

SEQUOIA NEEDLES

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

Volume 56, No. 3
February-March 2006

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

SAVE THE ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT

BY CAROL MASTERSON

For 30 years the Endangered Species Act has served as America's premier safety net for animals and plants on the brink of extinction. It has been one of our most cherished environmental laws. The landmark legislation has had many signature accomplishments such as the recovery of the American Bald Eagle, Whooping Crane, the Brown Pelican, and California Sea Otter. In recent months, attacks on the ESA have come from H.R. 3824. It could be called a proposed "extinction bill" and would remove protection of habitat critical to the recovery of endangered wildlife and undermine the true intent of the law. It would eliminate oversight by endangered species experts and allow for political appointees to unilaterally overturn science-based decisions. The Act would eliminate mandatory consultation between government agencies and endangered species experts at the Department of Fish and Wildlife, replacing the consultation requirement with voluntary (and possibly unscientific) measures that might harm endangered species. The Act could remove protections for species now listed as "threatened." We know that when endangered plants and animals are protected so are the places where we choose to hike, fish, ride, ski, and go birding.

Join with Sequoia Audubon, California Audubon, and National Audubon to save the Endangered Species Act. We need to ensure that we protect our natural heritage by stopping the decline of rare species so that future generations can see and enjoy our wonderful wildlife.

California Senator Dianne Feinstein has officially introduced a resolution designating March 8, 2006 as Endangered Species Day.

Endangered Species Day will help raise awareness about threats to endangered species, but just being aware of the threats to the Endangered Species Act may not be enough. We need to take action now. Here's what you can do to get involved:

Endangered Species Day will help raise awareness about threats to endangered species, but just being aware of the threats to the Endangered Species Act may not be enough. We need to take action now. Here's what you can do to get involved:

- Let your lawmakers know where you stand on the issues.
- Join the Sequoia Audubon Armchair Activist and keep up-to-date on current environmental issues. texcat@earthlink.net
- Be aware of potential habitat loss by development: A species' survival is directly dependent on habitat. Areas in San Mateo County are under threat by development and urbanization. conservation@sequoia-audubon.org
- Become a bird monitor to study the numbers and types of birds in the county. The need for scientific data about birds is important to document the changes to bird populations. funseekers2@juno.com
- Help prevent invasive species that compromise or destroy animal food sources or habitats. Help remove invasive plants at Pescadero Marsh. carolmasterson@sbcglobal.net
- Prevent pollution - chemicals, acid rain, and exhaust fumes are just some threats. Remember DDT? Overuse or incorrect use of pesticides threaten non-targeted wildlife and plants. office@sequoia-audubon.org
- Join Sequoia Audubon and help to save threatened and endangered species and habitat in San Mateo County. office@sequoia-audubon.org or call (650) 529-1454.

You are invited to come along on an **Endangered Species Walk at Edgewood Park** on February 26, 2006. Meet with biologists and naturalists and learn how changes in the Endangered Species Act could affect San Mateo County. See the Field Trip section of this newsletter for more information.

Monthly Meetings

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

February

Thursday, 9th, 7:30PM

Program: The Miracle of Restoration

March

Thursday, 9th, 7:30PM

Program: Rare Bird - Pursuing the Mystery of the Marbled Murrelet

April

Thursday, 13th, 7:30PM

Program: Wildlife of the Rocky Mountains

Upcoming Field Trips

(See trip details on page 3)

January

Sunday, 22nd San Francisco Aquatic Park*

Saturday, 28th Cosumnes River

Sunday, 29th Edgewood Park

February

Saturday, 4th Pillar Point

Saturday, 11th Martin Luther King Jr. Shoreline Park, East Bay

Saturday-Monday, 18th-20th

Klamath Basin

Sunday, 19th San Francisco Aquatic Park*

Sunday, 26th Edgewood Park

March

Saturday, 4th Bayfront Park

Sunday, 5th Half Moon Bay

Sunday, 12th Rancho Del Oso

Sunday, 19th San Francisco Aquatic Park*

Saturday, 25th Palo Alto Canoe Trip

(Continued on page 3)

Sequoia Audubon Society

OFFICERS

President	
Carol Masterson	650-347-1769
Past President	
Robin Smith	
Vice-President	
Open	
Second Vice-President	
Howard Rathlesberger	650-561-9532
Secretary	
Norma Vite	650-560-9740
Treasurer	
Peter Grace	415-467-0343

DIRECTORS

- '06* Gary Deghi, Bill Critzer
 - '07* Open
 - '08* Darryl Wheye, Sue Cossins
- *Term ending

STANDING COMMITTEES

Audubon Canyon Ranch Host	
Sue Cossins	650-347-9358
Audubon Canyon Ranch Representative	
Francis Toldi, Leslie Flint	
Audit/Finance	
Open	
Bluebird Recovery	
Howard Rathlesberger	650-561-9532
Christmas Count	
Al De Martini	650-345-6988
Conservation Committee Chair	
Robin Smith	650-325-3306
Education	
Open	
Field Trips	
Carol Masterson	650-347-1769
Hospitality	
Eileen Kay	650-592-4626
Membership	
Bill Critzer	650-234-1136
Needles Editor	
Justine Carson	650-560-9776
Programs	
Carol Masterson	650-347-1769

PO Box 620292

Woodside, CA 94062-0292

650-529-1454

office@sequoia-audubon.org

www.sequoia-audubon.org

Members are encouraged to 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



Printed on recycled paper

MEETING PROGRAMS

BY CAROL MASTERSON

The Miracle of Restoration

By Arthur Feinstein
Thursday, February 9, 7:30 PM
Successful restoration of our bay wetlands is possible. A recently completed five-year study proves the remarkable effectiveness of the restoration project at Martin Luther King, Jr. Regional Shoreline Park in the East Bay. Our speaker, Arthur Feinstein, played a leading role in the success of this project, which created 37 acres of tidal marsh, 14 acres of seasonal wetlands, and 20 acres of associated uplands. This area now attracts hundreds of shorebirds, water birds, raptors, and land birds, including several endangered species. Find out what was done and how they did it.

Rare Bird - Pursing the Mystery of the Marbled Murrelet

By Maria Mudd Ruth
Thursday March 9, 7:30 PM
Join writer Maria Mudd Ruth on an exploration of the life and times of an endearing, endangered seabird. Learn about the journey of discovery into the secret life of the Marbled Murrelet -- a bird whose nesting habits eluded naturalists, birders, and scientists for 185 years. Maria Mudd Ruth documents the never-before-told history of the human encounters with this fascinating bird. Her book "provides a

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.

rare insight into the trials and joys of scientific discovery." (*Publishers Weekly*) Maria has written more than a dozen natural history books. Her work has appeared in *National Geographic* where she worked as a researcher and editor. Copies of her book *Rare Bird* will be available for purchase and signing. Check out her web site at www.mariaruthbooks.com.

Wild Life of the Rocky Mountains

By John Cang
Thursday, April 13, 7:30 PM
The program will feature a presentation about the birds, mammals, and scenery of

the Rocky Mountains, from Yellowstone and Grand Teton to Banff and Jasper. John Cang is a wildlife and nature photographer based in San Jose, CA. His photographs have been published by the National Geographic Society, Sierra Club, and Nature Conservancy. John enjoys teaching the art of nature photography through workshops, tours, and slide presentations. A sample of John's work can be seen on his website www.johncangphoto.com.

2005 CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT—EARLY RESULTS

BY ROBIN SMITH

Over 50 counters participated in the Crystal Springs Christmas Bird Count on December 17th. At the present time, the species total is 190, though this may change. Specialties seen were: Aleutian Cackling Goose, Tufted Duck, Black Skimmer, multiple Moorhens, Nashville and Wilson's Warblers, Harlequin Duck, and a high number of Eurasian Wigeon.

The Año Nuevo CBC was held on December 31st during the biggest storm of the winter. After an early windy deluge, the weather cleared up and counters could see and hear the birds willing to venture out. The total number of species is in the neighborhood of 160. Specialties seen on this count were: Eastern Phoebe, Eurasian Collared Dove, Hermit Warbler, Glaucous Gull, Pink-footed Shearwater and Blue Gray Gnatcatcher.

New This Year: The Stalwart Awards

What is a stalwart, you ask? It is my name for the CBC counters who turn out no matter how terrible the weather and diligently canvas their areas. Sometimes they are called on to do more than that to find the birds in their areas. Everyone who participated in the Año Nuevo count this year can take pride in the fact that they are one of the honored few, a Stalwart. My awards go to those who went beyond the call of duty in counting their areas.

Nat Bowditch, who found the road was closed to Portola State Park, parked his car at Pescadero Creek County Park and

(Continued on page 8)

San Francisco Aquatic Park

Sunday, January 22, 9:30 AM

Join National Park Service Ranger Carol Kiser on this beginners' bird walk to see shore, migratory, citified, and resident birds as we walk along Hyde Street Pier and Aquatic Park. Bring binoculars, bird books, and dress in layers. We will meet at the Hyde Street Pier entrance at Hyde and Jefferson Streets and will go for about 1½-2 hours. There is no charge and the walk is wheelchair accessible.

Directions: Bus numbers 10, F, 30, 47, 49, and the cable car stop nearby. Call (415) 673-MUNI for details. As meter parking lasts only for one hour, parking is best at garages nearby for about \$2.50 per ½ hour at the Anchorage Shopping Center or at Ghirardelli Square.

Leader: Ranger Carol Kiser (415) 561-7100

Beginner/Family Trip – Wheelchair Accessible

Cosumnes River Preserve – South of Sacramento

Saturday, January 28, 7:00 AM-7:00 PM

We will meet in Foster City at the Bridge Pointe Shopping Center in the parking lot by Home Depot at 7:00 AM. We will car pool or caravan to Lodi Lake Park, and Cosumnes River Preserve and finish at Woodbridge Road, where we should see thousands of Sandhill Cranes, Tundra Swans, Ross, Snow and Greater White-Fronted Geese fly in and land for the night in nearby fields. We should be back in the Bay Area by 7:00 PM. Please bring your FRS radios if you have them and pack a lunch and fluids. Please call us for more information and to let us know you are coming.

Leader: Joe Macho (650)-692-8138

Edgewood Park Walk

Sunday, January 29, 8:00- 11:00 AM

Birding should be great at Edgewood Park. Look for resident and fall migratory species. Ask leader Lee Franks about the Sequoia Audubon Bird Conservation Program at Edgewood Park and how you can get involved. Starting at 8 AM increases the chance of seeing all the interesting fall birds at Edgewood.

Directions: Meet the leader in the parking lot adjacent to the Day Camp area.

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

Leader: Lee Franks (650) 592-7733

Pillar Point – Coastside Birding

Saturday, February 4, 9:00 AM

This is the only sheltered harbor between Santa Cruz and San Francisco, so Pillar Point is a prime birding area. This area is a stopover point for shorebirds and a favorite for seabirds. Not only does the harbor usually have one or two surprises, but also the nearby willows, cypresses, and grassland have proven to be first-rate for warblers and sparrows.

Directions: Take Hwy 92 to Hwy 1. Follow Hwy 1 north to Capistrano Rd. and turn left at the light. Turn left at the first opportunity and we will meet in the parking lot at the east end of the harbor near the boat launch ramp. This will be a walking trip along the beach and rocky areas, so boots and sturdy shoes are recommended. Wear clothing in layers for cold and windy to sunny weather. Heavy rain cancels.

Leader: Gary Deghi (650) 726-1340

Martin Luther King Shore Line Park – East Bay

Saturday February 11, 9:00 AM

The Martin Luther King, Jr. Regional Shoreline Park and San Leandro Bay provide vital habitat to thousands of birds. The park's wetland complex—which includes Arrowhead Marsh and a successfully restored 72-acre wetland—hosts some of the most significant populations of shorebirds and waterfowl in the central bay. More than 90 bird species inhabit this area, including the federally endangered California Clapper Rail, a bird found only in San Francisco Bay salt marshes. When the Port of Oakland proposed destruction of several hundred acres of seasonal wetlands in 1986, Golden Gate Audubon led other environmental groups in suing the port to preserve this important bird habitat. Come and join Arthur Feinstein at this important stopover on the Pacific Flyway and part of the Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network. Bring a scope if you have one. Heavy rain cancels.

(Continued on page 4)

Upcoming Field Trips

(Continued from page 1)

April

Saturday, 8th Yerba Buena Nursery

Saturday, 15th San Pedro 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, a 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**.

Special Program

April

Saturday, 22nd, 9:00 AM

Program: Richard Rhodes on Audubon Biography, at Filoli

Sequoia Audubon and Filoli are proud to present a lecture by Pulitzer Prize winning author Richard Rhodes on his biography *James Audubon: The Making of an American*. This is the first major biography of Audubon in 40 years and the first to illuminate fully the private life of the major American artist and master illustrator of birds. We will start with a short docent-led bird walk, then attend the lecture and book signing. Copies of the new paperback will be available. This program is free to Filoli and Sequoia Audubon members. After the lecture you may visit the formal gardens and house for a \$12 fee paid to Filoli. For information, contact Carol Masterson at (650) 347-1769 or carolmasterson@sbcglobal.net, or Filoli's Education Department at (650) 364-8300 or education@filoli.org.

(Field Trips, continued from page 3)

Directions: From Interstate 880 in Alameda County, exit Hegenberger. Drive west on Hegenberger about 1 mile, then turn right onto Doolittle. Drive north on Doolittle about 0.3 mile, and turn right onto Swan Way. Almost immediately, turn left into the park. Drive on the park road about 0.8 mile to the parking lot at the end of the road.

Leader: Arthur Feinstein. For information call Carol Masterson (650) 347-1769

Beginner/Family Trip. Wheelchair Accessible

Eagles of the Klamath Basin and Alturas/Surprise Valley

Saturday-Monday, February 18-20

This Presidents' Day weekend trip to Tule Lake and Klamath Lake Refuges will allow us to view the largest concentration of wintering Bald Eagles south of Alaska. Drawn to the area by an incredible number and variety of waterfowl, they sit in wait for the weak and sick among the ducks and geese. In February any open water is dominated by the Tundra Swans' regal dignity. We will look at swans for a possible Trumpeter and throughout the area for raptors, Northern Shrikes, Tree Sparrows, and other northern and eastern wanderers as well as the expected concentrations of Bald and Golden Eagles. On Sunday night and Monday we will expect to visit the Alturas area. The exact itinerary will depend on the weather and birding conditions. Please bring your radios if you have them. Due to the Bald Eagle Conference and President's Day in Klamath Falls, it is advisable to **make motel reservations as soon as possible**. Please notify us if you plan to attend the trip. We have maps of where and when we would meet and also motel listings. We plan on staying in Klamath Falls, Oregon at the Holiday Inn Express, 2500 S. 6th Street on February 17 and 18. (541) 884-9999. We will stay in Alturas at the Best Western Trailside Motel, 343 N. Main St. on February 19. (530) 233-4111.

WEATHER REQUIRING THE USE OF TIRE CHAINS TO GET TO THE KLAMATH BASIN WILL CANCEL THE TRIP.

Leaders: Joe Macho & Martha O'Neal Macho. Home phone (650) 692-8138; cell phone (650) 291-6196 or (650) 922-8844.

San Francisco Aquatic Park

Sunday, February 19, 9:30 AM

For details, see trip description under January 22.

Edgewood Park – Endangered Species Day

Sunday, February 26, 10:00 AM-12:00 Noon

Come and observe and learn about threatened and endangered species in San Mateo County. After 30 years the Endangered Species Act is under attack and on the brink of extinction. Talk to conservation leaders about the plants and animals we need to protect. What happened to the Threatened Checkerspot Butterfly in San Mateo County? Learn about the Bird Conservation Program at Edgewood Park. Learn how different species of birds are studied and monitored and how the information is used for conservation management. You may even want to volunteer to help out. After the presentation, we will have a bird walk over moderately strenuous terrain. Heavy rain cancels.

Directions: The Edgewood Park entrance is East of Hwy 280 on Edgewood Road in Redwood City. Meet in the paved parking lot at the main gate.

Leader: Lee Franks (650) 592-7733

Birding at Bayfront Park – Menlo Park

Saturday March 4, 9:00 AM-11:30 AM

It is hard to imagine that this great park was once a fill-and-cover dump. The park is now under threat with a possible development of a golf course and playing fields on top of the tidal marsh area. Visit this important bay habitat and learn how you can help save it before it is lost to development. Bayfront Park is bounded by tidal marshes and salt ponds and sections of the Don Edwards San Francisco National Wildlife Refuge. This special area has lots of birds. We will look for herons, egrets, and ducks, such as Canvasback, Bufflehead, Northern Shoveler, Gadwall, Scaup, varieties of teal and Mallards; shorebirds such as Least and Western Sandpipers, Dunlin, Dowitchers, Willets, Avocets, Black-necked Stilts; Pied-billed, Western, and Clark's Grebe are all possible here. Some of the other species we may see are meadowlarks, sparrows, phoebes, pipits, blackbirds, kites, kestrels, and hawks.

Directions: Hwy 101 to Marsh Road Exit. Go east towards the Bay. At the stoplight, continue through the intersection and enter Bayfront Park. We will meet by the red pump station just inside the entrance. Bring fluids, dress in layers. Rain Cancels.

Leader: Robin Smith (650) 325-3306

Beginner/Family Trip. Wheelchair accessible, though it may be muddy. Bathrooms available.

Snowy Plovers at Half Moon Bay

Sunday March 5, 9:00 AM-11:00 AM

Meet in front of the Half Moon Bay State Beach Visitor Center located at the parking lot at Francis Beach. Francis Beach is located at the west end of Kelly Avenue in Half Moon Bay. The walk will focus on the Western Snowy Plover. We will discuss the plover's behavior and threatened status while we look for them on the

beach. We will spend time on the beach and the Coastal Trail looking for other species as well.

Directions: From Highway 1 southbound, turn right on Kelly Avenue and go to the end of the street. (Kelly Avenue is the first stoplight on Highway 1 south of Highway 92.) The walk will focus on the Western Snowy Plover.

Leader: Contact Ranger Nelle Lyons at Half Moon Bay State Beach at (650) 726-8804 if you have questions or need directions. E-mail: hmbplovers@hotmail.com

Rancho Del Oso – Waddell Creek

Sunday March 12, 9:00 AM

Come with us and explore this beautiful canyon just south of Año Nuevo State Park. Rancho Del Oso is part of the Big Basin Redwoods State Park. We will start at the ocean to check the coastal birds and seabirds along the south coast, looking for Brown Pelicans, Pelagic and Brant's Cormorants, plovers, sandpipers, murrelets, terns, diving ducks, Surf Scoters, grebes, and gulls. We will walk up into the valley stopping along the way to visit the fresh water marsh and look for ducks, wrens, and flycatchers. As we continue inland we will encounter lush areas of coast live oak and

(Continued on page 5)

(Field Trips, continued from page 4)

buckeye, ferns, Douglas fir, California Bay and redwoods following Wadell Creek. We will keep on the lookout for hummingbirds, hawks, woodpeckers, phoebes, sparrows, and meadowlarks. Red Crossbills, Townsend's Warblers are all possible. Learn about the natural history and birds of Ranch Del Oso. Our trip to this magical valley will be lead by Eddie Bartley, a professional nature guide working with www.naturetrip.com.

Directions: Head south on Hwy 1. About 1 mile south of the San Mateo/Santa Cruz border you will see a sign for Rancho Del Oso. Park along the east side of Hwy 1 or in the beach parking lot on the west side of Hwy 1. Be very careful when you cross Hwy 1, traffic travels very fast and will not stop for pedestrians. We will meet at the Waddell Beach Parking lot at 9:00 AM sharp. Bring binoculars, lunch, and fluids. Heavy rain cancels. Dress in layers for cool, wet, windy, to dry, temperate weather. Mud likely along the trail if rain has been recent.

Leader: Eddie Bartley (415) 355-0450 or eddie@naturetrip.com

Beginner/Family Trip

San Francisco Aquatic Park

Sunday, March 19, 9:30 AM

For details, see trip description under January 22.

Birding by Canoe in Palo Alto with Save the Bay

Saturday, March 25, 2006 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Did you know that over a half million birds winter in the San Francisco Bay estuaries? The great tidal fluctuations in the south bay provide a substantial array of shorebirds and waterfowl as well as larger birds of prey. Join Save the Bay on a canoe trip in the sloughs along the Palo Alto Bay wetlands. We will look for birds that are often hard to find when walking on land, such as rails. Guests are encouraged to stay after the program for extra bird watching time at low tide. The cost for this trip is \$40; \$30 dollars for members of Save the Bay.

Reservations required for this Save the Bay-sponsored trip. For more information contact Jocelyn Gretz (510) 425-9261, ext. 109, at Save the Bay or online at www.savesfbay.org

Yerba Buena Nursery - Bird Friendly Native Plants

Saturday April 8, 9:30 AM-12:30 PM

Yerba Buena Nursery is a wonderful place devoted to California native plants. Yerba Buena has a 2.5-acre demonstration garden. One of the nursery experts will teach us about the different California native plants that attract birds and butterflies. Afterwards we can bird around the grounds of the nursery looking for sparrows, vireos, warblers, flycatchers, woodpeckers, hummingbirds, and many more. Bring your lunch and we can picnic after birding. Hot and cold beverages and cookies can be bought at the Tea Terrace. The Garden Shop has hundreds of interesting items related to gardening, nature, and country living.

Directions: From Hwy 280, go west on Woodside Road (Hwy 84) about 6 miles through the town of Woodside to Skyline Blvd. Turn left or south on Skyline Blvd. Drive about 4.5

miles. Watch for signs for Fogarty Winery on the left and on the right side of the road you will see signs for Yerba Buena Nursery. At the sign for the Nursery turn right onto a dirt road. Stay to the **right** at each fork in the road for 2 miles until you reach the nursery. We will meet in the parking lot about 9:30 AM. Dress in layers; bring lunch. Rain cancels. To say thank you for the tour, why not buy a bird-friendly California plant? **Leaders:** Sue Cossins and Susan Peterson. For info, call (650) 347-9358.

San Pedro County Park - Pacifica

Saturday April 15, 9:00 AM-11:00 AM

This coastal wooded park provides a variety of habitats for migrating and resident birds. The trip will entail some walking along easy trails.

DIRECTIONS: Take Hwy 1 to Pacifica and turn inland at Linda Mar Boulevard. Follow Linda Mar to the end and follow the signs to the park. Heavy rain cancels. Meet in the parking lot just to the right (south) of the Visitors' Center.

Reservations are required for this trip. Please call the leader and leave your telephone number as the date may change.

Leader: Judy Spittler (650) 355-9362

Beginner/Family Trip

PLOVER WATCH VOLUNTEER TRAINING

SATURDAY, MARCH 11, 9 AM—2 PM

If you are interested in volunteering time to help the Western Snowy Plover, join us at Half Moon Bay State Beach. Volunteers with our Plover Watch help to monitor the plovers and educate the public about this threatened species. Volunteers are asked to attend the training workshop and then contribute at least 4 hours per month from March through September. Volunteers sign up to spend time on the beach, an hour or two at a time, to monitor and record the snowy plovers' behavior during the breeding season and to provide information and answer questions in an effort to educate people about this threatened species.

Plover Watch volunteers may also sign up to help put temporary fencing around protected habitat areas or to staff informational exhibits at special events. This training workshop is scheduled to provide an overview of the volunteer program, natural history of the snowy plover including a slide program, and a walk on the beach to observe the birds and become familiar with the protected habitat areas. Some snacks will be provided, but we recommend you bring a sack lunch and water. Also bring binoculars; dress in layers for indoors and outdoors, and wear sturdy shoes suitable for walking in sand.

Please contact Ranger Nelle Lyons at Half Moon Bay State Beach in advance to register for the free workshop. Call (650) 726-8804 or email: hmbplovers@hotmail.com if you have questions.

BIRD SURVEYS NEED HELP!

Edgewood Park Bird Monitors

The Sequoia Audubon Bird Conservation Program at Edgewood Park and Preserve seeks volunteers to assist with "population density and breeding bird surveys, and behavior research." If you have a few morning hours once a month and would like to participate, contact Bird Surveyor Lee R. Franks (650) 592-7733.

Coastside Hummingbird Study Looking for Site

I am a hummingbird bander who is interested in finding a coastsite site to band at. I belong to a network of hummingbird

(Continued on page 8)



Winter 2006 BIRDSEED SALE ORDER FORM

All Orders, with Payment, Must Be Received by Friday, February 3, 2006

Orders received after Feb. 3 cannot be filled.

Pick up between February 16th – 20th

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 @ \$14.00/bag	
Black Oil Sunflower	25 lb @ \$12.50/bag	
White Proso Millet	25 lb @ \$12.00/bag	
Thistle — 5 lb.	5 lb @ \$10.00/bag	
Thistle — 20 lb.	20 lb @ \$32.00/bag	
Sunflower Chips	25 lb @ \$28.00/bag	
Total birdseed purchases (sales tax is included in all prices above)		
Tax-deductible contribution to Sequoia Audubon Society (Thank You!)		
Grand total (check payable to Sequoia Audubon Society)		

Proceeds support local Audubon conservation programs

Please enclose an e-mail address or a stamped self-addressed envelope to receive your order confirmation and directions to pick-up location. Mail check and order form to:

Sequoia Audubon Society
c/o Jeanne Scharetg, 315 Shad Court, Foster City, CA 94404
E-mail: office@sequoia-audubon.org
(650) 349-1555 (Iona Luke)

Name _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Birdseed supplied by the Wild Bird Center of San Carlos
The next seed sale will be April 2006.

Thanks for supporting Sequoia Audubon!

MUCH APPRECIATED!

Thank you to all the individuals and organizations who contributed to SAS in 2005. Your generosity has helped to fund Sequoia Audubon's education, conservation, and nature programs in San Mateo County. You make it possible; we could not do it without you! Thank You.

Robert Ahrens
Johanna Anderholm
Barrett D Anderson
Gayle Anderson
William D Anderson
Allison Angstadt
Anonymous Donors
Nancy L. Arbuckle
Paul & Madeline Arnaud
Kathleen Augusta
Bank of America Foundation
Joan Barkan
Robert C Barrett
Barbara C Bartlett
Leonie Batkin
Fred D Benz
Anna Bernhard
William Bigler
Nancy Borgeson
Patricia Boyle
Ida G. Braun
Elya & Mary Bresler
Geraldine Brown
Melvin & Anna Brown
Ann Brown
Sherron Bullens
Gail Burnett
Bob & Lorraine Burtcher
California Audubon
Shirley Carpenter
Gordon B Chamberlain
John E Chamberlain
Tom Collins
Bob & Sue Cossins
John De Bell
Gary Deghi
Margaret Desmond
Daniel & Harriet Dower
Michael Yessik & Christine Doyle
Janice Dresser
Paul Dummel
Jean Durick
Richard Eckstein
Bob and Carole Farina
Robbie Fischer
Jeri Eaton Flinn
Leslie Flint
Joel & Myriam Fontaine
Lee Franks
Anne & Stephen Galli
Ursula Gallichotte
Christopher & Mary Ann Gardner
Barbara Garrett
Arthur D Gimbel
Jonathan Glazier
Eric Goodill
Howard Gurevitz
Catherine Habiger

Mary Harleman
Karen Hathaway
Susan Henderson
Davis Hershey
Kenneth Himes
Carroll Ann Hodges
Nancy Hoebelheinrich
Janet R Hofmann
Virginia M Holmes
Susan E. Hons
Penny Howell
Kay Huffman
Susan Hunt
Delphine M Ipsen
John Johnson
Robert & Rosalin Jones
Colleen Jordan
Margie Kaine
Scott and Melissa Kaiser
Kevin Kaster
Eileen Kay
Zoe Kendall
Geraldine C Kirchgatter
Akino Komazaki
Marguerite V Konzen
Susan Kritzik
Bill & Linda Lautner
Anadel Law
Vanessa Leadbetter
Wendy Lee
R Hewlett Lee
Barbara Leep
William Lindstrom
James G Little
Iona Luke
Rosemary MacLeod
Victoria Makitten
Thomas T Mann
Elizabeth Maroder
Jenny McCrank
David C McIntyre
Cynthia McLaughlin
Sonny Mencher
Peter J Metropulos
Susan Mickiewicz
Matthew S Mickiewicz
Carol J Miller
Paula Miller
Lilo Miller
Jutta Mohr
Wayne Montoya
Kelly Moran & Mark Eliot
John B Morey
Anne G Moser
Masako K. Nagumo
Bess Neruccio
Margaret G Neuffer
Frank Ng

Matilda Nieri
Kristen Olson
J Ovenden
John & Nena Padley
Frank J Pagliaro
Phil Palen
Neil Panton
Frank Parcel, Jr.
Peninsula Community Foundation
R H Perry
Gene E Peterman
Bruce & Wendy Pine
Lois Poole
Marilyn Proffitt
S Pursell
Howard Rathlesberger
Miriam S Reiter
Helen & Richard Rietz
Tim Riley
Suzanne Rogers
John Epperson & Susan Rowinski
James E Runyeon
Grace Sain
Sonia C Sandstrom
Joseph E Sauer
Steve Schmidt
A. R. Schreck
Beverly Schultz
Werner Schumann
Bernard Shoor
Robin Smith
Stephen P Smith
Georgia Stigall
Susan Stratton
Inge Svoboda
Annie Tate
Polly Taylor
Wes & Gen Thompson
Francis & Leigh Toldi
Aurora Tomadoni
Arthur Traum
John Tyler
Heidi Ulrich
Margaret G Utterback
Elizabeth Vale
James R Vertin
Norma Vite
Diane Vornoli
Lisa Waag
Jeffrey Wall
Herbert Weidner
Charles Westbrook
Wild Bird Center of San Carlos
May-Blossom & Robert R Wilkinson
Elise Willett
Barbara Wilson
Perry B Wilson
James L Wrathall

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

SEND TO:

Sequoia Audubon Society

PO Box 62092
Woodside
CA 94062-0292

Name

Address

Email Address

Amount

Thank You!

Sequoia Audubon Society

PO Box 62092
Woodside
CA 94062-0292

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

Printed on Recycled Paper

Time Valued Material—Please Do Not Delay

(Early results from CBC, continued from page 2)

hiked in to Portola. He found the Dipper he had promised!

Francis Toldi, who had taken on Whitehouse Creek this year, had been told his job was to find the Snowy Plovers. Due to the early high tide, they were not in their usual place. Francis walked every piece of sandy beach in his area, many miles by his count, but, alas, the Snowies were not to be found. For his dedication, he found the best bird of the count, an Eastern Phoebe. The Snowies later turned up at Pescadero Marsh.

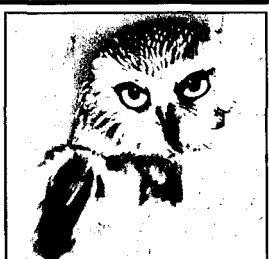
Al De Martini, after being on five counts in a row, showed up in the wee hours to owl on Gazos Creek and Cloverdale Road. Unless you were there, you can't know how hard it was raining and how gusty the wind was. The result: no owls. But, after the compilation dinner he returned to the area and turned up a Western Screech Owl and a Saw-Whet Owl, to almost double the owl count.

Our final Stalwart award goes to **Norma Vite**, who made all the soup and included it in a scrumptious dinner.

Congratulations and many thanks to all the other Stalwarts.

THE BIRD BOX
RARE BIRD ALERT
415-681-7422

Screech Owl



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.

(Continued from page 6)

banders in the West who operate standardized, constant-effort monitoring sites specifically for the study of hummingbirds. We are interested in expanding on the coast to include Allen's Hummingbirds. The site requirements would be: good numbers of hummers (especially Allen's), maintenance of 5 hummingbird feeders for the duration of sampling (March through October), ability to put up with early arrival (45 minutes before sunrise) and willingness to accommodate us one morning every two weeks for five hours. Participation in the banding process is not necessary, but, if interested, there is a need for people to help out with some of the auxiliary banding tasks. If you are interested and have a possible site available, please contact Rita Colwell at rcolwell@sbeglobal.net. (650) 949-1869

The Great Backyard Bird Count Returns for its Ninth Season February 17-20, 2006

The Great Backyard Bird Count, a joint project of Audubon and Cornell University's Lab of Ornithology, returns for its ninth season. Anyone can participate, from beginning bird watchers to seasoned experts. During the count, bird watchers can tally up birds for as little as 15 minutes, keeping track of the highest number of each bird species they see together at one time. Participants enter their numbers online at www.birdsource.org/gbbc. For more information contact the Cornell Lab of Ornithology at cornellbirds@cornell.edu or (800) 843-2473.