

SEQUOIA NEEDLES

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

*Volume 54, No. 1
September-October 2003*

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Call It an Opportunity

BY MARTHA O'NEAL MACHO

Summer has brought with it a gathering of Sequoia Audubon Board and Committee persons not otherwise engaged in travel, weddings or outings with children. This year we sorted through tasks to determine which must be done for legal or administrative reasons, which are central – or not – to our mission, and those that need additional volunteer help. In this issue of Needles, we are posting a help wanted list with descriptions of available volunteer positions. As the descriptions are necessarily rather brief, we would welcome a phone call or email from you if you think you may be able to contribute some time, but aren't sure if this is the right position for you. (You can call either the number in the description or me, at 650-692-8138.) For example, I could give volunteers comprehensive training in managing our birdseed offerings; no lifting or carrying is required!

I suppose there must be many different reasons people volunteer their time. Personally, I enjoy the feeling of contributing to a beneficial organization, which in Sequoia Audubon's case includes arranging bird-related meetings, field trips, and conservation; in the past, I've volunteered for the S.F. Fine Arts Museums and the local chapter of my corporate taxation professional association, among other groups. I also enjoy the social aspects: our members are intelligent, pleasant and fun to know. **Please join us!**

Volunteer Opportunities at Sequoia Audubon

Please see page 7 for details on the many volunteering opportunities at Sequoia Audubon. Many can be done from the comforts of your home.

CHAMPION OF THE BAY

Audubon Society Honors 11 for Protecting Wetlands

Robin Smith of Sequoia Audubon is one of the 11 environmentalists who received the first Bay Champion Awards given by the National Audubon Society for work to save open water, preserve wetlands, protect wildlife, curtail pollution, and expand public access along the shoreline.

The other winners are Florence and Philip LaRiviere of the Citizens Committee to Complete the Refuge, Arthur Feinstein, Barbara Salzman and Craig Breon of local Audubon chapters, Marc Holmes of the Bay Institute and Bill Jennings, Leo O'Brien and David Yearsley of the Water-Keeper organization.

"I was thrilled to be included in such exalted company and very pleased to represent the many Sequoia Audubon members who have participated in our work on San Francisco Bay," said Robin Smith.

Congratulations Robin !

YUBA PASS & KERN RIVER TRIPS

BY SUE COSSINS

Yuba Pass Field Trip June 7 and June 8, 2003

Joe and Martha Macho lead this Sequoia Audubon field trip to Yuba Pass and Sierra Valley.

The woodpecker and sapsucker family was well represented with seven species. We had wonderful views of a male Black-backed Woodpecker excavating a nest cavity (see photo on page 2). We also got a long look at a male Williamson Sapsucker near his nest. All together, we saw approximately 78 bird species.

(Continued on page 2)

Monthly Meetings

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

September

Thursday, 11th, 7:30PM

Program: Birds and Bears of Churchill, Manitoba

October

Thursday, 9th, 7:30PM

Program: Birding Bosque Del Apache, New Mexico

Upcoming Field Trips

(See trip details on page 3)

September

Saturday 6th Bair Island*

Sunday, 14th Redwood Shores*

Saturday 20th

Fitzgerald Marine Reserve

Tuesday 23rd

Charleston Slough, Mountain View

Saturday 27th Palo Alto Baylands

Sunday, 28th Edgewood Park

October

Saturday, 4th

Don Edwards Refuge, Newark

Sunday, 5th

The San Francisco Coast trail*

Saturday, 18th Birding At Filoli

Thursday 23rd Windy Hill

Sunday, 26th Edgewood Park

November

Saturday 1st Bair Island*

Saturday 8th Pescadero Marsh

Saturday 15th

Año Nuevo State Reserve

Sunday, 16th Coyote Point

Saturday 22nd Sea Cloud Park

Saturday 22nd & Sunday 23rd

Sacramento Wildlife Refuges

Sunday, 30th Edgewood Park

(Continued on page 3)

Sequoia Audubon Society

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President

Martha O'Neal Macho 650-692-8138

Past President

Robin Smith 650-325-3306

Vice-President

Bill Bechtell 650-728-3946

Second Vice-President

Howard Rathlesberger 650-367-1296

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*Term ending

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Audubon Canyon Ranch Host

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Audubon Canyon Ranch

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Bluebird Recovery

Howard Rathlesberger 650-561-9532

Christmas Count

Al De Martini 650-345-6988

Conservation Rotating Chair

Call Robin Smith 650-325-3306

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OPEN

Field Trips

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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

Birds and Bears of Churchill, Manitoba

by Eleanor Briccetti

Thursday, September 11th, 2003

A recent fall trip to Churchill allowed Eleanor a chance to see polar bears up close in their harsh environment of the Arctic tundra. A return trip in spring produced photographs of nesting birds including Arctic Tern, American Golden Plover, Hudsonian Godwit, and Semipalmated Plover sitting on eggs in the midst of a snowstorm.

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.

Eleanor is a member of Bay Area Bird Photographers and Image Circle Photographers. Her works have been extensively displayed and also appear in such publications as "Birder's World", "Outdoor California Magazine", and "Bay Nature". Her passion for nature photography stems from a love of wildlife, the outdoors and bird watching. You can visit her website www.briccettiphoto.com.

Birding Bosque Del Apache

by John Cang

Thursday, October 9th, 2003

Bosque Del Apache, New Mexico is one of the most picturesque wildlife refuges in the West. Imagine the sight of thousands of Snow Geese and Sandhill Cranes filling the sky above Cottonwoods and flooded fields with mirror-like surfaces. Mix in the excitement of coyotes charging into flocks of waterfowl feeding between cornrows. Add mountains and colorful sunrise/sunset skies and you have the right composition for unsurpassed wildlife and scenic photography.

John Cang is a wildlife and nature photographer based in San Jose, CA. National Geographic, Sierra Club, and Nature Conservancy, among others, have published his photographs. John also enjoys teaching the art of nature photography through workshops, tours, and slide presentations.

A sample of John's work can be seen at his website www.johnncangphoto.com.

SEQUOIA AUDUBON TRIPS

(Continued from page 1)

Spring in the Sierras was spectacular – birds singing, wildflowers blooming, butterflies galore and the Yuba River rushing along, not too far from our balcony at Herrington's Sierra Pines Motel.



Photo by Bob Cossins

Kern River Preserve Field Trip

July 11-14, 2003

The Kern River Preserve is a hot spot in more ways than one. As the summer temperature rose to 108 degrees during the day, the 16 hearty Sequoia Audubon birders were high up in the cooler altitudes of the Southern Sierra Nevada. Some of the birds seen there were Calliope Hummingbirds at the Black Rock Ranger Station feeders and White-throated Swifts flying just over our heads atop Bald Mountain Lookout.

The preserve itself is a hot spot of bird activity. Although we only heard but didn't see the Yellow-billed Cuckoo, we got great looks at singing Blue Grosbeak, Western Kingbird and Common Yellowthroat (or Resplendent Yellowthroat as our host, Bob Barnes, would like to rename it). Two new birds for most of us were Le Conte's Thrasher and Lesser Nighthawk. All in all a great trip!



FIELD TRIPS

BY CAROL MASTERSON

Bair Island

Saturday, September 6, 9:00 AM

Visit one of the newer parts of the Don Edwards San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge. Find out from leader Robin Smith which unique birds live here and why Bair Island is such an important conservation area. Easy walking on flat trails.

Directions: Take Hwy 101 to Whipple Ave exit in Redwood City. Follow the frontage road around until you reach the National Wildlife Refuge parking lot on the right. We will meet here. There are no restroom facilities, so come prepared. Please call the leader to reserve your spot.

Leader: Robin Smith 650-325-3306.

Beginner/Family Trip

Redwood Shores

Sunday, September 14, 9:00 AM

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 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! Heavy rain cancels.

Leader: Teri Tith 650-341-7724.

Beginner/Family Trip

Fitzgerald Marine Reserve

Saturday, September 20, 7:00 AM

Join Alvaro Jaramillo, San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory bird biologist and professional bird tour leader, for a look at "Bird Migration on the Edge of the Continent." This is an important marine reserve along the California coast that attracts migrating birds. We will learn where the birds are coming from and where they are going to, as well as how to ID migrating birds. This trip is organized by the San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory (SFBBO). The trip is free to SFBBO members, and special discount donation fee \$5 for Sequoia Audubon members. Reservations Required.

Directions: Meet at the parking lot at

Fitzgerald Marine Reserve in Moss Beach. The parking lot is at the end of California Street off Hwy 1.

Reservations: Call Carol Masterson 650-347-1769.

Leader: Alvaro Jaramillo.

Charleston Slough, Mountain View

Tuesday, September 23, 9:00 AM

This area has some of the most varied shorebird and waterfowl wintering habitat in a small area. We will be looking for returning waterfowl, shorebirds, terns and skimmers. If we are really lucky we may see a Burrowing Owl, a Little Blue Heron or the elusive rail. Walking is easy along the top of flat levees. Dress in layers for warm to cool weather. Bring fluids and scopes if you have them. **Directions:** From Hwy 101, take San Antonio Road (North) exit; follow San Antonio Road until it makes a right angle turn and becomes Terminal Road. Stop and park as close to the intersection as possible.

Leader: Roy Carlson 650-595-2231.

Birding At Palo Alto Baylands by Canoe



Saturday, September 27, 9:00 AM

Get a different view of the birds at Baylands on this Save The Bay sponsored Canoe trip. The fall migration will be in full swing as we paddle around the marshes looking for migrants, waterbirds and shore birds. We can observe wildlife activity and learn about the area's ecology all from the water's edge. Our leaders for this fun trip will be Francis Toldi and Pete Popin, both great birders and good paddlers. Cost is \$40. Reservations required. **Reservations:** Call Save the Bay 510-452-9261.

Leaders: Francis Toldi And Pete Popin.

Edgewood Park Walk

Sunday, September 28, 8:00 AM

Birding should be great at Edgewood Park. Look for resident and migratory species as we head into fall. Starting at 8 AM increases the chance of seeing all the

Upcoming Field Trips

(Continued from page 1)

December

Sunday, 14th

Pre-Christmas Count Walk At Twin Pines Park, Belmont*

Saturday, 20th

Christmas Count-Crystal Springs

Sunday, 28th 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

Fall Birding Classes In San Francisco

Joe Morlan teaches his classes through City College of San Francisco. Beginning early September, all classes meet 7-9:15 p.m. in room 221, Marina Middle School, 3500 Fillmore at Bay St. Free parking is in the school lot off Bay St.

Field Ornithology I is an introduction to birds and birding. Field Ornithology II and III are a continuing and in-dept study of the identification and status of north American Birds. The instructor may arrange optional field trips on weekends.

For further information call (415) 561-1860.

Class dates, descriptions and costs are at

<http://fog.ccsf.org/~jmorlan/>

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interesting fall birds at Edgewood. **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: Teri Tith 650-341-7724.

**National Wildlife Refuge Centennial Finale, Don Edwards
Refuge Headquarters, Newark/Fremont**

Saturday, October 4

Plan to attend the Centennial Activities at the refuge in Newark. Take a once in a lifetime train ride to the old town of Drawbridge! Explore the salt marshes. Watch our website for further information.

Leader: Robin Smith 650-325-3306. **Beginner/Family Trip**

Birding Along The San Francisco Coast Trail

Sunday, October 5, 8:00 AM

Join master birder Alan Hopkins on this San Francisco coastal walk to see resident migrant land and sea birds. If there is a super rare bird somewhere else in San Francisco we can look for it too.

Directions: Take Hwy 280 to 19th Ave and Junipero Serra Blvd intersection. Go right on to Junipero Serra Blvd. Go 3 stop lights on Junipero Serra to a left hand turn lane. Turn left on to Sloat Blvd. Go west on Sloat to the Ocean. Turn right and go north on the Great Hwy that runs parallel to the ocean. Go past the Cliff House; park and meet near the corner of Merrie Way and Point Lobos Blvd. Wear comfortable walking/hiking shoes. Dress in layers for cold and windy weather. Bring fluids and snacks.

Leader: Alan Hopkins 415-664-0983.

Birding At Filoli

Saturday, October 18, 8:30 AM

Filoli is the property of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. We have been invited for a morning of birding at this beautiful estate on the edge of the San Francisco watershed. The grounds of Filoli have formal gardens 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; however, all are 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 Cañada Road and drive approx. ½ mile to the Filoli entrance. Meet in front of the Visitor Center. If you want to remain after the field trip to walk through the house and/or gardens, there will be a \$10.00 entrance fee. Heavy Rain Cancels.

Leaders: Sue James and Donna Petersen.

Reservations: Call Carol Masterson 650-347-1769.

Midweek Walk To Windy Hill

Thursday, October 23, 9:00 AM

Windy Hill Preserve is tucked between Skyline Blvd. and Portola Valley. This open space preserve has grassland and oak habitats. We should see a variety of fall birds and winter birds. Resident Downy and Hairy Woodpeckers, Nuthatches, hawks, Winter Wrens, Golden-crowned and Ruby-crowned Kinglets, thrushes, sparrows and even Red Crossbills are all possible. We will also look for ducks and the resident Great Blue Heron and Black-crowned Night Heron at the pond. We will meet at "lower" part of the preserve. Dress in layers for cool to warm weather and bring

fluids. **Directions:** Take Hwy 280 to the Sandhill Road Exit. Go west, the road becomes Portola Road. Drive about 3 miles (you will pass through the town of Portola Valley) and watch for a sign on the right hand side of the road for Windy Hill. We will meet in the parking lot.

Leader: Roy Carlson 650-595-2231

Edgewood Park

Sunday, October 26, 8:00 AM

Fall Migration should be in full swing. Visiting migrants and resident birds can be seen at this unique habitat. With grassland, oak woodland and chaparral we should see lots of birds. **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. **Note:** Daylight savings start today; set your clocks back 1 hour.

Leader: Lee Franks 650-592-7733

Bair Island

Saturday, November 1, 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, 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 Hwy 101 to Whipple Ave exit in Redwood City. Follow the frontage road around until you reach the National Wildlife Refuge parking lot on the right. We will meet here. There are no restroom facilities, so come prepared. Please call the leader to reserve your spot.

Leader: Robin Smith 650-325-3360. **Beginner/Family Trip**

Pescadero Marsh

Saturday, November 8, 9:00 AM

Pescadero Marsh is one of the premier birding spots in the country. It is located on the Pacific Flyway and serves as an important stop-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 the parking lot opposite where Pescadero Road meets Hwy 1.

Leader: Gary Deghi 650-726-1340.

Redwood Shores

Sunday, November 9, 9:00 AM

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! Heavy rain cancels.

Leader: Teri Tith 650-341-7724. **Beginner/Family Trip**

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Año Nuevo State Reserve

Saturday, November 15, 8:00 AM

Año Nuevo is one of the most picturesque and ecologically rich areas along the central California coast. The reserve is about 4,000 acres of coast beaches, marshes, rolling dunes with coastal scrub, grasslands and coastal mountain range. The reserve is famous for Elephant seals and sea lions that visit the beaches here. It is a great spot for wintertime birding. Along the shore we will look for sea and water birds such as loons, scoters, and lots of wading birds. We will look up in the sky for wintertime visiting hawks and raptors. And we will explore the reserve for resident, migrants, and possible visiting bird rarities.

Directions: Take Hwy 92 west to Hwy 1 in Half Moon Bay. Go across Hwy 1 at the light, and drive into the Safeway parking lot. We will meet to carpool at 8:00 AM sharp, at the southwest corner of the lot. Dress in layers for cold windy weather. Wear walking shoes and bring, fluids and snacks. Heavy rain cancels.

Leaders: Sue Cossins 650-347-9358,
Eileen Kay 650-592-4626 And Kay Partelow.

Coyote Point

Sunday, November 16, 9:00 AM

Fall and winter are great times to view birds at Coyote Point. The wetland fronting the 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. Tell the gatekeeper that you are with Sequoia Audubon Society to get in free.

Leader: Sue Cossins 650-347-9358.

Sea Cloud Park, Foster City

Saturday, November 22, 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**

Sacramento Wildlife Refuges Weekend Trip

Saturday & Sunday, November 22 & 23

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

Sunday, November 30, 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.

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. Heavy rain cancels.

Leader: Lee Franks 650-592-7733.

Pre-Christmas Count Walk At Twin Pines Park, Belmont

Sunday, December 14, 9:00 AM

Get prepared for the Christmas Count. Never been on a Christmas count? Come and learn "how to" from some experienced birders. Come and practice your skills. **Directions:** From El Camino, turn west onto Ralston Ave, in Belmont, watch for the Twin Pines Park entrance on the left. Meet in the parking lot at 9:00 AM sharp. We will have binoculars to share. Heavy rain cancels.

Leaders: Eileen Kay 650-592-4626 and Sue Cossins 650-347-9358. **Beginner Skills Walk**

Christmas Count-Crystal Springs

Saturday, December 20

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 your best birding this year will be at the Christmas counts. Better yet sign up for both the Crystal Springs and the Año Nuevo counts.

Information: Call Al Demartini 650-345-6988.

Edgewood Park

Sunday, December 28 8:00 AM

Make this your New Years walk. Come and visit Edgewood Park for the last time in 2003. 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 at 8:00 AM sharp in the parking lot adjacent to the Day Camp area.

Leader: Lee Franks 650-592-7733.

OTHER BIRDING ACTIVITIES

(Sequoia Audubon does not sponsor the following activities)

Turkey Vulture Festival, Kern River Preserve

September 27th-30th **Information:** www.vallywild.org.

Sandhill Crane Festival, Lodi

November 7th-9th **Information:** www.lodichamber.com.

Central Valley Birding Symposium, Stockton

November 20th-23rd **Information:** www.CVBS.org.

FROM AUDUBON CANYON RANCH

WWW.EGRET.ORG

BY BETSY STAFFORD

You know that summer is at an end at Audubon Canyon Ranch (ACR) when the fledglings have flown, the ravens have stopped raiding, seedheads are swelling, and spiders are gorging on throngs of flying insects. While most of our flora and fauna wait out summer's drought, this time of year, our staff and volunteers are poised for action. Docents at Bouverie and Bolinas Lagoon Preserves are starting their fall programs of teaching 3rd-5th graders in classrooms and on trails; a large cadre of researchers are digging into a rich offering of projects; and our committees and boards are launching new projects for the coming year.

Each September, ACR celebrates its wonderful volunteers with a Volunteer Appreciation Picnic. If you have been one of our weekend hosts, Work Day participants, researchers, or if you have participated in any other kind of volunteer work with us this past

year, we invite you to join us at our beautiful Cypress Grove Preserve (CGP) on September 20th. Not open to the public at any other time, CGP is a 135-acre wildlife sanctuary on Tomales Bay, dedicated to ecological research. It is from here that ACR manages over 25 parcels of land around the bay, encompassing almost 400 acres of tidelands, marshes, and grasslands providing critical habitat to wildlife. To get more information and assist in various research activities, please call 415-663-8203, or visit our website at www.egret.org.

Bouverie Preserve continues to offer its popular Guided Nature Walks this year 9:30-1:30 on the following Saturdays: Sep. 6, Oct. 18, Nov. 8 and 15. Come experience the rich natural history of our 500-acre preserve. Call for an application form at 707-938-4554.

Work Days keep our preserves spruced up and our volunteers shaped up and well fed. Please join us and help on the trails or in the gardens, libraries or kitchens on either of the two following days: Bouverie Preserve Work Day,



Fall 2003 BIRDSEED SALE ORDER FORM

All Orders With Payment Must Be Received By Monday, September 15, 2003

Proceeds support local Audubon conservation programs



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		
Black Oil Sunflower.	25 lb@ \$12.50/bag		
White Proso Millet	25 lb@ \$11.00/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 <u>enclosed check</u> (payable to Sequoia Audubon Society)			

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 _____

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October 4, 9:30-1:00; and Bolinas Lagoon Work Day, November 8, Volunteer Canyon, same time. Call Bouverie at 707-938-4554, or Bolinas at 415-868-9244 to reserve a place. We promise you a free lunch and an invitation to next year's Volunteer Appreciation Picnic!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES AT SEQUOIA AUDUBON

BY CAROL MASTERSON

Want to help the birds? Get involved? Here are some great opportunities to support conservation in San Mateo County. There are lots of volunteer opportunities available. Sequoia Audubon is an **all-volunteer** organization and we need your help. Many jobs are ones that you can do at home and that take only a few hours a month. Here are just a few volunteer jobs available:

Greeter at our monthly meetings

Help to greet visitors and new members at our Thursday night monthly meetings

Requirements: Enjoy meeting new people. Help make new members welcome.

Time: Approximately 2 hours per month at our monthly meeting

Location: San Mateo Garden Center

Contact: Eileen Kay 650-592-4626

Field Trip Leader

Do you have a favorite birding spot you want to share with others? Enjoy teaching people about birds and birding?

Requirements: Love of birds and birding and willingness to share your birding knowledge. Should be patient and enjoy working with people.

Time: Varies: 3 - 4 hours for each walk.

Location: In the field

Contact: Carol Masterson 650-347-1769

Birdseed Sale Chairman

One of the ways SAS earns money and helps members is through the sale of birdseed. The coordinator job doesn't include pickup or delivery of seeds.

Requirements: We will show you how to coordinate with the supplier and the delivery volunteers.

Time: Seed sale are three times a year, April, September, and February. It will take approximately 6 - 8 hours for each sale.

Location: Your home

Contact: Martha O'Neal 650-692-8138

Letter Writer

Be an Armchair Activist and help support conservation issues that effect birds and the environment. Hand write letters to public officials on important conservation issues. We help give you ideas on what to write.

Requirements: Interest in environmental issues and willingness to write letters to public officials.

Location: Your home

Time: Varies 15 minutes to 1 hour per month

Contact: Cynthia McLaughlin 650-299-9469

Assistant Membership Coordinator

Our members are our most important assets. We need to keep track of all our member names and addresses in our easy to use computer database.

Requirements: Attention to detail and accuracy. Willing to learn computer data entry. We will train you.

Time: Varies: 8-10 hrs. per month - your schedule.

Location: On your personal computer at your home

Contact: Teri Tith 650-341-7724

Exhibit/Display Designer

Create and design an exhibit for public libraries and schools to teach the public about birds and birding.

Requirements: An artistic ability.

Time: Varies - 1-8 hours per month - your schedule

Location: Work at your home and delivery of exhibit to local libraries and schools.

Contact: Carol Masterson 650-347-1769

THANK YOU, EILEEN KAY

Lora Medina, a Sequoia Audubon member, will like to acknowledge Eileen Kay for her special efforts in recruiting Snowy Plover monitors.

Lora reports that Eileen took her out to Half Moon Bay's Francis Beach several months ago to show her what was involved in protecting this threatened species. Thanks to Eileen's personal touch - showing Lora how to find the well-camouflaged birds and do accurate counts - Lora not only became a volunteer, but she also spotted the first eggs of the season. Those eggs all went on to hatch successfully (albeit at Monterey Bay Aquarium), and the fledglings were released at Moss Beach.

"Eileen shares in this success, as much as if she had found the eggs herself!" says Lora

SOLAR HOME AND BUILDING TOUR

Sponsored by San Mateo County Recycleworks and NCSEA

October 4, 2003

10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Thinking about going solar?

Visit solar homes around San Mateo County and see the latest in solar technology, talk to homeowners about their experience with solar, and meet various solar vendors at the San Mateo County Solar Home and Building Tour on Saturday, October 4. The Solar Tour is a great way to learn more about solar from people who are already doing it. The eight homes on the tour feature varying photovoltaic systems including grid-tied and battery backed systems, solar hot water, ground and rooftop mounts. Many homes also contain green building features. The tour also includes the largest solar installation in the County, the San Mateo County Forensics Lab.

Pre-register at www.RecycleWorks.org. Fees: \$10 per car (pre-registration), \$15 per car (tour day).

TITMICE FLEDGLINGS

In case you were wondering, there were 7 titmice fledglings in the picture on page 5 of the June Needles issue.

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

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Photo by Peggy Bechtell



Howard Rathelsberger receives the **Sequoia Audubon 2003 Environmental Educator Award** from Sequoia Audubon Vice President **Bill Bechtell**

2003 ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATOR AWARD

Howard Rathelsberger was presented the Sequoia Audubon 2003 Environmental Educator Award by Vice President Bill Bechtell at the June general meeting. Howard has been a long-time active member of the North American Bluebird Society (NABS) and is the San Mateo County coordinator for the California Bluebird Recovery Program. He oversees the installation and monitoring of nesting boxes on the San Francisco Peninsula, and also builds nesting box kits for school children and helps them assemble them. He is also a nature docent at Filoli, and writes a column for their newsletter. Howard has been honored for his work by the NABS at their 25th annual convention in British Columbia, and by the Woodside Environmental Fair.



Arctic Loon

THE BIRD BOX

**RARE BIRD
ALERT**

415-681-7422

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.