

SEQUOIA NEEDLES

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

*Volume 53, No. 5
June-August 2003*

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Birding and Students; Birding Arizona

BY MARTHA O'NEAL MACHO

While Sequoia Audubon awaits a specialized education committee, we continue to encourage students in the science and enjoyment of birding. This year we gave awards to two students at the San Mateo County Science Fair. Leslie Flint of our Conservation Committee presented the awards on our behalf. Please see Robin Smith's related article in this issue. We also participated in the George Hall Elementary School Science Night in San Mateo, where we had a trial run of our Spanish coloring book of local birds that produced some colorful variations on the plumage, and in the Environmental Careers and Clubs day held at Coyote Point Museum. If you would like to organize our education committee and help bring our message of birds and conservation to a wider group of young people, please let me know.

Separately, Joe and I drove to southeast Arizona in late April to catch some sunshine and a change of avifauna.

Although we usually don't chase rarities, between the reports of Tucson Audubon and fellow birders, we were swept up in the excitement. Last year, we neglected the Flame-colored Tanager in Miller Canyon and regretted that later; this year, we couldn't pass up the opportunity - Success! Then we birded Buff-breasted Flycatchers at Sawmill Canyon (not really a rarity, I guess, but new to us), the Black-capped

Gnatcatchers at Patagonia Lake, with a photographer at the nesting site to point them out, and the Crescent-chested Warbler in Madera Canyon. Great birding area!

2003 SAN MATEO COUNTY SCIENCE FAIR AWARDS

BY ROBIN SMITH

Sequoia Audubon presented two awards in February to students for their Science Fair Projects.

Danielle Siegel of Notre Dame Elementary in Belmont with her project "How Are Animals' Fur And Feathers Affected By Oil" provided a good analysis of what happens in oil spills and the devastating affects on birds that follow. Her nice report showed lots of background reading.

Gina Dettmer of Lipman Middle School in Brisbane studied "Shorebirds Of Brisbane Lagoon." Her project covered the correlation between exposed mud and the worms and mollusks found there and birds feeding on them. Very good observation skills were required for this project.

Congratulations to the winners of Sequoia Audubon's Science Fair Awards!



The Egrets Are Coming! The Egrets Are Coming!

Will you be there to meet them?

Come one! Come all!
**Be a greeter for a day at the
Audubon Canyon Ranch.**

It's fun and it's easy.

Hours 9:30 to 4:00
Our dates to host are:
6/14 & 15, and 7/13.

Call Shirley Carpenter
650-343-4433
for more information and maps.

Monthly Meetings

San Mateo Garden Center
(See program details on page 2)

June

Thursday, 12th, 6:30PM

Program: Natural History of Kenya and Tanzania

June meeting is a potluck dinner; see details on page 8.

Upcoming Field Trips

(See trip details on page 3)

June

Sunday 1st Peninsula Humane Society Wildlife Center

Weekend 7th-8th

Yuba Pass & Sierra Valley

Sunday, 8th Redwood Shores*

Saturday 14th

Presidio Bird Hike & Quail Watch

Saturday 21st

Burrowing Owls, Mountain View

Sunday, 29th Edgewood Park

July

Sunday, 13th Redwood Shores*

Weekend 11th-14th

Audubon - Kern River Preserve

Sunday, 27th Edgewood Park

August

Friday, 8th

Monterey Bay Pelagic Trip

Sunday, 10th Redwood Shores*

*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.

(Continued on page 3)

Sequoia Audubon Society

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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

Natural History Tour Of Kenya And Tanzania

by Bob and Sue Cossins
Thursday, June 12th, 2003

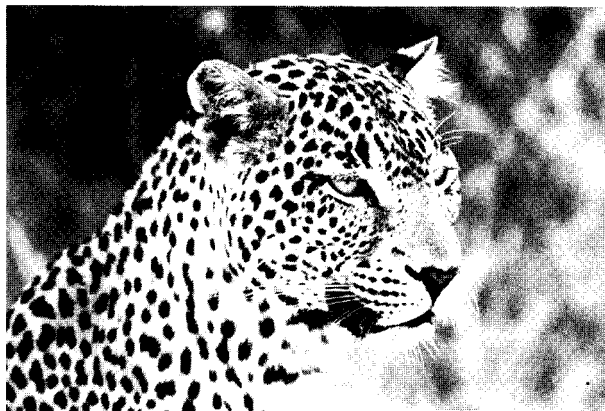


Photo by Sue & Bob Cossins

Join SAS members, Bob and Sue Cossins in reliving scenes of their recent trip to East Africa. Some of the areas visited include Tarangire National Park, Lake Manyara National Park, Ngorongoro Crater, Olduvai Gorge, Serengeti Plains, Samburu Game Reserve, and Nakuru National Park.

Check www.sequoia-audubon.org for a sneak peek at the program.

MY FIRST CHRISTMAS COUNT

BY TERI TITH

As we gathered at the appointed hour of six in the back room of a church in Pescadero, we were immediately met with warmth, both temperate and human. This was the culmination of the 103rd Christmas Bird Count.

For some, the owlers, the day began before sunup. As a group we looked a bit scruffy, like we were there for a soup line rather than a meal and a grand finale to a rigorous day of binoculars and checklists.

The energy in the room was focused on the tallying of the lists and counts, and the

spontaneous sharing of special sightings of rare birds being recorded for this particular circle, the 15-miles in diameter area that designated our official count at Año Nuevo.

A buzz was going around our table at the rare sightings of the prehistoric-looking Pileated Woodpecker recorded by more than one group, and the only sighting of the Ferruginous Hawk. Our fellow birders assured us that their positive identification was made by noting "three distinct markings" and were being dutifully recorded in special addendum.

There were four first timers in the room, but you couldn't pick them out in the crowd. The genuine enthusiasm in a shared interest seemed to forge a

common bond between strangers and friends alike. After fortification of our mood by food and drink, our master of the count began "the count

down."

The name of each species was read aloud from the checklist - some 300 birds - and was answered in a chorus of "yes" by all who had it on their list. The Red Crossbill extracted "ooouhs" and "ahhhhs" from the crowd, perhaps not a rare bird, but rare according to the history of the Año Nuevo circle and its particular combination of coastal-chaparral-redwood forest habitat.

A total of 176 different birds were recorded, plus two species not on the official list - the Blue-Gray Gnatcatcher and the Yellow-Bellied Sapsucker - two feathers in the cap for this Audubon chapter and bragging rights until next year. If you are interested in checking the data for Christmas Bird Counts around the country, or even the historical data for one particular circle, visit www.birdsource.org maintained by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology.



FIELD TRIPS

BY CAROL MASTERSON

Yuba Pass & Sierra Valley Weekend Saturday - Sunday, June 7-8

On Saturday, we will meet at 8:30 AM at the Yuba Pass summit parking lot on Hwy 49 (east of Sierra City). Take I-80 to Truckee. Go north on Hwy 89 to Sier-raville and take Hwy 49 west about 19 miles to Yuba Pass summit. (Or take Hwy 49 northeast from Auburn for a slower but more scenic route.) We will bird the mountain areas for summer residents including Dippers, Flycatchers, Warblers and Calliope Hummingbirds. On Sunday, we will meet at 8 AM at the Yuba Pass summit parking area on Hwy 49. We will caravan to Sierra Valley, looking for birds of the eastern Sierra, including White-faced Ibis, Vesper Sparrow and Lewis's Woodpeckers. Camping is available at these US Forest Service Campgrounds off Hwy 49: Wild Plum (elev. 3000 ft) 2 miles east of Sierra City, Chapman Creek (elev. 5800 ft) 8 miles east of Sierra City and at the summit of Yuba Pass (elev. 6701). Lodging is available at Buttes Resort and Buckhorn Lodge 530-862-1170, Herrington's Sierra Pines 530-862-1151, Bassett's Station Motel 530-862-1297, Sierra Buttes Inn Motel 530-862-1191, Yuba River Inn 530-862-1122, Bush & Herringbone County Inn 530-862-1501. Check for directions when you make your reservations. Make reservations as soon as possible for other Audubon groups will likely be birding this weekend. Please let us know if you plan to attend.

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

Redwood Shores

Sunday, June 8, 9:00 AM (2nd Sunday of each month)

Visit two very special "duck pond" sites in the Shores. One is a known tern rookery, the other is over by the doggie park and is usually packed with shorebirds and waterfowl, depending on the time of year. **Directions:** Meet at 9:00 AM in the parking lot at Marine World Pkwy and Island Dr. (near two tennis courts). We'll then proceed by caravan/car to the two spots. Nice and short, no hills; you could almost do this one from the car! Only heavy rain cancels.

Leader: Teri Tith 650-637-1662
Beginner/Family Trip

San Francisco Presidio Bird Hike & Quail Watch

Saturday, June 14, 8:30 AM

Alan Hopkins will lead this trip looking for the elusive Quail and other resident and vagrant birds in San Francisco. Our California State bird is nearly gone. Learn about how Alan and the "Save the Quail" campaign are helping to preserve the Quail in San Francisco. Meet at the Baker Beach parking lot at 8:30 AM. We will visit many of the Presidio's diverse birding habitats on foot. We will start at Baker Beach and then check Lobos Dunes, Quail Commons, Presidio Hills, Mountain Lake, Inspiration Point and Tennessee Hollow Watershed. Walking about 3.5 miles roundtrip. We will watch for banded California Quail to collect information for the Presidio's quail monitoring program. We will then carpool to Crissy Field for lunch and birding at the marsh. Bring sturdy footwear, fluids, snacks and a lunch. Dress in layers for warm to cool and windy weather.

Directions: North on Hwy 280 exit to Hwy 1 and 19th Ave toward Marin. Continue north, after about 4 miles Hwy 1 enters Golden Gate Park. From the left lane, turn left onto Cross Over Dr.; as Cross Over Dr. leaves the park it becomes 25th Ave.; follow 25th Ave 8 blocks. At the intersection of El Camino Del Mar/Lincoln Blvd. (not Way) turn right into the Presidio. After entering the Presidio turn left on Bowley to Baker Beach.

Leader: Alan Hopkins 415-664-0983.

Burrowing Owls At Shoreline Park, Mountain View

Saturday, June 21, 9:00 AM

Professor Lynne Trulio from San Jose State is an expert in Burrowing Owls. She has been studying the bay salt marshes and the fascinating little owls. The Burrowing Owl is the only owl that lives and nests underground. Use of pesticides, loss of habitat and predation by feral cats and other predators have greatly decreased the populations of Western Burrowing Owls. It is a species of special concern in California. We will look for the owls along

Upcoming Field Trips

(Continued from page 1)

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

San Francisco State U. Sierra Nevada Field Campus Yuba Pass Program

The summer program offers several classes on ecological field methods, conservation and ecology of bats, birds, bird song and bird banding, flora, fungi, butterflies, insects, mammals, spiders and even a fly-fishing class from the local expert. For dates visit the web site at their new address

<http://www.sfsu.edu/~sierra/courses.htm>.

For registration materials email the Director, James A. (Jim) Steele at jsteele@sfsu.edu or call 650-738-1814.

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the bay shoreline and hope to see them at their burrows with chicks. **Directions:** 101 South to Shoreline Blvd North towards the bay. Go through the park entrance gate and turn left into the first parking area. Bring fluids and snacks, dress in layers for warm to cool and windy weather. Heavy rain cancels. **Leader:** Lynne Trulio.

Information: call Carol Masterson 650-347-1769.

Edgewood Park

Sunday, June 29, 8:00 AM

Summer 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. Meet at 8:00 AM sharp in the parking lot adjacent to the Day Camp area.

Leader: Teri Tith 650-637-1662

Redwood Shores

Sunday, July 13, 9:00 Am

See Redwood Shores June 8.

Audubon - Kern River Preserve Long Weekend Trip

Friday To Monday July 11 - 14

See article on the right column of this page.

Leader: Bob Barnes, the Outreach Director at the Audubon California's Kern River Preserve.

Information: <http://www.kernriverpreserve.org> or call Carol Masterson 650-347-1769.

Edgewood Park

Sunday, July 27, 8:00 AM

Summer at Edgewood Park has some of the best birding around. We will look for hummingbirds, flycatchers swallows, warblers and sparrows. Join leader Lee Franks for summertime walk in the oaks and grasslands of this rich park. **Directions:** The Edgewood Park entrance is East of Hwy 280 on Edgewood Road in Redwood City. Meet at 8:00 AM sharp in the parking lot adjacent to the day camp area.

Leader: Lee Franks 650-592-7733

Monterey Bay Pelagic Trip With Shearwater Journeys

Friday, August 8

This fun all day pelagic trip is organized by Debra Love Shearwater an expert in seabird identification. This is an excellent time of year to see Southern Hemisphere seabird rarities with possible sightings of Black-footed Albatross, Laysans, Short-tailed Albatross, and Bulwer's Petrel. This is also a good time for Terns and Long-tailed Jaegers. We will also be on the lookout for Blue Whales and other marine mammals. The cost is \$80. Deadline for this discounted pelagic trip is June 1, after June 1 the price is \$115. **Reservations:** send a check or money order to Shearwater Journeys, PO Box 190, Hollister, CA 95024. Mention that you are with Sequoia Audubon. This discounted rate is **non-refundable**.

Information: call Carol Masterson 650-347-1769

Redwood Shores

Sunday, August 10, 9:00 AM

See Redwood Shores June 8.

KERN RIVER PRESERVE TRIP, 2003

BY CAROL MASTERSON

This will be an amazing trip that should reward us with a great bird list and beautiful scenery. The wildlife resources at the Kern River area are unparalleled anywhere else in North America. The Audubon-California Kern River Preserve has been designated a Globally Important Bird Area. Within an eighteen mile radius of a single point, nationally significant 197 nesting species (among a total of 340 species) have been recorded. In the larger surrounding area, the largest mammal list in the United States (115 species) for an area its size, and impressive butterfly (150+) and plant (2000+ species) occurrences are found. This should be a great trip. Diverse habitats include valley grassland, chaparral, great-basin, desert oasis and scrub, and Sierran forest including Giant Sequoia groves. This area is featured in the April, 2003 issue of *Birding*, the flagship magazine of the American Birding Association.

Friday, July 11 - Desert and Great Basin montane habitat: Our long weekend will start Friday looking for Ladder-backed Woodpecker, Cactus Wren, Black-throated Sparrow, Scott's Oriole, Blue Grouse, Williamson's Sapsucker, Plumbeous Vireo, Pinyin Jay, Red Crossbill and Hummingbirds.

Saturday, July 12 - Kern River Preserve and Mountains: Saturday targets will be Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Willow & Brown-crested Flycatcher, Yellow-breasted Chat, Tricolored Blackbird, Summer Tanager, Indigo Bunting and Lawrence's Goldfinch.

Sunday, July 13 - Mojave Desert, Kern River Preserve and Mountains: Today we will have a second chance for any target birds we missed on Friday and Saturday.

Monday July 14 - Depending upon the first three day's results, we will spend the last half day plus at the Kern River Preserve and nearby desert habitat or in west side montane habitat looking for Black Swift, White-headed Woodpecker, Hermit Warbler, Black-chinned Sparrow..

Our guide will be Bob Barnes the Outreach Director at the Audubon-California's Kern River Preserve. Bob has led over **two hundred** Kern River/southern Sierra field trips over the last twenty-five years. He has more experience finding the birds of the area than anyone else alive. Moreover, he birds the area formally or casually every day of the year. He loves sharing the area with others.

The preserve is a 5.5-7 hour drive from the Bay Area and about 1.25-1.5 hours east of Bakersfield. Plan to arrive on Thursday and depart on Monday PM. The full four day trip is necessary to see most of the species. If you are limited for time you can join us for Saturday and Sunday only.

(Continued on page 5)

TITMICE FLEDGLINGS

BY LEE FRANKS

This is what a nest box full of ready to fledge Oak Titmouse looks like.

Now for the quiz:

How many birds in this clutch?

Answer: Ask Lee Franks or see next issue of *Needles*.

Photo by Lee Franks



FROM AUDUBON CANYON RANCH

BY BETSY STAFFORD

Bolinas Lagoon Preserve

Only a few weekends are left before our Bolinas Lagoon Preserve closes its gates to this year's public season on July 13. So many small miracles await your senses there: a view, perhaps, of Great Egret siblings vying over a meal of fish, the chortles of Snowy Egrets in the Redwoods or Red-winged Blackbirds in the ponds, the scurrying of newt and damselfly larvae in buckets of pond water, or the soft touch of hazel-nut leaves and Old-Man's Beard lichen along the Preserve's eight miles of trails.

Whether you come as one of our special Chapter Weekend Hosts or as a member of the public, enthusiastic Ranch Guide volunteers will welcome you and share their love and knowledge of the Preserve's wonders with you. On Saturdays, Sundays, and Holidays, the preserve is open 10:00 am - 4:00 pm; on weekdays it's open only to school groups and the public by appointment. Call 415-868-9244 for more information.

We Celebrate Our Volunteers

In the time between March's vernal equinox and June's summer solstice, ACR will be the grateful recipient of over 6000 hours of volunteer work in the education and research programs at our three preserves - including Ranch Guides, Bolinas and Bouverie Preserves' School Docents, and Cypress Grove's many research associates. These remarkable volunteers have touched thousands of lives with their love and knowledge of

nature. If you can find time to share yourself and join a lively cadre of beginning-to-expert naturalists, please consider the following ways to volunteer at ACR:

- Docent - teaching schoolchildren in spring and fall. Next training programs: Bouverie Preserve, September 2003; Bolinas Lagoon Preserve, Fall 2004.
- Ranch Guide - interacting with the public on weekends during the public season. Next training: February and March 2004.
- Resource Management - joining weekend projects at Bolinas Lagoon Preserve.
- Research Projects - studying North Bay Herons and Egrets, Tomales Bay Shorebirds and Waterbirds.

For more information, visit our website at www.egret.org; or call the main office at 415-868-9244. We wish you happy summer days.

KERN RIVER PRESERVE

(Continued from page 4)

Reservations are required. Call Carol Masterson at 650-347-1769. Maximum number of participants is 20 and carpooling with 5-6 cars out in the field. A donation to Kern River Preserve of \$40 per person or \$60 per couple is requested (includes membership in National Audubon Society / Kern River Preserve).

You can find info about motels and camp grounds at <http://www.kernriverpreserve.org> or through the California AAA.

Christmas Bird Count Results - 2002

COMPILED BY AL DEMARTINI AND ROBIN SMITH

Species	CS	AN
Red-throated Loon	52	35
Pacific Loon	21	<u>8</u>
Common Loon	<u>7</u>	6
Pied-billed Grebe	108	15
Horned Grebe	63	3
Red-necked Grebe	0	1
Eared Grebe	33	6
Western Grebe	110	54
Clark's Grebe	33	2
Aechmophorus sp.	0	16
Northern Fulmar	63	11
Short-tailed Shearwater/	2	0
Sooty Shearwater		
Brown Pelican	412	406
Brandt's Cormorant	<u>11</u>	85
Double-crested Cormorant	1,026	16
Pelagic Cormorant	<u>6</u>	94
Great Blue Heron	21	18
Great Egret	54	8
Snowy Egret	251	25
Green Heron	1	3
Black-crowned Night-Heron	20	<u>2</u>
Turkey Vulture	38	60
Greater White-fronted Goose	1	0
Canada Goose	572	0
Wood Duck	2	10
Gadwall	244	24
Eurasian Wigeon	1	1
American Wigeon	<u>122</u>	22
Mallard	615	94
Blue-winged Teal	4	5
Cinnamon Teal	0	12
Northern Shoveler	119	56
Northern Pintail	<u>39</u>	3
American Green-winged Teal	10	53
Canvasback	<u>681</u>	0
Redhead	7	0
Ring-necked Duck	124	30
Tufted Duck	2	0
Greater Scaup	6,431	59
Lesser Scaup	307	16
Scaup sp.	8,630	0
Surf Scoter	546	172
White-winged Scoter	6	6
Black Scoter	4	4
Long-tailed Duck	1	
Bufflehead	1,043	108
Common Goldeneye	1,033	7
Barrow's Goldeneye	10	0

Species	CS	AN
Hooded Merganser	77	5
Common Merganser	2	4
Red-breasted Merganser	14	12
Ruddy Duck	<u>177</u>	<u>68</u>
Osprey	1	2
White-tailed Kite	30	40
Northern Harrier	32	29
Sharp-shinned Hawk	7	13
Cooper's Hawk	6	12
Small Accipiter sp.	1	0
Red-shouldered Hawk	21	27
Red-tailed Hawk	66	94
Ferruginous Hawk	0	2
Buteo sp.	1	0
Golden Eagle	0	2
American Kestrel	24	45
Merlin	5	4
Peregrine Falcon	5	1
Wild Turkey	0	3
California Quail	<u>84</u>	505
Clapper Rail	1	0
Virginia Rail	2	8
Sora	1	1
Common Moorhen	1	0
American Coot	1261	<u>73</u>
Black-bellied Plover	<u>21</u>	56
Pacific Golden-Plover	0	1
Snowy Plover	42	23
Semipalmated Plover	255	2
Killdeer	<u>64</u>	221
Black Oystercatcher	12	51
Black-necked Stilt	193	0
American Avocet	778	0
Greater Yellowlegs	37	22
Willet	2026	<u>18</u>
Spotted Sandpiper	5	0
Wandering Tattler	0	1
Whimbrel	40	75
Long-billed Curlew	11	1
Marbled Godwit	847	15
Ruddy Turnstone	<u>2</u>	1
Black Turnstone	54	93
Surfbird	8	41
Red Knot	4	1
Sanderling	296	201
Western Sandpiper	<u>614</u>	1
Least Sandpiper	366	6
Dunlin	<u>183</u>	1
Peep sp.	200	0

Species	CS	AN
Short-billed Dowitcher	68	0
Dowitcher sp.	275	0
Wilson's Snipe	1	1
Pomarine Jaeger	2	0
Bonaparte's Gull	13	5
Heermann's Gull	228	7
Mew Gull	200	76
Ring-billed Gull	1669	1
California Gull	6402	796
Herring Gull	<u>53</u>	608
Thayer's Gull	5	18
Western Gull	1,766	1,276
Glaucous-winged Gull	1075	705
Black-legged Kittiwake	1	0
Glaucous-wingedX Western Gull (hybrid)	2	1
Gull sp.	9360	680
Forster's Tern	266	0
Common Murre	98	249
Marbled Murrelet	4	3
Cassin's Auklet	6	0
Rhinoceros Auklet	8	0
Ancient Murrelet	0	1
Rock Dove	471	25
Band-tailed Pigeon	45	334
Mourning Dove	257	130
Barn Owl	4	6
Western Screech-Owl	1	2
Great Horned Owl	<u>6</u>	30
Burrowing Owl	1	0
Northern Pygmy-Owl	<u>0</u>	4
Northern Saw-whet Owl	2	6
Long-eared Owl	0	1
Short-eared Owl	<u>0</u>	1
White-throated Swift	1	1
Anna's Hummingbird	<u>57</u>	133
Belted Kingfisher	11	12
Acorn Woodpecker	38	121
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	0	3
Red-breasted Sapsucker	3	17
Nuttall's Woodpecker	15	3
Downy Woodpecker	9	24
Hairy Woodpecker	6	34
Northern (Red-shafted) Flicker	<u>50</u>	96
Pileated Woodpecker	0	10
"Western" Flycatcher	0	1
Black Phoebe	86	131
Say's Phoebe	9	23
Loggerhead Shrike	1	6
Hutton's Vireo	23	60
Steller's Jay	<u>57</u>	269

Species	CS	AN
Western Scrub-Jay	<u>67</u>	173
American Crow	60	0
Common Raven	482	374
Tree Swallow	0	3
Barn Swallow	0	2
Chestnut-backed Chickadee	<u>237</u>	889
Oak Titmouse	30	4
Bushtit	527	461
White-breasted Nuthatch	<u>1</u>	0
Red-breasted Nuthatch	0	4
Pygmy Nuthatch	47	116
Brown Creeper	15	54
Bewick's Wren	41	47
House Wren	1	3
Winter Wren	6	104
Marsh Wren	10	18
Wren sp.	0	6
American Dipper	0	3
Golden-crowned Kinglet	<u>6</u>	93
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	<u>121</u>	464
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher		1
Western Bluebird	<u>5</u>	33
Hermit Thrush	<u>22</u>	47
American Robin	612	583
Varied Thrush	142	189
Wrentit	<u>15</u>	174
Northern Mockingbird	8	3
California Thrasher	0	6
European Starling	<u>1,342</u>	1,392
American Pipit	51	36
Cedar Waxwing	196	90
Tennessee Warbler	1	0
Orange-crowned Warbler	5	13
Yellow-rumped Warbler	68	184
Audubon's	70	116
Myrtle	32	81
Townsend's Warbler	40	240
Hermit Warbler	0	3
Palm Warbler	3	0
Common Yellowthroat	<u>5</u>	37
Spotted Towhee	<u>27</u>	57
California Towhee	223	119
Savannah Sparrow	93	58
Fox Sparrow	54	62
(Red) Fox Sparrow	1	

MERLIN HAWK

BY GINA KIM



Original Artwork Titled: Merlin Hawk by Gina Kim
12.5" x 14"
watercolor and gouache
2003

Species	CS	AN
Song Sparrow	<u>70</u>	342
Lincoln's Sparrow	15	28
Swamp Sparrow		1
White-throated Sparrow	2	2
White-crowned Sparrow	631	708
Golden-crowned Sparrow	567	583
Dark-eyed (Oregon) Junco	702	<u>201</u>
Dark-eyed (Slate-colored) Junco		
	1	0
Sparrow sp.	0	3

Species	CS	AN
Red-winged Blackbird	<u>119</u>	1,338
Tricolored Blackbird	31	1,317
Western Meadowlark	226	327
Brewer's Blackbird	<u>714</u>	943
Brown-headed Cowbird	1	27
Blackbird sp.	0	600
Purple Finch	13	110
House Finch	<u>376</u>	313
Red Crossbill	0	13
Pine Siskin	17	381
Lesser Goldfinch	28	16
American Goldfinch	41	24
House Sparrow	57	113

High numbers or rare species in bold

Low numbers underlined and in italics

Miscellaneous Facts

Lowest Species Count - 1 - Prudhoe Bay, Alaska (129 Ravens)

Highest Species Count - US - 243 - Matagorda County, TX

All results preliminary until confirmed by Regional & National Editors

Number of species	177	176
Total Birds	<u>62023</u>	22981

96

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

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Photo by Sue & Bob Cossins

Grey Crowned Crane from Sue and Bob's Africa tour. Don't miss their presentation on June 12th, Thursday; details on page 2.

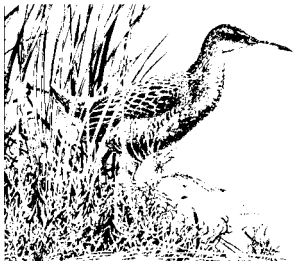
Mission Statement

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.

POT LUCK DINNER ON JUNE 12TH

The June 12th meeting is a potluck dinner starting at **6:30 PM**. Please bring a main dish, casserole or salad to share. Sequoia Audubon will provide coffee, tea and dessert. Please also bring your own utensils, plates, and cups.

The dinner will be followed by a presentation on Natural History Tour of Kenya and Tanzania by Sue and Bob Cossins. Please see the picture to the left and article on page 2.



THE BIRD BOX

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ALERT**

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Clapper Rail