

# SEQUOIA NEEDLES

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

*Volume 55, No. 1  
September-October 2004*

## LETTER FROM A NEW MEMBER

BY CARLA EDWARDS

I am a new member of Sequoia Audubon Society. More accurately, I am a returning member. I was a member in the 1970's when I was in college majoring in botany with a desire to learn about other areas of the natural world around me. Being involved in college classes and activities, I never did attend any field trips or meetings, but I read the magazine. I loved the pictures and the well-written articles and couldn't abide throwing the magazine out. That is the reason I finally quit the AS. I couldn't throw out the magazines and I couldn't keep them forever as I lived that volatile college student life, moving every year.

I'd not been successful identifying birds in my backyard or in trees until the mid-1980's. Oh yes, I knew some common birds that my mother taught me to identify, but those little brown birds flying around my abodes were too small and too far away to ever identify. They wouldn't stand still like plants did. In 1986, I became a docent at Año Nuevo State Beach. Through the docent training I learned about the resident shore birds. I was very pleased to find that I could identify these birds. The marbled godwits, the sanderlings, the avocets, the curlew, the oyster-catchers, as well as the swallows that inhabited the barn and the cliffs. I felt self-satisfied that I could identify so many new birds and talk about them with certitude to visitors.

Now, many years later and between jobs, I have again joined the Audubon Society. I have found the magazine articles this time around to be just as provocative and well written -- still with those wonderful pictures. I anticipate attending the field trips and learning which little brown bird is which as well as identifying, by their songs, which birds wake me during the spring dawns. I am glad to be back.

## 2004 ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS

COMPILER: AL DE MARTINI

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. The information gathered gives us important information about the birds of San Mateo County. This year the counts are scheduled for:

**Crystal Springs Count – Saturday,  
December 18, 2004**

**Año Nuevo Count – Sunday,  
January 2, 2005**

We will break into teams counting birds on the coastside, hills, or bayside. After the count everyone will gather to tally the results and enjoy a compilation dinner.

Counters with all levels of experience are welcome. For beginning birders, this is a great opportunity to gain experience working with the old pros. We also need feeder watchers to count birds at their home feeders for a period of time in December.

When you sign up for the Christmas Count please let us know your phone number, email address, experience, and whether you are interested in counting bayside or coastside. 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.

Sign up today by calling Al at (650) 345-6988 or email [Al\\_DeMar@yahoo.com](mailto:Al_DeMar@yahoo.com)

## Monthly Meetings

San Mateo Garden Center

### September

**Thursday, 9<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 PM**

**Program:** The Parrots and People of WILD Indonesia

### October

**Thursday, 14<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 PM**

**Program:** Birds of San Joaquin County

### November

**Thursday, 11<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 PM**

**Program:** Nature Potpourri Slide Show

*(See program details on page 2)*

## Upcoming Field Trips

*(See trip details beginning on page 3)*

### September

**Saturday, 11<sup>th</sup>** Birding at Filoli

**Sunday, 12<sup>th</sup>** Redwood Shores\*

**Sunday, 19<sup>th</sup>** Birds of the Barbary Coast, San Francisco\*

**Sunday, 26<sup>th</sup>** Edgewood Park

### October

**Saturday, 2<sup>nd</sup>** Fall Mystery Trip

**Sunday, 3<sup>rd</sup>** Hawk Hill

**Saturday, 9<sup>th</sup>** Phipps Ranch

**Sunday, 10<sup>th</sup>** Redwood Shores\*

**Saturday, 23<sup>rd</sup>** Golden Gate Park

**Sunday, 31<sup>st</sup>** Edgewood Park

### November

**Saturday 13<sup>th</sup>** Pescadero Marsh

**Sunday, 14<sup>th</sup>** Redwood Shores\*

**Thursday, 18<sup>th</sup>** Coyote Point

**Sunday, 21<sup>st</sup>** Edgewood Park

*\*Beginner: Family Trip*

*(Continued on page 3)*

# Sequoia Audubon Society

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Open

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### Vice-President

Open

### Second Vice-President

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### Secretary

Sue Cossins 650-347-9358

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'06\* Gary Deghi, Open

'07\* John Johnson, Carol Masterson

\*Term ending

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### Audubon Canyon Ranch Representative

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### Field Trips

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PO Box 620292,  
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650-529-1454

office@sequoia-audubon.org  
www.sequoia-audubon.org

Members may submit original or uncopyrighted material – articles, artwork, cartoons, photos – for Needles. The deadline for submission is the first day of the month preceding publication. Send comments and contributions to:  
**sas\_editor@yahoo.com**



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## MEETING PROGRAMS

BY BARBARA WILSON

### The Parrots and People of WILD Indonesia

by Bonnie Zimmerman

Thursday, September 9<sup>th</sup>, 2004 7:30 PM

Bonnie Zimmerman will speak about joining the team of Project Bird Watch and spending a month working in the field in the Molucca and Raja Ampat Islands in Eastern Indonesia. Project Bird Watch is a nonprofit organization that works with local villagers by developing programs to stop the smuggling and trapping of exotic

### 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.*

birds. She will show her 30-minute DVD, *The Parrots and People of WILD Indonesia*, which includes footage of parrots in the wild and visits to the villages of Masihulan, Sawai, and Yenwopneur. The film also addresses the issues of abuse and smuggling in Indonesia. You won't forget it!

Bonnie will have copies of the DVD and Indonesian T-shirts available.

### Birds of San Joaquin County

by David Yee

Thursday, October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2004 7:30 PM

The checklist of birds for San Joaquin County includes 338 native species and the area, with a variety of habitats, covers most of the Central Valley. Extensive wetlands, foothills, grasslands, and rivers attract the wildlife and add to the enjoyment of birders and others who enjoy the outdoors. Join David Yee to learn more about the birds of San Joaquin County.

David Yee has been active in his local Audubon chapter and is Chairman of the Central Valley Birding Symposium. With Waldo Holt, he provided technical editing for *Birding in and Around San Joaquin County*. He compiled the *Field Checklist of the Birds of San Joaquin County*.

### Nature Potpourri Slide Show

By Bob and Sue Cossins

Thursday, November 11<sup>th</sup>, 2004 7:30 PM

Join SAS members Bob and Sue Cossins as they show slides of their recent trips. The photos will be mostly Western and Mid-Western U.S. nature scenes with a focus on birds and wildflowers.

Check the website for changes and additions.



Sulphur-crested cockatoo

### Attention Members!

Please note new address & phone:

Sequoia Audubon  
P.O. Box 620292  
Woodside, CA 94062-0292

650-529-1454

### Birding at Filoli

Saturday, September 11, 8:30 AM — Noon

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, but all will be welcome after the walk to buy light food and beverages at the Café and to visit the gift shop.

**Directions:** Take Hwy 280 to the Edgewood Road exit. Go west. Turn right on Cañada Road and drive north approx. one-half 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  
For reservations, call Carol Masterson (650) 347-1769

### Redwood Shores – Grandparents Day Walk

Sunday, September 12, 9:00 AM

Redwood Shores is a great place to learn about “backyard” birds unique to the San Francisco Bay Area, particularly waterfowl and shorebirds. Please contact field trip leader Teri Tith as the meeting place can vary (park w/tennis courts, tern rookery, or water treatment plant) depending on the time of year. This walk is especially suitable for beginners and families as there is a zero slope rating. It is held on the second Sunday of every month, except December, starting at 9:00 AM. It can be one hour long or longer in duration, depending on conditions and the interests of the group. Heavy rain cancels.

**Leader:** Teri Tith (650) 341-7724

**Beginner/Family Trip**

### Birds of the Barbary Coast, San Francisco

Sunday, September 19, 9:30-11:00 AM

Join Ranger Carol Kiser to observe birds at the San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park in San Francisco. We will spend one and one half to two hours looking for birds on the bay, shoreline, and in the woods of this urban park. This is great walk for beginners to see both land and water birds, and to learn bird-watching techniques. Bring books and binoculars, if you have them, and dress in layers. Wheelchair accessible.

**Directions:** Meet at the entrance to the Hyde Street Pier next to Aquatic Park at the foot of Hyde Street, at Jefferson Street. Note: parking meters are in force on Sundays. Parking is available at Ghirardelli Square and at the Anchorage Shopping Center. (and you can spend the afternoon shopping!)

**Leader:** Ranger Carol Kiser (415) 561-7100

**Beginner/Family Trip**

### Edgewood Park Walk

Sunday, September 26, 8:00-11:00 AM

Birding should be great at Edgewood Park. Look for resident and migratory species as we head into fall. Starting early increases the chance of seeing all the interesting fall birds at Edgewood. Warblers, sparrows, hawks, and thrushes are all possible. The walk is over moderately strenuous terrain.

**Directions:** Meet the leader in the paved parking lot at the main gate at 8:00 AM sharp. The Edgewood Park entrance is east of Hwy 280 on Edgewood Road in Redwood City.

**Leader:** Lee Franks (650) 592 - 7733

### Fall Mystery Trip

Saturday, October 2, 9:00 AM

Do you like a good mystery? Robin Smith will lead this mystery birding field trip. We will look for fall migrants at

## Upcoming Field Trips

(Continued from page 1)

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 in early September, all classes meet from 7:00 PM — 9:15 PM at Marina Middle School, 3500 Fillmore at Bay Street. Free parking is available in the school lot off Bay Street.

Field Ornithology I and II are introductions to birds and birding. Four additional Field Ornithology courses provide a continuing and in-depth study of the identification and status of North American land and water 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.cc.ca.us/~jmorlan>



Wood ducks

(Continued on page 4)

*(Field Trips, continued from page 3)*

whatever current location has the best birds. Get your field guides and binoculars ready. You must call Robin to solve this mystery and find out where, when, and how to reserve your spot.

**Leader:** Robin Smith (650) 325-3306

### **Hawk Hill**

Sunday, October 3, 9:00 AM

Join SAS member and veteran GGRO hawk watcher Leslie Flint for a day at Hawk Hill during the peak of raptor migration. Expect to see accipiters (Sharp-shinned and Cooper's Hawks); falcons, (Kestrels, Merlins, and perhaps Peregrines); Buteos (Red-tailed, Red-shouldered, and maybe Broad-winged and Ferruginous Hawks), Turkey Vultures, and Northern Harriers. We will also look for migrants in the trees around the hill. Bring binoculars, lunch, and liquids. Dress in layers – it can be hot or freezing depending on the fog. Meet at the base of Hawk Hill at 9 AM or at the top if you arrive later. There will be a Hawk Talk at noon and banding demonstration (with a live hawk) given by the GGRO volunteers at 1:00 PM.

**Directions:** From San Mateo drive north across the Golden Gate Bridge. Take the first exit — Alexander Ave. Make an immediate left and drive under the freeway and then left again as though you were going to get back on the bridge. Take the road immediately on your right going up hill (Conzelman Road) Follow it along the coastline to where it becomes one way; there is a parking area. Park and meet at the fire road gate – you will see a brown "Hawk Hill" sign pointing the way. If you come later, walk up the road to the top of the hill and join us.

**Leader:** Leslie Flint (650) 573-6279

### **Phipps Ranch Vagrant Crawl, Half Moon Bay**

Saturday, October 9, 9:00 AM

This combination of produce stand, berry-picking farm, and barnyard menagerie, also known as Phipps Country, has become a favorite birding spot for rare and unusual migrant birds that show up annually. Don't miss this excellent birding opportunity to possibly add a few new lifers to your list.

**Directions:** Take Hwy 1 to Pescadero Road. Follow Pescadero Road through town until you come to the farm stand. Park away from the farm stand so as to leave the nearest spaces for customers. We will meet at 9 AM. Dress in layers.

**Leader:** Gary Deghi (650) 726-1340

### **Redwood Shores**

Sunday, October 10, 9:00 AM

Redwood Shores is a great place to learn about "backyard" birds unique to the San Francisco Bay Area, particularly waterfowl and shorebirds. Please contact field trip leader Teri Tith as the meeting place can vary (park w/tennis courts, tern rookery, or water treatment plant) depending on the time of year. This walk is especially suitable for beginners and families as there is a zero slope rating. It is held on the second Sunday of every month, except December, starting at 9:00 AM. It can be one hour long or longer in duration, depending on conditions and the interests of the group. Heavy rain cancels.

**Leader:** Teri Tith (650) 341 – 7724

**Beginner/Family Trip**

### **Golden Gate Park And Western San Francisco**

Saturday, October 23, 9:00 AM — 1:00 PM

Meet at the parking lot between Middle Lake and South Lake in Golden Gate Park. We will check South and Middle Lakes and the newly renovated North Lake. After birding the area we will travel to other west San Francisco sites. Dress in layers; bring liquids and lunch. Heavy rain cancels.

**Directions:** From northbound Highway 280 take the Highway 1/19th Ave. exit. Continue five miles north on Hwy. 1 (19<sup>th</sup> Ave). After entering Golden Gate Park, turn left onto Crossover Dr. Turn left immediately onto Transverse Dr. At the stop sign, turn right onto John F. Kennedy Dr. and go west one mile to Chain of Lakes Dr. Turn left and, just past Middle Lake, turn left into the Middle Lake parking lot.

**Leader:** Al Hopkins (415) 664-0983

### **Halloween Walk At Edgewood Park**

Sunday, October 31, 8:00 — 11:00 AM

Want to scare up some fall birds? Come along to visit Lee's favorite haunt. If the fall birds don't trick us we should be treated to lots of birds. The walk is three hours over moderately strenuous terrain. Meet in the paved parking lot at the main gate. Heavy rain cancels.

Daylight saving time ends today at 2:00 AM, so please set your clocks back one hour.

**Directions:** The Edgewood Park entrance is east of Hwy 280 on Edgewood Road in Redwood City.

**Leader:** Lee Franks (650) 592-7733

### **Pescadero Marsh with Gary Deghi**

Saturday, November 13, 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; prepare accordingly. Boots are recommended for wet conditions. Walking is relatively easy on level grades.

**Directions:** Take 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

### **Redwood Shores Walk**

Sunday, November 14, 9:00 AM

Redwood Shores is a great place to learn about "backyard" birds unique to the San Francisco Bay Area, particularly waterfowl and shorebirds. Please contact field trip leader

*(Continued on page 5)*

*(Field Trips, continued from page 4)*

Teri Tith as the meeting place can vary (park w/tennis courts, tern rookery, or water treatment plant) depending on the time of year. This walk is especially suitable for beginners and families as there is a zero slope rating. It is held on the second Sunday of every month, except December, starting at 9:00 AM. It can be one hour long or longer in duration, depending on conditions and the interests of the group. Heavy rain cancels.

**Leader:** Teri Tith (650) 341 – 7724

**Beginner/Family Trip**

### **Coyote Point**

Thursday, November 18, 8:00 AM

Fall and winter are great times to view birds at Coyote Point. The wetlands fronting San Francisco Bay attract numerous shore birds. The trees and grassy areas also provide good birding.

**Directions:** Take Hwy 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 9:00 AM

**Leader:** Sue Cossins (650) 347-9358

### **Edgewood Park Walk**

Sunday, November 21, 8:00 – 11:00 AM

Birding should be great at Edgewood Park. Fall birding will be in full swing. We will look for resident and migratory species. Starting early will increase the chance of seeing all the interesting fall birds at Edgewood. Warblers, sparrows, hawks, and thrushes are all possible. The walk is over moderately strenuous terrain.

**Directions:** Meet the leader in the paved parking lot at the main gate 8:00 AM sharp. The Edgewood Park entrance is east of Hwy 280 on Edgewood Road in Redwood City.

**Leader:** Lee Franks (650) 592 - 7733

### **Thanks to Wild Bird Center in San Carlos**

Again this year, we are fortunate to have the help of Bonnie Regalia and the Wild Bird Center, 926 El Camino Real in San Carlos, in supplying Sequoia Audubon with seed for our birdseed sales. Bonnie supplies the seed at her cost and donates the labor (ordering, unloading, storing and reloading) required to handle the sale. We are grateful to her for her support.

## **OTHER BIRDING ACTIVITIES**

*(Sequoia Audubon does not sponsor the following activities)*

### **Western Field Ornithologists Annual Meeting, Ashland, OR** Wednesday – Sunday, September 8-12, 2004

This annual event includes the best of the West: science sessions, one-half and full-day field trips with leaders in the field of ornithology, keynote speakers, social events, and workshops. Beginning birders to seasoned field ornithologists will find something of interest every day at this yearly meeting. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Contact: Western Field Ornithologists, 12079 Samoline Avenue, Downey, CA 90242 (562) 869-6718 <http://www.wfo-cbrc.org/confer.html>

### **ABA Regional Conference, Reno and Northwest Nevada** Sunday – Friday, September 12-17, 2004

Located on the Truckee River in northwestern Nevada, Reno is nestled against the 11,000-foot massif of the northern Sierra Nevada, or Snowy Range. It serves as a gateway to the vast expanse of the Great Basin. The Sierra Nevada, a westward-tilted block with east-facing escarpments, developed through erosion into a series of steep-walled canyons. From Lake Tahoe, the largest alpine lake in North America, the Truckee and Carson Rivers slowly descend several thousand feet, and enter the ancient Pleistocene Lake Lahontan. Little-studied or birded until recently, this area offers a surprising abundance of bird life within a 70- to 80-mile radius of Reno. We will sample the diverse array of habitats: the striking desert terminus of the Truckee River, Pyramid Lake; the Carson Lake wetlands; alpine areas on Mount Rose; and riparian, meadow, and marsh habitats around the city of Reno.

For full details see <http://americanbirding.org/convtours/convprog6.htm> For further information email [bmaynard@aba.org](mailto:bmaynard@aba.org) or [nhawley@aba.org](mailto:nhawley@aba.org)

### **2004 Annual Kern River Valley Turkey Vulture Festival, Weldon, CA**

Friday – Monday, September 24-27, 2004

Visit the Southern Sierra's "Valley Wild" (Kern River Valley) to experience one of the U.S. and Canada's largest known Turkey Vulture migrations at the height of fall land bird migration at desert oases. You will enjoy bird banding, bird trips, vulture and condor programs, astronomy night, bats, geology, and tree trips, moth and reptile workshops, and children's activities. You will observe California specialties: 50-80 species per trip; 130-160 species per festival. Visit <http://www.valleywild.org/tvfest.htm> or contact Valley Wild Nature Festivals, PO Box 410, Weldon, CA 93283 (760) 378-3044.

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### Central Valley Birding Symposium, Stockton, CA

Thursday – Sunday, November 18-21, 2004

The Central Valley Bird Club is proud to show off our special avifauna during Symposium field trips. Speakers such as David Sibley, Kenn Kaufman, Pete Dunne, Jon Dunn, Arnold Small, and many others have graced our programs. We also have multiple workshops, artists, and vendors.

Contact: Central Valley Birding Symposium, 2351 E. Anita St, Stockton, CA 95205 (209) 462-5490 <http://www.cvbs.org/>

### Point Reyes Bird Observatory

#### Monthly Trips

On the first weekend of each month PRBO offers a two-hour birding trip to one of PRBO's research locations in Marin County. This is a great chance to meet our biologists, learn about regional birds and habitats, and discover some of the birding hotspots of West

Marin! Walks are from 9-11 AM. They are free to PRBO members; the cost is \$10 per person for non-members. For more information regarding walks, times, or directions, please contact Sue Abbott at (415) 868-1221, ext 302. Sign-ups are not necessary, but please let Sue know if you are bringing a group of five or more. You can become a member of PRBO at the bird walk (individuals \$40; family \$55).

### PRBO Walk, Winter Birds of Bear Valley

Sunday, November 7, 2004

Winter brings a completely new group of birds to Point Reyes National Seashore. As we walk through this wooded valley we will search for some of Point Reyes' winter residents, including the secretive Varied Thrush, Golden-crowned and Ruby-crowned kinglets, Golden-crowned Sparrows, and Red-breasted Sapsuckers. Meet in the gravel park-

(Continued on page 7)



### Fall 2004 BIRDSEED SALE ORDER FORM

All Orders With Payment Must Be Received By Wednesday, September 15, 2004

*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 &amp; white millet plus black oil sunflower</i> | 20 lb @ \$16.00/bag |                |            |
| Black Oil Sunflower.                                                         | 25 lb@ \$13.00/bag  |                |            |
| White Proso Millet                                                           | 25 lb@ \$12.00/bag  |                |            |
| Thistle                                                                      | 20 lb@ \$30.00      |                |            |
| Sunflower Chips                                                              | 25 lb@ \$27.00/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)                |                     |                |            |

Mail check and order to:

Sequoia Audubon Society  
c/o J. Scharetg, 315 Shad Court, Foster City, CA 94404  
E-mail: [jscharetg@earthlink.net](mailto:jscharetg@earthlink.net)  
(650) 349-1555 (Iona Luke)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

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ing lot across from the Bear Valley Visitor Center at 9:00 AM. Paved trail.

### **PRBO Walk, Waterbirds on the Bolinas Lagoon**

Saturday, December 4, 2004

Join us to welcome back the wintering populations of shorebirds and waterfowl to this beautiful lagoon. We'll work on waterbird ID at a few stops alongside the lagoon. Wear rubber boots for exploring the pickleweed marshes at PineGulch. Meet at PRBO's Headquarters at 4990 Shoreline Hwy at 9:00 AM.

### **Bird Banding Courses**

The Institute for Bird Populations (IBP), based in California, is a non-profit organization dedicated to fostering a global approach to the preservation of birds and their habitats. IBP coordinates a large-scale cooperative program called Monitoring Avian Productivity and Survivorship (MAPS) that consists of a network of almost 500 banding stations throughout the continental U.S. and Canada. A wide assortment of contributors operates these stations, including government agencies, non-profits, educational institutions, independent banders, and IBP itself. Birds banded at MAPS stations provide critically-needed information on productivity and survivorship that can help identify the causes of long-term population declines. MAPS is endorsed by the National Biological Service and Partners in Flight and relies increasingly on the contribution of data from volunteer cooperators. The operation of a MAPS station requires a commitment of one morning (six hours) every ten days between May and August for a total of seven to ten mornings a year, all of which can be on weekends. For more information about IBP's bander-training program please visit IBP's website at <http://www.birdpop.org> or contact Bander Training, The Institute for Bird Populations, PO Box 1346, Point Reyes Station, CA 94956; phone 415/663-1436; fax 415/663-9482; email Dani O'Grady [dogrady@birdpop.org](mailto:dogrady@birdpop.org).

### **Field Trip to San Joaquin River National Refuge**

**Stanislaus Audubon Society, Modesto, CA**

Saturday August 21; Sunday September 19;

Saturday October 16; Sunday November 28.

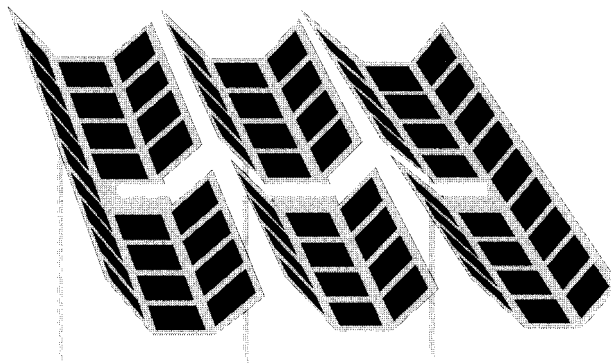
This is a monthly fieldtrip to this refuge. Meet at the Stanislaus County Library at 7:00 AM

[http://www.stanislausbirds.org/field\\_trips\\_upcoming.htm](http://www.stanislausbirds.org/field_trips_upcoming.htm)

### **Sandhill Crane Festival, Hopper Mountain NWRC, Lodi, CA**

November 5-7, 2004

Viewings of the state's largest concentration of greater Sandhill Cranes; workshops, exhibits, children's stories, dancing, face painting, live wild animals, and fine art. Call (916) 683-1700 or visit <http://www.lodichamber.com/cranefestival.html>.



### **SOLAR HOME AND BUILDING TOUR**

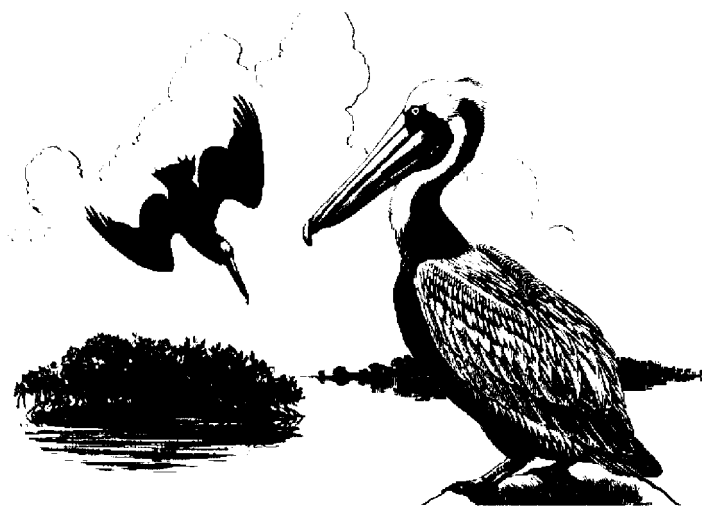
Saturday, October 2, 2004, 10 AM – 4 PM

Sponsored by: San Mateo County RecycleWorks and NorCal Solar

Visit homes around San Mateo County and see the latest solar technology and sustainable design techniques; talk to homeowners, and meet various solar vendors. The Solar & Green Building Tour is a great way to learn more about solar power from people who are already using it. The homes on the tour feature a range of systems including grid-tied and battery-backed solar electric systems and solar hot water heating systems. Several of the homes also exhibit beautiful green building features. Experts will be on hand to point out these examples and show you the advantages of building with the environment in mind.

Cost: pre-registration is \$10 per car group; day-of registration is \$15 per car group.

Tour details and registration: <http://www.RecycleWorks.org> or 1-888-442-2666.



Brown pelicans

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

SEND TO:

Sequoia Audubon Society

PO Box 620292

Woodside

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Photo by Peggy Bechtell

## SERVICE AWARD TO ROBIN SMITH

Past Board of Directors member, Robin Smith, (on the left), is being honored with a framed photo from Sue Cossins, Secretary, representing the board. A long time board member, including president for three terms, Robin is stepping down from the board but will continue her work on the Conservation Committee.

The picture, taken by Bob Cossins, is of a Clapper Rail. The population of this bird species is declining on the West Coast and Robin has been very instrumental in conservation efforts to protect it.



**Robin Smith** receives an award for service to Sequoia Audubon from Sue Cossins.

## 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.*



Arctic Loon

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