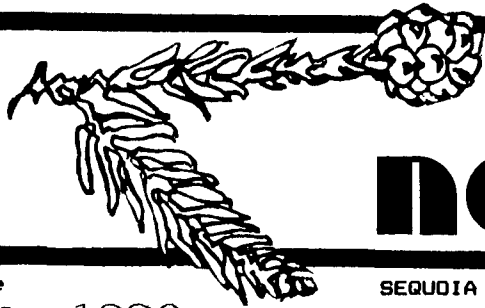




sequoia needles

Bulletin of the
February, 1990

SEQUOIA AUDUBON SOCIETY

San Mateo County, Ca.

Vol. 38, #5

THIS MONTH'S PROGRAM

Stennett Heaton, a local nature photographer, will give this month's program on "Experiences in Nature's Creativity." Mr. Heaton has devoted time and energy to uncovering some of the beauty to be found in the miniature world around us. His photography uses magnifying lenses to capture aspects of that beauty on film. His slide program will reveal to us some of the hidden aspects of the natural world at the microscopic level.

Meetings are held on the second Thursday of every month at the San Mateo Garden Center on the Alameda De Las Pulgas at Parkside. Meetings are open to the public. The evening begins with a social mixer at 7:30 PM, with the meeting and program at 8:00.

NEXT MONTH'S PROGRAM

Bill Bousman, coordinator of the Santa Clara Breeding Bird Atlas, will present our March program. Bill will share with us some early findings about our local birds. He will illustrate his talk with slides by Peter LaTourette, a professional wildlife photographer who lives locally and who is a participant in the bird survey.

BOARD SELECTS DUERR, HORNER; SEEKS NEW BOARD MEMBER

In its January meeting, SAS's Board of Directors affirmed Vice-president Janet Duerr as our new President, replacing Gale Smithson, who resigned when she moved to Humboldt County.

Board member and former Treasurer, Colleen Horner was selected to replace Janet as Vice-president.

The Board is now soliciting recommendations, nominations, suggestions and volunteers for this position. This director will serve until the general meeting elections in June 1990.

If you have a candidate or wish to be considered as a candidate, please contact Nominating Committee Chairman Rick Baird at 574-1067.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

JANET DUERR

The membership and board of directors of Sequoia Audubon have been unfortunate in losing Gail Smithson, our President, to personal commitments in the far north of California. As Vice-president, I have been asked to serve as interim president until general elections are held in June, 1990. Although I am concerned about fulfilling my responsibilities in this new position, I am honored to lead such a wonderful group of people in such a worthwhile cause.

As chair of the Education Committee, I would like to turn your attention to some of the committee's concerns. One service that we at Sequoia Audubon try to provide locally is to help educate people about wildlife and the environment. Teachers contact Sequoia Audubon Society to ask our help in teaching their students about the natural environment. One way in which we help is by sponsoring classes in Audubon Adventures, a National Audubon program for grades three through six. In addition, we at Sequoia Audubon have been fortunate to be able to refer these teachers to one of our members, Nick Coiro. For several years, Nick has assembled several programs on birds and birdwatching that he can present to groups of different ages. Nick gives these programs (as an unpaid volunteer) during the day to school classes at San Mateo County schools, or sometimes during the evenings and on weekends to other community groups (such as at nursing homes). Nick says that he enjoys giving these talks, especially when he can kindle the enthusiasm of children for wildlife and nature.

Unfortunately, Nick may be leaving next year to move nearer to his family in Oklahoma. Nick would be a truly irreplaceable member of Sequoia Audubon. However, we are hoping that there is someone in our membership who might be willing to try to take over some of his endeavors. We are looking for someone who thinks they might be interested in making presentations to school children about natural topics.

Experience in teaching or specific knowledge of birds and the environment is not required. Nick would be happy to invite any interested individuals to his next couple of presentations. Then you could decide if you would like to give similar programs in the future. Nick is willing to share his slides and other material with Sequoia Audubon and interested speakers, so you would not need to develop material of your own (although, of course, you would be welcome to add your own materials). PLEASE, if you think you might be interested, contact Nick Coiro at (415)349-1834 and talk with him about his programs. As President and education chair for Sequoia Audubon, I strongly feel that we will only be successful at keeping a healthy world by interesting our children in their natural environment. And the best way to interest anyone in a subject is through personal contact with an enthusiastic individual. Please do not hesitate to try something new and rewarding; give us a call.

CALENDAR

February 1990						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
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FEB. 1 SAS BOARD MEETING. 7:30 PM at the Kypta residence.
THURSDAY ALL MEMBERS ARE WELCOME but should call the office ahead of time to confirm the meeting site and to be sure there is room.

FEB. 3 TOMALES POINT AT POINT REYES. Join us for a walk SATURDAY out to the "other end" of the Pt. Reyes Peninsula. We can expect grassland birds, possible rarities and a spectacular luncheon view over Tomales Bay where resident oystercatchers and wintering waterfowl will keep you occupied. The trip involves a three mile walk up a modest grade and the return along the same route. Sturdy shoes are recommended and you should bring clothing appropriate for almost any weather at this time of year. The trip will begin at 9:00 AM from the parking lot at the end of Pierce Point Road at Point Reyes.

LEADER DAVE SHUFORD

FEB. 8 SAS GENERAL MEETING. EXPERIENCES IN NATURE'S THURSDAY CREATIVITY with STENNETT HEATON. A close look at the face of nature that we usually overlooks. By using special lenses Mr. Heaton has been able to capture the beauty of nature's microcosm and will reproduce it for our education and edification. Meetings are held on the second Thursday of every month at the San Mateo Garden Center on the Alameda De Las Pulgas at Parkside. Meetings are open to the public. The evening begins with a social mixer at 7:30 PM, with the meeting and program at 8:00.

FEB. 11 FIELD TRIP TO ALTAMONT PASS. Raptors are the SUNDAY attraction at Altamont Pass. The hills and cliffs to the north and south of the pass offer one of the prime feeding areas for wintering hawks and eagles. A "four falcon day" (kestrel, merlin, peregrine and prairie) is not unusual in this area, where golden eagles are common and all of our usual soaring birds can be easily seen on an average day. To get there take I-580 through Livermore to the Vasco Road exit. Turn south on Vasco Road and look for a gas station on the right. Just before the gas station there is a large unpaved parking area. We'll meet there at 9:00 AM. Bring lunch and liquids. Trip should break up at 2:00 or 3:00 PM.

LEADERS NICK COIRO 349-1834
LINDA KYPTA 591-9053

FEB. 14 COYOTE POINT FIELD TRIP. In addition to the WEDNESDAY Museum, the marina and the golf course, Coyote Point is one of our better metropolitan birding areas. As a long-time Museum supporter and as a docent, our leader knows the area well. For a surprising variety of bird life in a small near-urban setting, join Nick's mid-week field trip at 9:00 AM. We'll meet at the lower end of the parking lot by the picnic benches.

LEADER NICK COIRO 349-1834

FEB. 24 FIELD TRIP TO STOCKTON AND LODI. Sometimes called SATURDAY "Great Sewage Ponds I Have Known" this trip covers the wintering home of rare gulls, shorebirds, waterfowl, sandhill cranes and perhaps even a lost wanderer like last year's Bendire's thrasher. We will meet at 9:00 A.M. at the entrance to the Stockton Oxidation Ponds. To get there follow I-580 east to I-5 and I-5 north to Stockton. Just before you get to the city itself take the

(Continued on Page Three)

NEWS FROM THE RANCH

DAN MURPHY

ACR'S PUBLIC SEASON: This year ACR will be open to the public from March 17 to July 16. Though it seems early, it might be a good idea to plan ahead if you wish to join other Auduboners in hosting at the Ranch. This is a great way to get to know ACR, meet other people interested in birding and natural history, and help introduce our sanctuary to the general public.

Sequoia will host on each weekend of June and on July 1. You can volunteer by calling the SAS office at 593-7368 or - if you can't make it in June - call the Ranch directly at 868-9244. Nancy Angelesco will be happy to place you on our schedule.

MARIN EAGLES: The immature golden eagle which harassed the herons and egrets at ACR last spring was seen from time to time through the remainder of the year. Last season it was thought to be responsible for the loss of as many as 6 young herons. It may also have been responsible for the reduction of 11 breeding pairs of great egrets from the previous year's number. What, if any, the golden eagle's impact will be this season remains to be seen.

Bald eagles pose a potential threat to our nesting herons and egrets as well. Plans are underway to introduce bald eagles from British Columbia to the Point Reyes peninsula. There is some evidence that herons and egrets could be impacted by these eagles. There is also the possibility that bald eagles from British Columbia - which are larger than eagles from our latitude - could negatively impact native eagles. To complicate matters there is no evidence bald eagles ever inhabited the Point Reyes area. What their impact might be will probably be considered in an environmental assessment of some kind. ACR is in the lead in questioning the wisdom of introducing bald eagles to Point Reyes. Even though the plans have been postponed, you will no doubt hear more about this issue.

DOCENT TRAINING: The ACR Docent Council is planning a training session for this spring. The dates have yet to be set, so watch this column or call the Ranch for more information.

REMINDERS: Don't forget that our Ranch Guides training program - taught by Ray Peterson - will take place from Feb. 10 to Mar. 24. The Estates Planning seminars - two hours in length - will take place Feb. 2 at Volunteer Canyon, Feb. 17 at the Marin Art and Garden Center and Mar. 3 at the Bouver Audubon Preserve. For more information call the Ranch (868-9244).

To be successful, you can't be a politician, but you have to know politics.

William Penn Mott

1990 WILDLIFE AREA PASSES

NICK COIRO

As reported last year the California Department of Fish and Game instituted a program whereby an entrance fee of \$2.00 or \$2.50 will be charged for entry to some of the state's prime wildlife areas. These are:

Ash Creek in Lassen County
Elkhorn Slough in Monterey County
Gray Lodge in Sutter County
Grizzly Island in Solano County
Imperial in Imperial County
Lake Earl in Del Norte County
Los Banos in Merced County
San Jacinto in Riverside County
Upper Newport Bay in Orange County

The funds will be used to preserve and improve wildlife areas and fund wildlife work in general - with the emphasis on non-game species.

An annual pass is being sold that will be good at all areas. Sequoia Audubon is selling these passes as our part in supporting this program. The cost 1990 for 1990 is \$11.50, of which SAS retains fifty cents.

Those who purchase a pass can also subscribe to "Outdoor California", the DFG's bi-monthly publication (a fine magazine), at the reduced rate of \$5.00 per year.

In addition native species stamps will also be available sometime in 1990. The stamps are designed to be collector's items and the funds will also be used for non-game wildlife and for wildlife areas.

Wildlife area passes and discount subscriptions can be purchased at SAS's monthly meetings and at the Sequoia Audubon office. Unfortunately, since the purchaser's signature is required on the application and the pass, they can not be purchased by mail.

WILD GOOSE CHASE '89

THE CONTRIBUTORS (So far)

Frank and Jean Allen,	Gale and Caroline Arnold,
Dave and Di Belknap,	Barbara Benkman,
Earl and Vera Boyson,	Elya and Mary Bresler,
Virginia Clifford,	Frank and Lorraine Collins,
Al De Martini,	Genevieve Doyle,
Louise Fletcher,	George Frecker,
Clarie Hallenbeck,	Phoebe and Bruce Harlow,
Colleen Horner,	Jim Ingwersen,
Jan Justice,	Debbie Kimball,
Stanley Larsen,	Jo MacCartney,
Amy and Ed McElhany,	David Moon,
Claire Phipps,	Cliff Richer,
Thomse Seubert,	Anne Shadwick,
Mda Wagner,	Gil West

THANK YOU ALL!

(SEE PAGE FOUR FOR A LIST OF THE BIRDS
SEEN)

CALENDAR

February 1990						
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exit for Hwy. 4 (also known as Charter Way) and proceed west a little more than 2 miles to the entrance (also known as John Turk Road.) The trip will go on rain or shine. Bring lunch and liquids. Walking will be minimal.

LEADER

GIL WEST

359-0820

FEB. 28 FOSTER CITY BY BICYCLE. Enjoy the many species of WEDNESDAY Foster City birds while biking. Using bicycle paths we will make a complete circle around the city. The winter birds should still be here and there may even be some who are beginning to develop breeding plumage. The bikes let us cover more ground than we would by either auto or foot so we should see more species. (70+ species have been seen on previous trips.) We will meet - with bicycles - at the parking on the southeast corner of Foster City Boulevard and Beach Park Boulevard at 8:30 AM. The trip should last until noon. Limited to 8 participants. To reserve a space call the Sequoia Office at 593-7368.

LEADERS

NICK COIRO AND LINDA KYPTA

COMING UP NEXT MONTH

Mar. 1	Thursday	SAS BOARD MEETING	
Mar. 6	Tuesday	PRINCETON HARBOR	Nick Coiro
Mar. 8	Thursday	SAS GENERAL MEETING	Bill Bousman
Mar. 11	Sunday	MOUNTAIN VIEW	Linda Kypta
Mar. 24	Saturday	WOODSIDE HUMMINGBIRDS	Dan Keller

BIRDING SAIL

The Second Joint Ocean Alliance/Audubon Society Birding Sail will be held on Saturday, March 3, 1990. Guests will be assigned to boats with experienced Ocean Alliance skippers. Boats will leave at approximately 9 a.m. from various locations around the Bay (Marin, East Bay, South Bay), and return at approximately 6 p.m. that evening. A raft-up and potluck lunch will be held at Treasure Island, and awards will be given to the boat spotting the greatest number of bird species. (Last year's winner spotted 47 different species!)

Cost of the sail is \$15 for Ocean Alliance members and \$20 for nonmembers. Persons selected as birding docents will not be charged.

If you would like to attend as a guest or if you would like to be a docent and share your knowledge of birds, please contact the Ocean Alliance at: Fort Mason Center, building E, San Francisco, CA 94123, or call (415) 441-5970. Reservations will be made on a first-come, first-served basis.

It is suggested that attendees wear warm (layered) clothing, bring appropriate white-soled or foul weather duck shoes, binoculars, snacks, and a dish for the potluck lunch.

Men can live without air for a few minutes, without water for two weeks, without food for two months, and without a new thought for years on end.

Kent Ruth

WILD GOOSE CHASE RESULTS

This year the intrepid birding team of Nick Coiro, Linda Kypta and Gil West was led again by Barry Sauppe. Getting together at 4:30 AM they were able to identify the expected five owls. Following the dawn chorus they roamed the county from Pigeon Point to the Bay. While picking up many "good" or rare birds, they, as usual, missed some common birds - the downy woodpecker and the California thrasher. In all they identified a total of 164 species, tying the old record for the November Wild Goose Chase.

All of this was for the good of Sequoia Audubon and its education and conservation programs. A couple of hours of "phone blitzing" had produced an impressive number of pledges based on the number of species, so that each new bird was worth somewhere between six and eight dollars.

So far more than a \$1000 has been collected with still more pledges on their way. A list of the 164 species is shown below.

The contributors (to date) are listed on page three. The rest of the contributors will be listed next month.

SAS owes a special thanks to these contributors; to Barry, Gil, Linda and Nick - this year's fearsome foursome of birding masochism; to Colleen Horner and Gail Smithson for their assistance on the phones; to Linda and Colleen for pushing for revival of the Wild Goose Chase and doing much of the organizational work; and especially to Rick Baird who not only phoned but donated the use of his office, his phones and his phone bill to the cause!

THE BIRDS

LOON, RED-THROATED	MERGANSER, HOODED	DOVITCHER, LONG-BILLED	BUSHTIT
PACIFIC LOON	MERGANSER, RED-BREASTED	SNIBE, COMMON	NUTHATCH, WHITE-BREASTED
LOON, COMMON	DUCK, RUDDY	GULL, BONAPARTE'S	NUTHATCH, PYGMY
GREBE, PIE-BILLED	VULTURE, TURKEY	GULL, HEERMANN'S	CREEPER, BROWN
GREBE, HORNED	KITE, BLACK-SHOULDERED	GULL, MEW	WREN, BEWICK'S
GREBE, EARED	HARRIER, NORTHERN	GULL, RING-BILLED	WREN, WINTER
GREBE, WESTERN	HAWK, SHARP-SHINNED	GULL, CALIFORNIA	WREN, MARSH
GREBE, CLARK'S	HAWK, RED-TAILED	GULL, HERRING	KINGLET, GOLDEN-CROWNED
FULMAR, NORTHERN	KESTREL, AMERICAN	GULL, THAYER'S	KINGLET, RUBY-CROWNED
SHEARWATER, SOOTY	MERLIN	GULL, WESTERN	BLUEBIRD, WESTERN
SHEARWATER, BLACK-VENTED	FALCON, PEREGRINE	GULL, GLAUCOUS-WINGED	THRUSH, HERMIT
PELICAN, AMERICAN WHITE	PHEASANT, RING-NECKED	TERN, FORSTER'S	ROBIN, AMERICAN
PELICAN, BROWN	QUAIL, CALIFORNIA	MURRE, COMMON	WRENTIT
CORMORANT, DOUBLE-CRESTED	RAIL, CLAPPER	GUILLEHOT, PIGEON	MOCKINGBIRD, NORTHERN
CORMORANT, BRANDT'S	RAIL, VIRGINIA	MURRELET, MARBLED	PIBIT, AMERICAN
CORMORANT, PELAGIC	SORA	MURRELET, ANCIENT	SHRIKE, LOGGERHEAD
HERON, GREAT BLUE	MORHEN, COMMON	AUKLET, CASSIN'S	STARLING, EUROPEAN
EGRET, GREAT	COOT, AMERICAN	AUKLET, RHINOCEROS	VIREO, HUTTON'S
EGRET, SNOWY	POLOVER, BLACK-BELLIED	DOVE, ROCK	WARBLER, YELLOW-RUMPED
NIGHT-HERON, BLACK-CROWNED	POLOVER, SNOWY	PIGEON, BAND-TAILED	WARBLER, TOWNSEND'S
BRANT	SEMI-PALMATED PLOVER	DOVE, MORNING	YELLOWTHROAT, COMMON
GOOSE, CANADA	KILLDEER	BARN-OWL, COMMON	TOWHEE, RUFOUS-SIDED
TEAL, GREEN-WINGED	OYSTERCATCHER, BLACK	SCREECH-OWL, WESTERN	CALIFORNIA TOWHEE
MALLARD	STILT, BLACK-NECKED	OWL, GREAT HORNED	SPARROW, SAVANNAH
PINTAIL, NORTHERN	AVOCET, AMERICAN	PYGMY-OWL, NORTHERN	SPARROW, FOX
TEAL, BLUE-WINGED	YELLOWLEGS, GREATER	OWL, SHORT-EARED	SPARROW, SONG
TEAL, CINNAMON	WILLET	OWL, NORTHERN SAW-WHET	SPARROW, LINCOLN'S
SHOVELER, NORTHERN	TATTLER, WANDERING	HUMMINGBIRD, ANNA'S	SPARROW, GOLDEN-CROWNED
GADWALL	SANDPIPER, SPOTTED	KINGFISHER, BELTED	SPARROW, WHITE-CROWNED
WIGEON, EURASIAN	WHIMBREL	WOODPECKER, ACORN	JUNCO, DARK-EYED
WIGEON, AMERICAN	CURLEW, LONG-BILLED	WOODPECKER, NUTTALL'S	BLACKBIRD, RED-WINGED
CANVASBACK	GOOWIT, MARBLED	HAIRY WOODPECKER	BLACKBIRD, TRI-COLORED
DUCK, RING-NECKED	TURNSTONE, RUDDY	FLICKER, NORTHERN	MEADOWLARK, WESTERN
SCAUP, GREATER	TURNSTONE, BLACK	PHOEBE, BLACK	BLACKBIRD, BREWER'S
SCAUP, LESSER	SURFBIRD	PHOEBE, SAY'S	COWBIRD, BROWN-HEADED
SCOTER, BLACK	KNOT, RED	LARK, HORNED	FINCH, PURPLE
SCOTER, WHITE-WINGED	SANDERLING	JAY, STELLER'S	FINCH, HOUSE
SCOTER, SURF	SANDPIPER, WESTERN	JAY, SCRUB	SISKIN, PINE
GOLDENEYE, COMMON	SANDPIPER, LEAST	RAVEN, COMMON	GOLDFINCH, LESSER
GOLDENEYE, BARROW'S	DUVLIN	CHICKADEE, CHESTNUT-BACKED	GOLDFINCH, AMERICAN
BUFFLEHEAD	DOVITCHER, SHORT-BILLED	TITMOUSE, PLAIN	SPARROW, HOUSE

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

JANET DUERR

This year, the Education Committee of the Sequoia Audubon Society will offer up to four scholarships to teachers in San Mateo County public schools. These scholarships will cover tuition costs and, where applicable, room and board costs as well. The scholarships will be available to attend one of four different programs.

This spring, we will be offering scholarships for "Environmental Education in the Curriculum" an evening course at Hayward State University (starting March 29).

In the summer, we will be offering scholarships for the Field Ecology workshop at the Camp in the West of the National Audubon Society (in Wyoming), and for the course "The Natural Sciences for Teachers" at the Sierra Nevada Field Campus of San Francisco State University.

Next fall, we will offer scholarships for a weekend course "Environmental Education -- Methods and Materials" at San Jose State University.

If you or any teachers you know may be interested in any of these programs, please contact the Sequoia Audubon office for more information and an application. The deadline for applications will be in mid-March.

FIELD TRIP REPORTS

JANET DUERR

PALO ALTO BAYLANDS--Saturday, November 4

Steve Schafer led this beginners' bird walk around the Palo Alto Baylands. The numbers of waterfowl were low, as expected in this drought year, but close looks of a number of species were obtained. The low tide exposed a large mudflat, which was full of shorebirds. The mixture of immature and adult gulls provided entertainment for the more advanced birders. One shy, but cooperative, clapper rail was seen, trying to hide under a dock. In all, 63 species were seen on this sunny morning walk.

THE SACRAMENTO VALLEY REFUGES
Saturday, Nov. 11-Sunday, Nov. 12

Cliff Richer led three birders who managed to find accommodations in the jam-packed motels of Willows and Winters through the Sacramento and Colusa National Wildlife Refuges on Saturday and through Gray Lodge and the back roads of the Sutter Buttes area on Sunday. The long-term effects of drought and the short-term results of this fall's temperate weather were evident in the relatively small number of ducks and the near-absence of swans.

(Continued on Page Six)

BIRD SEED SALE

If you have bird feeders around your house, or know someone who does, this is your chance to stock up on high quality bird seed at a reasonable price and support the chapter as well. You, the birds, and SAS benefits from the sale of this birds seed. With the money raised we can do more for the birds in our area. The following mixes are available:

PREMIUM MIX is custom-blended and was formulated by the staff at the Western Regional Audubon Society in Tiburon. This high protein mix contains red millet, white proso millet, and black oil sunflower seeds, with no inexpensive "fillers." Specially blended to attract songbirds, this seed is not available in supermarket or feed stores - only through the local Audubon Societies.

WESTERN WILD BIRD MIX is a classic blend of red millet, white proso millet, sudan grass screenings, and red milo and is priced to compete with supermarket seed, but without waste "filler."

To mix with other seed, or offer alone: **BLACK OIL SUNFLOWER SEED**, high in oil content and nutritive value, this seed appeals to many species. **STRIPED MEDIUM SUNFLOWER SEED**, a slightly less nutritious, but larger seed also attracts many species, and is good for added variety. **THISTLE SEED** is a small seed, rich in oil, that appeals to smaller birds.

THIS IS A PREPAID SALE. Your order, including a check payable to Sequoia Audubon Society must be received by **MONDAY, MARCH 5.** SAS will have the ordered bird seed available for pick-up in our office in Belmont, between 9:00 and 12:00 Monday through Friday after March 27.

You can also make special arrangements to pick it up at another time by calling the office at (415) 593-7368.

Please use the following form for ordering:

	# Bags	Cost
PREMIUM 20lbs @ \$ 8 per bag	_____	_____
50lbs @ \$17 per bag	_____	_____
WESTERN WILD	_____	_____
20lbs @ \$ 7 per bag	_____	_____
50lbs @ \$15 per bag	_____	_____
BLACK OIL SUNFLOWER	_____	_____
20lbs @ \$13 per bag	_____	_____
50lbs @ \$30 per bag	_____	_____
STRIPED SUNFLOWER	_____	_____
20lbs @ \$15 per bag	_____	_____
50lbs @ \$34 per bag	_____	_____
THISTLE 5 lbs @ \$10 per bag	_____	_____
20lbs @ \$35 per bag	_____	_____
Subtotal	_____	_____
Add 7% Sales Tax	_____	_____
Total	_____	_____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____

Please send the order form and your check to Sequoia Audubon Society, 720 El Camino Real, Suite 403, Belmont, CA 94002



ITEMS FOR SALE AND RENTAL



PUBLICATIONS:

Prices by Mail Order

San Francisco Peninsula Birdwatching	\$ 6.00
National Geographic Field Guide to the Birds	17.25
Birder's Handbook--Ehlrich, Dobkin & Wheye	17.60
Birding Northern California--Jean Richmond	12.00
Mono Lake Guidebooks	7.50
Pacific Coast Checklists-in pads of 25	3.50
"I'd Rather Be Birding" bumper sticker	2.00
Sequoia Audubon Chapter Patch	3.75
San Mateo County Checklist	.75

Send checks to: Sequoia Audubon Society, 720 El Camino Real, #403, Belmont, CA 94002. Allow 14-18 days for delivery. Publications are also available at a reduced cost at the general meetings and at the office.

VIDEOS FOR RENTAL:

We have several bird identification videos that can be rented from the SAS office. They are also available at general meetings.

Techniques of Birding--Arnold Small	\$ 2.00/week
Video Guide to Birds of North America	5.00/week
(We now have the entire set available)	



**San Francisco
Peninsula
Birdwatching**

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

We want to welcome all of you to Sequoia Audubon. We hope to see you at our meetings and field trips soon. If you're not sure of where to go or how to get started, just call the office (593-7368) or any officer listed on the back page.

ATHERTON

Luisa Perez Rubio

BELMONT

Joyce Friedman Dawn Graves

BURLINGAME

Daniel L. Azarnoff, MD Patricia L. Barajas
Mrs. Gabriel Begorre

DALY CITY

Carol Orton

EL GRANADA

Stanley Aiken Jim Johnson Alice Pierson

HALF MOON BAY

Daniel Bolfig Gay Deghi Elayne Haller
Georgeann Hardy Lee Danny Hoey Naomi Sims

HILLSBOROUGH

Janes H. Greene, Jr Kathleen Martin

LA HONDA

Robert W. Corrigan

MENLO PARK

Lewis G. Karcher E. Larson Julia Logan
David Nero Phyllis Seidkin Richard T. Senn
John Silver Ike Van Cruyningen

MILLBRAE

Gwen Lorraine

MONTARA

B. Dahlke R. Lombardi

PACIFICA

Mona Bourell Susan De Groat
Steven C. Jensen Michelle Matson

PESCADERO

W. S. Orr

PORTOLA VALLEY

Lynn L. Sidensol

REDWOOD CITY

Ken M. Cavanaugh Charles Krause F. Mason

SAN BRUNO

Steven Barker Susanne Casey Molver Joyce Radocha

SAN CARLOS

Sue Bogdan Christine Clayton
Mr. & Mrs. Delucchi Sally Williams

SAN MATEO

Eric Baptista Charles R. Burrill Michael Fulton
W. C Hill Norma D. Jenks Dr. Judy Lyding
William McAbee Dan Morrison Eugenia M. Pappas
John S. Schroeder John J. Weaver John A. Woodworth

SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO

Neil Konkel Rochelle S. Moser Ona E. Shatraw

WOODSIDE

Stan K. Goldberg Bonnie Scheinman John A. Skelton, Jr.

SEE YOU SOON!

FIELD TRIP REPORTS

(Continued from Page Four)

Most of the expected species were found, but in smaller numbers than in previous years. The one exception were golden eagles, which were nearly as common as red-tailed hawks. One magnificent adult eagle was entirely oblivious as photographers clicked away from fifty feet.

HAYWARD REGIONAL SHORELINE

Wednesday, November 22

Nick Coiro led another mid-week trip for five Audubon members at this park along the San Francisco Bay. The weather was cool, but clear and pleasant. The group scanned the grassy fields, as well as the mudflats and shoreline. In addition to the usual grassland, water, and shorebirds, Nick and the group were treated to a flying Prairie Falcon, a Peregrine Falcon, and Burrowing Owls.

SAN PEDRO VALLEY COUNTY PARK

Saturday, December 9

Scott Smithson led ten members and three guests around this park in Pacifica. The weather was nice and sunny, although the morning air was a bit chilly. The usual winter residents were found, including long, close-up looks at a very tame California thrasher, wrentits, and hermit thrushes. The most exciting bird of the morning was a white-throated Sparrow, a relatively rare bird on the west coast and the first that Scott had found at this park. Overall, about 30 species of birds, as well as four coyotes, were seen in this morning of birdwatching.

FOSTER CITY - Wednesday, December 13

Nick Coiro led a mid-week trip for nine members and three guests around the birding areas of Foster City. The numbers of birds were low, but the group found the 'specialties' of the city, including red knot, hooded merganser, Barrow's goldeneye, and Eurasian wigeon. They also saw a red-throated loon and a common snipe, unusual for this trip. The highlight of the morning was a pair of displaying peregrine falcons. The male and female engaged in a gymnastic display for several minutes, much to the enjoyment of the group. Fifty-five species were seen in all.

APRIL IS AUDUBON MONTH!

WETLANDS THEME TO DOMINATE THIS YEAR'S
AUDUBON MONTH.

SEQUOIA AUDUBON TO CONDUCT BIRDATHON!

AUDUBON SOCIETIES NATIONWIDE TO
PARTICIPATE IN EARTH DAY.

Watch the NEEDLES for further details
next month and in April.

89 CHRISTMAS COUNTS

DAN KELLER

As a first year Compiler I'm quite happy with the results we achieved in our two Christmas Counts and I've learned enough from the experience to do better next time (if I'm asked).

All of the numbers of species seem to be down somewhat from previous counts despite - or maybe because of - the clear and semi-warm weather we had for both counts. Although it's not a statistically significant difference, the reduced numbers have me wondering whether it's due to the open weather, to habitat loss or to some other unknown factor or factors.

We did have record numbers of alcids - especially marbled and ancient murrelets - along with shearwaters and brown pelicans. We also picked up a long list of vagreants and rarities again this year, notably nine different species of wood warblers.

We missed some "easy" species on the Crystal Springs Count; snowy plover, cinnamon teal and tri-colored blackbird for example.

We definitely need to start getting organized earlier in the year (October at the latest) in order to get better coverage. With the variety of habitat in central and north San Mateo county we should get 200 species on the Crystal Springs count. That's my goal for next year!

I want to thank everyone for their participation, cooperation and effort. My special thanks to all of the following counters.

THE COUNTERS

BOTH COUNTS

Rick Baird	Edwin Duerr	Janet Duerr	Walter Floyd
Grant Hoyt	Karen Hoyt	Dan J. Keller	Mike Manosier
Peter Metropoulos	Barry Saupe	Steve Schafer	Mike Screen
	Lauri Thain		

CRYSTAL SPRINGS

Tony Alexander	Frank Allen	Jean Allen	Charles Bangs
Charles Brock	Maryann Danielson	Gary Deghi	Al De Martini
Pat Dickenson	Nancy Dobbs	George Frecker	Harriet Hill
Sue Hillard	Andrea Jesse	David Keller	Donald Keller
Jim Kohler			
Andy Kratter	Linda Kypta	Kim Lathrop	Carol Miller
Genevieve Miller	Rob Nordon	Pat Pauch	Trey Pittsenger
Cliff Richer	Grace Sain	Carol Scott	JoAnn Sherrin
Don Slaiter	Theila Smith	Scott Smithson	Beth Soltis
Sonia Songail	Jean Marie Spoelman	Tim Sullivan	Francis Toldi
Iovar	Robert Wilkinson	Christine Wolfe	Claire Wolfe
	Mailinda Zailinger		

AJO NUEVO

Janice Anderson	Dennis Barr	William Brophy	Al De Martini
Via Feichtl	Dave Gordon	Rick V. Johnson	Donald Keller
Janet Murphy	Duane O'Sullivan	Frank O'Sullivan	Kathleen Pasiels
Armin H. Ramiel	Paul Reilly	Claire Rittenhouse	Robin Smith
Maria Straatmann	Gary Strachan	Ron S. Thorn	Rob Vrry
	Gil West	Mike Wyler	

1989 CHRISTMAS COUNTS

THE BIRDS

Species	CS	AN	Species	CS	AN	Species	CS	AN
LOON, RED-THROATED	157	74	QUAIL, CALIFORNIA	398	579	PHOEBE, BLACK	63	80
LOON, PACIFIC	306	282	RAIL, VIRGINIA	3	18	PHOEBE, SAY'S	13	10
LOON, COMMON	52	48	SORA	1	3	LARK, HORNED	2	0
GREBE, PIE-BILLED	79	34	MOORHEN, COMMON	1	0	SWALLOW, TREE	0	40
GREBE, HORNED	43	16	COOT, AMERICAN	1892	424	SWALLOW, VIOLET-GREEN	0	70
GREBE, RED-NECKED	0	1	PLOVER, BLACK-BELLIED	535	137	Swallow, species	0	1
GREBE, EARED	12	13	GOLDEN-PLOVER, LESSER	1	5	JAY, STELLER'S	192	183
GREBE, WESTERN	391	2791	PLOVER, SNOWY	0	22	JAY, SCRUB	307	100
GREBE, CLARK'S	15	5	PLOVER, SEMI-PALMATED	144	0	CROW, AMERICAN	27	4
FULMAR, NORTHERN	1	1	KILLDEER	325	277	RAVEN, COMMON	56	61
SHEARWATER, SOOTY	0	3	OYSTERCATCHER, BLACK	2	46	CHICKADEE, CHSTNT-BCKD	571	599
SHRWTR, SOOTY/SHORT-TLD	2	0	STILT, BLACK-NECKED	61	0	TITMOUSE, PLAIN	10	0
SHEARWATER, BLACK-VENTED	7	12	AVOCET, AMERICAN	123	0	BUSHTIT	731	279
PELICAN, AMERICAN WHITE	0	1	YELLOWLEGS, GREATER	19	12	NUTHATCH, RED-BREADED	1	0
PELICAN, BROWN	60	2777	YELLOWLEGS, LESSER	0	1	NUTHATCH, WHITE-BREADED	3	0
CORMORANT, DOUBLE-CRESTED	722	148	WILLET	1345	128	NUTHATCH, PYGMY	62	98
CORMORANT, BRANDT'S	111	243	TATTLER, WANDERING	0	3	CREEPER, BROWN	44	34
CORMORANT, PELAGIC	213	97	SANDPIPER, SPOTTED	5	0	WREN, BEWICK'S	106	29
BITTERN, AMERICAN	0	3	WHIMBREL	25	17	WREN, HOUSE	1	0
HERON, GREAT BLUE	27	20	CURLEW, LONG-BILLED	8	4	WREN, WINTER	30	34
EGRET, GREAT	52	7	GODWIT, MARBLED	505	80	WREN, MARSH	20	14
EGRET, SNOWY	79	15	TURNSTONE, RUDDY	14	8	KINGLET, GOLDEN-CROWNED	12	5
EGRET, CATTLE	0	1	TURNSTONE, BLACK	50	168	KINGLET, RUBY-CROWNED	342	161
HERON, GREEN-BACKED	2	2	SURFBIRD	36	131	BLUEBIRD, WESTERN	20	4
NIGHT-HERON, BLACK-CROWNED	19	8	KNOT, RED	16	0	THRUSH, HERMIT	223	68
SWAN, TUNDRA	1	2	SANDERLING	321	639	ROBIN, AMERICAN	897	143
BRANT	1	2	SANDPIPER, WESTERN	762	7	THRUSH, VARIED	181	197
GOOSE, SNOW	1	0	SANDPIPER, LEAST	201	24	WRENTIT	204	107
GOOSE, CANADA	387	8	SANDPIPER, ROCK	3	1	MCKINGBIRD, NORTHERN	16	1
DUCK, WOOD	2	9	DUNLIN	2868	26	THRASHER, CALIFORNIA	4	3
TEAL, GREEN-WINGED	128	85	DOWITCHER, SHORT-BILLED	18	8	PIBIT, AMERICAN	51	93
MALLARD	1394	117	DOWITCHER, LONG-BILLED	115	12	WAXWING, CEDAR	192	12
PINTAIL, NORTHERN	423	222	Dowitcher, species:	30	0	SHRIKE, LOGGERHEAD	5	7
TEAL, CINNAMON	0	20	SNIPE, COMMON	28	5	STARLING, EUROPEAN	2229	2479
SHOVELER, NORTHERN	62	88	JAEGER, POMARINE	2	5	VIREO, HUTTON'S	47	21
GADWALL	76	91	GULL, BONAPARTE'S	12	2	WARBLER, ORANGE-CROWNED	11	12
WIGEON, EURASIAN	4	1	GULL, HEERMANN'S	7	16	WARBLER, NASHVILLE	2	1
WIGEON, AMERICAN	557	218	GULL, MEW	290	358	WARBLER, YELLOW-RUMPED	250	1499
CANVASBACK	711	77	GULL, RING-BILLED	3616	44	(Audubon's)	318	29
DUCK, RING-NECKED	237	57	GULL, CALIFORNIA	729	222	(Myrtle)	138	3
SCAUP, GREATER	11141	3	GULL, HERRING	57	311	WARBLER, BLK-THRTD GRAY	1	0
SCAUP, LESSER	572	5	GULL, THAYER'S	5	14	WARBLER, TOWNSEND'S	114	59
Scaup, species:	1880	0	GULL, WESTERN	1346	3103	WARBLER, PALM	2	1
DUCK, HARLEQUIN	0	1	GULL, GLAUCOUS-WINGED	244	381	WARBLER, BLACK & WHITE	1	2
OLDSQUAW	1	1	KITTIWAKE, BLACK-LEGGED	0	1	YELLOWTHROAT, COMMON	38	33
SCOTER, BLACK	9	27	Gull species	0	212	WARBLER, WILSON'S	1	1
SCOTER, WHITE-WINGED	133	87	TERN, FORSTER'S	62	6	TOWHEE, RUFOUS-SIDED	101	42
SCOTER, SURF	18267	681	MURRE, COMMON	261	2505	TOWHEE, CALIFORNIA	201	68
GOLDENEYE, COMMON	2715	30	MURRELET, MARBLED	95	23	SPARROW, SAVANNAH	107	39
GOLDENEYE, BARROW'S	17	0	MURRELET, ANCIENT	29	4	SPARROW, FOX	268	102
BUFFLEHEAD	1420	54	AUKLET, CASSIN'S	5	7	SPARROW, SONG	335	245
MERGANSER, HOODED	68	14	AUKLET, RHINOCEROS	32	50	SPARROW, LINCOLN'S	55	46
MERGANSER, COMMON	3	0	DOVE, ROCK	1216	83	SPARROW, SWAMP	1	1
MERGANSER, RED-BREADED	26	21	PIGEON, BAND-TAILED	101	246	SPARROW, WHITE-THROATED	6	4
DUCK, RUDDY	1267	216	DOVE, MOURNING	698	112	SPARROW, GOLDEN-CROWNED	113	512
VULTURE, TURKEY	20	44	OWL, BARN	5	3	SPARROW, WHITE-CROWNED	1179	832
KITE, BLACK-SHOULDERED	9	31	SCREECH-OWL, WESTERN	3	7	JUNCO, DARK-EYED	864	546
EAGLE, BALD	2	0	OWL, GREAT HORNED	23	24	(Slate-colored)	0	1
HARRIER, NORTHERN	17	28	PYGHY-OWL, NORTHERN	6	6	BLACKBIRD, RED-WINGED	628	1143
HAWK, SHARP-SHINNED	6	10	OWL, SHORT-EARED	2	0	BLACKBIRD, TRI-COLORED	0	357
HAWK, COOPER'S	9	2	OWL, NORTHERN SAW-WHET	2	13	MEADOWLARK, WESTERN	361	95
HAWK, RED-SHOULDERED	21	10	HUMMINGBIRD, ANNA'S	297	67	BLACKBIRD, BREWER'S	2009	1338
HAWK, RED-TAILED	90	98	KINGFISHER, BELTED	11	9	COWBIRD, BROWN-HEADED	22	16
HAWK, FERRUGINOUS	1	0	WOODPECKER, ACORN	46	183	FINCH, PURPLE	121	80
HAWK, ROUGH-LEGGED	1	1	SAPSUCKER, RED-BREADED	10	13	FINCH, HOUSE	597	485
KESTREL, AMERICAN	52	50	WOODPECKER, NUTTALL'S	4	1	CROSSBILL, RED	9	0
MERLIN	4	1	WOODPECKER, DOWNY	13	7	SISKIN, PINE	391	345
FALCON, PEREGRINE	4	3	WOODPECKER, HAIRY	22	9	GOLDFINCH, LESSER	45	25
PHEASANT, RING-NECKED	1	0	FLICKER, NORTHERN	115	65	GOLDFINCH, AMERICAN	49	156
			WOODPECKER, PILEATED	0	2	SPARROW, HOUSE	167	7

AUDUBON MONTH

BIRDATHON:

John James Audubon was born on April 26, 1775. Every April the National Audubon Society and its chapters celebrate his birthday with special events, especially the Birdathon.

The Birdathon is the National Audubon Society's biggest fundraiser. Members and teams from all over the United States go out birding in this month, ideally in the week preceding or following Audubon's birthday or any time in the month of April.

Participating birders go out and get pledges from friends, relatives, business associates or interested acquaintances. Then they go out and bird - trying to see as many species as possible in 24 hours (or less).

Different chapters take different approaches. Many have a single official team (as we have had for the last several years). Others have a few teams, which compete against each other. The

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The following application is for NEW MEMBERSHIPS only.

NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION---SEQUOIA 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.

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7XCH

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great majority have individual birders who go out on their own and just have fun (and raise money). The champion money-raiser year after year is a Texas minister and birding enthusiast who usually gets his pledges from the pulpit on the Sunday preceding his Birdathon outing.

Once again, this year we're going to field an official team, who will try to beat their record of 185 species. Cliff Richer - who optimistically hopes for 130 species - will be fielding his own team, which he has named The Ultimate Coot. He's inviting anyone who can raise the equivalent of eighty cents per species in pledges to join him for sixteen hours of heavy duty birding on Saturday, April 21.

Form your own team - even if its just you. Or pledge a nickel, dime or more per species. But support National Audubon and the Sequoia chapter in their efforts!

Next month look for more details -not only on the Birdathon but on NAS's special Audubon Month emphasis on wetlands and on its participation in Earth Day.

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Steve Schafer 689-0788
June '91 Nick Coiro 349-1834
June '92 Rick Johnson 571-8533
Linda Kypta 591-9053

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