit were identical to those used by United Anglers in its Rush Creek Suit. Any trial on the Rush Creek Suit has been deferred for approximately two years to allow Fish and Game to study and evaluate the fishery.

In the 1986 gubernatorial campaigns both Governor Deukmejian and Mayor Bradley supported the principle of maintaining the Lake, although both were politically vague as to specifics. Perhaps State Water Resources Director Kennedy's report that the state receives more mail on Mono Lake than on any other issue had something to do with this.

On August 4 the Sacramento Superior Court, on narrow legal grounds, dismissed the Mono Lake Committee's action challenging DWP's right to divert any fishing waters. Although this was a defeat for the Mono Lake Committee it was not a victory for DWP since the door was left wide open for further similar suits.

On December 1, the Forest Service reversed its previous position and decided to defer its draft Scenic Area Management Plan and incorporate studies on the lake level.

DWP, which has opposed water conservation measures and belittled them as being ineffective, was handed a rebuff by the Los Angeles City Council which passed an ordinance regulating water closets and shower heads. Similar laws — and an aggressive public relations campaign — reduced water consumption by 27% in Tucson.

DWP sought permission to raise its dam at Crowley Lake by 45 feet. The Mono County Board of Supervisors agreed to support the effort only if agreement could be reached on "minimum desirable levels of Mono Lake." DWP refused to accept any such concessions. The increase in the lake's capacity would entail the relocation of a half dozen lake shore businesses and a number of sage grouse leks would be inundated so that there would be few direct consequences to the increase. Any problems would arise out of the use of the new storage capacity which could impact heavily on the Owens River or on Mono Lake.

Two scientific investigations one funded by Congress and the other by the California Legislature are continuing. The National Academy of Sciences (NAS) study will be ready in about six months and the state report by the Community Organization and Research Institute (CORI) should be completed in early 1988. Preliminary indications from both studies are that Mono Lake's ecosystem is far more complex than was originally thought and involve not only the obvious factors but such diverse influences as dust storms, a reservoir of methane gas under the lake and Chilean flamingoes on the phalaropes' wintering grounds.

PAGE ONE

## CALENDAR

April 1987 Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat 3 1 4 8 9 10 11 12 1.3 14 15 17 16 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30

APRIL 2 SAS BOARD MEETING. 7:30 PM at the Sears Savings THURSDAY Bank, Carlmont Shopping Center, at the intersection of Ralston Avenue and the Alameda de la Pulgas in Belmont. ALL MEMBERS ARE WELCOME.

APRIL 4 BAY AREA AUDUBON COUNCIL (BAAC) MEETING at SATURDAY Richardson Bay Audubon Center in Tiburon at 10 A.M. ALL AUDUBON MEMBERS ARE WELCOME. Mt. Diablo Audubon Society hosts. Refreshments at 9:30.

APRIL 9 SAS' GENERAL MEETING -- GRAY WHALES AND ORCAS with THURSDAY California State Park Ranger Frank Balthis. A nationally published photographer, he has multiple credits in such prestigious magazines as Sierra, Natural History, National Hildlife, Sunset and Vermont Life indicating that we can look forward to an outstanding slide program. At the San Mateo Garden Center on the Alameda at Farkside. Social Mixer at 7:30 PM, General Meeting begins at 8:00. See the article on Page One for further details.

APRIL 11 ANOTHER VIEW OF PESCADERO MARSH --- A WALK ON THE SATURDAY BACK SIDE of the Marsh. See Pescadero Marsh from a new angle as we take a 1.5 to 2 mile walk along Pescadero Creek's riparian corridor and around Round Hill. The area abounds in resident passerine species and - at this time of year - should be a magnet for migrating birds. All walking is on level dry ground but some muddy going should be expected. HEAVY RAIN CANCELS THE TRIP. To get there take Highway 1 to Pescadero Road and follow Pescadero Road around the marsh to Water Lane. Take a left on Water Iane and follow it to the end past the "End of County Road" sign to the State Parks buildings and parking lot where we will meet at 9:00 A.M.

LEADER CLIFF RICHER 355-4058

APRIL 15 FILOLI'S BIRDS OF OAK WOODLANDS & CHAPPARAL AREAS WEDNESDAY During the months of April and May it is possible to see or hear 50 to 60 species of birds. Come walk these beautiful trails with us! Limited to 15 participants; so, please call the Allens and leave your name and phone number to be included. If you get the recorder, you're on the list. We will meet at 8:00 A.M. at Filoli, at the first gate south of the Pulgas Water Temple on Canada Road. The trip will end at noon.

LEADERS FRANK AND JEAN ALLEN 344-9339 WITH DONNA PETERSEN

(CALENDAR is continued on Page Three)

## NEWS FROM THE RANCH

#### JEANNE PRICE

ACR's properties are from time to time the scene of special events. Some of the recent ones include a dedication, thank you party and a memorial service.

The Madrone Audubon Society held a party at the Bouverie Preserve on March 15 to dedicate the laboratory equipment it funded for Gilman Hall. The day featured guided walks, a light lunch and, of course, the necessary speeches for the occasion.

A memorial service for Alis Zumwalt, wife of Clerin Zumwalt, ACR's first naturalist, was held at the Bolinas Preserve on March 9. She died February 18 after a long illness.

A gala party was given by the ACR Board at the Bouverie Preserve on April 4 for more than 200 1986 donors who contributed \$100. or more. The highlight of the day was a tour personally conducted by David Bouverie of his home and garden. A private showing of Walt Anderson's beautiful watercolors of birds was arranged in Gilman Hall for the guests' pleasure. Guided nature walks and refreshments rounded out the afternoon.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR TWO MAY EVENTS

In Focus, a 35mm photography class is scheduled for May 2 and 3 at the Bolinas Preserve. Ray Peterson will bring jointo your picture taking. If you have camera and love the outdoors, don't misthis one.

Saturday, May 23, is the date for the Third Annual ACR Downhill Hike. You don't even have to be in shape for this one! It's a leisurely four miles with incredible vistas and fresh Pacific Ocean air. Let's go!

To reserve a spot for these events call (415) 383-1644. Remember the Community Hikes at the Sonoma preserve - April 25 and May 16 from 9:30 A.M. to 1:30 P.M.. Reservations must be made by Wednesday before the hike by calling 707-938-4554.

#### SPRING BIRD COUNT

The Davis Audubon Society will be holding its Spring bird count on Sunday, April 26.

The count circle will be the same as is used on DAS's Putah Creek Christmas Count and includes the riparian area of Putah Creek, Lake Beryessa and portions of Vacaville and Winters.

They need assistance in counting the nesting and migratory species usual this time and place. If you would call to help, call Kevin Guse (916) 756-7148 or Joan Humphrey (916) 756-9531.

## SONOMA COUNTY BREEDING BIRD ATLAS

## STEVE SCHAFER

The Madrone Audubon Society and Redwood Region Ornithological Society are currently beginning the second year of five to six year project with a goal of producing a complete atlas showing the geographical distribution of the birds breeding in Sonoma County. The primary purpose of the atlas will be to provide solid data for land use planning throughout the county.

For the purposes of data collection Sonoma County has been divided into a of 5-kilometer square blocks. Over the next few years volunteers will go out into each block during the breeding season and thoroughly survey them for evidence of breeding or attempted breeding among the various avian species. A number of fairly specific criteria are used to determine the Possible. Probable and Confirmed breeding status for each species within the block. Each volunteer is expected to go out into his or her block once or twice a month throughout the breeding season (April through mid-August) in order to obtain breeding evidence for as many species as possible; generally a single block can be covered in just one season.

If you are interested in participating in this project please call Steve Schafer or Janet Duerr at 689-0788 or write to Betty Burridge (Project Coordinator) at 963 Crest Drive, Santa Rosa, California 95404.

State Fark officials in Illinois have discovered a sure sales gimmick. State Parks T-shirts and hats bear the slogan "State Parks are for the Birds" and were selling in the usual modest numbers until someone added a characteristic white blotch to the shoulder of the T-shirt and a white and gray plastic bird dropping to the hat. Since then these have become the best selling gift items sold by the state. Proceeds of the sales are to be used to fund the department's conservation magazine.

## MORE ON MONO LAKE

A preliminary study of sheep grazing in the Mono Lake Basin has come up with a double negative. After 125 years of summer range use, the environment has been so degraded that it is impossible to determine its original composition. Even analysis of silica particles of decaying vegetation may not be enough to determine the kinds of plants that grew there. Lack of this information makes it impossible to determine the impact grazing has on animal and bird species.

The Mono Lake Committee is accepting applications for summer internships through May 31. For further information, interested parties should contact Debby Parker, Mono Lake Committee, Box 29, Lee Vining, CA 93541; (619)647-6386.

#### CALENDAR

(Continued from Page Two)

APRIL 26 MINES ROAD FIELD TRIP. An auto caravan through an SUNDAY isolated valley where relict populations of birds linger on despite the destruction of their habitat in the Central and Livermore Valleys. Phainopepla, Lewis' woodpecker, Lawrence's goldfinch, golden eagle and prairie falcon are near certainty while roadrunner, wood duck, purple martin, wild turkey, Costa's and calliope hummingbirds, rufous-crowned, sage and grasshopper sparrows are likely. Yet, despite its seeming isolation, you will never be more than 45 minutes away from either Livermore or Interstate 5 so that you can break away and return to civil-ization at any time. This is an all-day trip, ending at dusk, so bring lunch and liquids. Weather is unpredictable, with temperatures in the last five years varying between 40 and 90 degrees on this trip at this time of year: there are only two reliable restroom facilities, at lunchtime and at mid-afternoon; and no service stations; so be prepared. get there, cross the San Mateo Bridge and follow the signs to I-580. Stay on 580 for about 23 miles to the North Livermore Ave. exit. Take a right at the exit and follow Livermore Avenue through the center of town where it becomes South Livermore Ave. Approximately a half mile beyond the center of town you will see the Nob Hill Shopping Center on the left. We will meet in the parking lot and leave there promptly at 8:30 A.M. Late arrivals will have no problem in catching up with the group if they continue on S. Livermore Ave. until it becomes Tesla Rd. and then take a right on Mines Road less than a mile from the meeting place.

LEADER CLIFF RICHER 355-4058

MAY 7 SAS BOARD MEETING. 7:30 PM at the Sears Savings THURSDAY Bank, Carlmont Shopping Center, intersection of Ralston Ave. & the Alameda de la Pulgas, Belmont.

MAY 9 SAN PEDRO VALLEY COUNTY PARK FIELD TRIP. This SATURDAY wooded park provides a variety of habitat for migrating and resident species of vireos, warblers and thrushes. Our leader knows the park well and will scout it intensively prior to the trip to assure the maximum enjoyment for all of us. The trip will entail some walking along easy trails. The trip will begin at 8:30 in the parking lot of the park. To get there take Highway 1 to Pacifica and turn inland at Linda Mar Boulevard. Follow Linda Mar to its end and follow the signs to the park.

LEADER SCOTT SMITHSON

MAY 14 SAS GENERAL MEETING. At the San Mateo Garden THURSDAY Center on the Alameda at Parkside. Social Mixer at 7:30 PM, General Meeting begins at 8:00.

MAY 17 PELAGIC TRIP OUT OF MONTEREY. We have a number of SUNDAY spaces reserved on Debbie Shearwater's trip for this date. These trips tend to fill up fast, particularly at this productive time of year. Call the office (593-7368) to make your reservation.

LEADER PETER METROPULOS

MAY 22 MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND IN DEATH VALLEY. An extended trip covering prime birding areas of the Sierra through passes, Mono Lake, Owens Valley, the White Mount—ains and Death Valley where rosy finches, great gray owls, sage grouse, broad-tailed hummingbirds, chimney swifts and Lucy's and Virginia's warblers

are resident and almost any species can be found as a vagrant. Advance notification is required so that motel and transport arrangements can be made. Timing is subject to opening dates of the Sierra passes but we anticipate Friday and Monday nights at a motel in Lee Vining and camping at Furnace Creek and Cottonwood Canyon. With a small group the itinerary will be flexible to accommodate individual schedules and needs. An expression of interest at this time is requested so that some estimate can be made of the potential attendance on this trip.

LEADER CLIFF RICHER 355-4058

#### CONDOR AND TORTOISE

## CLIFF RICHER

As of this writing there is only one wild. California condor left in the world. Two of the last three survivors have been trapped and are now in either the San Diego or Los Angeles zoos where they are expected to contribute to the captive breeding program. The operative word here is captive. Thus far none of the captives has mated or nested and the zoos' arguments that it was necessary to capture all the birds in order to improve the gene pool may be as empty as their promises to release young birds into the wild. It seems that despite all the publicity given to the elaborate procedures used to keep voung birds from being imprinted on humans, that the first birds raised from stolen eggs are too tame to be released. I fear we have seen the last wild condor...even if the captive breeding program should be more successful than present efforts.

Even if these birds, should survive under zoo conditions, it would be an aesthetic extinction. On the ground or on a perch the condor is a stupid and ugly creature, awkward and comic in its movements. And there is no flight cage in the world that can allow more than one or two tentative flaps of this bird's great wings. It is only when soaring that this bird transcends its appearance. No other bird in North America - perhaps in the world - has such complete mastery of this art. Not a sailplane or a hang glider, no eagle or hawk can manage the thermals with the ease and efficiency of the condor. No mechanism or living creature can match the long flat glides or the effortless right angle turns or the rapid non-circling, non-flapping climbs for which the bird is noted. Even if it should survive in its cage, I have seen my last condor. I wish to remember the magic of its flight, not the tragedy of its prison.

Yet, even as we mourn the condor another awkward, ugly, shy and inoffensive creature is being forced to follow the same script. The desert tortoise, whose range - like the condor's - extended into several states and into Mexico, is being more and more restricted to a limited area. Biologists have little hope that the Arizona and Utah populations can be saved. North of the Grand Canyon there are only three known colonies of 2-300 tortoises and south of the canyon there are small isolated populations with insufficient genetic diversity to survive. Arizona also remains the only state where these creatures may be taken from the wild. It is legal to "bag" one tortoise per person per day. In theory two or three dedicated collectors could legally remove the state's entire population in a single year. In Mexico, where it was once a source of food, the tortoise is believed to be extirpated. Nevada protects its tortoises and six areas have been defined as critical tortoise habitat. but a small portion of one area are on Bureau of Land Management acreage, 90% of which is leased for grazing, 80% for oil and gas development and most of which is open to unrestricted off-road vehicle use. Over-grazing has killed most of the native vegetation and the BLM has replaced it with exotic grasses as part of its range "improvement" program. The desert tortoise is a remarkably efficient consumer, needing only 20-25 pounds of native plant material each year to subsist. But it cannot utilize the introduced grasses so efficiently and must compete with range cattle, which consume up to 10,000 pounds each. In 1983, in the Crescent Peak Allotment of the Piute Valley in Nevada , scientists discovered. 109 dead tortoises in a lone square mile study area. Their diagnosis was starvation due to competition from range cattle.

Everywhere in its range, its habitat is destroyed and the abinal itself is billed under the wheels of off-road vehicles. Even the ordinary family car and the eighteen wheel truck take their toll when tortoises attempt to cross

(Conti wed on Page Five)

## CLASSES AT YUBA PASS

BIRDS OF THE SIERRA NEVADA is an introductory biology class designed to familiarize students and birders with the identification and natural history of the birds of the Sierra Nevada. course will be held at the San Francisco State University Field Campus on Highway 49 near Yuba Pass from June 14-20. instructors are Dave Shuford and Paul Jones. Dave is well known for his work with Point Reyes Bird Observatory and for his study of California qulls at Mono Lake. Dave has also taught the shorebirds seminar for the Sequoia Natural History Series and has done programs for us. Paul is best known for his work as a tour guide and researcher for the Oceanic Society. He is a member of Sequoia Audubon and has been a regular participant in our Christmas counts. Both have masters degrees in biology and are accomplished birders. Turtion is \$100 and 1 credit hour may be earned although you don't have to enroll as a student to take the course.

FUNCTION OF BIRD SONG is also being offered by Dr. Luis Baptista of the California Academy of Sciences. Dr. Baptista is an accomplished imitator of bird sounds and is one of the leading researchers into the various dialects of the white-crowned sparrow. The class will be held at the SFSU Field Campus on June 6 and 7. Tuition will be \$100.

For information on either course contact Jim Steele, Director, SFSU Field Campus, Thornton Hall, SFSU, San Francisco, Ca. 94132; 469-1571 or Paul Jones 359-0219.

## A THANK YOU NOTE

Dear Audubon Society:

I went on my first Audubon Day Trip Saturday with John Silliman and Cliff Richer to Los Banos. Both my friend Regis and I want you to know how enjoyable it was, and what a fantastic pair of leaders they are!! They simply were fantastic at leading, explaining, and making us enjoy the day, even to the extent of loaning us a CB to follow the lecture!! Both of them were remarkable at their knowledge of the fauna of the Refuges and lots of humor to make it We only wished we could have fun. stayed for the second day of the tour. We will certainly be on more trips in the future. If Cliff and John are typical, you have an amazing group.

Thanks.

Barrett Anderson Foster City

(Thanks for the kind words but I was just the "tail gunner" in the caravan and happened to be the other voice on the CB. John was the leader and besides. wait until you've heard our jokes for the third, or fourth or whatever time. ...Cliff Richer)

#### CONDOR AND TORTOISE

(Continued from Page Five)

desert roads, usually at night when they cannot be easily seen. And, unfortunately, they also fall prey to a particularly odious form of desert rat. In some areas one out of every five tortoises has been killed or wounded by gunfire.

Like the condor, it appears that the tortoise will soon be confined to a reduced and still shrinking range in our state. Like the condor, there may be more captive beasts than are in the wild. are easy to capture, undemanding of time and able to forage satisfactorily in most back yards and so they can be found throughout southern California in glass aquariums or simply wandering about often forgotten by their captors - feeding on Kentucky blue grass or Boston ivy. Like the condor, (so far) they are in an environment where reproduction is impossible. Like the condor, their natural reproduction rate is low and insufficient to cope with human depredation. And like the condor, they are magnificently adapted to a habitat that is rapidly disappearing.

But unlike the condor, hope remains for preservation of the wild population. While "the situation is bleak" according to Kristin H. Berry, a Ph.D. biologist with the BLM, there is some reason for hope in California. BLM educational programs have reduced the incidence of casual collecting. The US Fish and Wildlife Service has determined that the tortoise merits federal protection under the Endangered Species Act. Off-road vehicle access has been prohibited in most of the tortoise's range and road signs warn of known crossing areas. Yet the tortoises' best hope lies in the privately

held Desert Tortoise Natural Area, owned by the Nature Conservancy and managed by the Desert Tortoise Council. Since 1971, the area has been expanded until it now includes 36 square miles, much of it fenced. Here, free from competition with cattle and protected from the shell and burrow crushing wheels of motor vehicles, the wild tortoise population may be larger than in all the other much larger areas combined and forms a nucleus which may lead to the preservation of the species.

#### HELP FOR THE CUCKOO

The Nature Conservancy has received two grants to help restore riparian habitat in its Kern River Preserve. The funds will be used to plant willows and cottonwoods and expand the feeding and nesting areas of the yellow-billed cuckoos.

The eight to ten pairs that now use the Preserve for nesting represent the largest concentration of these birds in California. Once common throughout the Central Valley and present wherever riparian growth was found, they are now reduced to an estimated 50 pairs widely scattered through the state.

The Preserve, 1050 acres located east of Lake Isabella, is under pressure from the growing leisure activity businesses in the area but hopes to expand by restoring riparian growth in nearby public lands and by possible acquisition of nolonger profitable farm lands.

The grants were from the ARCO Foundation of Los Angeles (\$45,000) and the Compton Foundation of Saratoga (\$15,000).

San Francisco Peninsula Birdwatching is Sequoia Audubon Society's guide to birding sites in San Francisco and San Mateo County. More than 30 different spots are described and accompanied by maps, directions and helpful notes about each spot. A species index directs you to habitats for the birds you want to see. Order one for yourself and several as gifts! Use this form to order your copy today. AT A NEW LOW PRICE!! Only \$6.00! (Taxes, shipping and handling included).

for delivery Belmont, Ca. 94002

720 El Camino Real #403

Allow 14-18 days

CITY ..... STATE ... ZIP ..... ALSO AVAILABLE AT MEETINGS AND SOME FIELD TRIPS



# San Francisco Peninsula Birdwatching

#### NEW MEMBERS

We would like to acknowledge all of the following new members who have joined us in the last year.

#### ATHERTON

JOSEPH CORNELL MRS. E DORRANCE DR. RONALD T EIKENBERRY JAMES L FERGASON JOANNE R KANPP AUDREY KASS 6 M SAUL GAYLORD E SMITH CONNIE AND ERIC TIEGEL

#### BELMONT

MRS. MARREN B EGAN M H CARMICHAEL RICHARD FARRIS CATHY A FITZFATRICK
JEFFREY T JOHNSON GARY A KINKLEY JUDY THEMES

#### BRISBANE

DAVID OSBORNE STEVEN W WALDS

#### BURLINGAME

JUDY ALLEN ALICE BIER ROBERT EDWARDS MRS R A FISHER JOAN M GERVAIS EVELYN HARPER FRANK J JR JR LEANA M LEE DIANE MC CALUM MARGARET MC MILLAN ROBERT N MC MILLAN CHARLES E MEIER JACK C SHNIDER CATHY SIMS LORI A SPAGNOLI JULES E THOMPSON

#### COLMA

ROSEANNE SPANDRELL

# DALY CITY

KENNETH M ADDLEMAN PAULA BUTLER MRS. CLABBY CHARLENE GUZMAN
P M KEYES VIRGINIA MONPDE JOHN G MORRICE MICHAEL OZAMA NANCY L PETERSON

#### EL GRANADA

PETER D ADAMS ROBERT C ECKHARDT WILLIAM M SAWRY

# FOSTER CITY

VICTOR F BASUINO JEANNE CHAMBERS NANCY GLEASON KAREN D HAWKINS Nadine Holten Lisa Hom / Ken Kato Mrs Henry Pyzanowski marilyn Simpson Lois Bower

#### GOLETA

MICHAEL L MANLOWE

## HALF MOON BAY

GORDON MANN JOAN E BRENNAN M BRUNNER Linda J Forsberg ms m smith kathryn J utter John West

# HILLSBOROUGH

BOB BEAVER MARY E BRENNEISEN PER HEDQUIST
MRS. WILLIAM C LAST S M MACKEY ANTHONY R MARQUES DR. PAUL WACHTER

## LA HONDA

JAMES DEARBORN L HELLERICH DONALD E MUNSON ELEANOR WENZEL

#### MENLO PARK

JEAN S BAKER PATRICE A BASSO ELLEN BEHRENS DENISE BIAGI
WANDA F BOOTH EDWIN M BRANDLE MRS. MARY MARCIA CASOLI RUTH C CASTO J N CURTIS
MRS J. A DEADY MRS. FRANK DONNELLY GALENA DOTSENKO PETER D EDMONDS
IRENE S FORREST, PHD JANICE C GIBSON JOAN GUTSGELL ESTHER A HELLER MARK R HOLLYER
DINDY JENNINGS ALICE JOHNSON ROBERT T LEAF MARY E LEMMONS WILSON LYNN
DEREK C OPPEN RAMON R ORTIZ JAGS R POWAR CATHERINE RIESER STEVE SCHMIDT
AMALIA SCHNEIDER MRS JASPER J SEARLES ELAINE SISLER JOSEPH F SVITEK
P SWANSON ERRI L TIENKEN REBECCA VITALE W WOOD

(Continued on Page Seven)

PAGE SIX

#### NATURE SOUNDS SOCIETY

Andy Wiskes, professional sound recordist, will present a talk at 2:00 P.' Saturday. April 25, in the Dakl Museum Lecture Hall. Wiskes recently returned from South America where he recorded sounds for the motion picture Where the River Runs Black, will discuss field recording techniques gleaned from his extensive experience recording ambient nature sounds. He will illustrate his talk with digital sound recordings made in the Amazon rain forest.

Nature Sounds Society meetings are open to all interested amateurs and professionals. For further information contact Faul Matzner at the Oakland Museum Natural Sciences Dept., (415) 273-3884.

The THIRD FIELD RECORDING WORKSHOP will be conducted June 18 through 21 with Greg Budney, Assistant Curator of the Cornell University Library of Natural Sounds as a special guest. He and other experts will present evening talks about field recording, discuss equipment, give workshops, aid in bird sound identification and demonstrate techniques on field trips in the Sierra Nevada Mountains. Arrangements have been made to stay at the San Francisco State University Field Campus at Yuba Pass, which provides beds in platform tents, meals, hot showers and other necessities, all included. Arrival may be Thursday night (at a small additional cost) through Friday afternoon, with informal activities; r early arrivals, and a formal probeginning Friday after dinner.

program ends after lunch on Sunday.

The cost is \$90 (\$100 if after May 4) for 2 days of highly useful information and camaraderie for both beginners and seasoned recordists. Space is limited so contact Paul Matzner or Bob Love at the Oakland Museum (273-3884) for further information.

## LOS ANGELES AUDUBON FUNDRAISER

The L. A. Audubon Society Wildlife and Environmental Art Show will be held from September 11 to 18, 1987 at the Wilshire Ebell Art Salon. It is open to all United States artists working in any medium except sculpture and photography.

Show selections will be made from 35mm slides. Awards will be from the actual works. There will be four categories: landscapes, seascapes, birds, animals. There will be \$5000 in cash awards plus additional awards of merchandise and gift certificates.

There is an entry fee of \$5.00 per submitted slide, with a minimum of 3 and no maximum. The deadline for submission of slides is July 15.

For information contact D.R. Kendig, 603 South McCadden Place, Los Angeles, Ca. 90005 or call (213) 931-6692.

## RIVER REPORTS

Protection for the Kern and Merced Rivers is virtually assured with strong support for the wild and scenic designtion for both rivers in the House of epresentatives and with Senators Cranston and Wilson co-authoring each others' bills on these two rivers.

In the House, 107 Representatives are co-authoring a bill to protect the Kings River, which the American Rivers organization calls "the most threatened river in the nation." As yet, the Kings does not have a champion in the Senate. Letters to Senators Pete Wilson and Alan Cranston are being asked for by Friends of the Siver.

The Nevada County Board of Supervisors has voted unanimously to support designation of 20 miles of the South Fork of the Yuba as wild and scenic under state law. However, Sierra County has filed an application to divert a portion of the North Fork of the River about 3 miles northeast of Sierra City and the Yuba County Water Agency is proposing a 255 foot dam at Wambo Bar.

For the American River, there is "good news, bad news". The good news is that J.C.Ferney has withdrawn their financing of the SoFAR project. Their decision was at least to some extent affected by the Friends of the River campaign to have its supporters return their cut up credit cards to Penney's. Meanwhile 900 tapporters of the Auburn Dam project—he Auburn Dam Council—held a breakst meeting to continue to push for this controversial project. Their current campaign is to identify the dam as a flood control project. They are somehow trying to link last year's flooding on the Yuba and Mokelumne Rivers with the Auburn Dam on the American River.

"Duke's Ditch" is being revived, at least partly, this time with guarded enthusiasm from conservation interests who find the bill contains adequate safeguards and some very attractive trade-offs but who are concerned that the Ditch will survive committee meetings and floor amendments but that the safe-guards won't. The Planning and Conservation League and Friends of the River will be watching this one closely.

## RENEWING RESOURCES

In an unusual gesture, the Pacifica *Tribune*, plants a tree for every new subscription to the weekly newspaper. This seems most appropriate for any newspaper, inasmuch as they are one of the largest consumers of wood pulp.

The Scenic Pacifica Tree Planting Program is a cooperative venture of the Philosophic Tree in Action, the Kiwanis Club (who Pacifica Park, Beaches and Recreation Department and the Pacifica Tribune.

#### NEW MEMBERS (Continued from Page Six)

#### MILLBRAE

MILD BELE CAROLE IRONS SELENA SANDERS JACKIE SCHIEDECK

#### MONTARA

LAURA FERNANDEZ MICHAEL A FRISONI JACKIE GEISER STEPHEN A SCHNEIDER

#### MOSS BEACH

JANET CONKLIN DOUGLAS IMPEROTO GARY WESSELS

#### PACIFICA

RUTH 6 BENTHIN JEFFREY'S COHEN MRS 6 J DAMASCO JOHANN O DOLFI TONY EDWARDS MARGARET FREDERICK ANTOINETTE 6 GAMLIN BEVERLY HENDERSON THOMAS J MAHONEY BEVERLEY H MONKMAN MARY LU MURPHY CHARLES OSTMAN JOHN R PRATT ANN SHADWICK MARIE V SILVEY WILLIAM M VELEZ

#### PESCADERO

OCREAL M RUSSELL

#### REDWOOD CITY

BILL ASHMORTH TODD BAMONT MERLAND BELL JOHN BERGUES GEORGE BLACK
R E CARTER BERNICE DONOVAN L DUPERTUIS DENNIS J DURKIN JAN ESHELMAN
BILL FARWELL EILEEN F FLOYD BETTY M FRISCHMANN GEORGE C HARRINGTON NORMA H HOCH
ANNE A HYLKEMA MARCY JONES INGRID T LE BLANC CAROLE D MAYERS JOSEPHINE MILLER
MARGARET OCONNELL KERSTEIN PAULSEN MRS EDMARD ROBINS MYRON AND JUNE SCHUSSMAN
ISABEL A SEXTON BILL AND MARTHA SIEMERS KERRY L SMITH PAUL STERNGOLD
MILLIAM M THURSTON MORIA WALLEN JAN WOSSER

## SAN BRUNO

JOHN F FRICK COLLEEN A GOODWIN DENISE GREGOIRE MR W D GROH
DR D HAFEMAN MICHAEL J HAROLD H A KELLEY ROBERT KLASS
ANTHONY L MANISCALCO ROBERT MC NEIL DR. EVELYN MCGOWN DAN L WILLIAMS

# SAN CARLOS

MIKE BRADY GLEN BROWN L FELAN SUSAN B GEORGE R L HEYER
M KOEHLER JEROME MENKE GENEVIEVE F PAUL V ROSSETTI MR. & MRS. GARY RUEGG
DAN SABO PAUL SCHEGER MR & MRS DONALD SLAITER EDGAR STENERSON

# SAN FRANCISCO

GRACE A. PORTELLO

## SAN MATEO

NOEL L ARTHUR M BILINSKI MELODIE BORG ROBERT C BROWN MARK CHRISLER
CHRISTINE CLIFFORD MYRA COBBLEDICK JUDITH A DACUMOS SUSAN DELGADO STAN JENSEN
ROBERT KANE MRS M.KELLY CARMEN KINSLEY ROBIN KOCZOR JOHN LIGATTIS WILLIAM LOUIE, JR
LAURA LEE MICHAEL JOSEPH J MICHELIN CHARLOTTE MILLER CHRISTINE MILLER GIL I MORGAN
JOHN OSNER JOHN PADLEY WILLIAM PENALUNA JUDY RICHTER PATRICIA RONALD
MRS. MARIAN SPEAKER MRS ROBERT O STEVENS SAMUEL M STEWART JOHNNE TROTT
MOLLY VICKERS MRS DORCAS R WIKE DONNA WOODSIDE BONNIE YOFFE

## SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO

HARRIET ABRAHAM D ANTONELLI E R BAGNANI DEBORAH GOLDSTEIN
RICHARD L HART KATHLEEN KANTA CONNIE KENT AKAB I LEVINE
MRS FRANCES MARIANI MILTON D MENDES DONEL PACIS MR % MRS E SCUITTO
CRAIG H SHUONSKI ANN STIDBOARD NORMA E MATSON DR GRACE WONG

## VANCOUVER, WASHINGTON

BRIAN R SHARPE

# WOODSIDE

LAURINDA ATMOOD RUTH A BARKER DR PETER FINKELSTEIN TOM GANO
DONALD LEMOIN TRISH MC LEOD MAYLENE MC MILLAN JAMES MILTON
FRANK R POPE ROBER RUDIKOFF PATRICIA VAN LOKEREN

# FREVIEWS OF COMING ATTRACTIONS YUBA PASS AND SIERRA VALLEY

SATURDAY. JUNE 26 AND SUNDAY JUNE 21

Three areas of sharply contrasting habitat lie within a very few miles of each other on this scenic and bird-rich trip.Birds of the Sierra black-backed woodpeckers, Cassin's finch, pine and evening grosbeaks, etc. -, birds of the Great Basin - gray flycatchers, Brewer's sparrows, vesper sparrows - and marsh-nesting species such as Wilson's phalaropes. yellow-headed blackbirds and black terms can be found in less than an hour's drive. We have made arrangements to again use the facilities of the Sierra Nevada Field Campus of San Francisco State University so an early indication of interest is required. The Sierra Nevada Nevada Field Campus is in Yuba Pass approximately 5 miles north of Sierra City. Full

accommodations at the Field Campus are \$21.50 per day. This includes breakfast, a sack lunch, dinner, 24-hr. snacks and a cot and mattress in a platform tent. There are indoor and outdoor facilities with flush toilets and hot showers. Just bring your own sleeping bag and towels. If you prefer to use a motel, the meals are still available at \$13.50 per day. For anyone arriving after dinner on Friday and staying through Sunday morning, the total cost, including Sunday's sack lunch, would be \$37.00. Cash and checks are acceptable but no credit cards. Please note the change in date required because of heavy bookings in both the town and the campus for the weekend of June 13-14. Gil West is our leader.

PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE (593-7368) TO LET US KNOW IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN THIS TRIP AND IF YOU NEED RESERVATIONS AT THE STERRA NEVADA FIELD CAMPUS OR CALL CLIFF RICHER (355-4058) FOR FURTHER DETAILS.

1/6751/4	HITCHO HI	111L J.	T CLUMM INC AL	JOH LICED CHIRE	12 OU CHEC CETIL	WICHEN (220 ACOU)	LOW LOWING	-1/ DC 14150*
!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! OFFICERS:			DIRECTORS:		STANDING COMMITTE		Field Trips:	Cliff Richer 355-4058
		FB4 B4F7	Elected for	Term Ending:			Mid-week trips:	Elgin Juri 325-7470
President: Past Pres.:	Linda Kypta John Silliman		June '87	Mary Bresler 994-3 Elgin Juri 325-7		John Silliman 585-3232 : Peter Metropulos	Program: Hospitality:	Charles Newman 697-5601 Win Dve 591-8674
Vice-Pres.:	Charles Newman	697-5601	June '88	Win Dye 591-8	1674 Conservation:	Rick Johnson 571-8533	Publicity:	Win Dye 591-8674
Secretary:	Ed Mc Elhany			Walter Smithey 591-2		Mary Bresler 994-3587	SNHS: NEEDLES Editor:	Sharon Hom 365-3369 Cliff Richer 355-4058
Treasurer:	Colleen Horner	300-4202	June '89	Rick Johnson 571-6 Cliff Richer 355-4		Rick Baird		SOCIETY OFFICE 593-7368
STAFF:	Nadine Holmberg	593-7368			Education:	Walter Smithey	Rare Bird Alert	

SEQUOIA MEEDLES IS PUBLISHED MONTHLY EXCEPT JULY AND AUGUST. DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF MATERIAL 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: 720 EL CAMINO REAL, SUITE 403, BELMONT, CALIFORNIA 94002. MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO SUBMIT MATERIAL TO BE PUBLISHED IN SEQUOIA NEEDLES. THESE MAY BE ORIGINAL ARTICLES. ORIGINAL ARTHORK OR CARTOONS. OR UNCOPYRIGHTED MATERIALS FROM OTHER SOURCES. ITEMS DEALING WITH CURRENT CONSERVATION ISSUES MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE CONSERVATION COMMITTEE PRIOR TO PUBLICATION.

SUBSCRIPTION TO NEEDLES SEPARATELY IS \$6.00 PER YEAR.

If you CHANGE YOUR NAME OR ADDRESS, send the label from a recent Audubon Magazine wrapper with your new name or address to: NATIONAL AUDUBON, MEMBERSHIP DATA CENTER, PO BOX 2066, Boulder, Co. 80322. Then, please notify the Sequoia Audubon office (593-7368) of the change. Be sure to give the name and address where Audubon Magazine is to be delivered. This avoids duplicate listings and incorrect expiration dates. Please send RENEWAL MEMBERSHIPS directly to National Audubon in the envelope accompanying your renewal notice. LATE RENEWALS should be sent through Sequoia to avoid a lapse in magazine or newsletter issues. The following application is for NEW MEMBERSHIPS only.	SEQUOIA AUDUBON SOCIETY 720 El Camino Real,#403 Belmont, Ca. 94002	(NON-PROFIT OF US POSTAGE PA ISAN MATEO, C PERMIT NO. 2
111111111111111111111111111111111111111		
NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY		
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONSEQUOIA AUDUBON SOCIETY Chapter C16 7XCH		
[ ] YES, enroll me as a member in the NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY and of my local chapter. Please send Audubon magazine and my membership card to the address below.		
NAME		
ADDRESS		
CITY STATE ZIP		
MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY PREFERRED		
[ ] Individual/\$30		

[ ] MY CHECK FOR \$\_\_\_\_\_\_ IS ENCLOSED.

720

Please make checks payable to the National Audubon Society and mail to:

SEQUOIA AUDUBON SOCIETY O EL CAMINO REAL, SUITE 40 BELMONT, CALIFORNIA 94002

(NON-PROFIT OF US POSTAGE PA PERMIT NO

TIME VALUED MATERIAL! PLEASE DO NOT DELAY!!



[ ] PLEASE BILL ME.