

Bulletin of the Sequoia Audubon Society San Mater County Volume 41, No. 9 June, 1993

June's Program

Birds in an Urban Setting - Radio Road and Bair Island with Katherine B. Rambo. Ms. Rambo is an award-winning photographer from Foster City who has spent extensive time on studying and photographing the co-existence of birds and humans and the effect of that co-existence on the birds.

Her photographs have been exhibited throughout the Bay Area and convey her deep love for birds and nature. She says that her "photographs relate brief episodes, described through qualities of light and color, action and stillness. Observers...can carry the stories a little farther, out of sight, into the mystery that lies just beyond the edges of the frame."

Meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month at the San Mateo Garden Center on the Alameda at Parkside.

September's Program

In our first meeting of the new year we will feature the work of the Peninsula Open Space District. Details of this program will appear in the September *NEEDLES*.

Potluck Time

This month also brings us to our annual June 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 SALAD; those whose names begin with the letters G through L, a DESSERT and M through Z should provide the CASSEROLES or other hot dishes.

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

The meeting will be at the San Mateo Garden Center on the Alameda at Parkside with the Potluck beginning at 6:30 PM, and the General Meeting immediately thereafter.



From The President

Anne Moser

As the Sequoia Audubon year ends, I thank the many people who have made it pleasant and productive. First, the members of the Board who attend the monthly meeting and transact our business. Each one deserves your thanks and has mine. Francis, whose comments have enlivened our minutes; Debbi , who has spent so much time un-raveling our finances; and Mary, who is always willing to do an extra chore; are three to whom I'd like to give special thanks.

Our committee chairpeople have served you well. They too have my thanks. Without doubt Bob Wilkinson is a conservation chair "extraordinaire".

Special mention must be made of Sue James, who manages our office with efficiency and grace. We couldn't find a better PR person than Sue as she fields the varied phone calls that come into the office.

Our Nominating Committee completed its work and came up with a complete slate of officers (as shown on Page 5). We have a complete slate for your confirmation at the June General Meeting - and a potluck too!

I recently took the training offered by Coyote Creek Riparian Station to monitor birds along San Francisquito Creek. This is the first of many urban creeks to be monitored by the Creeks Coalition. The information to be gathered will be used to determine:

- Use of stream habitat by animals, fish, birds, reptiles and amphibians.
- Base line water quality data.
- Erosion and dumping of trash and chemicals.
- Botanical resources.

Any of our members who are interested in assisting should call Dena Mosser. (329-1082 [home] or 853-4794 [work]).

Our new Checklist of the Birds of San Mateo County will be ready this month. Peter Metropulos deserves special thanks for his work in bringing his original work up to date and Shirley Higuera is to be commended for her work in typesetting the list.

Nick Coiro has also updated the Foster City Checklist and this should be ready a little later in the month. Thanks Nick!

This is the last *NEEDLES* of the year. Thank you Cliff for the hours of work involved. To everyone a happy rewarding summer, good birding and see you in September!

Human beings, the ultimate predators, are the only check on themselves.

---Roger Tory Peterson

Sequoia Audubon Society Page One



The S A S Calendar

June

THURSDAY, JUNE 3 - SAS BOARD MEETING. 7:30 PM at the SAS office. ALL MEMBERS ARE WELCOME. Please call ahead to be sure there will be enough room.

SATURDAY, JUNE 5 - BREEDING BIRD CENSUS FIELD TRIPS - Several field trips will be conducted throughout the county - each led by an experienced atlasser. The field trips will cover a standard 5 kilometer atlasing square and the participants will actually engage in confirming bird breeding activity in that square. See the article on Page Seven for more details. COORDINATOR JUDY SPITLER 355-9362

SUNDAY, JUNE 6 - GAZOS CREEK AND BUTANO STATE PARK. (This field trip has been canceled due to prior commitments by the leader.)

THURSDAY, JUNE 10 - SAS GENERAL MEETING. OUR ANNUAL POTLUCK AND GENERAL ELECTION; AND BIRDS IN AN URBAN SETTING with Katherine Rambo, SAS member and noted Bay Area photographer. At the San Mateo Garden Center on the Alameda at Parkside. Potluck at 6:00 PM, election of officers and program immediately following.

SUNDAY, JUNE 13 - PELAGIC BIRDING FROM SHORE. We'll assemble at the pull-out just north of Pigeon Point Lighthouse to scan the ocean for shearwaters, alcids and other marine species. Bring telescopes and your most powerful binoculars if you have them. Heavy rain cancels the trip. Coastal fog may cause us to go looking for inland birds. To get there, take Hwy. I south from Half Moon Bay and turn right at the first lighthouse. (About 25 miles).

LEADER CLIFF RICHER 738-9176

SUNDAY, JUNE 27 - SAS BOARD AND PLANNING MEETING. BY INVITATION ONLY, DUE TO LIMITED

SPACE. However, if you are now or plan to become an active member, and don't get an invitation, please call Anne Moser to see if there is still space to accommodate you at this important meeting.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 5 - SAS BOARD MEETING. 7:30 PM at the SAS office. ALL MEMBERS ARE WELCOME. Please call ahead to be sure there will be enough room.

MONDAY, AUGUST 9 - FIELD TRIP COMMITTEE MEETING. 7:30 PM at the SAS office. Field trip leaders are requested to either attend or advise Judi of their desires for the new year. ALL MEMBERS ARE WELCOME. Please call Judi Spitler at 355-9362 with any field trip suggestions.

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News From Your Ranch Dan Murphy

A Few Personal Notes on the Ranch: Kevin, my 10 year old son, visited the Ranch with his fourth grade class recently. He discovered all kinds of great things. Can you believe they found mountain lion scat on the trail? The newts in the ponds and the horse trough were the most popular critters, closely followed by the baby herons and egrets and the blue eggs in the nests. One of the moms who came as a chaperone was astonished how much she learned from the docents and how much she enjoyed her introduction to natura study. In the Philippines she had used natural areas for gathering food and other necessities, but her day at ACR gave her an entirely new perspective on nature. She's coming back to share the Ranch with her whole family.

The next day, Joan and I scouted the Ranch for an upcoming field trip. The buckeyes were just coming into bloom. Pacific-slope flycatchers, orange-crowned warblers, Wilson's warblers and purple finches seemed to be singing everywhere. Parson's Pond was just bursting with life. A swallowtail butterfly sucked moisture from the pond's edge. A song sparrow reminded me that even these vegetarians supplement their diet with meat during the nesting season when it snatched a blue skimmer for its young. Just up the canyon at the water trough we found a chestnut-backed chickadee nest in a dead branch of the buckeye. We stopped at the overlook after enjoying a few lingering wildflowers. We found a few banana slugs. A pileated woodpecker called from near the wood rat nest! Wow! Even though I didn't see it, just knowing it was there made this a memorable day.

So now you know how the Murphys enjoyed the Ranch. Why not pack a picnic basket, head north for ACR, and enjoy it yourself? You have until July 18 when the Ranch closes until next year. If you have a fourth or fifth grader next fall or spring, tell their teacher about ACR. It's a great field trip.

Spring Calendar Notes: All of our seminars require advance reservations so call Edris at 868-9244 to make yours.

- ACR's Ponds with the Researchers at the Bolinas Lagoon Preserve, June 4 & 5 with Ray Peterson and Tom Bradner. (\$20)
- Get to Know the Critters Night June 23
- Marin County Butterfly Count June 26
- Sonoma County Butterfly Count June 27 All with Ray Peterson (\$5 each)

Local Ecology and Natural History at Bolinas, Cypress Grove and Bouverie Sanctuaries during the week of July 19-23 with John Kelly, John Petersen and Ray Peterson. This is the widely acclaimed annual program for teachers intended to make natural history an integral part of any science program. Three semester units. (\$195)

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News From Your Ranch

(Continued from Page Two)

Volunteer Opportunity: Tomales Bay Shorebird Counts: It's not too early to call John Kelly so you can join our fall shorebird counts in August and September. If you have any knowledge of shorebird identification, join us in continuing this important project. Call John at 663-8203 for more information.

SAS Birdseed Sale Wrap-Up

Mary Bresler & Sue James

We extend our sincere gratitude to all our birdseed customers for their patronage during the three sales this year. We also



thank our wonderful supporting members who provided labor and distribution sites: Rick Baird, Peter Cross, Al Demartini, Eileen Jennish, Harry Loyer, Fred McElheney, Anne Moser, Wendy and Bruce Pine and Robin

Smith. All of these members deserve a rousing thanks for making these events the outstanding success that resulted in a new chapter fund-raising record.

Please look for our Fall Birdseed Sale announcement in the September *NEEDLES*, and remember that a supply of our most popular varieties of seed is always available at our office.

Our customers have reported these birds at their feeders:

Band-tailed pigeons, mourning doves, scrub jays, chestnut-backed chickadees, plain titmice, bushtits*, Bewick's wren*, ruby-crowned kinglets*, Swainson's thrush*, California thrashers*, western tanagers*, a rose-breasted grosbeak, California towhee, fox sparrows, song sparrows, white-throated sparrows, white-crowned sparrows, golden-crowned sparrows, dark-eyed juncoes, Brewer's blackbirds, red-winged blackbirds, brown-headed cowbirds, purple finches, house finches, an albino finch (species unknown), pine siskins, lesser goldfinches.

American goldfinches and house sparrows.

(*These insectivorous or frutivorous birds will often check feeders for insects, and a few will occasionally eat seeds. ---Ed.)

Wanted: Heron & Egret Sightings

For over 10 years the San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory has monitored the status of colonial breeding birds along the shores of the South Bay. This year we are expanding the heron and egret portion of our study to include other areas of Alameda, Santa Clara, San Mateo and San Francisco counties. Volunteer observers are needed to report nesting activity. Call or write Valeric Layne, SFBBO. PO Box 247, Alviso, CA 95002 (408) 946-6548.



The S. A. S. Calendar

(Continued from Page Two)

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 2 - SAS BOARD

MEETING. 7:30 PM at the SAS office. **ALL MEMBERS ARE WELCOME.** Please call ahead to be sure there will be enough room.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 9 - SAS GENERAL MEET-ING. PENINSULA OPEN SPACE DISTRICT. See September's *NEEDLES* for details. At the San Mateo Garden Center on the Alameda at Parkside. Social get-together with refreshments at 7:30 PM. Meeting at 8:00 with the program immediately following.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 12 - POINT REYES FIELD TRIP.

A search through the "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. Fall is normally the most pleasant time of year on the Point but it has the coolest average summer temperature in the continental US. 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 738-9176

UPCOMING PROGRAMS:

- October Gail and Doug Cheeseman The Birds of Trinidad and Tobago
- November A rescheduling of the April program that was called off because of Elaine Harding-Smith's illness
 Status of the California Clapper Rail



Sierra Nevada Field Campus Classes

The Sierra Nevada Field Campus of San Francisco State University is offering several ornithology courses.

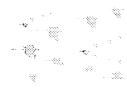
- BIO395: Bird Identification by Song, taught by Luis Baptista from June 14 to 18 (\$128)
- BIO315: Birds of the Sierra Nevada, taught by Dave Shuford, from June 14 to 18 (\$128)
- B1O395: Sierran Bird Banding, taught by Dave DeSante from July 16 to 18 (\$128)

Many other natural history courses are available. Contact Jim Steele, The Sierra Nevada Field Campus, Star Route, Sattley, CA 96124. Telephone 1-209-366-3358

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Conservation Corner

EPA Sued Over Bay-Delta Water Quality:



Under the direction of our Conservation Committee and Board of Directors, our chapter joined six other Bay Area Audubon chapters and other environmental organizations in litigation against the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to compel promulgation of ade-

quate water quality standards for the San Francisco Bay-Delta Estuary. This environmental coalition includes seventeen national and local conservation and fishing organizations with a collective membership of well over one million concerned citizens.

At the press conference in San Francisco on April 15, Stephen Volker, the coalition attorney from the Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund, said, "This lawsuit is about values. It is about respect for our natural and cultural heritage and respect for the integrity of our ecosystem. Over the last century we have witnessed the destruction of one of the most vital an prolific estuarine systems in the world. Massive pumping from the Delta near Tracy by the Cental Valley Project in 1951 and by the State Water Project in 1967 robbed the Delta of most of its freshwater. In some months those facilities divert fully 80% of the Delta's freshwater flow and increased Delta exports have devastated key fish species, including Chinook salmon, striped bass, split tail, Sacramento perch, longfin, Delta smelt and American shad. These diversion projects kill fish in several ways. The pumps suck millions of fish out of the estuary to their eventual death. Reverse flows disrupt fish migrations and egg dispersal. Increased water temperatures and salinity displace fish and the plankton on which they feed from the habitat they require for survival."

The Bay-Delta Hearings were begun in 1986 to improve the standards which currently govern the estuary. Unfortunately after six years of hearings, aborted proposals and changes of course, not a single improvement in environmental standards has been implemented by the State Water Board.

Last month, Governor Wilson announced he was withdrawing interim protection needed to prevent further degradation. We ask, when will the last remaining Bay-Delta wetlands have a reliable fresh water supply to maintain a healthy bio-diversity?

"Under the Clean Water Act, EPA is the safety net," Volker concluded. "It is supposed to step in and protect the public's waters from further degradation: it has failed to do so. Therefore we will now ask the federal courts to order the EPA to adopt adequate water quality standards to save the Delta's endangered fish and wildlife. Only prompt, decisive and courageous action by our courts can preserve the Bay-Delta's precious environmental legacy for future generations."

The environmental coalition includes the Save San Francisco Bay Association, the Natural Resources Defense Council, the Bay Institute of San Francisco, United Anglers of California, the Environmental Defense Fund, the Point Reyes Bird Observatory, PCFFA, the California Native Plant Society, Citizens for a Better Environment, the Bay and San Francisco Chapters of the Sierra Club, and the Sequoia, Golden Gate, Marin, Santa Clara Valley, Mount Diablo, Napa-Solano, Ohlone and Madrone chapters of the Audubon Society.

---Mary Bresler



Legislative Alert Network Needs Updating:

We have been working to update the Legislative Alert Network, keeping it current with names and phone numbers of those who are interested in acting on these alerts. In many

cases we've found we do not have current (or any) phone numbers or current addresses. If you wish to join or remain on the network, won't you please contact the SAS office by phone or mail?

Legislative Action Network Sequoia Audubon Society 30 W. 39th Avenue. Suite 202 San Mateo, CA 94403 345-3724





Parks & Wildlife Initiative Campaign Launched:

We have received numerous postcards and phone calls from members volunteering to assist with the task of gathering signatures for CALPAW, beginning this month. The initiative is an effort to fund state and local projects to preserve important sites and fund projects such as these in San Mateo county.

- Belmont Open Space Trail System
- Butano Park
- Coastal Land Acquisitions
- Gazos Creek
- King Mountain Preserve
- Pedro Point Restoration
- San Bruno Mountain Preserve

Sequoia Audubon has set a goal of gathering 2500 signatures this summer. You can help by obtaining signatures of neighbors, friends and co-workers but especially by volunteering for our Saturday efforts - a two hour period at a specific location with other Audubon members. We will see that you receive the necessary training. Join us by calling the office (345-3724).

--Bob Wilkinson

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June General Election Slate Of Officers

The Nominating Committee of Anne Moser, Louise Fletcher and Nancy Richer have announced the slate of officers for the June general election. After considerable difficulty the chairwoman of the Nominating Committee was able to persuade our President to run for re-election, thus completing the slate of officers.

For President
For Vice-president
For Secretary
For Treasurer
For the Board of Directors
For the term ending in June '96
Rick Baird

Anne Moser
Eileen Jennis
Francis Toldi
Debbi Franz
Debbi Franz
Julia Manderville

Selection by the Nominating Committee does not close the nominations. Nominations may be made with the permission of the Nominee from the floor of the General Meeting by any member in good standing.



The editor wishes to express his personal thanks on behalf of the entire membership to Linda Kypta for her unstinting efforts as Circulation Editor. She, along with her volunteers - notably Mary Bresler and Nick Coirohas seen to the demanding and unsung work of getting the *NEEDLES* out to you each

month. Demands of her work are such that she will no longer be able to continue in this capacity. We will miss her efforts.

ITEMS FOR SALE OR RENT

BIRDER'S HANDBOOK - Ehrlich, Dobkin and Wheye	17.50
BIRDING AT THE BOTTOM OF THE BAY - SCVAS	10.75
BIRDING NORTHERN CALIFORNIA - Jean Richmond	10.50
ENJOYING HUMMINGBIRDS MORE - Various	3.50
MONO LAKE GUIDEBOOK - David Gaines	6.00
NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC FIELD GUIDE	20.00
SPECIES IN DANGER IN OUR BACKYARD-Jamison	5.00
PACIFIC COAST CHECKLISTS -Pads of 25	3.00
SAN MATEO COUNTY CHECKLISTS	.50
ECO-SAFE STRING BAGS	4.00
"I'd Rather Be Birding" BUMPER STICKER	1.50
SEQUOIA AUDUBON SOCIETY PATCH	2.50
VIDEOS FOR RENT:	
 TECHNIQUES OF BIRDING - Arnold Small 	\$2.00 per week
 VIDEO GUIDE TO BIRDS OF N.A 5 Tapes 	\$5 per tape/per wk.

Items Sold at SAS Office or at Meetings	Items Mailed to Customers		
17.50	20.00		
10.75	13.00		
10.50	13.00		
3.50	4.50		
6.00	8.50		
20.00	22.50		
5.00	6.00		
3.00	3.50		
.50	.75		
4.00	5.00		
1.50	2.00		
2.50	2.75		
\$2.00 per week	Please call to make		

Please call to make arrangements for rental of video tapes by mail.

ALL PRICES INCLUDE SALES TAX

Please make all checks payable to: **Sequoia Audubon Society** 30 West 39th Avenue, Suite 202

San Mateo, CA 94403-5671

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Field Trip Reports

April 24 - Jasper Ridge Biological Preserve

Twenty-nine birders, led by SAS leader Peter Metropulos and Jasper Ridge docents Bob Buell and Bill Kirschner enjoyed a beautiful day at the Preserve. Jasper Ridge usually provides some surprises and this year was no exception. A golden eagle swooped over the tree tops for one group; another group observed a male ruddy duck in its spectacular breeding plumage pursuing females on the lake; a grasshopper sparrow and a black-throated gray warbler were heard; all attesting to the variety of habitat on this jewel of a preserve. We had excellent views of black-headed grosbeak, western tanager, California thrasher, violet-green swallows and a singing yellow warbler. Five species of flycatcher (ash-throated, olive-sided, Pacific slope, western wood pewee and black phoebe) were seen or heard

May 2 - Junipero Serra County Park

Eleven birders - nine beginners and two intermediate - met at the park in San Bruno on a fine morning for this season's final beginners' trip. This was the first beginners' trip to focus exclusively on land birds.

Land birds can be very difficult for beginners. They are small, blend in well and refuse to sit still. The birds on this trip lived up to their reputation. Nevertheless, we did manage to get good looks at a great horned owl on the nest with two fluffy owlets, a pygmy nuthatch excavating a nest hole, good looks at a downy woodpecker and identified a dozen or more other species. We also discussed and practiced identification of birds by call, and general strategies for finding and identifying birds. We also appreciated the beautiful wildflowers and spectacular views in this lovely park.

After the trip, an informal discussion at the park's picnic tables covered a variety of topics, including other nearby birding opportunities, binocular selection and the quality of the Padley's shortbread.

Special beginners' trips will continue to be a part of our field trip schedule in 1993-1994. Beginners are always welcome on our regular field trips as well. ---Francis Toldi

What Do Birders Want?

The Southwest Center for Resource Analysis at Western New Mexico University is conducting a survey to find out what birders want in a birding site in the way of facilities and services.

If you want to participate, call or write the SW Center for Resource Analysis, WNMU, PO Box 680, Silver City, NM 88062 (505-538-6312).

Legal Eagles???

People don't usually associate lawyers and birds, but what would you say if you saw a building directory listing the firm of Bird, Tweedt, Robin and Reeve? And what if next door was another firm named Raven, Swift, Buzard and Krogh? To find out where to see these types, you might consult with Bushnell, Bosch, Scope and Peek, who would in turn refer you to Bush, Weed, Forest and Hill. However you should probably avoid Gunn, Shute, Shotwell, Trapp and Slaughter.

All of these are the last names of attorneys currently practicing in California, with the exception of Tweedt (deceased); and Krogh (practicing in Washington state). None of them is actually in a firm with any of the others.

(Francis is a practicing attorney who obviously has too much time on his hands. ---Editor)

New Checklist Available This Month Peter J. Metropulos

We've just finished the final draft of the updated *Checklist of the Birds of San Mateo County*, it's on its way to the printers and it should be available in a week or so.

This is not merely a list of bird names and check boxes but a condensation of data developed over many years of record-keeping. The list defines the seasonal occurrence, nesting status and relative abundance of every species ever recorded in San Mateo County. A grand total of 418 species are listed, 159 of which have nested here.

So, if you want to know how common the common merganser is in the county; if there is nesting evidence for a short-eared owl; the last year a California condor was observed here; or what season is best for seeing an elegant tern: get ready to order your supply of the new, updated checklists

The list is not only informative but is invaluable for recording the species observed during a birding trip. Look for more details on the checklist and its details in September's *NEEDLES*.

The list took several months of coordinated effort by many people. Special thanks are due **Shirley Higuera** for help with typesetting; to **Fred Mason**, who donated printing services; **Sue James** for proofreading; and **Anne Moser** for coordinating the effort.

(And the biggest thanks of all should go to Peter, who, as subeditor of American Birds, is the official ornithological recordkeeper for the county. The original compilation, also by Peter, and his subsequent two revisions, have involved not only his prodigious memory but a painstaking search of his records and those of the breeding bird atlas committee. ——The Editor)

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Breeding Bird Census Field Trips June 5, 1993

Judy Spitler

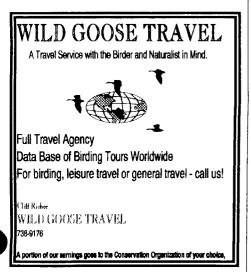
Those who are hesitant to commit to the Breeding Bird Atlas project for a full day will have an opportunity to share in the fun, learn what's involved and play a part in the accumulation of data for this important county-wide project.

Several field trips will be conducted throughout the county - each led by an experienced atlasser. The field trips will cover a standard 5 kilometer atlasing square and the participants will actually engage in confirming bird breeding activity in that square. There are many blocks still uncovered and this trip will give you the opportunity to make an important contribution to the study.

If you are interested please call Judy Spitler (355-9362) so that we can set up teams and assign areas. If there's no one home, leave your name, telephone number, and your preferred atlasing area (Coastside, Bayside, etc.). Your team leader will get back to you advising you of the meeting place and time for your particular team.

•••••

"Our object is not just to win battles but to work out solutions that benefit everyone." --- Martha Davis. Mono Lake Committee



Nature Sounds 9th Annual Workshop

The Nature Sounds Society will hold its ninth annual Field Recording Workshop the weekend of June 18-20 at the San Francisco State University Field Campus at Yuba Pass.

The fee of \$150 (\$135 for members) includes the entire program, meals and lodging. To register, or for more information, call the Oakland Museum 1-510-238-3884, extension 111.

Science Moves Forward

...and sometimes it moves in circles. The rumors coming out of the American Ornithological Union (AOU) are that some recent changes are about to be "unchanged." Now that everyone has learned how to identify a Thayer's gull, the AOU has decided it doesn't exist after all, but is just another Iceland gull. The rosy finch, which was three species before being "lumped' a few years back is probably going to be three species again. Less likely to be revised this year but almost certainly due for correction are the restoration of the Baltimore and Bullock's orioles to full species status and the re-speciation of some birds that haven't been seen in field guides for many years. The rufous-sided towhees will all migrate back to the east coast and be miraculously replaced in the west by the once-common spotted towhee. Back east, the rare gray-cheeked thrush will become even rarer when the Bicknell's thrush is again recognized as a separate (and endangered) species.

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They're about to change the sign on the PanAm building in New York City. The defunct airline sold the building to Metropolitan Life Insurance and the new sign will say Met Life. The delay is caused by a peregrine falcon nesting behind the P in PanAm. Peregrine experts are being consulted.

Do you suppose next year there'll be a merlin nesting behind the M in Met Life?

Endangered Honey-Creeper Nests Found

In 1992, Hawaiian researchers discovered three nests of the endangered crested honey-creeper on the island of Maui. These are the first nests of this species to be identified since 1860!

Amazon Mining Continues

Brazil's campaign to reduce development of the Amazon Basin has, so far, been more show than fact. The *garimpeiros* - gold prospectors - still fire on native Indians and government biologists. The rivers continue to be polluted by mine runoff. Mining supplies are sold openly throughout. 150 airfields used by the miners remain in operation. Brazil's Bureau of Indian Affairs (FUNAI), faced with budget cuts, has fired most of its pilots and field workers while leaving the central bureaucracy intact.





GIFTS AND BEQUESTS

Sequoia Audubon Society welcomes gifts in general or on behalf of, or in memory of relatives or friends. Such gifts may be designated for education or for the advancement of the objectives of Sequoia Audubon Society at the discretion of the Board of Directors. All gifts are tax-deductible. Please send your gift in the form of a check to the Sequoia Audubon Society, Inc. All gifts, donations and bequests will be acknowledged in Sequoia Needles and personally on behalf of Sequoia Audubon Society.

rs.

Richard Kuchn

Dean Schuler

Sally Benson

Benjamin B. Law

SEQUOIA NEEDLES IS PUBLISHED MONTHLY EXCEPT JANUARY, JULY AND AUGUST. MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO SUBMIT MATERIAL TO BE PUBLISHED IN SEQUOIA NEEDLES. DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF MATERIAL IS THE FIRST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH FOR INCLUSION IN THE FOLLOWING MONTH. THESE MAY BE ORIGINAL ARTICLES, ORIGINAL ARTORK OR CARTOONS, OR UNCOPYRIGHTED MATERIAL FROM OTHER SOURCES. ITEMS DEALING WITH CURRENT CONSERVATION ISSUES MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE CONSERVATION COMMITTEE PRIOR TO PUBLICATION.

INFORMATION FOR ALL OFFICERS AND CHAIRPERSONS --- INCLUDING EXCHANGE BULLETINS --- SHOULD BE MAILED TO: 30 WEST 39TH AVE., SUITE 202, SAN MATEO, CALIFORNIA 94403-4561

SUBSCRIPTION TO NEEDLES SEPARATELY IS \$10.00 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 (345-3724) 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.

OFFICERS:			
President.	Anne Moser	324-1718	
Past President:	Mary Bresler	994-3587	
VicePresident:	Maria Straatmann	320-0490	
Secretary:	Francis Toldi	344-1919	
Treasurer:	Debbie Frantz	571-6759	
DIRECTORS:			
For term ending. June '93-	Rick Baird	574-1067	
	Bob Wilkinson	347-8367	
For term ending June '94'	Janet Murphy	879-0411	
	Cliff Richer	738-9176	
For term ending June '95:	Dan Keller		
	Robin Smith	325-3306	
STANDING COMMITTEES:			
ACR Host:	Ric k Baird	574-1067	
Audit:	Nick Coiro	349-1834	
Bird Sightings:	Dan Keller		
Christmas Count:	Dan Keller		
Conservation:	Bob Wilkinsen	347-8367	
Education:	Robin Smith	325-3306	
Field Trips: Weekday:	Nick Coiro	349-1834	
Weekend:	Judi Spitler	355-9362	
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