

Bulletin of the Sequoia Audubon Society
San Mateo County Volume 49, No. 1
September, 1998

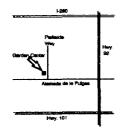
This Month's Program



Tom Ryan, chief biologist of the San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory will tell us of his experiences searching for and surveying Least Tern colonies along Mexico's west coast from San Blas Nayarit south to Manzarillo.

His talk will be illustrated with slides.

Meetings are the second Thursday of the month at the San Mateo Garden Center on the Alameda at Parkside at 6:30 PM.



Next Month's Program



The program is still being developed but is expected to tie in with next month's field trip to look for migrating hawks in Marin County. The subject is expected to be Identification of Raptors Overhead.

Writers Wanted

In the opposite column, you'll find, along with his greeting, a plea from our President for you to get involved.

Having done this newsletter for more than fifteen years, you may perhaps excuse me if I sometimes take a proprietary attitude or occasionally take a deliberately provocative stance to try to arouse your interest. Having said that I now apologize that during the last year, two letters to the editor did not make it into these pages. This was not deliberate. Somehow both letters got misplaced and didn't get to me until much too late for publication.

This is not my newsletter, It is yours and we welcome any input from you. Letters and articles on birds, birding, conservation or on Audubon in general are welcome and solicited.

-The Editor

From the President



Welcome back to another year with Sequoia Audubon! In forth-coming issues of the Sequoia Needles you will read announcements of the various activities and programs we offer throughout the year. For those of you new to our organization, these include monthly meet-

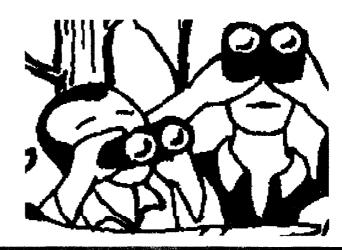
ings with a featured speaker (subjects all relate to birds and nature), a full slate of field trips, our chapter-sponsored Christmas Bird Counts and birdseed sales. I am pleased to announce that Sue Cossins has agreed to chair our Program committee, and will undoubtedly come up with an interesting schedule of speakers.

I urge newcomers and old-timers alike to become more involved with your Chapter. There are numerous opportunities, both large and small, easy and more challenging. Being more involved gives you the chance to meet interesting people, learn about birds and the environment and make a difference in our ever-more threatened world. Please call me or any of the other officers listed in the Needles if you would like to know more about Sequoia and how you might become a part of the group that makes our chapter possible.

See you at the September meeting.

- Francis Toldi

Francis Toldi



The mission of Seguoia Audubon Society is to participate actively in environmental education, and conservation and in the restoration, preservation, protection and enjoyment of our native natural resources and emphasis on birds and their habitats.



The S A S Calendar

September

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 3 — BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING at the Audubon Office at 7:30 PM. All members are welcome to attend.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, GENERAL MEETING the San Mateo Garden Center on the Alameda at Parkside at 6:30 PM.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20 -- HALF MOON BAY — Over the years this area has proved to be a reliable "warbler trap" with errant eastern species showing up in the trees, shrubs and grasslands around town. We will be looking for possible vagrants and for regular migrants in these local hot spots. We will meet at 8 AM at the Half Moon Bay Coffee Company Cafe on the southeast corner of Stone pine Rd. and main St. one block south of Hwy. 92.

LEADER

AL JAMARILLO

712-1272

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27 — BEGINNERS' TRIP TO MOUNTAIN VIEW FOREBAY — This area affords some of the most varied shorebird and waterfowl wintering habitat in a small area and in every year it has produced a surprise bird or two. The trip will involve walking on level well-defined paths. We will meet at 8;30 AM at the foot of San Antonio Rd. near the entrance to Mountain View Shoreline Park. To get there, take Hwy. 101 to San Antonio Rd. and take the San Antonio Rd. (North) exit. Follow San Antonio Road for a short distance until it makes a right angle turn and becomes Terminal Road. Stop and park as close to the intersection as feasible.

LEADER

ROBIN SMITH

325-3306

Coastal Scrub

The Unappreciated Habitat Cliff Richer

The vegetation that dominates the area between our coast and the coastal mountain ranges is generally referred to as coastal scrub. In some areas it is relatively thin, with expanses of grass separating stands of larger plants. In others it is so thick as to be virtually impenetrable. A spectacular array of various thorny bushes, stinging nettles, prickly seeds and poison oak can make it seem aggressively hostile. When dry, it poses an explosive fire hazard.

And yet, this diminutive jungle is home to a truly amazing fecundity of animal and bird life. Birding can be both frustrating and rewarding. The sound of the scrub is the Wrentit with its loud bouncing call. Both Spotted and California Towhees are commonly heard. California Quail, White-crowned and Song Sparrows, Anna's and Allen's Hummingbirds, California Thrashers are some of our common breeding species. Yet, these birds are much more often heard than seen in the thick growth.

Black-tailed deer, bobcats, foxes, raccoons, rabbits and hares, mice and voles, snakes and lizards and even mountain

lions inhabit the scrub in amazing numbers. Surprisingly, some forest and riparian species such as Pygmy Owl, Saw-whet Owl and Screech Owl are known to nest in and use the scrub.

The scrub is threatened by developmental pressure, fragmentation and grazing. In some areas -- particularly in Southern California -- fire suppression can lead to spectacular reactions. Fire is natural to the coastal scrub and regular fires maintain a healthy ecosystem. When fire is suppressed it can lead to a buildup of dry woody undergrowth that will fuel much larger and hotter fires that can do severe damage to man-made structures, and to the underlying soil as well.

One of the finest and most attainable local examples of the coastal scrub ecosystem can be found along the Hazelnut Trail in San Pedro Valley County Park in Pacifica. The Hazelnut Loop, using portions of two other trails, is a relatively easy 5 mile round-trip from San Pedro's parking lot.

Rain Forest Woes

Cliff Richer

Slash and burn clearing of the rain forest for agriculture continues unabated and in this year of El Niño, it has been exaggerated by unusually dry weather in Central America. Forests which once burned only by continuous assistance from farmers became tinderboxes. Wildfires raged unabated across Mexico and clouds of smoke drifted as far north as Kansas City. The situation was further aggravated by a lack of forest fire-fighting capacity in countries which never before had a need for such skills.



I also became aware of another threat to this habitat this summer. I tuned in late to some radio talk show where the guest, proclaiming himself an ecologist, was promoting his firm as a consultant on "sustainable" development of the rain forest. What was terrifying to me was this "expert's" advocacy of introducing non-native plants to replace the natural growth of the rain-forest and obtain the "maximum yield" from poor

soils.

The one thing this "ecologist" ignored was ecology. At no time did he ever mention the impact of any plant -- native or introduced -- on other plants or on wildlife. He even defended blue gum eucalyptus, claiming that Californians simply didn't know how to use this tree properly. The only negative feature he saw in the blue gum was as a fire hazard. He advocated the regular harvesting of eucalyptus for firewood and eucalyptus oil, ignoring the fact that the blue gum is not particularly good for either use and there is no ready market for either of these products in California.

If this man represents any kind of trend in forest management, firms like his, masquerading under environmentally friendly names, could pose as great a danger as traditional slash and burn techniques.

Mono Lake Update



El Niño fulfilled its promise at Mono Lake as it reached its highest level since 1972. The lake surface is now 6384 feet above sea level.

The Trust for Public Land has purchased the historic Conway Ranch property north of the lake. The land will be passed on to Mono County once the county can raise enough funds to repay the Trust. The county plans to restore riparian and wetlands habitat and to use it for a fish hatchery.

The importance of Mono Lake to migrating Eared Grebes seems to have been severely under-estimated. Aerial surveys reveal that as many as two million grebes may visit the lake each year!

All of the news is not good news. The California Gulls are having a hard time adapting to the rapidly rising waters. Data is not available for this year, but 1997 was a poor year for gull nesting and they failed to re-colonize the now coyote-free Negit Island. (Fortunately, survival of the species no longer is dependent solely on Mono Lake. The California Gull colonies in south San Francisco Bay are prospering and now fledge more chicks than the Mono Lake colony.)

Part of the problem may be that the incoming fresh water is affecting the lake's natural controls. In 1997 the lake failed to "mix" as temperatures changed and it remained stratified in fresh and alkaline layers, with each layer bearing fewer nutrients than the whole was capable of producing.

These and other changes associated with the dynamics of an evolving Mono Lake are under continuing scientific study by a wide variety of individuals and public interests. (See next column.)

The Mono Lake Committee and the town of Lee Vining are celebrating the twentieth anniversary of the founding of the Committee and the beginning of the fight to save Mono Lake. Restoration Days will feature four days of lake-oriented activities over the Labor Day weekend, as well as a reunion of all those who participated in the effort.

Research Projects at Mono Lake

Mono Lake and the Mono Basin continue to attract scientific researchers.

Mono Basin Geomorphology, Sedimentology, Biogeography & Paleoclimatology and

Sand Dune Genesis Studies
California State University Hayward

Stream Restoration StudiesCalifornia State University Humboldt

The Importance of Mono Lake to Eared Grebes Nesting in British Columbia

Pacific Wildlife Research Centre Canadian Wildlife Service

Mono Basin Air Quality MonitoringGreat Basin Air Pollution Control District

Mono Lake Migratory Bird Studies Hubbs-SeaWorld Research Institute

Mono Basin Hydrology Monitoring Los Angeles DWP

Evolution of Desert Colluvial Boulder Fields

Mankato State University

Remote Sensing & Tufa Investigations NASA

Riparian Bird Population Monitoring and

California Gull Nesting & Reproductive Success
Point Reyes Bird Observatory

Mono Lake Water Chemistry
US Geological Survey

Alkali Fly Population Monitoring Sierra Nevada Aquatic Research Lab

rra Nevada Aquatic Research La University of California

Demography & Mating Systems of the Bee-Fly *Lordotus*

and

Development of Sand Dune Ecosystems on the North Shore

University of California Davis

Nutrient Cycling & Plankton Dynamics and

Turbulent Mixing & Resource Supply to Phytoplankton

Marine Science Institute University of California Santa Barbara

Oxygen Isotope Concentrations University of Southern California

Lee Vining Canyon Bighorn Sheep White Mountain Research Station

Management Agreement at Los Banos

A landmark agreement to cooperatively manage lands within the Grassland Ecological Area has been forged among public agencies and private landowners.

The Cooperative Land Management Agreement among the state Department of Fish and



Game, the US Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Grassland Water and the Resource Conservation Districts commits them to manage the state's largest, contiguous wetlands as a single entity.

More than 550 species of birds, animals, and plants — including 47 listed as sensitive, threatened, or endangered — have been identified in the area.

In addition, the agreement has been forwarded to the US. BuRec and to California Parks for their signatures.

Goals of the agreement are to:

- Provide quality wildlife-dependent public use activities such as hunting, fishing, environmental study, wildlife interpretation and photography.
- Provide optimal feeding and resting habitat for wintering waterfowl, shorebirds, and other migratory birds.
- Manage for the conservation of unique and sensitive natural habitats.
- Provide a natural diversity and abundance of flora and fauna.

The agreement formalizes a relationship that has been in existence among the local refuge managers for years and guarantees continuance of current policies.

Bair Island Status

Due to the generosity of 3,815 Penizsula Open Space Trust (POST) donors, the permanent protection of Bair Island is fast becomilg a reality. To date, \$4,283,666, or 86% of the \$5 million in private funding required to purchase and protect this vital wetland has been raised.

POST is confident that once they have met their \$5 million commitment, the remaining \$10 million required to complete the purchase will be forthcoming from the Land and Water Conservation Fund. POST has already secured approval of \$2 million for the purchase from the fiscal year 1998 federal budget.

Your letters and donations in support of protecting this vital wetland have been truly inspirational and will continue to play an important role in POST's efforts to secure the full federal funding needed to save Bair Island.

Your continued support is critical. Peninsula residents will never have a better opportunity to protect local wetlands, the Bay, wildlife habitat, and essential open space. The time and the opportunity is now — with your continued financial support, Bair Island will be permanently protected.

For those of you who would like a closer look at the island, San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory (SFBBO) is conducting two events that allow you to get close to Bair Island.

Evening Kayak Tours of Bair Island are conducted at low tide along Redwood Creek and the sloughs surrounding Bair Island. Thousands of shorebirds should be visible on the mudflats of the south bay. No experience necessary. Birding ethics observed. Advance registration is required. Dates; Sundays, September 6, & 20; October 4. Cost — Members \$60, Non-members \$75 Accompany two SFBBO biologists on their monthly Wildlife Surveys of Bair Island. These surveys will be conducted at high tide both on foot and in our 13' powered inflatable boat. Space is linited to only 4 participants on each trip. Dates; September 19, October 17, November 17, December I7. Cost — \$35.

Monterey Pines & Pine Pitch Canker

A petition to list Monterey pine, *Pinus radiata*, as Threatened under the California Endangered Species Act has been sumitted by the Monterey Pine Forest Watch. The native stands of this tree have been reduced to approximately 57% of their original acreage through attack by pine pitch canker, a fungus disease with no known cure.

The disease is spread by tree-boring beetles and, along with the beetles, made great headway during the drought years.

The California Department of Agriculture regards this threat so seriously that they have created a task force specifically directed at finding a cure or control for this infestation, which was recently found spreading to Douglas firs.

Cape Ivy Under Attack

With the help of grants from the National Park Service, the David & Lucille Packard Foundation, the California Exotic Plant Pest Council, the California Department of Parks & Recreation and the EPA, an all-out war is being waged against the plant that is variously known as Cape ivy or German ivy. (German ivy is my choice of names, since the plant is neither German nor ivy. —Ed.)

Some of these grants are to local organizations for specific eradication efforts in specific areas, but the largest grants, augmented with donations from California Native Plant Society (CNPS) Chapters and members, are being utilized in a search for a safe and effective biocontrol weapon. Through an international agreement between the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the Plant Protection Research Institute (PPRI) in South Africa, scientists in that nation are making field surveys and doing the careful detective work needed to discover possible biocontrol agents. A number of insect species have been found on Cape ivy in its native range, and a list of possible candidate species is being prepared.

After these control species are identified they will have to be tested over the next three or four years to be sure they will not have a negative effect on California's native plants. CNPS members are working to gather native seed plants and raising funds for this phase of the testing. (Some of the information in this article was reported on by Jake Sigg in the summer issue of the California Native Plant Society Bulletin.)

CNPS Wins Suit

On May 7, the judge granted a motion for summary judgment filed by the



California Native Plant Society and ordered the US Fish and Wildlife Service to comply with the mandatory listing requirements of the Endangerd Species Act by

September 30, 1998.

The suit was brought by CNPS because even though the law requires the Service to take action on any candidate species within one year, many candidate species had languished without decision for several years.

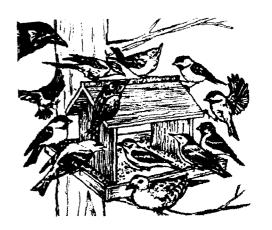
The decision will result in final listing and greater legal protection for 43 rare plants in California and, by extension, many animal and bird species as well.

Coffee Break Cliff Richer

If you've been following the discussion on the potential environmental harm resulting from replacement of shade-grown coffee plantations with sun-grown coffee, you may have noticed that there is a great deal of anecdotal evidence to support both sides — with the preponderance falling on the favoring of shade-grown crops.

The Nature Conservancy is now about to resolve the controversy. They, along with their Mexican counterpart, have commissioned a study to determine which birds use coffee plantations and how these are used. This should effectively end the debate.

They're Waiting for You!



Keep them well-fed this fall and winter.

FALL 1998 BIRDSEED SALE ORDER FORM

ALL ORDERS WITH PAYMENT MUST BE RECEIVED BY WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7

Proceeds support local Audubon conservation and education programs

Please check preferred pick San Bruno	up location. Pickup dates Burlingame		il be October 15-18, 1998 with details to be advised inter. Half Moon Buy					
Pacifica	San Mateo	Atherton			Sen Carlos			
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AUDUBON WILD BIF red & white millet plus black		20	lb@	\$10.00	/bag		**	
RED/WHITE MILLE?	Г МІХ	20	lb@	\$10.00	/bag	- Martin Martin and American American	19t	
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SUNFLOWER CHIPS	***************************************	25	lb@	\$25.00	/bag		*	
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THE NEXT	SEED SALE WILL	BE H	IELD	IN FEBRI	U ARY	1999		
Please enclose a stamped sel	f-addressed envelope to re	ceive	your or	ler confirmati	on and	directions to yo	ur pickup location.	
Name						r check and		
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City	Zip		-	30 West 39th Avenue, Suite 202				
Phone (Home) (Work)								
		345-3724						

Fall Birding Classes

Evening bird classes taught by Joe Morlan and endorsed by Golden Gate Audubon Society will be starting September 9, 10 and 15. All classes meet 7-9:15 p-m. in room 222, Marina Middle School, 3500 Fillmore at Bay St. Free parking is in the school lot off Bay St. on the east side of the building.

The instructor is co-author of Birds of San Francisco and the Bay Area and Birds of Northern California. He is also coordinator of the recorded "Northern California Birdbox" sponsored by Golden Gate Audubon Society. Slides illustrate all lectures, and the text for all classes is A Field Guide to the Birds of North America, second edition, by the National Geographic Society.

- Field Ornithology I meets on Tuesdays. It is an introduction to birds and birding, combining basic field skills with the study of bird ecology, biology and behavior. Part A (EA101) starts September 15 and ends October 27; Part B (EA105) starts November 3 and ends December 15.
- Field Ornithology II meets on Wednesdays, It is a continuing indepth study of the identification and status of North American land birds, including blackbirds, tanagers, finches (Part A) and water birds including loons, grebes, and seabirds (Part B). Part A (EA110) starts September 9 and ends October 21; Part B (EA115) starts October 28 and ends December 16.
- Field Ornithology III meets on Thursdays. It is a continuing study of North American land birds including owls, nightjars, swifts, hummingbirds and woodpeckers. Part A (EA120) starts September 10 and ends October 22, Part B (EA125) starts October 29 and ends December 17.

Optional field trips on weekends may be arranged by the instructor. Please bring binoculars and field guides to class if you have them, Fees are \$90 for each seven week course. Pre-registration is strongly advised. For further information call (415) 561-1860.

Shearwater Journeys

Half Moon Bay Trips

Shearwater Journeys' twenty-second season of pelagic natural trips features departures from Half Moon Bay for Pioneer Canyon and Seamount. These 12 hour trips on September 19, October 17 and November 8 will give seabirders the opportunity to visit a new area that has good potential for producing rare birds and Sperm Whales. In addition they are continuing their regular schedule of Cordell Bank, Bodega Canyon and Farallon Island trips. The Half Moon Bay trips are \$95 and full payment by check or money order is required at the time of registration for all trips (no credit cards).

Through the Seasons, a 36 minute video depicting many of the sea birds and marine mammals is also available from Shearwater Journeys for \$28 postage paid.



Contact Debra Shearwater at (408) 637-8527 for information and a full trip schedule. (The Shearwater Journeys' office will be closed September 7-14 during the ABA Conference in Monterey.)

Pesticide Pulled

According to the latest issue of Bird Conservation, Novartis (formerly Ciba Geigy), announced that they were phasing out all manufacture and sale of monocrotophos. Monocrotophos was the insecticide responsible for huge number of Swainson's Hawks' deaths in Argentina. American Bird Conservancy (ABC) had been working with Novartis on the Swainson's Hawk mortalities. Novartis also announced the phase-out of five other organophosphate insecticides.

1998 Monterey Bay Bird Festival

A Window on the Flyway October 3 & 4

Monterey Bay and its surrounding landscape offers some of the most diverse and spectacular birding opportunities on the Central Coast. Headquartered at one of California's rarest jewels, Elkhorn Slough, the 1998 Monterey Bay Bird Festival will take place October 3 and 4, 1998. Sponsored by the Elkhorn Slough Foundation and the Department of Fish & Game, the weekend will offer unique field trips, workshops and festival activities designed to inspire both novice and experienced birders and introduce birding opportunities in the Monterey Bay Area.

- Special Tours -- Elkhorn Slough boat and kayak tours, Big Sur, Carmel
- River, Watsonville Slough, Moss Landing, Salinas River Wildlife Area and Special Pelagic Trips.
- Workshops Bird Banding, Bird Songs and Calls, Photography, Shorebirds, Gulls, Native Plants, Raptors, Food and Feeding of Birds and Study Skins.
- A special keynote address Saturday night featuring a Herb Clarke photo presentation on "Northern California Birds".
- Festival Activities Live music, exhibits, food, special demonstrations on a variety of topics including identifying bird eggs and nests, dissecting owl and cormorant pellets, wildlife viewing stations with spotting scopes and more.

Located on the Pacific Flyway, Elkhorn Slough and Monterey Bay are major stopovers for shorebirds, waterfowl and landbirds. This weekend promises to be a fantastic experience.

For information, a registration packet and schedule of events, contact tile Elkhorn Foundation at (831) 728-5939. E-mail inquires may be sent to., esf@@elkhornalough.org..

Website: www.elkhornslough.org.

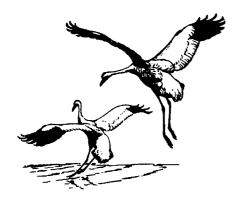
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The world is full of willing people; some willing to work, the rest willing to let them.

—Robert Frost

Whooping Crane Success in Florida

After a disappointing start in which most of the birds were lost to bobcats, it appears that the US Fish and Wildlife Service has succeeded in establishing a non-migratory flock of the endangered Whooping Crane in Central Florida.



There are now 60 of these birds -North America's largest wader -- in the
Kissimee River basin north of Lake
Okeechobee and south of Orlando. They
are learning their survival skills by imitating the local Sandhill Cranes.

In an earlier experiment in Idaho, Whooper eggs were placed in Sandhill Crane nests and raised by Sandhills. Until the birds reached breeding age it seemed the experiment was working. Unfortunately, when the mating urge came upon them, the Whooping Cranes refused to have anything to do with each other. They all believed they were Sandhill Cranes. Meanwhile, the Sandhill Cranes which had accepted the Whoopers as part of their flock drew the line on accepting them as mates.

In Florida, the introduced birds were raised in captivity and placed in the wild only after they had imprinted on their parents. With no survival skills the first introduced birds fell prey to the bobcats. This problem was largely overcome by trapping and relocating many of the cats, and making the introductions into a large fenced area cleared of predators.

This worked. 70% of the birds have survived and are approaching maturity. Seven pairs have bonded and nested, but no eggs have resulted as yet.

The future looks bright for the establishment of this non-migratory flock,

but problems remain. The birds hunkered down and survived two "minor' hurricanes, but three of them flew into power lines and were killed. Another was shot. The culprit is unknown despite a large reward posted by the USF&WS.

The establishment of this flock is considered essential to the survival of the species. Otherwise the cranes could be wiped out by a single oil spill or other disaster affecting the historic flock which breeds in Canada and winters on Texas' Gulf coast.

Avian Cholera Waterfowl Affected Nationwide

Last year's waterfowl die-off at the Salton Sea was generally attributed to pollution, a reasonable assumption given the quantity of natural and agricultural toxins which pour into the lake. Another contributing factor is that the Salton Sea has no outlets and the pollutants become even more concentrated by evaporation.



However, it now appears that the extreme severity of the 1997-98 die-off was probably due to the presence of avian cholera. This disease has nothing to do with water quality but is a bacterial infection passed on from bird to bird. Deaths from the disease were at all-time epidemic highs throughout the United States. In the Los Banos area alone, some 30,000 coots and ducks were killed.

There is no known cure for the disease and prevention efforts consist of gathering up dead birds and incinerating them, precisely as was done at the Salton Sea.

Murre Update

Devil's Slide Colony

The re-establishment of a breeding colony of Common Murres on the San Mateo coast is now in its third year and the colony appears to be successful and growing.

This year, as many as 82 murres were seen on Egg Rock at one time, with 30 of them establishing breeding pairs. Murres lay only one egg a year and eight of the eggs were lost to predation or accident.



The seven surviving chicks face a harsh future. Murre chicks drop off the cliffs to the sea below while still unable to fly or feed themselves. Some are dashed to death on the rocks and the others are entirely dependent upon their parents finding them and feeding them. Most drown, starve or fall prey to the perils of the sea before they become self-sufficient. However, once they become adults their chances of survival are greatly enhanced. Adult murres often reach an age of 15 years or more.

Murres are very site faithful. The odds are that the chicks will return to the same rock where they were born, thus perpetuating the colony.

The Fish and Wildlife Service has been so encouraged by the results that it has established a second breeding colony on San Pedro Rock just to the north of the present site. This site is much further from any mainland viewing sites and more difficult to monitor. Although live murres have been seen among the decoys, there is no indication of any nesting activity at this time.

The original murre colony on San Pedro Rock was wiped out by illegal egg gatherers in 1906. The colony on Egg Rock survived the egg gatherers but was extirpated in the 1982 *Puerto Rico* oil spill. Because of the negative connotations associated with the name, the Fish and Wildlife Service uses the alternative name of Devil's Slide Rock rather than Egg Rock for this site.

Gifts and Bequests

Inger Bischofberger R.C. Murphy Peking Handicraft, Inc. and an anonomous donor in memory of **Nancy Jean Chow**

Sequoia NEEDLES is published monthly except in January, July and August. Members are encouraged to submit material to be published in the NEEDLES. The deadline for the submission of materials is the first day of the month preceding publication. These may be original articles, original artwork or cartoons, or uncopyrighted material form other sources. Items dealing with conservation issues must be submitted to the Conservation Committee prior to publication.

Information for all officers and chairpersons should be mailed to 30 West 39th Ave., Suite 202, San Mateo, CA 94403-4561. Please send RENEWAL MEMBERSHIPS directly to National Audubon in the envelope accompanying your renewal notice.

Please send LATE RENEWALS or NEW MEMBERSHIPS through Sequoia Audubon Society to insure continuity of newsletter or magazine subscriptions.

SEQUOIA AUDUBON SOCIETY'S WEB PAGE'S URL is /http://www.belmont.gov/orgs/sas/

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