



Sequoia needles

Bulletin of the Sequoia Audubon Society
San Mateo County Volume 52, No. 1
September, 2001

From the President



Welcome to the 52nd year of Sequoia Audubon Society! Birders and bird-lovers from San Mateo County have been enjoying and protecting birds and their habitats in this county for the past fifty-two years. Will we continue for the next fifty-two years??? It depends on you.

As you probably know, all environmental organizations gained many new members in the 1970s. At that time the administration in Washington was so unfriendly to environmental causes that it drove citizens to join together to counteract this state of affairs. Many of us became very active then and we're still at it, gray hair and all.

The current administration reminds me a lot of that earlier one. As President of Sequoia, I feel somewhat besieged on every side with issues both in and out of the chapter that need attention. Surprisingly, funding is not our top need. You have been extremely generous with your year-end donations (though we wouldn't turn down a share of your tax rebate if you'd like to use it to make a pro-environment statement!).

Our biggest need is for more manpower from our membership. If everyone would do a small part, we could make a much bigger impact here in San Mateo County.

Here are some things that need doing that would take about 3 hours a month. Would you volunteer that

amount of time to —

to join our activist e-mail network?
call your legislator on a current issue?
send out welcome packets to new members?
look up telephone numbers?
phone new members to invite them to a meeting?
help the hospitality chairman at meetings?

conduct some bird surveys?

do some data entry for a new Christmas Bird Count database?

help prepare a newsletter mailing ?

distribute our newsletters to libraries and such?

get our field trip info into your local paper?

attend a planning commission or city council meeting?

join the conservation committee, which meets monthly?

As you can see, lots of these jobs could be done at home or along with other errands.

Perhaps you have an idea and some energy for a job

you think needs doing. Let us hear it!

The youngest member on the conservation committee allowed as how we need more people in his age group to get involved (those not yet sporting gray hair) and he's right. How about joining him. Call 369-1093 and counteract what's going on in Washington.

Robin Smith



This Month's Program Midway Atoll NWR Birdlife And Tourism Allan Ridley & Helen McKenna

Allan Ridley teaches ornithology at the Urban School of San Francisco and short courses at the Burlingame Recreation Center. With his life partner, Helen McKenna, he leads field trips locally for the Golden Gate Audubon Chapter and internationally with the Strybing Arboretum Society.

They have lead a regular, first Sunday-of-the-month field trip at the Strybing Arboretum in Golden Gate Park, for the past three years.

Once a military outpost, a battlefield and a naval air station where the "gooney birds" often interfered with air operations, Midway Island is now the most remote of our National Wildlife Refuges and the main breeding nest for the Laysan Albatross — the original gooney bird.

At the San Mateo Garden Center, Alameda at Parkside, San Mateo, Thursday, September 13 at 7:30 PM.

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



The S A S Calendar



THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 6 — BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING — 7:30 PM — All members are welcome. Call ahead to confirm time and place and to make sure that there will be enough room.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, BAYFRONT PARK BEGINNER/FAMILY TRIP, 9 AM — Come join this trip designed for beginning birders and families. We have plenty of binocs to share and there will be ducks, waterbirds, shorebirds and some upland species to enjoy. Easy walking, suitable for kids in strollers. Bayfront Park is east of 101 at the Marsh Road/101 intersection. Meet near the entrance by the red pump house.

LEADER ROBIN SMITH 325-3306

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13 — GENERAL MEETING featuring *Birdlife and Tourism on Midway Island National Wildlife Refuge* by Allan Ridley & Helen McKenna. At the Garden Center on the Alameda at Parkside. Social get-together at 7:30 PM with the meeting beginning at 8.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, REDWOOD SHORE PONDS, 8:30 AM — There are sure to be lots of waterfowl and shorebirds at these ponds just in front of the SBSA plant. Take Redwood Shores Parkway out to almost the end. Turn right at the SBSA sign on Radio Road. Follow it past the dog park to the plant driveway and park off the pavement. If you have a scope, bring it along. Lots of rarities have been spotted there in the past.

LEADER SUE COSSINS 347-9358

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, HAWK HILL 9 AM — Join Leslie Flint, SAS member and veteran GGRO Hawkwatcher, for a day at Hawk Hill during the peak of raptor migration. Expect to see accipiters (Sharp-shinned and Cooper's Hawks); falcons (Kestrels, Merlins, and perhaps Peregrines); buteos (Red-tailed, Red-shouldered, maybe Broad-winged and Ferruginous Hawks), TVs and Northern Harriers. We'll look for migrants in the trees around the hill as well for as long as you like. Bring binoculars, lunch, liquids and clothing in layers — it can be hot or freezing depending on the fog. Meet at the base of Hawk Hill at 9:00 or at the top if you arrive later. There will be a Hawk Talk at noon and banding demonstration (with a live hawk) at 1:00 given by GGRO volunteers. Directions: From San Mateo drive north and cross the Golden Gate Bridge. Take the first exit, Alexander Avenue. Make an immediate left and drive under the freeway and then left again as though you were going to get back on the bridge. Take the road immediately on your right going up hill (Conzelman Road). Follow it along the coastline to where it becomes one way; there is lots of parking there and a turn around. Park and meet at the fire road gate; where you will see a brown "Hawk Hill" sign pointing the way. If you come later, walk up the road to the top of the hill and join us.

LEADER LESLIE FLINT 573-6279

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, EDGEWOOD PARK, 8 AM — Look for resident and migratory species as we head into fall. Starting at 8 increases the chance of seeing all the interesting fall birds at Edgewood. Meet the leader in the parking lot adjacent to the Day Camp area. The Edgewood Park entrance is east of 280 on Edgewood Road in Redwood City.

LEADER LEE FRANKS

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4, BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING — BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING — 7:30 PM — All members are welcome. Call ahead to confirm time and place and to make sure that there will be enough room.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 6, BAIR ISLAND, 9 AM — Visit Bair Island to see the birds of fall there and to hear some of the history and status of the restoration plans. Shorebirds and raptors put on a good show. Take 101 to Whipple Avenue exit in Redwood City, go east on Whipple and cross the frontage road. There is parking here, but do watch out for the frontage road traffic as you pull in. Meet at 9 AM by the Refuge sign just inside the big, white gates.

LEADER ROBIN SMITH 325-3306

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 11, GENERAL MEETING, SAN MATEO GARDEN CENTER — 7:30 PM — Ed Rooks will give one of his wonderful talks on *Trinidad and Tobago* and show slides of his paintings.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 13, SEA CLOUD PARK, REDWOOD CITY 8:45 AM — This trip is designed for beginning birders and those with young families. We have lots of binoculars to share and will attempt to answer any bird oriented questions you may have. This location is interesting, too, because it is part of the Foster City lagoon dredging project. See it all for yourself. Sea Cloud Park in Foster City is reached by taking Hillsdale Avenue east from 101 and making a right turn on Edgewater Blvd, then by going 1.3 miles to Pitcairn Drive and turning left. Look for the park entrance on the right. Meet at the far end of the parking lot at 8:45 AM.

LEADER TO BE ANNOUNCED

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20, COYOTE CREEK FIELD STATION, 7:30 AM — Staff members of SFBBO will take us on a tour of the banding station to see banding in process. You may get the chance to hold and release a bird!! Birding the ponds will follow the banding demo. The meeting place is the Borders Bookstore at McCarthy Ranch Shopping Center at the intersection of McCarthy and 237.

LEADERS SFBBO AND FIELD STATION STAFF

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 28, EDGEWOOD PARK, 8 AM
See September 30 trip description above for details.



News from the Ranch

Betsy Stafford

The serene summer calm that has descended upon our three preserves belies the hubbub that characterized our spring and summer public seasons. Gone for now are the Golden Eagle (came twice in April), the 2000 schoolchildren (taught by our 160 docents), the approximately 100 fledglings from our Bolinas Lagoon heronry (Great Blues, Great Egrets and Snowies), and the 6036 public visitors to our Bolinas Lagoon Preserve (welcomed by our Ranch Guides and you, our wonderful host volunteers).

Still hanging around (in mid-August) are a few ravens (laid back after feeding their brood with chicks from 12-20 egret nests) and one out-of-sync heron nest with 2 "teenage" chicks (it's a mystery why the 2 adults started their nest 4 months later than normal). The buckeyes at Bouverie and Bolinas Preserves are festooned with their bulbous fruits, and the grasses are heavy with food for the fieldmice and sneezes for the allergic. The Pileated Woodpeckers are satiated with ripe grapes. In short, it's late summer (or what our biologists call our northern Californian coastal "fall").

Soon to come, however:

At Bolinas Lagoon Preserve

Public Work Day - Saturday, November 3, 9:30am. Please join our knowledgeable staff to help with projects around our lovely Volunteer Canyon. A hearty free lunch if you call ahead to say you're coming, 415/868-9244.

At Bouverie Preserve

Public Work Day - October 6, 9:30-1:00. Come to help with various jobs, inside and out, and feast on a free lunch. Call 707/938-4554 so that we can plan on enough food.

Docent Training - Wednesdays from September 12 - February 20. Call 707/938-4554 for information on this award-winning natural-history program that prepares volunteers to share their love of nature with 3rd and 4th graders.

Guided Public Walks through our beautiful preserve in Sonoma's Valley of the Moon - September 15, October 13, November 3, December 1. Availability is by a lottery drawing; to sign up, please send a self-addressed stamped envelope to Bouverie Preserve, PO Box 1195, Glen Ellen 95442.

Resource Management Days - on Mondays, 8:15 - 12:30, September 24, October 29, November 12. Work with our talented Land Steward, John Martin, on outdoor management projects. Please call the Bouverie office.

Cypress Grove Preserve

We invite all experienced shorebird observers to join our Research Center's annual Fall, Winter, and Spring Shorebird Censuses on Tomales Bay. We also will conduct a Waterbird Survey this winter. Please contact Katie Etienne or John Kelly at 415/663-8203 or <cgp@svn.net>. We depend upon the skill and generosity of you, our local experts, for these and other ACR research projects.

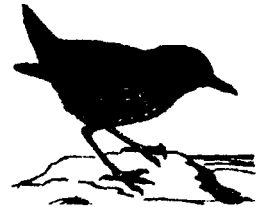
Field Trip Report

Yuba Pass

Joe And Martha O'Neal Macho

Yuba Pass was beautiful as it always is during nesting season (I have to admit we haven't seen it any other season). Our trip was June 16-17, and the weather was prematurely dry and rather hot. Nevertheless birds were to be seen in satisfying variety.

Highlights of the trip included a Dipper nest with four large beaks behind falling water west of Bassett's Station*, a Virginia Rail with 3 babies looking like fuzzy lumps of coal running around the sedge clumps in Sierra Valley, and a Peregrine Falcon hunting close over our heads, where it snatched a blackbird out of the air.



A pleasant group with quick spotting eyes made for a fun trip.

**Historically, this has been a nesting site for Dippers. I found them there every year except those when I was leading this field trip — Ed.*

Tam Dao Nat'L Park

Vietnam Creates New Preserve

The Tam Dao Mountains northwest of Hanoi have been designated a national park by the Vietnamese government. The park has no definite boundaries as yet since the area is undergoing intensive scientific study by an international team of biologists from Russia, Vietnam and the US. It is assumed once the biological resources have been assessed, the park boundaries will be set to maximize their preservation.

Since 1982 the Russians have found 17 species of reptiles and amphibians previously unknown to science within the park. The count of snake species alone at Tam Dao is 108, or 4 percent of the global total. By that measure alone the park harbors one of the richest, most diverse ecosystems on the entire planet.

The park sits at an ecological crossroads. Animals from the tropical forests of Southeast Asia, the temperate forests of southern China, and the alpine forests of the eastern Himalaya all are represented. Moreover, the Tam Dao range rises so abruptly from the Red River Valley that its slopes are virtually an island in the sky.

Most spectacular are the numbers of gliding species — there are gliding frogs, snakes, lizards and flying squirrels. One reason for this is that this forest is taller than most rainforests elsewhere and the trees are not joined by a network of lianas and strangling vines. The ability to glide is therefore a huge advantage in moving from tree to tree in Tam Dao's forests.

From the Conservation Committee

Protect Our Roadless Areas!

After a two year process which included more than 600 public meetings and which yielded 1.6 million public comments* - the vast majority in favor of strong protection - the Clinton administration finalized the Roadless Area Conservation Policy on Jan. 12, 2001.

Now, the Bush administration is trying to undo that rule which is immensely popular with the public. (140,000 Californians commented on this rule, 97% in favor of protecting roadless areas).

This policy would protect critical habitat for birds, fish, and wildlife. It would affect 58.5 million acres of pristine, wild forest across 39 states from road-building, commercial logging, and mining while continuing to allow public access for birdwatching and other recreational activities.

Write by Sept. 10 to:

USDA Forest Service-CAT

**Attention: Roadless ANPR Comments
P.O. Box 221090**

Salt Lake City, Utah 84122

Urge the immediate implementation of the Roadless Area Conservation Rule as published in the federal register Jan 12 with no modifications or deletions.

Handwritten letters are best, but any letter is important. e-mail is less effective.

**(Your editor has a policy of not using statistics unless he can verify or attribute them. This statistic has been widely used in the public media but we have been unable to verify it or its source. —Editor)*

Bob Breen Honored with NOAA Award

Bob Breen, supervising naturalist at the Marine Reserve, was presented an Environmental Hero Award by the National Oceanographic Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) in a ceremony held at the California Academy of Sciences in Golden Gate Park on May 18.

The award is presented annually for long term protection and dedication to the environment. Breen, who has managed the Fitzgerald Marine Reserve since 1969, has implemented management measures

September, 2001

and managed docent groups informing the public about the fragile resource at the tidepool sanctuary.

Breen also received a certificate from the National Marine Sanctuary, and a letter of commendation from the Director of the NOAA for his work at the Fitzgerald Marine Reserve.

Burrowing Owl Benefit

Saturday, September 22 (the last day of summer!), 6-9PM, Coyote Point Museum, San Mateo.

Come join Santa Clara Audubon and the Coyote Point Museum for Calicopia — the food, fun, and feathers of California — a benefit to raise funds for the preservation of the Burrowing Owl in the Bay Area and California and to repair the aviaries at Coyote Point Museum.

SCVAS and the Museum are jointly hosting the event to raise money for these bird conservation and children's education projects.

The Burrowing Owl—once common throughout the Bay Area—has dwindled to perhaps 120-150 breeding pairs.

Statewide the owl's fate is similarly suffering. Nearly gone from Coastal Southern California and much of their former range in the Central Valley, the Burrowing Owl is threatened in nearly all its remaining habitat areas.

A petition to list the Burrowing Owl as an endangered species in California is being prepared. We expect that petition to be opposed strongly by developers throughout the state. Audubon needs resources to complete the petition and steer it through the difficult path of approval before the State's Fish and Game Commission, as well as to continue our fight to preserve land for Burrowing Owls in the Bay Area.

Coyote Point Museum serves nearly 100,000 visitors every year. 60,000 of those are schoolkids who come to learn about California's native habitats and see many of the creatures that live with us in and around the Bay Area. Recently, the netting protecting and separating the aviaries has been attacked by wood rats, leading to situations like the Quail being eaten by a Golden Eagle (arguably educational, but sad for the Quail).

As a result, the museum's bird population has dwindled from more than 50 to just 16. To fulfill their mission of providing environmental education and a safe haven for rescued wildlife, the museum must purchase new netting for their aviaries. (All of the museum's wildlife on display are rescued and rehabilitated creatures with injuries that make them unreleasable and extremely vulnerable to predation.)

September 22 is the last day of summer. There's no better time to enjoy the wonderful foods and wines of our region.

Like the Golden State, Calicopia includes a little something for everyone:

- Internationally known photographer David Liittschwager unveiling his photos of Peipo, a Burrowing Owl formerly at Coyote Point Museum. All money raised from the sale of these photos will go towards Burrowing Owl conservation.
- During our cocktail hour you can sample Napa wines, cheeses, or
- head out to the Central Valley for alifornia appetizers, or
- go to a trendy LA Fusion Bar for martinis with a California twist, or
- follow tiki torches to a Beach Party for games and contests, or
- enjoy live music and
- a sit-down dinner of California cuisine and attend
- an auction, featuring travel to California's nature areas. As a special item, David Liittschwager will auction off an exclusive photo shoot of your pet or pets—truly one of a kind!
- The museum will be featuring a limited-time exhibit entitled: "The Peregrine Falcon: the Return of an Endangered Species." A live Peregrine will also be attending the benefit, along with several other raptors.
- California Naturally, another exhibit, will combine original photographs with graphics to create a unique look at our state.

All this for only \$75 per person (children 12 and under free — child care provided), directly benefitting Burrowing Owls and Coyote Point's aviaries and education programs.

For more information or to get your tickets please call the museum at 342-7755x102 or the Santa Clara Valley Audubon Office at 408-252-3748.



FALL 2001 BIRDSEED SALE ORDER FORM

All Orders With Payment Must Be Received By Wednesday, Sept 12

Proceeds support local Audubon conservation programs

Check preferred pickup location. Pickup dates will be September 20-23

Confirmation and details will be sent via e-mail or snail mail.

Half Moon Bay___ Burlingame___ San Carlos___ Pacifica___ San Mateo___ Atherton___

	Number of Bags	Cost in \$
AUDUBON WILD BIRD MIX <i>red & white</i>		
<i>millet plus black oil sunflower</i>	20 lb @ \$10.00/bag	
Red/White Millet Mix	20 lb@ \$9.00/ba g	
Black Oil Sunflower.	25 lb@ \$9.50/bag	
White Proso Millet	25 lb@ \$9.00/bag	
Thistle	5 lb@ \$8.00/bag	
Sunflower Chips	25 lb@ \$23.00/bag	
Tax-deductible contribution to Sequoia Audubon Society		
GRAND TOTAL		

Check Number _____

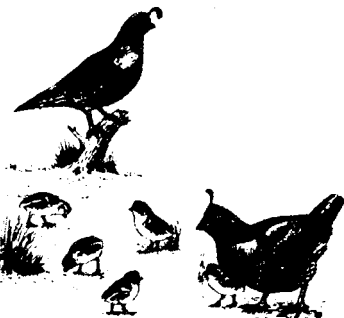
Sales tax is included in all prices above

Please enclose an *e-mail address* or a *stamped self-addressed envelope* to receive your order confirmation and directions to pickup location. Mail check and order to: **SEQUOIA AUDUBON SOCIETY:**

P.O. Box 3897, Redwood City, CA 94064-3897 AC 650 369-1093 Office@sequoia-audubon.org

Name _____
 Address _____ City _____ Zip _____
 Phone _____ E-Mail _____

THE NEXT SEED SALE WILL BE JANUARY 2002



Big Bend National Park, Texas

Bob Olsen

At the end of March I went to Big Bend National Park in Texas to do some birding.

I saw White-winged Doves, Vermilion Flycatchers and even a flying Roadrunner; all new sightings for me.

My camp at Chisos Basin at around 5,000 feet was relatively cool whereas Rio Grande Village, along the river, was much lower and hotter, around 100 degrees.

It was however at Rio Grande Village that I saw the Vermilion Flycatchers. Maybe they like it hot. They are about the size of a House Sparrow and are brilliantly red. I also saw the flying Roadrunner on the same day. That same day I hitched a ride with a fellow birdwatcher and his family. He had driven all the way from Ft. Wayne, Indiana, to add to his life list. He told me his life list stood at near 600 and his wife's list was close to 500. He also told me he had seen a Bronzestreaked Woodpecker, which I never heard of. (Later when I spoke with Francis Toldi, he seemed to think it was a mythological bird, confirming what I was thinking. I guess sometimes we want to see something so badly we think we actually "see" it.)

At the campground I met four men from President Fox's new Mexican government. They were on a fact finding tour to get ideas on how to improve Mexico's National Park system.

One of the Mexican scientists met with misfortune on one day getting a cactus spike stuck in his thigh. He fell down and as his friends tried to help him, a large male black bear bore down on them. Fortunately the charge was a bluff and his friends were able to carry him down the steep mountain and got him first aid at the ranger station.

After leaving Big Bend I went to the Chiricahua National Monument in S.E. Arizona to do some more birding. It was supposed to be the "right" season but Mother Nature hadn't read the same book and I got snowed out.

The Bluebird Report

Howard Rathlesberger

It was a great nesting season for us with new trail locations being very productive. However, the very hot weather around July 4th may have been responsible for some nestling deaths.

Our banding activity held up well, especially because of the help of Hans Arps and Max Grandfield of the Filoli trails and Lane Eubank, monitor of the Runnymede trail. They will be certified as banders for the next season in 2002.

So far this year, we collectively banded 360 birds with 6 recoveries, 2 Oak Titmice, 4 Western Bluebirds — 3 banded in 2000, 1 in 1999 — and a Violet Green Swallow, also banded in 1999.

Next year we will make a concerted effort to band more adult hens. There's one Violet-Green Swallow in particular we hope to capture in box #2-7 at Filoli. We originally banded her in 1999 in this same box, but missed this season when a chickadee took over the box and fledged 6 chicks before the swallows arrival. As insurance against a potential conflict this year, we were able to pair a hanging box within 10 ft. of the pole box and this did the trick! A swallow did nest, but we were not successful in capturing the hen to see if she is band no. 1651-10401 which nested in this box in 1999 and 2000. Hopefully, if she returns next year we can confirm her identity and indicate she's at least 5 yrs. old.

Trails started last year that came into their own this year include Huddart Park, monitored by Ruth Conkrite and her cub scout den. They had two nesting pairs of bluebirds this year vs. one last year. One hen was a return from last year in the same box.

This year Anadel Law's trail of seven boxes on the Hetch-Hetchy easement along Sand Hill Road fledged seven titmice and 16 bluebirds and four Violet-green Swallows in four boxes.

Another bell ringer, is Lane Eubank's Runnymede trail, although not new, it grew to 21 boxes. Hanging box #21, in particular, netted 10 chicks in two broods and significantly in the same nest

as last year's identical performance. There were 15 boxes utilized out of 21 with one being used twice. 29 bluebirds, 18 titmice and 29 swallows were banded. The biggest problem on this trail were mice laying claim to boxes.

Robin Smith and helper Anne Moser exceeded their expectations at Sharon Heights golf course from one bluebird nest attempt last year to 7 this year.

Pat Watters' Menlo Country Club had great diversity with 2 fledged nests of White-breasted Nuthatches. The trail is now 31 boxes. Unfortunately we still fight the sprinklers.

Highlights at Filoli were seven bluebird nesting attempts with 22 chicks fledged, four Ash-throated Flycatcher attempts with eight fledged. A first was a Bewick's Wren nest, fledging five, and four unconfirmed House Wren attempts with one fledging five chicks.

Jeff Powers at Cloverdale Ranch had a box of bluebirds and one of Violet-greens on his new trail.

Art Middleton's had excellent results: 20 Violet-greens, 5 Bewick's Wrens and 16 bluebirds in 3 boxes.

Dawn Williams in Woodside Glens had a significant second brood of bluebirds — a trio of a hen, male, and juvenile fed and fledged 2 chicks.

The Oetzel's had a second brood of bluebirds at Burgess Park in Menlo Park with eleven chicks fledged in 2 broods. Take a look at their website: www.gmoetzel@birdhike.com. Marti counted seven bluebirds on the Burgess park playing field on July 23.

There are many other accounts of successes and, of course, there are always disappointments. - unknown reasons for abandonments, dead chicks in the nest, etc., but don't give up. There's always another day and another season.

Don't miss Filoli's Fall Festival, a country fair, September 29th, 9:30 AM to 3:30 PM and Woodside's first Environmental Day, October 6th, noon to 3 PM.

Thanks for all your enthusiasm and assistance!



Welcome New Members

Dr. Winston Acevedo
Kathleen Alexander
Barbara Alger
Ruth Alves
Ruth Anderson
Rina Andrade
Maxwell Arnold
John Arulanantham
Robert Avery
Susan P. Bachman
Frances Baggs
Harriet Ballweber
Donald Barnaby
Carmela Barret
Frances J Beck
Patrick Bedwell
M/M Walter Bell
K Bellinger
Frank H Bennett
Lavonne Biembaum
Sandra Blake
Larry Blanchard
Ann Blankens
Martha Bredwell
Lee & Mary Brenneisen
Nancy Brigham
R. Brown
Michael Bacher
Jody Buckley
Andy Burg
Mary Burns
Sharon Burrows
Bob & Lorraine Bartscher
Emil R. Caluori
Lee Campbell
Theresa Carey
Al Carlos
Helen Carlock
Shirley Carpenter
Joan L. Cassman
Brigid Chappelone
Andrea Chiu
Aimee Christensen
Valarie Clement
M/M Brian Cloepfil
Ronale Coffey
Bess Coleman
Gretchen Cojuangco
Jeanne Corrigan
M/M Jeff Cossins
Nancy Craig
Bruce E. Craven

Creative Anticipations
Don Curran
Cherie R Dailey
Thomas Dao
Stephen T. Davenport
Devon Davey
Jennifer Davis
Ed Decker
Barbara Demere
Miyuki Denton
Earl M Dilley
Sari Ditlevsen
Susan Doherty
Norma Doane
Bob Dougherty
Debbie Drake
Sandra Drake
Natalie Dumont
Carol Earle
Priscilla Ebersole
Susan Ellis
Mark Elliott
Sheri Elmore
S. Evans
Linda Farrell
Carl H. Feldman
Joi Fernelius
Judy & Bruce Finney
Robbie Fischer
Gail D. Fisher
Carlo J. Flores
Ivonne Flores
Tim Fraham
Rich Fraher
Ann Fridlund
Frank Frucci
Christopher Fuller
Dane Fundakowski
Louis Gagliardi
Louis Gaillard
Patrick Gallagher
Helen Ganley
Evelyn Garrett
Deborah Gilbert-Weeks
Helen M. Gilsdorf
Charles Goan
Jennifer Gogol
Annette Goldman
Karin Greif
Berk Guilfooy
S Jeremy Hale
Richard Hall

Terry J. Hall
Jean Halloran
Ingrid Halterman
David Hanson
Rob Harris
Gary Hatch
Robert Hausmann
Robert Hawkins
Jerry Hearn
Terry Henderling
Linda Herbert
Carlos A. Herrera
M. S. Hikima
Doris M. Hill
Sheela Hilton
Evalia M. Hiaricks
Ellen J. Hoffman
Laura Hofstadter
Jayarama Holla
Catharine Hopkins
Margreta Husted
Richard Izmirian
Drs. Jencek Blount
Whitaker and Wilson
Y A Jensen
Jerome E. Jobaris
Ms. Wm. Johnson
Marion Joseph
Elke Jones
Marilyn Johnson
Hal Jorgensen
Liliane Julien
Margie Kaine
David Katzenstein
L. Malini Kaushik
Suzanne Keith
Parker S. Kelly
M & P Kenny
James Kim
Kerry Kimmel
Kevin Kinsella
Ella Kirk
Brian Kirshner
Dr. Glenn Kitasoe
Rudolf F. Koch
Takahiro Kohori
Marguerite V. Kouzen
Nancy Koontz
Barbara Kraft
Yoali Lamarque
Tom Lantos
Fred Laughlin
Edward Lawee
Chester Leach

Andrew & Jen Lee
Shirly Lee
Nancy Legler
Cynthia Lencioni
Mrs. Wm. Lewis
Lloyd Linstad
Clarice Lolich
Ms. Hilde Lynch
Marty Mackowski
Todd Maibach
A. Maksymowicz
Evelyn Mancilla
Keith Mangold
Annette Marcantonio
Bonnie Mark
James Martin
William C. Matheson
Grant Matthews
Pat McBee
Laurie McClenahan
Barbara A. McDonald
J. McGrayne
Tita E McMackin
Dorothy A. McNutt
Debbie Mendelson
Judith Metzen
Charles Alan Merian
Carol Mickelsen
Cindy Mike
Rick Miley
Amy Millard
Christopher Miller
Mr. John Miller
M. J. Miller
Wendy Millet
Eileen Monti
Kelly Moran
Carolyn Mosby
Barbara O. Muir
Lynda Mullen-Madrone
Katherine Nelson
Dr. Frank Ng
Katherine Nelson
Betty D. Nichols
Michaelene Nicholas
Edna Nieuwland
Naomi Nishi
Marian Nixon
Lauren O'Brien

Lorraine O'Brien
Mulda & Michael O'Brien
Raul L. Ortega
Jeannette Owlett
Michael Pagano
Mary Paglieri
Lou Papan
Shelley Parks
M/M Scott Parlee
Mima Parsons
Angela Perez
Peter D. Pershing
Susan Peterson
Catherine L. Pickerel
Joseph Piro
Powell Poci
James Poket
Jim Pommier
Larry Pon
Beverly Pope
Harriette Poss
Patricia Powell
Charles & Barbara Prens
Irving Priest
Dorothy E. Ramsey
The Randall Family
Dick & Sally Randall
Tam & Mary Randolph
Carol Reed
Stephanie J. Reib
Phyllis Reichley
M/M Don Rennels
Lela Rinchart
Rochelle Rivera
Judith Roberts
Susanne Rohde
Arno Rohloff
Sylvia R. Romero
Mary Anne Rooke
Norman Roussey
Michael Rosenthal
E. L. Rowan
Susan Royer
The Todd Rumberger Family
Andrey Rust
John & Luanne Sarconi

Janine Scancarelli
Jean Seccombe
Alison Seampson
Mary Sexton
Wael Shahin
Byron Sher
Jay Siedenburgh
Dawn Simpson
Janet Simpson
Marilyn Simpson
Patricia Skaar
Rodne Smith
Janet Sommer
Michele Speck
Jackie Speler
Antonia Spencer
Hilda Sperling
Julie Spickler
Wendi Steffen
Mrs. Gary Stein
Peter Stent
Ruth Stewart
Ann Stibard
Ronald Stovitz
Vikas Talwal
Dorothy Tan
Siok Tay
Konrad Thaler
Sumako Tobori
Jane Turrel
Ron & Paula Vanderzwan
Mrs. Richard Vaughan
Georgiana Villain
Jeffery Wall
J. W. Washkahn
Karen Weertz
Karin Wertz
Frank J. West
Darryl Wheye
Dennis Whooley
Cynthia Wilcox
Delano Williams
Heldah Williams
Dorothy Wilson
Nancy Wolter
Serena M. Wylie
Willard Wyman
Danell Zeavin
Any
Zimmerman-Smith
Mary J. Zirkel

The Bodysnatchers Are Here

It's a standard plot in science fiction: an alien parasite infects a hapless victim; and slowly converts its host into a slave.

William Eberhard, a biologist at the University of Costa Rica and the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, was studying orb weaver spiders when he came across a few webs he just couldn't understand. Instead of typical rounded and orderly webs, he found small, rectangular webs attached with unusually strong silken cables. Each disfigured web held a wasp cocoon in the center.

What Eberhard observed was unlike anything he'd seen before. A wasp larva somehow had taken over the orb-web spider and caused it to create a heavily reinforced web and then proceed to its center before dying. The larva then ate the host spider from the inside out, discarded the husk and spun its cocoon in the middle of the web, protected from most predators. The bodysnatcher analogy seems especially apt inasmuch as the spider does not become weak or sicken until it has done its job.

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 from 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 PO Box 3897, Redwood City, 94064-3897 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 Sequoia-aud.org

The Needles e-mail address is Ulticoot@yahoo.com

OFFICERS

President	Robin Smith	325-3306
Past President	Francis Toldi	344-1919
Vice-president	Rick Baird	574-1067
Secretary	Sue Cossins	347-9358
Treasurer	Lisa Moody	

DIRECTORS

Term ending '02	Tom Vanden-Bosch	369-8305
	OPEN	
Term ending '02	Mary Bresler	
	Gary Deghi	
Term ending '03	Merry Haveman	344-2146
	Cliff Ticher	873-1754

Office	Phone	369-1093
	Fax	369-8172
	e-mail	office@Sequoia-aud.org

STANDING COMMITTEES

ACR Hosting	OPEN	
ACR Representative	Leslie Flint	
Audit	Rick Baird	574-1067
Christmas Count	Al DeMartini	
Conservation	Rotating Chair	
Education	OPEN	
Field Trips	Anne Moser	324-1718
Bluebird Recovery	Howard Rathlesberger	367-1296
NEEDLES Editor	Cliff Richer	873-1754
Circulation Editor	Sue Cossins	347-9358
Programs	Sue Cossins	347-9358
Publicity	OPEN	
Membership	OPEN	
Finance/Budget	Rick Baird	574-1067
Hospitality	Eileen Kay	592-4626

THE BIRD BOX
(415) 681-7422



We Invite your membership in the National Audubon Society & SAS. To join, please complete and mail this form with payment to SAS, PO Box 3897, Redwood City, CA 94064-3897

☐ **National Audubon Society Membership**
New \$20 (1 year) Student/Seniors \$15

Members receive *Audubon Magazine* & **NEEDLES**.

Make checks payable to National Audubon Society.

☐ **Needles/Update only.** \$15 for 9 issues

☐ **Donation:** SAS appreciates your tax-deductible donation which helps fund the chapter's education, conservation and ongoing activities.

For membership renewal information call National Audubon Society at (800) 274-4201

SEQUOIA AUDUBON SOCIETY
PO Box 3897
Redwood City, CA 94064-3897

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
SAN MATEO, CA.
PERMIT NO. 293

Sequoia Audubon Society
P O Box 3897
Redwood City, CA 94064-3897

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone Number _____

7XCH C16

Printed on Recycled Paper ♻️
Time Valued Material - Please Do Not Delay