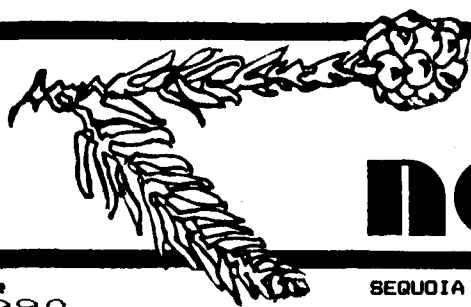




sequoia needles

Bulletin of the
June, 1990

SEQUOIA AUDUBON SOCIETY

San Mateo County, Ca.

Vol. 38, #3

THIS MONTH'S PROGRAM

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Our June potluck program will be "Hummingbirds: Tiny Avian Jewels." Meryl Sundove, Education Coordinator at National Audubon Society's Richardson Bay Center, will present a slide talk on hummingbirds, their adaptations, and their unique biological qualities.

Hummingbirds are found only in North and South America. Most of the approximately 340 species are found in the tropics, but about 16 species can be found within US boundaries. Hummingbirds can be so specialized that they can thrive in the chilling climate of the Andes at 15,000 feet or in the deserts of California. Hummingbirds' magical glitter has stimulated people's imaginations, leading to their being assigned names such as emerald, sapphire, topaz, and ruby. They are known for their flying talents, brilliant colors, fast metabolism, and tiny size. Meryl's talk will help us to understand the natural history behind all their sparkle and ability to live in the "fast lane" of life.

(See Meryl's article on Page Seven)

SEPTEMBER'S PROGRAM

"SHOW AND TELL" NIGHT has become a tradition for our first meeting of the new Audubon year. It has also become one of our most popular programs. Our members bring their own slides and narrate their summer adventures.

Everyone is welcome to bring their slides (up to a maximum of 20) and share their experiences with the rest of us.

POTLUCK TIME!

This month also brings us to our annual June Potluck Dinner so dust off your favorite show-off recipes.

Please remember to bring your own utensils and plates and a paper bag in which to take them home. Those people whose last names begin with the letters *A through F* should bring a *CASSEROLE* or other main dish, those whose names begin with the letters *G through L*, a *SALAD* and *M through Z* should provide the *DESSERTS*. (Since we're usually a bit short on hot dishes, all you G-Z's can choose that as an option.)

Bring enough to serve FIVE times the number in your party.

After a brief few months, I will be ending my term as President of Sequoia Audubon at the June general meeting. I regret that I can not continue on as President, but the demands of my real job dictate otherwise. (I may have to leave the Bay Area next spring to move on to a new position.) Luckily, Sequoia has many capable active members to keep everything moving smoothly. We are fortunate that Mary Bresler has volunteered to be President for the coming year; I hope that her tenure is as enjoyable as mine has been.

My husband, Steve Schafer, and I plan to stay involved in Sequoia as long as we remain in the Bay Area. As Past President I will remain on the board of directors and both of us will stay active on the education, field trips, and program committees. Of course, with the possibility of leaving looming on the horizon, we are anxious for other members to join us on these committees. In general, committee work is not as time consuming as being on the board; committees generally meet no more than once a month and do not need to involve more than a few hours a month. Please consider joining any of the committees which strike your interest: conservation, education, publicity, fund-raising, audit, finance, membership, hospitality, circulation, ACR hosting, Christmas count, or programs. We always need new members; the work is always more enjoyable and moves more rapidly when there are extra helping hands.

FROM THE EDITOR

Next year, whether or not the Nominating Committee's selections are accepted, there will be a changing of the guard in SAS's leadership. As Janet stated above, neither she nor Steve Schafer will be running for re-election. Colleen Horner, our Vice-president is stepping down in order to devote more time to her family. She will also remain active, lending the benefit of her experience to our Treasurer and working at fund-raising.

The Nominating Committee's choices are outstanding and, if elected, give great promise for the future.

Mary Bresler, nominated for the Presidency was, during her previous terms on the Board, regarded as our Conservation Conscience. Her return to the Board and her nomination to the Presidency are great assets to our chapter.

Rick Johnson, our long-time Conservation Chairman, has agreed to vacate his place on the Board and run for Vice-President. He comes from an Audubon family. His mother and father both served to advance the Audubon Cause for many years. Rick helped organize and lead the Friends of Foster City in their efforts to save Belmont Slough and he was singled out as an Audubon Activist at the 1990 Regional Convention at Asilomar.

Rick Baird, a former President of SAS, of the Pescadero Marsh Interpretive Association and of Audubon Canyon Ranch has - with a brief hiatus - been on the Board for many years and is running for re-election.

(Continued on Page Eight)

CALENDAR

June 1990						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

JUNE 2 FIELD TRIP TO GAZOS CREEK. The riparian corridor of Gazos Creek is one of the finest year-round birding areas of San Mateo County. From its mouth, where resting gulls and terns roost, to its origins in the redwoods the creek is the summer home of a large number of passerine species and a representative population of hawks and owls. For even more diversity, we will also bird Butano State Park and the grasslands between the two areas. We will meet at the intersection of Hwy. 1 and Gazos Creek Road, just south of the Pigeon Point Lighthouse at 9:00 A.M. The trip should break up at lunchtime.

LEADER: PETER METROPULOS 592-2417

JUNE 14 GENERAL MEETING AND POTLUCK. HUMMINGBIRDS are the subject of our program with Meryl Sundove, a naturalist at the Richardson Bay Sanctuary in Tiburon giving a slide program on these jeweled wonders. The meeting is at the San Mateo Garden Center on the Alameda at Parkside with the Potluck beginning at 6:30 PM, and the General Meeting immediately after.

JUNE 16 YUBA PASS - "THE CALL OF THE HIGH SIERRA" - This trip affords a chance to see birds rarely seen on any of our other field trips. The trip features easy trail walking through lovely mountain and Sierra Valley habitats. On Saturday we will meet at 9 AM at Wild Plum Campground just out of Sierra City and bird the mountain areas for dipper, black-backed woodpecker, evening grosbeak summer warblers, flycatchers, etc. On Sunday we'll meet at the Summit Campground at 8 AM. From there we will caravan to Sierra Valley to see the birds of the Eastern Slope and Modoc Plateau. Bring lunch and liquids for two days. Motels are available in Sierra City and reservations are advisable since there may be several other birding groups in the area at the same time. Some of the motels are:

HARRINGTON'S SIERRA PINES	(916) 862-1151
SIERRA CHALET	(916) 862-1110
BUTES MOTEL	(916) 862-1170
SIERRA BUTTES INN	(916) 862-1122

Camping is available at the Wild Plum and Chapman Campgrounds on Hwy. 49. Arrangements are also being made for us to use the facilities of the Sierra Nevada Field Campus of San Francisco State University. Camping in platform tents with mattresses and cots, hot showers and three meals a day are available for \$21 a day (1989 prices - 1990 rates not available at press time.). Contact Cliff Richer (355-4058) for more details on staying at the Campus.

In order to properly scout the area and determine the exact itinerary, the leader must know approximately how many participants to expect so please call to advise him and to get further information and directions.

LEADER GIL WEST 359-0820

SAS BOARD MEETINGS WILL BE HELD DURING THE SUMMER. THE TIME, DATE, AND PLACE OF THE MEETINGS IS TO BE ANNOUNCED. CALL THE OFFICE FOR DETAILS IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN ATTENDING.

AUG 19 FIELD TRIP PLANNING MEETING. For all trip leaders and other interested parties. 7:30 PM at the SAS office, 720 El Camino Real, Belmont.

(Continued on Page Three)

NEWS FROM THE RANCH

DAN MURPHY

ACR DONOR PARTY: Saturday, May 5 marked the second annual ACR donor party. People who donated over \$100 during the past year joined Ranch Board members and biologists at the Bolinas Lagoon Preserve, took morning nature walks, enjoyed a great Cinco de Mayo lunch and learned a little more about ACR. We were even serenaded by a flamenco guitarist and a mariachi band. Thanks so much to the Program Committee headed by Shirley Borgardus and Suzie Coleman for their marvelous efforts in putting this wonderful event together.

DOCENT TRAINING '90: Here is your chance to join the next class of ACR docent volunteers. These are the wonderful women and men who give their time, effort and expertise to our nationally acclaimed education program. Their reward is the joy of seeing visiting school children discover for the very first time wonders of nature many of us take for granted. If you wish to become an active participant in our education program, if you can give time on spring and fall weekdays, if you wish to broaden your own knowledge and skill as an amateur naturalist, apply to join the 1990 Docent Training Class. Training classes begin in September. For more information call 868-9244.

NAS DOES AWAY WITH MAGAZINE WRAPPER

The much deplored plastic wrapper used to mail the Audubon magazine is being eliminated. Beginning with the September issue Audubon will be mailed without benefit of any kind of wrapper - paper or plastic.

To many Audubon members, the plastic wrapper was a sad comment on the credibility of the national organization's commitment to the environment. Despite pious protestations to the contrary, the wrapper's only purpose was to allow for the inclusion of inexpensive and unwanted "add-on" pieces of junk mail. Its absence will not be missed.

GE TO SPONSOR AUDUBON TV SPECIALS

General Electric has made a 3 year grant to the National Audubon Society to become the exclusive underwriter for the Audubon Television Specials. The new grant begins with this summer's season of 8 hour-long Audubon Specials.

Under the new grant Audubon maintains its exclusive control over the content of the shows.

The current special is on the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. The show, narrated by actress Meryl Streep, is titled "Arctic Refuge: A Vanishing Wilderness." and premiered Sunday, May 27 on the Turner Broadcasting System.

SC COUNTY OPEN SPACE INITIATIVE CAMPAIGN

The Santa Clara County Open Space Authority was created by the legislature to purchase land outside of the jurisdiction of the Mid-Peninsula Open Space Trust. Unfortunately the Act made no provisions for funding the Authority.

Friends of Open Space has been formed for the purpose of providing this funding. A ballot initiative is being proposed which would call for an annual property tax of \$25 per developed parcel to fund the Authority.

Volunteers are now being recruited to work on campaign tasks. If you're interested call or write:

Bob Mack
FRIENDS OF OPEN SPACE
PO Box 611600
San Jose, CA 95161
(408) 943-1640

NAS CONVENTIONS

National Audubon is stepping up its national convention schedule. The next one is slated for the summer of 1991. Space has been booked at the YMCA of the Rockies in Estes, Colorado for July 21-27, 1991.

Yet another convention is being planned for somewhere in Florida in the fall of 1992. This will answer a long-felt need for bringing more Audubon attention to the Southeast. Florida is ideal since it is immersed in critical wetlands issues, is home to several Audubon sanctuaries and has a large Audubon membership.

Expect to hear more on both conventions in the next few months.

NATURE SOUNDS SOCIETY WORKSHOP

The Nature Sounds Society will hold its sixth annual field workshop on June 15, 16 and 17 at the San Francisco State University Sierra Nevada Field Campus at Yuba Pass.

The weekend features speakers, workshops and field recording in the varied habitats of the Sierras. Speakers this year will include Dr. Robert Bowman, Jonathan Storm and Dan Dugan.

For further information contact:

Paul Matzner
Oakland Museum Natural Sciences Dept.
1000 Oak Street
Oakland, CA 94607
273-3884

or

Adam Liberman, 549-9364

CALENDAR

(Continued from Page Two)

September 1990

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

SEP 6 SAS BOARD MEETING. 7:30 PM. Place to be announced.
THURSDAY ALL MEMBERS ARE WELCOME. Please contact the Sequoia Office (593-7368) for details.

SEP 13 SAS GENERAL MEETING. Our annual "SHOW AND TELL" THURSDAY NIGHT in which our members share their 20 (more or less) vacation slides. In the past these have featured scenery and wildlife from around the world from A to Z. At the San Mateo Garden Center on the Alameda at Parkside. Social Mixer at 7:30 PM. General Meeting begins at 8:00. See Page One for further details.

SEP 16 POINT REYES FIELD TRIP. A search through the SUNDAY "warbler traps" of Point Reyes can yield almost anything at this time of year. We'll be looking for inland and eastern vagrants but can expect migrants and some early arriving winter residents as well. Walking will be minimal but sturdy shoes are recommended. Clothing should be layered since the weather on Pt. Reyes is extremely changeable. We will meet at the new Point Reyes National Seashore Headquarters building at 9:00 AM. The trip will take place rain or shine. Bring lunch. The trip normally lasts until 2 PM.

LEADER; CLIFF RICHER 355-4058

SFSU SIERRA NEVADA FIELD CAMPUS OFFERS BIRDING COURSES

The San Francisco State University's Sierra Nevada Field Campus is located in Yuba Pass, one of the finest birding areas in the state, offering a diversity of habitat in a relatively small area. Director Jim Steele announces that the following courses are open to members of the general public.

BIRD SONG RECORDING AND ANALYSIS: Greg Budney from Cornell's Library of Natural Sounds will teach the latest techniques in recording and analyzing bird song. One of the course objectives will be to assist in the creation of quality records for use in a new edition of *Western Birdsongs*. June 9-16. For more information or to register call Greg directly at (607) 254-2406.

To register in the following courses or to get more information call Jim Steele at (415) 338-1571; after June 1, call the field campus at (916) 862-1230.

BIRD IDENTIFICATION BY SONG: Luis Baptista will focus on identifying the birds of Yuba Pass and Sierra Valley by song and provide a wealth of information on bird behavior. June 4 through 8. \$105.

BIRDS OF THE SIERRA NEVADA: Sierra Valley and Yuba Pass offer a wonderful diversity of birds and Dave Shuford doesn't miss a one. Dave will help you become more skilled in all aspects of identification. June 18-22. \$105.

SIERRAN BIRDS IN THE HAND - A BANDING WORKSHOP: Dr. David DeSante of the Institute for Bird Populations will investigate the reproductive and migratory ecology of Sierran birds through mist-netting, in-hand examination and use of banding techniques. August 11-13. \$90.

FROM THE REAL PAPERS

Overall, Earth Day was a resounding success, but various groups attempted to co-opt it for their own reasons. Pesticide manufacturers, off-road vehicle manufacturers, plastics makers and other commercial firms tried to "buy into" the event. Some individuals and groups used the opportunity to promote their own political agendas. The Monday following Earth Day saw the destruction of power poles and lines in Santa Cruz County, an attempted blockade of the Golden Gate Bridge and violent demonstrations outside the New York and San Francisco stock exchanges.

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Canada is planning a set "green" indicators that will give the public and decision makers a regular report on the state of the environment. They hope to ultimately link these indicators to traditional economic statistics to show when economic progress is made at the expense of the environment's long-term health. The Canadian government has established a task force to develop a prototype package of 20-30 objective indicators. They expect to have these developed by early 1991.

* * * * *

The National Wildlife Federation has launched a three-year \$320,000 research effort aimed at devising an eco-business curriculum for the nation's colleges and universities. Senior environmental officers from 15 of the Fortune 500 companies are participating in the effort. A spokesman for the NWF expressed the belief that most academicians had little understanding of the business world. Conversely, the faculty of most business schools had little understanding of the dynamics of the environment. It was hoped that the research project would help bridge the gap.

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In Tanzania an official survey reported that widespread poaching in the national parks had halved the country's elephant population and almost annihilated the rhinoceros.

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The S&L bailout may have some unanticipated benefits. Many of the lands held by the failed Savings and Loan Associations are environmentally sensitive and may qualify for addition to public lands or for acquisition by land trusts such as the Nature Conservancy. Some are already under negotiation but others could be put up for auction where developers and speculators could easily outbid public interest groups. Conservation organizations are lobbying to get special status similar to that granted to non-profit public interest housing groups.

* * * * *

The House Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee has voted to rewrite the law that allows off-shore drilling to proceed over the objections of the states. The proposed amendments to the original bill will give a state the authority to rule out federal activities deemed contrary to state coastal management plans.

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The Chinese government is forming the world's largest wildlife refuge in one of the most inaccessible areas on the globe; in the Himalayas, bounded by India and Nepal. The preserve which has been set up in conjunction with Wildlife Conservation International, will eventually be the largest in the world, three times as large as the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. Scientists from World Conservation and it's parent New York Zoological Society will make their first exploratory trip to Tibet this summer to begin classifying the refuge's ecosystems.

A UNIQUE EXPERIENCE

NICK COIRO

I had a unique experience recently. I have been presenting programs on Bay Area birds to various groups, but my latest one was to the Foster City Rod and Gun Club. It was an interesting and enlightening evening and I found the members to be interested and attentive. The group, as is the case with most hunting and fishing organizations, is committed to conservation - particularly wetlands. One of this group's members was very instrumental in convincing Safeway to put the "Save the Bay" wetlands conservation message on their paper grocery bags.

Auduboners are inherently conservation-minded but we sometimes forget that sports hunters and fishermen have been at it for a long time. Through hunting license fees, duck stamps and taxes on sporting equipment they have provided the funds that helped set aside many state and national refuges that benefit both game and non-game species.

Conservationists who are neither hunters or fishermen have also used this means of helping the national refuge system by buying federal duck stamps.

Californians can now support state wildlife areas by purchasing an annual Fish and Game Wildlife Area Pass. These can be obtained at the Sequoia office for \$11.50. These passes allow unlimited access to state wildlife areas such as Los Banos, Gray Lodge, Grizzly Island and Elkhorn Slough.

(Ducks Unlimited, an organization almost wholly composed of duck hunters, is the largest private land-holder in Canada and is second only to the Nature Conservancy in its United States holdings. Almost all of its properties are wetlands vital to the preservation of waterfowl and endangered species.

Trout Unlimited and California Trout have worked with National Audubon in trying to preserve Mono Lake.

In Nevada, sports enthusiasts have joined with local Audubon groups, the Sierra Club, National Audubon and state and federal agencies in forming an environmental coalition to help resolve the water problems facing the Stillwater National Wildlife Refuge, the Lahontan Valley and Pyramid Lake. Across the nation such alliances are becoming more and more common as outdoor enthusiasts of all philosophies are joining together to fight against the degradation of our national heritage.

While we may disagree strongly with hunters and fishermen in some elements of our outdoor philosophy, we should recognize that we both share a love of the natural environment and a desire to preserve it.

---The Editor

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED

The Education Committee is pleased to announce that Sharron L. Walker of Sharp Park Elementary School in Pacifica has been awarded a scholarship to attend a National Audubon Society Field Ecology Workshop. This one week workshop is held in Audubon's Camp of the West in the beautiful Wind River Mountains of Wyoming. Subjects will include birds, mammals, insects, flowers, geology, and native Amercian culture of the region.

Ms. Walker is a truly outstanding candidate for our education scholarship. She teaches grades two and three at Sharp Park Elementary School and is active in a number of environmental education programs in the area. Her outside work includes docent and interpretive work with Calveras Big Trees, Environmental Volunteers of Palo Alto, and Coyote Point Museum. She plans to use the information gained at the Ecology Workshop not only in her own classroom, but also to develop programs for other teachers to use in their classrooms. Sequoia Audubon Society is very pleased to be able to assist such an able educator in broadening exposure to environmental education in our local schools.

EDUCATION COMM. REPORT

The education committee was involved in two major Earth Day activities during this past month. The National published a special Earth Day issue of *Audubon Adventures* about recycling. As you may recall, Audubon Adventures is a newsletter for grades 3-6 which includes a teacher's guide. In addition to sets given to the 12 teachers whom Sequoia Audubon Society sponsors we distributed 13 additional sets of the May recycling issue to local interested teachers.

Another National Audubon Society Earth Day activity was the Earth Day Youth Declaration. This declaration was distributed to classrooms across the United States so that students (under 18 years) could express their support for preserving our natural environment. The gathered signatures were presented to President Bush on April 18 in Washington. SAS distributed over 200 copies of the declaration to local teachers and assisted in the distribution of 850 copies through local groups. We hope that the increased awareness of our environment raised in students in conjunction with Earth Day will persist in the days to come.

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 TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

ATHERTON

Gertrude Blue Klaus J. Dahl John M. Frenster, MD

BELMONT

Jay Bauer Richard Brewer Fred Culksey Stephen Erickson, Jr. Frank E. Frederick
Hobart Gay Terri Mesrick Helen Morris

BRISBANE

Thomas Piwowarski

BURLINGAME

Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Attell Meg Burley Greta R. Coleman Miller D. Douglas Bette Ghiotti
Mardella Hermann Lynn C. Keller Paul Leininger Sandra Louth Denise Norack
Jackie Shema Mrs. Richard Condit

DALY CITY

Catherine Castro Pamela Corpuz Kathleen M. Daniels Sekio Fuapopo Susan Hall
Kathleen M. Hennessee David J. Kassel F. J. Molino Gordon Reed Maudie Wozniak

FOSTER CITY

Christine W. Berrini Bernice A. Brownson Mary Cogburn Tracy Morrison

HALF MOON BAY

Lisa Carp Doris Gonsalves Rusty Martindale Margaret W. Nelson H. Ochsenwreither
Clifford Stanfield Mrs. A. Wertenauer

HILLSBOROUGH

Rosemary H. Farbstein H. L. Starbuck

LA HONDA

Ray & Lynn Roberts Kris Smith Randall Vogel

MENLO PARK

Mina H. Sakshi Kathy Bohnett Mrs. Cameron Boyle Helga Brandt Mara R. Brill
Shirley A. Burley Marvin C. Coosse Britt Ellis Patty Ferrari V. Griner
Freddie Jackson Elizabeth L. Janss Michael L. Jones Mr. & Mrs. W. R. McCann
Katherine McClellan Dr. Benjamin H. Moore Richard B. Mortensen Lee Newburg
M. J. Parrine John Relihan Dorothy Sheffield N. Stockholm Rick Trishal
Vicki P. Willard

MILLBRAE

Morse Erskine II Steven Heim

MOSS BEACH

M. Hanrahan Judy Kosanovich

PACIFICA

Linn A. Baird MaryJane Joyce Dorothy J. Kelly Mr. & Mrs. Thomas McGee
Helen W. Nicora Richard W. Rockwell Scott Smithson D. Wong

PESCADERO

Alice E. Partanen

PORTOLA VALLEY

Jan Avilla J. M. Bilisoly Michael C. Dowler Carol A. Hoag Andrew Huff
Gary M. Reynolds Erik & Janet Simpson

REDWOOD CITY

Anna M. Bagniewska Barbara Beesey Dana Bunnnett John Bunyan Greg & Anne Flannery
Florence Fuller Kevin Gilmartin Carol Grialow Charlotte Jordan
William & Charlene Levering Hensel Lise Ken E. Mollenauer Lillian G. Morales
Hans J. Posa Shawn Prescott Bill & Martha Siemers Ms. M. M. Siri

SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO

Keri L. Bermudez Peter Frachette William K. Groll Camillus Macrory

SAN BRUNO

Hacen R. Doane, D.D.S. Anthony L. Maniscalco M. Stockley Robert Ulvang

SAN CARLOS

Donna G. Barnsley Michael J. Benedetti Suzanne L. Brinton Adel Dixon Michele J. Regin

SAN MATEO

K. Adachi Ad Addlewan Joan Baker Aaron & Barbara D. Barnes Deanne Bishop
Norma Bozzini John A. Dal Santo Donald L. Frazier Mr. & Mrs. Larry Goodwin
Carol S. Hills Laura Katz R. Koczor Thomas O. Mahnke Mrs. Walter Maxwell
Gordon Miller Diane C. Montgomery Dorothea C. Nolan Trenton A. Poggenpohl
John & Andrea Roseman Sid and Sara Schieber Robert A. Solari Elsie P. Tompkins
Judith P. Tweedie Sandra Vivas Cheryl Young

WOODSIDE

Patricia Culbertson Cynthia Edwards Dana Parker Laurie J. Rice
Frank E. Stowe Carmen Washburn

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The California Department of Fish and Game is changing its name to the Department of Fish and Wildlife. Assemblyman Jim Costa of Fresno, author of the bill mandating the change, said the new name would reflect the department's changing role in protecting wildlife and habitat.

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Indonesia is trying to replant its devastated tropical forests, but has run out of funds, according to President Suharto. He has asked for international help. At the present rate it would take 65 years to reforest the planned 50 million acres.

WHERE HAVE ALL THE HUMMINGBIRDS GONE?

MERYL SUNDQVE

We've been asked this a lot lately. But please don't worry if hummers are not as abundant as usual at your feeder.

The Anna's hummingbird, the only species of hummer which winters in California, is here all year round. It is the common backyard hummingbird with bright metallic green above and a slightly forked tail when perched. The male has an iridescent red patch on the crown & throat. The female is grayish below, lacks the red on the head but usually has a few red feathers on the throat. The Anna's hummingbird is the earliest of all California birds to nest; its eggs sometimes laid as early as December. Both sexes keep separate territories & have little to do with each other after mating. So if you do not see hummers sipping nectar at your feeder it is because they are busy defending territories & raising a family. Females feed their young insects to aid in their rapid growth. Born naked, they're feathered and "ready to go" within 14-18 days after hatching. Nesting occurs from February to mid-May.

The Allen's hummingbird moves into the area as early as late January or early February, but is gone in the fall.

Please remember that it is important to clean your hummingbird feeder often to prevent mold and other harmful growths from infecting hummingbirds. We recommend boiling the water before mixing in the sugar. A ratio of 4 parts water to 1 part sugar is what we use.

SUNBEAM EXPLORATIONS

Day and weekend field trips to a wide variety of bird habitats is being offered by Sunbeam Ecology Explorations. Weekend trips will look for specialties of the area and day trips will provide a variety of birds, scenery & wildflowers. For information call Maryann Danielson at 325-9349. Reservations are required.

JUNE 15-18; YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK: Bird your way to Yosemite on June 15 or meet us at 9 AM on June 16. Target birds will be the great gray owl, Williamson's sapsucker, black-backed woodpecker, gray flycatcher, pinon jay, pine grosbeak and nesting waterbirds. Camping at LeeVining Cyn. Motels available nearby. Fee \$40.

JULY 7; COASTAL BACK ROADS: We'll look for nesters, fledglings and wildflowers and explore new birding spots. Fee \$10.

JULY 21-22; GUALALA RIVER: Purple martins and common nighthawks can be seen at our campsite with alcids & mountain warblers close by. Motels available. Fee \$20.

AUGUST 4; REDWOOD GREEN TO BAY MUD: We will enjoy a day of forest birds in Redwood Regional Park; shorebirds and terns along the Bay. Fee \$10.

AUGUST 25; SHOREBIRD SEARCH: Bolinas and Limantour will be the prime targets in our search for migrating shorebirds. (We'll note land birds too.) Fee \$10.

BIRDATHON '90

The growth of the Audubon Birdathon has been phenomenal. In 1987, the Birdathon raised about \$78,000. with the participation of 72 chapters. In 1989 this total grew to \$300,000. and 204 chapters. Our own participation has grown from one team representing the entire chapter to this year's five teams and 17 birders and fund raisers. If all of this year's pledges are honored we expect to realize more than \$2500 from our efforts - also a new high. Special thanks are due to Colleen Horner and David Moon who helped in the fund raising. A very special thanks is also due

to Rick Baird who donated the use of his office and his telephones to the cause. Each of the teams picked its own 24 hour period in April and birded from as early as 3:26 AM to as late as 11:30 PM. The MegaTicks were the top team with 190 species, but each team exceeded its estimates of the number of species they expected to see.

At the May meeting, the birdathoners were honored. In a special drawing, one team was selected at random to receive a \$50 prize from the chapter. The winning team was the Huffin' N' Puffins.

BIRDATHON '90 RESULTS

COMMENTS FROM THE FIELD

Species	Team					Species	Team					Species	Team				
	MT	SJ	UC	HP	N		MT	SJ	UC	HP	N		MT	SJ	UC	HP	N
LOON, RED-THROATED	X	X	X	X		WILLET	X	X	X	X	X	JAY, STELLER'S	X	X	X	X	X
LOON, PACIFIC	X	X	X	X		TATTLER, WANDERING	X	X	X			JAY, SCRUB	X	X	X	X	X
LOON, COMMON	X	X	X	X		SANDPIPER, SPOTTED	X					MAGPIE, YELLOW-BILLED	X	X	X	X	
GREBE, PIE-BILLED	X	X	X	X		WHIMBREL	X	X	X	X	X	CROW, AMERICAN	X	X	X	X	X
GREBE, HORNED	X	X				CURL, LONG-BILLED	X	X	X			RAVEN, COMMON	X	X	X	X	X
GREBE, RED-NECKED	X					GODWIT, MARBLED	X	X	X	X		CHICKADEE, CHSTNT-BCKD	X	X	X	X	X
GREBE, EARED	X	X	X	X		TURNSTONE, RUDDY	X		X	X		TITMOUSE, PLAIN	X	X	X	X	
GREBE, WESTERN	X	X	X	X	X	TURNSTONE, BLACK	X	X	X	X	X	BUSHTIT	X	X	X		
GREBE, CLARK'S	X	X		X		SURFBIRD	X	X	X	X	X	NUTHATCH, WHITE-BREADED	X	X	X	X	
FULMAR, NORTHERN	X					KNOT, RED	X	X	X	X		NUTHATCH, PYGMY	X				
SHEARWATER, PINK-FOOTED	X					SANDERLING	X	X	X	X	X	CREEPER, BROWN	X			X	
SHEARWATER, SOOTY	X		X			SANDPIPER, WESTERN	X	X	X	X	X	WREN, ROCK	X		X		
PELICAN, AMERICAN WHITE	X	X				SANDPIPER, LEAST	X	X	X	X	X	WREN, CANYON	X	X	X	X	
PELICAN, BROWN	X	X	X	X	X	SANDPIPER, PECTORAL	X					WREN, BEWICK'S	X	X	X	X	X
CORMORANT, DBLE-CRESTED	X	X	X	X	X	DUNLIN	X	X	X	X	X	WREN, HOUSE	X	X	X	X	
CORMORANT, BRANDT'S	X	X	X	X		DOWITCHER, SHORT-BILLED	X	X	X	X	X	WREN, WINTER	X	X	X	X	X
CORMORANT, PELAGIC	X	X	X	X		DOWITCHER, LONG-BILLED	X	X	X			WREN, MARSH	X	X	X	X	X
BITTERN, AMERICAN	X					PHALAROPE, WILSON'S	X					KINGLET, GOLDEN-CROWNED	X				
HERON, GREAT BLUE	X	X	X	X		PHALAROPE, RED-NECKED	X					KINGLET, ROBY-CROWNED	X		X	X	
EGRET, GREAT	X	X	X	X	X	JAEGER, POMARINE	X					GNATCATCHER, BLUE-GRAY	X				
EGRET, SNOWY	X	X	X	X	X	JAEGER, PARASITIC	X					BLUEBIRD, WESTERN	X	X	X	X	X
HERON, GREEN-BACKED	X		X			GULL, BONAPARTE'S	X	X	X	X	X	THRUSH, SWAINSON'S	X	X	X	X	X
NIGHT-HERON, BLK-CROWNED	X	X	X	X	X	GULL, RING-BILLED	X	X	X	X	X	THRUSH, HERMIT	X				
IBIS, WHITE-FACED	X	X				GULL, CALIFORNIA	X	X	X	X	X	ROBIN, AMERICAN	X	X	X	X	X
GOOSE, GRTR WHITE-FRONT	X					GULL, HERRING	X	X	X	X	X	WRENTIT	X	X	X	X	X
BRANT	X	X		X		GULL, WESTERN	X	X	X	X	X	MOCKINGBIRD, NORTHERN	X	X	X	X	X
GOOSE, CANADA	X	X	X	X		GULL, GLAUCOUS-WINGED	X	X	X	X	X	THRASHER, CALIFORNIA	X		X	X	
DUCK, WOOD	X	X	X	X		KITTIWAKE, BLACK-LEGGED	X					WAXWING, CEDAR	X	X	X		
TEAL, GREEN-WINGED	X	X	X	X		TERN, CASPIAN	X	X	X	X	X	PHAINOPEPLA	X	X	X	X	X
ALLARD	X	X	X	X	X	TERN, FORSTER'S	X	X	X	X	X	SHRIKE, LOGGERHEAD	X	X	X	X	X
INTAIL, NORTHERN	X	X				MURRE, COMMON	X	X	X			STARLING, EUROPEAN	X	X	X	X	X
TEAL, BLUE-WINGED	X	X				GUILLEHOT, PIGEON	X	X	X	X		VIREO, SOLITARY	X	X	X	X	X
TEAL, CINNAMON	X	X	X	X	X	MURRELET, MARBLED	X	X	X	X		VIREO, HUTTON'S	X	X			
SHOVELER, NORTHERN	X	X	X	X	X	AUKLET, CASSIN'S	X	X	X	X		VIREO, WARBLING	X	X			
BADWALL	X	X	X	X	X	AUKLET, RHINOCEROS	X	X	X	X		WARBLER, ORANGE-CROWNED	X	X	X	X	X
WIGEON, AMERICAN	X	X	X	X		DOVE, ROCK	X	X	X	X	X	WARBLER, NASHVILLE	X				
CANVASSACK	X					PIGEON, BAND-TAILED	X	X	X	X	X	WARBLER, YELLOW	X				
REDHEAD	X	X				DOVE, MOURNING	X	X	X	X	X	WARBLER, YELLOW-RUMPED	X	X	X	X	X
SCAUP, GREATER	X	X	X	X		ROADRUNNER, GREATER	X					WARBLER, BLACK-THRTD GRAY	X				
SCAUP, LESSER	X	X	X	X		OWL, BARN	X	X	X	X		YELLOWTHROAT, COMMON	X	X	X	X	X
OLDSQUAW	X					SCREECH-OWL, WESTERN	X	X	X			WARBLER, WILSON'S	X	X	X	X	X
SCOTER, BLACK	X	X	X	X		OWL, GREAT HORNED	X	X	X	X		CHAT, YELLOW-BREADED	X				
SCOTER, WHITE-WINGED	X	X	X	X		PYGHY-OWL, NORTHERN	X	X	X	X		TANAGER, WESTERN	X				
SCOTER, SURF	X	X	X	X		OWL, BURROWING	X					GROSBEAK, BLACK-HEADED	X	X	X	X	X
GOLDENEYE, COMMON	X	X	X	X		OWL, NORTHERN SAW-WHET	X	X	X			BUNTING, LAZULI	X				
BUFFLEHEAD	X	X	X	X	X	POOR-WILL, COMMON	X	X	X			TOWHEE, RUFOUS-SIDED	X	X			
MERGANSER, RED-BREADED	X	X	X	X	X	SWIFT, WHITE-THROATED	X	X	X	X		TOWHEE, CALIFORNIA	X	X	X	X	X
DUCK, RUDDY	X	X	X	X	X	HUMMINGBIRD, ANNA'S	X	X	X	X	X	SPARROW, RUFOUS-CROWNED	X				
VULTURE, TURKEY	X	X	X	X	X	HUMMINGBIRD, COSTA'S	X					SPARROW, CHIPPING	X				
OSPREY	X					HUMMINGBIRD, RUFOUS	X					SPARROW, LARK	X	X	X		
KITE, BLACK-SHOULDERED	X	X	X	X	X	HUMMINGBIRD, ALLEN'S	X	X	X	X		SPARROW, SAVANNAH	X	X	X		
HARRIER, NORTHERN	X	X	X	X		KINGFISHER, BELTED	X	X	X	X	X	SPARROW, GRASSHOPPER	X	X			
HAWK, SHARP-SHINNED	X					WOODPECKER, LEWIS'	X					SPARROW, FOX	X	X			
HAWK, RED-SHOULDERED	X	X	X	X		WOODPECKER, ACORN	X	X	X	X	X	SPARROW, SONG	X	X	X	X	X
HAWK, RED-TAILED	X	X	X	X	X	SAPSUCKER, RED-BREADED	X					SPARROW, LINCOLN'S	X	X	X		
EAGLE, GOLDEN	X	X				WOODPECKER, NUTTALL'S	X	X	X			SPARROW, GOLDEN-CROWNED	X	X	X	X	X
KESTREL, AMERICAN	X	X	X	X	X	WOODPECKER, DOWNY	X					SPARROW, WHITE-CROWNED	X	X	X	X	X
FALCON, PRAIRIE	X					WOODPECKER, HAIRY	X					JUNCO, DARK-EYED	X	X	X	X	X
PHEASANT, RING-NECKED	X	X				FLICKER, NORTHERN	X	X	X	X	X	BLACKBIRD, RED-WINGED	X	X	X	X	X
QUAIL, CALIFORNIA	X	X	X	X	X	FLYCATCHER, OLIVE-SIDED	X	X	X			BLACKBIRD, TRI-COLORED	X	X	X		
RAIL, VIRGINIA	X	X	X	X		WOOD-PEWEE, WESTERN	X	X	X			MEADOWLARK, WESTERN	X	X	X		X
SORA	X	X	X	X		FLYCATCHER, PACIFIC SLOPE	X	X	X			BLACKBIRD, YELLOW-HEADED	X	X	X		
MOORMEN, COMMON	X	X	X	X		PHOEBE, BLACK	X	X	X	X		BLACKBIRD, BREWER'S	X	X	X	X	X
COOT, AMERICAN	X	X	X	X	X	PHOEBE, SAY'S	X					COVBIRO, BROWN-HEADED	X	X	X	X	X
CRANE, SANDHILL	X					FLYCATCHER, ASH-THROATED	X			X	X	ORIOLE, NORTHERN	X	X	X		
PILOVER, BLACK-BELLIED	X	X	X	X	X	KINGBIRD, WESTERN	X	X	X	X	X	FINCH, PURPLE	X	X			
PLOVER, SEMI-PALMATED	X	X	X	X	X	LARK, HORNED	X	X	X	X	X	FINCH, HOUSE	X	X	X	X	X
KILLDEER	X	X	X	X	X	SWALLOW, TREE	X	X	X	X		SISKIN, PINE	X	X	X		
OSTERCATCHER, BLACK	X	X				SWALLOW, VIOLET-GREEN	X	X	X	X	X	GOLDFINCH, LESSER	X	X	X		
STILT, BLACK-NECKED	X	X	X			SWALLOW, N. ROUGH-WINGED	X	X	X	X	X	GOLDFINCH, LAWRENCE'S	X	X	X		
AVOCET, AMERICAN	X	X	X			SWALLOW, BANK	X					GOLDFINCH, AMERICAN	X	X	X	X	X
YELLOWLEGS, GREATER	X	X	X	X	X	SWALLOW, CLIFF	X	X	X	X	X	SPARROW, HOUSE	X				
YELLOWLEGS, LESSER	X					SWALLOW, BARN	X	X	X	X	X	TOTALS	190	170	146	128	72

THE TEAMS, THE DATES AND THE TIME

MT = THE MEGATICKS: Nick Coiro, Linda Kypta & Barry Sauppe - 4/26/90 - 19 hrs. in the field
 SJ = THE SCRUB JAYWALKERS: Edwin Duerr, Janet Duerr & Steve Schafer - 4/28/90 - 18 hrs.
 UC = THE ULTIMATE COOT: Cliff Richer and Al Wofchuck - Noon 4/7/90 to Noon 4/8/90 - 16 hrs.
 HP = HUFFIN' N' PUFFINS: Rick Baird, Rick Johnson and Maria Straatmann - 4/22/90 - 12 hrs.
 N = THE NO NAMES: Claire Elliott, Doug Kent, Jim Koehler & Kim Lathrop - 4/27/90 - 12 hrs.

Some quotable comments from the Birdathon '90 participants:

"What a day! It was great!" -- Rick Johnson, leader of the Huffin' N' Puffins.

"Total species 190. I repeat 190! Not a bad day. Missed some easy ones though." -- Barry Sauppe, leader of the MegaTicks. (This broke the 1987 record of 189 species, set by a team also led by Barry).

"146 species - my best day ever (without Barry Sauppe's help). But this may be the first Birdathon that ever came up short because of a great white shark." -- Cliff Richer, leader of the Ultimate Coot. (The team spent the better part of an hour at Pigeon Point watching a monstrous 15 to 25 foot long shark as it casually surveyed the potential menu of seals and sea lions. This meant they never got to the Bayshore and a possible 10-20 more species.)

"A great team. Great fun. My favorite kind of birding...but not for every day." -- Linda Kypta of the MegaTicks.

SOME OTHER NOTES

The MegaTicks' roadrunner was giving a cuckoo-like call that none of the team members had heard before.

Both the Ultimate Coot and the MegaTicks had pygmy owls and screech owls calling in broad daylight. So why bother to get up so early?

Barry Sauppe, the MegaTicks' leader, was able to call a pygmy owl in close enough so that everybody got a good look. The Ultimate Coot's leader also tried to entice the daylight-calling owls but only succeeded in agitating a pair of wrentits.

The Scrub Jaywalkers traveled the most birding miles - ending up in the Central Valley where they found a lone sandhill crane still holding out against its migratory instincts.

The object of the Birdathon is to identify as many birds as possible in a 24 hour period. The Ultimate Coot's strategy was to start birding at 12 noon on Saturday, but not to start the 24 hour clock until the first "good" bird was identified. A nice try, but a pair of wood ducks flushed when Cliff Richer closed his car door at noon. Well, maybe next year.

A few of the participants commented on the small numbers of some species - notably flycatchers and cliff swallows. The latter species was missing from some of its largest Central Valley nesting colonies, possibly because of the drought. There just haven't been any mud puddles to provide nest-building material.

FROM THE EDITOR

(Continued from Page One)

Bob Wilkinson, one of our more active members, has agreed to run for the Board seat being vacated by Steve Schafer. In the past Bob has presented various conservation issues to the Board and General Meetings and he and Mrs. Wilkinson, the irrepressible May Blossom, did the hospitality chores a few years back.

David Moon will be running for the Board seat being vacated by Rick Johnson. David has most recently been active in fund-raising for the chapter and brings us his ideas and experience in that area.

Your Editor is running for the last vacancy on the Board and a certain lack of objectivity precludes further comment.

The members of the Nominating Committee - Linda Kypta, Robin Smith and Walter Smithey - are to be thanked for their hard work and commended for their choices.

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PAGE EIGHT

1990 NOMINEES

The Nominating Committee of Linda Kypta, Robin Smith and Walter Smithey have made the following recommendations for the slate of officers for the 1990-1991 Audubon year.

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

For President	Mary Bressler
For Vice-president	Rick Johnson
For Treasurer	Fred McElhaneys*
For Secretary	Ed McElhaneys*

BOARD OF DIRECTOR NOMINEES

For the term expiring in June '93
Rick Baird* Bob Wilkenson

For the term expiring in June '92
David Moon

For the term expiring in June '91
Cliff Richer

*Incumbent

OFFICERS:

President:	Janet Duerr	689-0788
Past Pres :	Cliff Richer	355-4058
Vice-Pres :	Colleen Horner	366-4282
Secretary:	Ed Mc Elhany	343-3219
Treasurer:	Fred Mc Elhany	593-8382

DIRECTORS:

Elected for Term Ending:	
June '90	Rick Baird 574-1067
	Steve Schafer 689-0788
	Mary Bresler 994-3587
June '91	Nick Coiro 349-1834
June '92	Rick Johnson 571-8533
	Linda Kypta 591-9053

STANDING COMMITTEES:

ACR Host:	Rick Baird	574-1067
Audit	Nick Coiro	349-1834
Bird Sightings:		
Christmas Count:	Dan Keller	364-3431
Conservation:	Rick Johnson	571-8533
Education:	Janet Duerr	591-2501
Mid-week Field Trips:	Nick Coiro	349-1834
Wknd Field Trips:	Steve Schafer	689-0788
STAFF:	Sunny Greene	

Finance/Budget:	Rick Baird	574-1067
Hospitality:	Linda Kypta	591-9053
Membership:		
NEEDLES Editor:	Cliff Richer	355-4058
Program:	Janet Duerr	689-0788
Publicity:		

Rare Bird Alert	528-0288
SEQUOIA AUDUBON SOCIETY OFFICE	593-7368

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