

SEQUOIA NEEDLES

Bulletin of the Sequoia Audubon Society, San Mateo County
Founded 1949

Volume 53, No. 2
November 2002

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Bylaws Changes and Local Memberships

BY MARTHA O'NEAL MACHO

I am happy to report that, at the September Monthly Meeting, the members approved Sequoia Audubon's bylaws changes. Besides bringing us into compliance with National Audubon's requirements, the changes allow Sequoia to offer Local Memberships. The Board of Directors is engaged in working out the particulars of this kind of membership. So far, we have agreed that we prefer to extend benefits to everyone who came to Sequoia Audubon by way of joining National Audubon, as well as to people who joined Sequoia Audubon directly.

This preference is a departure from our original thinking on the subject, which assumed that those who didn't join Sequoia Audubon separately from National Audubon wouldn't receive Sequoia benefits, such as the Needles newsletter. The decision whether to offer identical benefits to those who belong to National Audubon but who don't join Sequoia Audubon separately may change over time, depending on how much, if any, financial support we continue to receive from National Audubon and our other fundraising successes. We will continue to be creative and responsible in directing our resources to our specific mission statement goals.

We are hoping and expecting that members will welcome the opportunity to support our education, conservation, and preservation efforts in San Mateo County since their support will benefit our local environment. This support can come through directing membership dollars to Sequoia Audubon directly and through joining our dedicated group of volunteers. Although I recognize, as do many people, the importance of a national bird-oriented conservation effort, I also want to ensure the health and habitats of birds close to home.

THE ULTIMATE COOT

BY CLIFF RICHER

Congratulations to the new editors of the Needles. The first one is the hardest; the hundredth is slightly easier. The newsletter has a crisp, new appearance - I assume this is the result of improved technology in page layout software and a laser printer. There are lots of advantages to ink-jet printers, but they don't produce that nice clear print you get from a laser. I particularly like the meeting and field trip summary on the first page. I had made several attempts at this and discarded each one as unsatisfactory. I'm happy to see the new editors solved the problem.

National Audubon, as you have read elsewhere, has really cut the chapters loose to fend for themselves. I fear that this will lead to the end of many chapters and a loss of grass-roots environmental action in many areas. Unfortunately, this reflects a reality in the national organization. We have had two national presidents who grew over-ambitious and tried to lead the society into new areas and thus strained the organization's resources. President Flicker has recommended many of the same changes that presidents Berle and Peterson had sought, but for different reasons; I respect the problems he faces and the solutions he is seeking. While both former presidents attempted to get Audubon away from its emphasis on conservation through birds and birding, president Flicker is reinforcing the original focus, and so, I find myself reluctantly supporting his de-emphasis on chapter participation.

I do feel that the National Audubon has made a mistake in reducing the number of issues of the Audubon Magazine. I would have expanded it to a monthly format (and increased the price) as many of our members are actually magazine subscribers rather than activists. The formula of producing a high quality magazine to support outside activities has worked very well for the National Geographic Society and should have worked for us.

(Continued on page 2)

Monthly Meetings

San Mateo Garden Center

(See program details on page 2)

October

Thursday, 10th, 7:30PM

Program: Birds of Japan

November

Thursday, 14th, 7:30PM

Program: California's Bird Areas

December

Thursday, 12th, 7:30PM

Christmas Potluck *(details below)*

Program: Galapagos Islands

January

Thursday, 9th, 7:30PM

Program: California Hummingbirds

Upcoming Field Trips

(See trip details on page 3)

October

Saturday, 12th Sea Cloud Park*

Sunday, 13th Elkhorn Slough

Saturday, 19th Filoli Estate

Wednesday, 23rd

Bird Banding at Coyote Creek

Saturday, 26th

Bikes, birds, and Feral Cats

Sunday, 27th Edgewood Park

November

Saturday, 2nd Bair Island*

Saturday, 9th Pescadero Marsh

Sunday, 10th Arastradero Preserve

Saturday, 16th Coyote Point

Wednesday, 20th

Palo Alto Duck Ponds

Saturday & Sunday, 23rd & 24th

Sacramento Wildlife Refuges

Sunday, 24th Edgewood Park

(Continued on page 3)

Christmas Potluck

December meeting is the Christmas Potluck. Please bring a main dish, casserole or salad to share. Sequoia Audubon will provide coffee, tea and dessert. Bring your own utensils, plates, and cups.

Sequoia Audubon Society

OFFICERS

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Second Vice-President

Howard Rathlesberger 650-367-1296

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Education

OPEN

Field Trips

Carol Masterson 650-347-1769

Hospitality

Eileen Kay 650-592-4626

Membership

Teri Tith Concannon 650-637-1662

Needles Editors

Kakali and Manoj Das

Programs

Sue Cossins

PO Box 755, Millbrae CA 94030

650-692-8138

office@sequoia-audubon.org

www.sequoia-audubon.org

Members are encouraged to submit original or uncopyrighted material – articles, artwork, cartoons, photos – to be published in the Needles. The

deadline for the submission of materials is the first day of the month preceding publication. Send comments and contributions to:

sas_editor@yahoo.com



Printed on recycled paper

MEETING PROGRAMS

BY SUE COSSINS

Birds of Japan

by Lee Hung and Mike Danzenbaker

Thursday, October 10th, 2002

Mike and Lee are long time Bay Area residents. When they lived in Japan from 1997 to 1999, they traveled to many remote parts of the country in search of birds. The program will be concentrated on where they lived in Northern Honshu, but will also include the spectacular wintering Eagles and Cranes of Hokkaido. It will also show the Hooded and White-naped Crane flocks of Kyushu, Passerines visiting feeders at a central Honshu ski resort, interesting breeding birds much sought after by American birders, some of the endemic laden outlying tropical islands, and a bevy of juvenile fall shorebirds.

California's Important Bird Areas

by Daniel Cooper

Thursday, November 14th, 2002

Dan Cooper is California's Director of Bird Conservation for the National Audubon Society, and is based in Marin County. He is the author of the Audubon's "California Important Bird Areas Report", an effort to map and analyze areas of the state most critical for maintaining the state's bird life. A lifelong California birder and naturalist, Dan came to Audubon with a strong background in conservation biology, having conducted fieldwork throughout the U.S. and Latin America. After receiving his B.A. from Harvard University (Biology), he went on to complete a M.S. at the University of California, Riverside, where he studied the effects of urbanization on the distribution of birds in the Los Angeles basin. His research has appeared in several journals including "Biological Conservation" and "Western Birds".

Birds and Evolution in the Galapagos Islands

by Ted Cheeseman

Thursday, December 12th, 2002

The Galapagos Islands deserve every bit of their world renown as a living evolutionary laboratory. In a slide show rich with animal behavior, Ted Cheeseman, ecologist and photographer, will illustrate the families that thrive in these Islas

Monthly Meetings

San Mateo Garden Center

605 Parkside Way, San Mateo

Parkside Way is west of Alameda de las Pulgas, between 26th and 28th Avenues.

Encantadas'. This young volcanic archipelago exploded from the ocean less than 10 million years ago. Life was quick to colonize and continues to adapt creatively to the unique conditions the islands present. Over one third of the birds of the Galapagos are found nowhere else in the world. In his presentation, Ted Cheeseman will discuss how this came to be, showing all new images from the tour he led in June of this year.

Note: December 12, 2002 meeting is Christmas Potluck.

California Hummingbirds and what's a Rufous/Allen's?

by Les Chibana

Thursday January 9th, 2003



This presentation is a review of the hummingbirds regularly seen in the state and the challenges in identification of Rufous and Allen's Hummingbirds; it will also review local distribution information. Les Chibana has been a birding instructor at the Palo Alto Adult School for over 8 years. His 25+ years of birding avocation has been enhanced by 9 years of migrant bird banding in Alviso. Recently, his bird guiding and field trip business, BirdNutz, has taken flight, providing birders the opportunities to discover the joys of Bay Area's exceptional birding areas. Visit the BirdNutz website www.birdnutz.com to see what birding trips are hatching.

(Continued from page 1)

Only the passage of time will tell us whether National will survive its chapter de-emphasis and magazine cutback. I am not optimistic.



FIELD TRIPS

BY CAROL MASTERSON

Sea Cloud Park, Foster City

Saturday, October 12, 8:45 AM

This trip is designed for beginning birders and those with young families. We have binoculars to share. We will help you to identify birds and try to answer all your birding questions. **Directions:** Sea Cloud Park in Foster City is reached by taking Hillsdale Ave. east from Hwy. 101 and making a right turn on Edgewater Blvd. then go 1.3 miles to Pitcarin Drive and turn left. Look for the park entrance on the right. Meet at the far end of the parking lot at 8:45 AM.

Leader: Leslie Flint 650-573-6279.

Beginner/Family Trip

Elkhorn Slough, Moss Landing, Monterey Bay Area

Sunday, October 13, 9:00 AM

Join us on this docent lead field trip to an area that is a bird "magnet". This area is a prime spot to see wintering waterfowl and shore birds. The reserve has varied habitat, including marsh, coastal scrub & woodlands. There is a rookery with Great Egrets and Great Blue Herons. Meet at 9:00 AM at the Visitor Center. There is a \$2.50 fee. Dress in layers for warm or cool weather. **Directions:** From Hwy. 1, turn east on Dolan Road at the huge power plant in Moss Beach. Go 3.6 miles east on Dolan Road and turn left at Elkhorn Road. (Dolan Road merges with Castroville Blvd.) Go 2 miles north on Elkhorn Road to the reserve entrance on left.

Call Carol Masterson at 650-347-1769

Birding at the Filoli Estate

Saturday, October 19, 8:30 AM

The Filoli Estate is the property of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. We have been invited for a morning of birding at this beautiful site on the edge of the San Francisco watershed land. The grounds of Filoli have a nicely planted garden surrounded by large oaks and trails leading to riparian, redwood and farm habitats. Over 96 species of birds have been found here. Reservations required because this trip is limited to 20 people maximum (Sorry no children under 14.) No food or picnicking is allowed but all will be welcome after the walk to

buy light food and beverages at the Café and visit the gift shop. **Directions:** Take Hwy. 280 to the Edgewood Road exit go west. Turn right/north on Canada Road and drive approximately half mile to the entrance of Filoli. We will meet in front of the Visitors Center. If you want to remain after the field trip to walk through the house or the gardens, there will be a \$10.00 entrance fee. Heavy Rain Cancels. **Call** Carol Masterson at 650-347-1769 to reserve your spot.

Leaders: Sue James and Donna Petersen

Bird Banding Demonstration, Coyote Creek Field Station

Wednesday, October 23, 7:30 AM

Staff members of the San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory will take us on a tour of the banding station to see banding in process. Come along and learn how birds are caught and banded. You may even get the chance to hold and release a bird! Reservations required.

Call Carol Masterson at 650-347-1769

Bikes, Birds, And Feral Cats

Saturday, October 26, 9:00 AM

Join Pete for a fun bike trip around Foster city visiting bird haunts and sites where feral cats hang out. Learn how feral cats are endangering Burrowing Owls and other ground nesting birds. Get out and enjoy a bike ride and a day in the Sun.

Directions: Hwy. 101 to the Third Ave. exit. Go east on Third Ave. to where it meets Mariner Island Blvd, turn into the golf course parking lot. Park and meet at 9:00 AM near the entrance to the golf course parking lot (nearest to Third Ave.) bring your bike and fluids.

Leader: Pete Popin 800-486-8300 x205

Edgewood Park, Redwood City

Sunday, October 27, 8:00 AM

Warblers, sparrows, hawks, thrushes and more are all possible. Starting at 8 AM to increase your chances of seeing the resident and migratory species at Edgewood Park as we head into fall. Meet in the parking lot adjacent to the Day Camp area. **Directions:** The Edgewood Park entrance is east of Hwy. 280 on Edgewood Road in Redwood City. Remember, Daylight savings is over, so set your clock back one hour. **Leader:** Lee Franks

Upcoming Field Trips

(Continued from page 1)

Saturday 30th

Jasper Ridge and Searsville Lake

December

Saturday 7th

Pre Christmas Count Walk #1

Saturday 14th

Christmas Count Crystal Springs

Saturday 28th

Pre Christmas Count Walk #2

Sunday 29th Edgewood Park

January

Saturday 4th

Christmas Count - Año Nuevo

Saturday 11th

Wavecrest Raptors & Short-eared Owls

Saturday 18th Redwood Shores

Saturday 25th Sea Cloud Park

Sunday 26th Edgewood Park

Beginner/Family Trip

Check the field trip descriptions for any special information or requirements. Late comers may be disappointed. For all field trips bring your binoculars, water, wear sturdy walking shoes or boots, sun block, hat, and always dress in layers for hot sunny weather to cool windy conditions. While we will attempt to stay on schedule, circumstances may dictate changes to field trip leaders, dates or times. For the latest schedule and updates always go to the Sequoia Audubon web site, contact the trip leader, or call **Carol at 650-347-1769**

Volunteers Needed

with Microsoft Excel to prepare the customer lists for

Sequoia Audubon's birdseed sales.

The spreadsheets are already formatted. Sales are three times per year, but you needn't do all of them. Entering data may take a few hours. No contact with the actual birdseed is required.

Please contact Martha O'Neal Macho at moneal2000@aol.com or 650-692-8138.

(Continued from page 3)

Bair Island

Saturday, November 2, 9:00 AM

Come to Bair Island and see what wintering birds have arrived. Stroll alongside the pickleweed marsh and search for sparrows, look in the sky for raptors, and enjoy hearing of the progress of the restoration plan. Easy walking on flat trails. Come ready with all your birding questions. We have binoculars to share. **Directions:** 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 the frontage road traffic as you pull in. Meet at 9 AM by the refuge sign just inside the gate. There are no restroom facilities, so come prepared. **Leader:** Robin Smith 325-3360. **Beginner/Family Trip**

Pescadero Marsh

Saturday, November 9, 9:00 AM

Pescadero Marsh is one of the premier birding spots in the county. It is located on the Pacific Flyway and serves as an important stop-



Pescadero Marsh
Artist: Gina Kim

over point for migrant shorebirds, a wintering ground for waterfowl, and breeding ground for a variety of marsh birds. The weather may be cool or warm depending upon fog and wind conditions, so be prepared accordingly. Boots are recommended for wet conditions. Walking is relatively easy on level grades. **Directions:** Hwy 1 South. Meet at 9:00 AM at the parking lot opposite where Pescadero Road meets Hwy 1. **Leader:** Gary Deghi 650-726-1340

Arastradero Preserve

Sunday, November 10, 9:00 AM

With its grassy slopes, Oak trees, a pond and Chaparral, this is a very birdy place. Garth will introduce us to this beautiful preserve. **Directions:** Take Hwy 280 South to Page Mill Road exit, go West on Page Mill Rd. The first major intersection is Arastradero Road. Turn right, continue and look for the parking lot on your right. We will meet at 9:00 AM. **Leader:** Garth Harwood 650-879-0724

Coyote Point

Saturday, November 16, 9:30 AM

Fall and winter are great times to view birds at Coyote Point. The

wetland fronting San Francisco Bay attracts numerous shore birds. The trees and grassy areas also provide good birding.

Directions: Take 101 to the Peninsula Ave. exit in Burlingame. Go east following the signs to Coyote Point, meet in the parking lot behind the Yacht Club at 9:30 AM.

Leader: Sue Cossins 650-347-9358

Field Trip Leaders Needed

Do you have a favorite birding spot you would like to share with others? Volunteer to be a trip leader. You don't have to be an expert! It's fun, it's easy. Introduce new members to birding.

Call Carol Masterson 650-347-1769

Winter Birds and Sparrows, Palo Alto Duck Ponds

Wednesday, November 20, 9:00 AM

Come along on this midweek field trip to see which wintering birds and sparrows are at the Palo Alto Duck Ponds. This area has great fall and winter birding. This is home to the elusive Black Rail, Virginia Rail and Sora. We will especially be looking for sparrows and other winter time visitors. Don't miss this great midweek trip. **Directions:** Take Embarcadero Road exit in Palo Alto, go East past the airport. Make a left turn and follow the signs towards the Duck Pond. Continue past the Duck Pond and park to the right of the Lucy Evans Nature Interpretive Center. Meet at 9:00 AM.

Leader: Dan Keller 650-529-9088

Sacramento Wildlife Refuges

Saturday & Sunday, November 23 & 24, 9:00 AM

The Central Valley is considered to be the single most important wintering site for waterfowl in the Pacific Flyway. Come join us for a weekend of great birding at the Sacramento Refuge Complex. This area has freshwater marshes, riparian woodlands and valley grasslands. Some species we may see includes; White-faced Ibis, lots of ducks, White-fronted and Ross's Geese, hawks, sparrows, woodpeckers and more. We will travel in a car-caravan since walkers tend to disturb the wildlife in some areas. Motel reservations are advised. Willows and Williams have a good selection of motels in all price ranges. Camping is available at the Colusa-Sacramento River State Recreation Area in Colusa. Our precise itinerary will depend on where the birds are. Trip reservations are requested so we will know how many to expect. **Directions:** Take Hwy 80 North-East towards Sacramento, go North on Hwy 505 to meet Hwy 5 North towards Williams and Colusa. We will meet at the parking lot inside the entrance to the Sacramento National Wildlife Refuge at 9:00 AM Sharp.

Leaders: Joe & Martha O'Neal Macho 650-692-8138

Edgewood Park, Redwood City

Sunday, November 24, 8:00 AM

Come visit this unique habitat with oak woodland, grasslands and chaparral. Starting early will increase possible sightings of hawks, quail, towhees, juncos, thrushes, and woodpeckers.

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(Continued from page 4)

Come and join Lee Franks in the parking lot adjacent to the Day Camp area. **Directions:** The Edgewood Park entrance is East of Hwy 280 on Edgewood Road in Redwood City.

Leader: Lee Franks

Jasper Ridge and Searsville Lake

Saturday, November 30, 8:00 AM

Jasper Ridge Biological Preserve is a private biological reserve with many unique and diverse natural habitats. It is managed as a perpetual resource by Stanford University for research and advanced teaching. It is unique because of the lack of recent human impact. On our Docent lead tour we should see ducks, Kites, thrush, kinglets, woodpeckers as well as many other species. This tour has been arranged by the docents of Jasper Ridge. A \$5.00 preserve fee is charged (sorry no one under 14 years old). To decrease the impact to the environment we will need to carpool and stay together as a group once inside the preserve gate. Advance reservations are required.

Call Carol Masterson at 650-347-1769

Pre Christmas Count Walk #1

Saturday, December 7

Get prepared for the Christmas Count. Come and practice your skills. Beginners welcome. Site to be announced.

Call Carol Masterson at 650-347-1769

Christmas Count—Crystal Springs

Saturday, December 14

The Crystal Springs count is regularly one of the top ten for numbers of species identified. We need your help to exceed our count from last year. Some of the best birding you will do this year will be at the Christmas counts. Better yet sign up for both the Crystal Springs and the Año Nuevo counts.

Christmas Count Compiler: Al De Martini 650-345-6988

Pre Christmas Count Walk #2

Saturday, December 28

Get prepared for the Christmas count. Sharpen your skills. Site and leaders to be announced.

Call Carol Masterson at 650-347-1769

Edgewood Park, Redwood City

Sunday, December 29, 8:00 AM

Make this your New Years walk. Come and visit Edgewood Park for the last time in 2002. We should see wintering birds as well as year-round species. Heavy rain cancels. **Directions:** The Edgewood Park entrance is East of Hwy 280 on Edgewood Road in Redwood City. Meet in the parking lot adjacent to the Day Camp area. **Leader:** Lee Franks

Christmas Count—Año Nuevo

Saturday, January 4

Come and help us make this the biggest bird count ever... This count has the potential to match or exceed the Crystal Springs Count in species diversity and numbers of birds, but is traditionally under-reported due to the small number of participants.

Christmas Count Compiler: Al De Martini 650-345-6988

Wavecrest Raptors & Short-Eared Owls

Saturday, January 11, 3 PM - Sunset

The North Wavecrest area is considered by the Sequoia Audubon Society as the most important habitat for wintering raptors in San Mateo County, supporting a greater diversity of raptors and number of individuals than any other site. Possible development of Wavecrest Village in this area would destroy this unique habitat for raptors on the coast. We will expect to see Red-tailed and Red-shouldered hawks, Northern Harriers, White-tailed Kites, American Kestrels and we will make a special effort at dusk to see Short-eared Owls (a species of special concern) that winter here every year. If we are lucky we may see rarities such as Ferruginous Hawk or Rough-legged Hawk. **Directions:** Hwy 1 South of the intersection with Hwy 92. Turn right - West - on Wavecrest Road. Meet at the ball fields at the end of Wavecrest Road at 3:00 PM. **Leader:** Gary Deghi 650-726-1340

Redwood Shores

Saturday, January 18, 9:00 AM

There are sure to be lots of waterfowl and shorebirds on this trip. We'll start by viewing the water bird pond at the sewage treatment plant. We will also check a few other ponds in Redwood Shores that may turn up some rarities. **Directions:** Take Redwood Shores Parkway out almost to the end. Turn right at the SBSA sign on Radio Road. Follow it past the dog park to the driveway and park off the pavement. If you have a scope, bring it along. **Leader:** Sue Cossins 650-347-9358

Sea Cloud Park, Foster City

Saturday, January 25, 9:00 AM

This trip is designed for beginning birders and those with young families. During our walk we will be looking at wintering shorebirds and ducks. We have binoculars to share. We will help you to identify birds and try to answer all your birding questions.

Directions: Sea Cloud Park in Foster City is reached by taking Hillsdale Ave. east from Hwy. 101 and making a right turn on Edgewater Blvd. then go 1.3 miles to Pitcarin Drive and turn left. Look for the park entrance on the right. Meet at the far end of the parking lot at 8:45 AM.

Leader: Leslie Flint 650-573-6279. **Beginner/Family Trip**

Edgewood Park, Redwood City

Sunday, January 26, 8:00 AM

Winter birding will be in full swing for this trip. Some of the birds we will look for are Kites, Hawks, Sparrows, Warblers and Thrushes and Kinglets. Meet the **Leader:** in the parking lot adjacent to the Day Camp area. **Directions:** The Edgewood Park entrance is East of Hwy 280 on Edgewood Road in Redwood City. **Leader:** Lee Franks

OTHER BIRDING ACTIVITIES

(Sequoia Audubon does not sponsor the following activities)

Farallon Islands/Natural History Cruise October 6, 8:00-4:00
Hundreds of sea birds overhead, Whales and dolphins playing in the water. This pelagic trip is organized by the non-profit Oceanic Society of San Francisco. \$69. Reservations required. (415) 474-3385. Tell them you are with the Sequoia Audubon group.

(Continued on page 7)

FROM AUDUBON CANYON RANCH

BY BETSY STAFFORD

We hope you can join us for one of our golden fall days at either Bolinas Lagoon Preserve in West Marin or Bouverie Preserve in Sonoma's Valley of the Moon. At Bouverie, we offer Guided Nature Walks (Oct. 19, Nov. 9, and Dec. 7), and Resource Management Days (Oct. 28, Nov. 18, and Dec. 16) - please call 707-938-4554 for more info. At Bolinas Lagoon, we hope you can join us for our popular Fall Workday and luscious free lunch (Saturday, Nov. 9) - please call 415-868-9244 to sign up.

Back by popular demand is our delightful morning "Under the Heronry" with our former resident biologist, Ray Peterson, on Saturday October 26, 9:30am. This very special place is open to the public only once a year... and you won't believe what you see and hear! Free, but please call 415-868-9244 to register. Space is limited.

While our two teaching preserves are happily busy in classrooms and on the trails with Bay Area schoolchildren this fall, ACR's exciting research program is well underway at Bouverie. Under the guidance of Dr. Dan Gluesenkamp, we are mapping Bouverie with a global positioning system, studying the burgeoning turkey population there, developing

Spring 2003 BIRDSEED SALE ORDER FORM

All Orders With Payment Must Be Received By Thursday, January 16, 2003

Proceeds support local Audubon conservation programs

Pickup dates will be within 2 weeks of January 16th

Confirmation and details will be sent via e-mail or US postal mail



Check Preferred pickup location below:

Half Moon Bay ☐ Burlingame ☐ San Carlos ☐ Pacifica ☐ San Mateo ☐ Atherton ☐

		Number of Bags	Cost in \$
AUDUBON WILD BIRD MIX <i>red & white millet plus black oil sunflower</i>	20 lb @ \$11.00/bag		
Red/White Millet Mix	20 lb @ \$11.00/bag		
Black Oil Sunflower.	25 lb @ \$12.50/bag		
White Proso Millet	25 lb @ \$11.00/bag		
Thistle	5 lb @ \$8.00/bag		
Thistle	20 lb @ \$30.00		
Sunflower Chips	25 lb @ \$26.00/bag		
Total birdseed purchases (sales tax is included in all prices above)			
Tax-deductible contribution to Sequoia Audubon Society (Thank You!)			
Amount of enclosed check (payable to Sequoia Audubon Society)			

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 755, Millbrae, CA 94030-0755 (650) 349-1555 (Iona Luke)

Email: Moneal2000@AOL.com

Name _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

The Next Seed Sale Will Be April 2003

a grassland management plan, conducting invasive-weed control, and investigating the effects of Sudden Oak Death. We look forward to including volunteer assistance in these projects and working this research arm of ACR into our education programs.

OTHER BIRDING ACTIVITIES

(Sequoia Audubon does not sponsor the following activities)

(Continued from page 5)

Sandhill Crane Festival, Lodi, Ca. November 8 & 9
There will be nature tours, wildlife demos, workshops, family

activities, art show and more.

Call (209) 367-7840 or www.lodichamber.com/cranefestival.html

Central Valley Birding Symposium November 21-24
Field trips, speakers, workshops, and a "Birder's Market" with vendors and artists selling birding related items. Activities and classes for beginners as well as advanced birders.
<http://cvbs.org>

Morro Bay Winter Bird Festival January 17-20
Family/Beginner
Field trips, speakers, exhibits and pelagic trips.
Call 1-800-231-0592 or www.morro-bay.net/birds

The 2002 Christmas Bird Counts

Compiler: Al De Martini

Sign up today by calling Al at 650-345-6988 or emailing to Al_DeMar@yahoo.com

Come join the large group of counters for fun and great birding. The Christmas count is done every year to record as many individuals and different species in one day as possible. This year the Christmas Counts are scheduled for:

Crystal Springs Counts — Saturday, December 14, 2002

Año Nuevo Counts — Saturday, January 4, 2003



We will break into teams counting birds on the coast side, hills or bay side. After the count everyone gathers to tally the results and enjoy a compilation dinner. We also need feeder watchers to count birds at their home feeders for a period of time in December.

Counters with all levels of experience are welcome. For beginning birders, this is a great opportunity to gain experience working with the old pros.

Come practice your skills with us at the two Pre-Christmas Count walks (for the Pre-Christmas Count walks contact Carol 650-347-1769 or carolmasterson@netzero.net):

1. Pre-Christmas Count Walk #1: Saturday December 7
2. Pre-Christmas Count Walk #2: Saturday December 28

When you sign up for the Christmas Count walks, please let us know your phone number, e-mail address, experience and whether you'd prefer counting on the bay side or coast side. Be prepared to spend the day looking for birds, rain or shine.

Each count costs \$5 to cover the cost of publishing the CBC results. Be sure to sign up for the informal compilation dinner. For a mere \$5 enjoy tasty warm food and lively stories about the counts. Reservations requested so we can plan accordingly.

In addition to contributing to compilation of important information about the birds of San Mateo County, **the Christmas Bird Counts will be some of the best birding you will do for the year!**

SAS appreciates your tax-deductible donations which help fund the Chapter's education, conservation and ongoing activities

SEND TO:

Sequoia Audubon Society

PO Box 755

Millbrae

CA 94030-0755

Name

Address

Email Address

Amount

Thank You!

Sequoia Audubon Society

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MARIAN LOCKWOOD DONATION

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT BY SUE COSSINS

Sequoia Audubon Society recently received a generous donation from the estate of Marian Lockwood, who passed away in May 2002 at the age of 88, in Altadena, CA.

Ms. Lockwood was once conservation chair of SAS. She was also active in other Bay Area environmental organizations including the Sierra Club, Save the Bay, Citizens Committee to Establish San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge, and the Menlo Park Garden Club.



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Christmas Bird Counts**
For details, see page 7

NEXT ISSUE OF NEEDLES

EDITORS

The next issue of Needles will be published in **February**. Please do keep this issue for activities and meetings during October, November, December, and January including the Christmas Counts. For updates please visit our website at <http://www.sequoia-audubon.org/>

At this time, we are also considering publishing Needles on a bimonthly basis. Tentatively, there will be 5 issues published in September, November, February, April, and June.



Blackburnian Warbler

THE BIRD BOX
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ALERT
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Mission Statement

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.