



SEQUOIA NEEDLES

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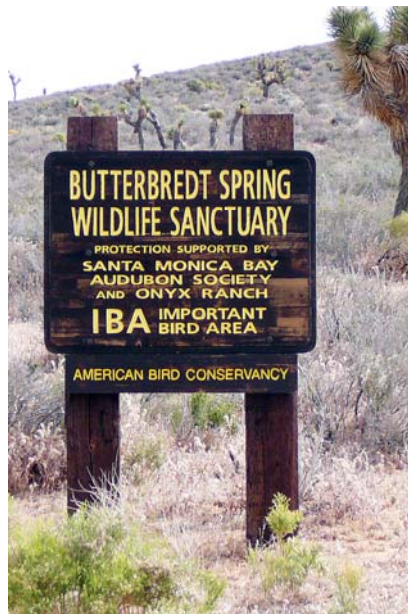
CALIFORNIA COUNTY BIRDING

BY ROY CARLSON

“Are you now, or have you ever been, an active member of the California County Birders group?” In a recurring nightmare, after the gavel drops, that is the first question from the Grand Inquisitor at my Sanity Hearing. I have to ‘fess up, and was immediately committed to an indefinite term.

Actually, you don’t have to be “crazy” to be a County Birder, but it sure helps! There are a little over 80 of us who roam the state trying to find as many species as possible in each of the 58 counties. At the risk of exposing them, I have to list Jennifer Rycenga, Al DeMartini and Robbie Fischer as fellow San Mateo County birders who are among the “hard-core four-score.” I got hooked, I believe, in August 2001 when I ran into an old birding friend, Mike Feighner, who casually mentioned that he had just reached the plateau of 100 species in each county. I thought that was amazing – there were several counties I had never been to or recorded any birds in. When I got home, I checked my county totals (never had looked specifically for county birds outside of a few Bay Area counties), and discovered that I had 100+ in only 22 counties. I joined the group, and by February 2006 I had over 100 in each county. Now I have 125 or more in each county. By the way, all the numbers for this group are “NIB” – no introduced birds – can’t count Starlings, House Sparrows, Rock Pigeons, Pheasant, Eurasian Collared-Dove, etc., even if they are on the accepted State Checklist. Four people have over 200 in each county; one, John Luther, of Oakland, has 225 or more in each county. Think about that when you look at a California map and see all those small counties (eg, Alpine), or those with homogeneous

habitats (eg, Trinity, Kings, etc.). The truly dedicated county birders think nothing of getting up at 3 AM, traveling to some remote part of the state to chase a rarity, spend all day looking for it and other needed species, staying after dark for owling and “nightjarring,” then arriving home early in the morning after a 24+ hour trip. (I prefer to claim the title of “the laziest” county birder – I start late, quit early, and don’t put myself out too much.)



Butterbredt Springs – a Kern County birding hot spot.

Many vagrant species are found here in May and early June each year. Camp in the wash for an early start, as most rare birds are spotted within two hours of sunrise. The small spring is inside a fenced area with willows and cottonwoods.

Racking up the numbers is only a part of the allure of county birding. Just poking around in various nooks and crannies of this diverse state is a reward in itself. Without the motivation of county birding, I would never have had a reason to go to Modoc County or spend a lot of time in Plumas, Del Norte, Tulare or Inyo counties. It’s also a treat to

(Continued on page 5)

Monthly Meetings

San Mateo Garden Center

September

Thursday, 9th, 7:00 PM

Program: Birding Class: Acorn Woodpeckers

October

Thursday, 14th, 7:00 PM

Program: Social & Survival Behavior: African Birds and Mammals

November

Thursday, 11th, 7:00 PM

Program: Birding Class: Drawing Birds

(See program details on page 2)

Upcoming Field Trips

(See trip details beginning on page 3)

September

Sunday, 5th Pescadero Marsh*

Saturday, 11th Jasper Ridge

Sunday, 19th Pescadero Marsh*

October

Sunday, 3rd Pescadero Marsh*

Saturday, 9th Burleigh Murray State Park

Sunday, 17th Point San Bruno

Sunday, 17th Pescadero Marsh*

Sunday, 24th Marina Lagoon, Foster City

November

Sunday, 7th Redwood Shores

Saturday, 13th Palo Alto Duck Pond

* 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, sturdy

(Continued on page 3)

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MEETING PROGRAMS

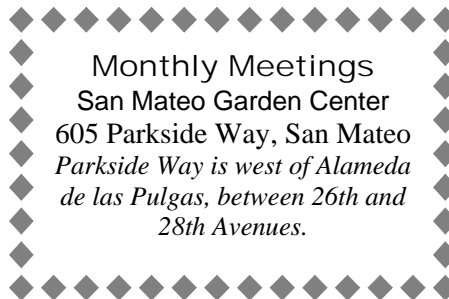
BY SUE COSSINS AND SONNY MENCHER

Birding Class: Acorn Woodpecker Lifestyle

By Ruth Troetschler

Thursday September 9, 7:00 PM

This presentation details the appearance, calls, diet, and lifestyle of these cooperatively breeding woodpeckers. Ruth will discuss their habitat requirements and why she thinks this seemingly abundant species might still be threatened.



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.

Ruth has a master's degree in biological science and spent seven years studying this species. She recently gave a keynote presentation at a SCVAS general meeting on this subject. She also has followed Burrowing Owls in recent years and chaired the local effort to census the owls.

Accompanying Field Trip Jasper Ridge Biological Preserve, Stanford

Saturday September 11

Follow-up field trip to study Acorn Woodpecker colonies at Jasper Ridge. The field trip is open to everyone with a \$5.00 fee paid to the instructor. See directions under Field Trips, p. 3.

Social and Survival Behavior in African Birds and Mammals

By Doug Cheeseman

Thursday October 14, 7:00 PM

Doug will present an energetic program using his personal images from his annual trips to East Africa. The presentation will include about 120 images focusing on wildlife behavior that he has observed, including mating and feeding strategies. He will have many action photos from this year's February and August safaris. Doug will emphasize bird families, as well as a few exciting mammals, as he illustrates competition and breeding success

including, in some cases, cooperation in raising young.

Doug and his family own Cheeseman's Ecology Safaris. He and his wife Gail have been leading African wildlife safaris since 1978. In 1998 Doug retired from many years of teaching zoology and ecology at De Anza College to lead wildlife safaris and photograph around the world full time. They have led over 50 safaris to Africa, with the majority to Tanzania and Kenya. Doug has been doing slide shows for Sequoia Audubon for many years. Doug's images can be seen on the following web site:

www.peterarnold.com

Birding Class: Guidelines for Drawing Birds

By Edward Rooks

Thursday November 11, 7:00 PM

Did you know that anyone can be taught to draw? Join naturalist and wildlife artist Edward Rooks to uncover the budding artist within you! Bring a pencil and some paper and we will draw a crow, an owl, a duck, an egret, and a hummingbird from projected photographs using guidelines and some basic understanding of bird anatomy.

Recommended supplies: a 5mm, HB mechanical pencil, eraser, and paper. (Any pencil will do, but you will need a sharpener if you bring a regular wood barrel pencil.)

Edward grew up on the Caribbean island nation of Trinidad and Tobago where he worked at the Asa Wright Nature Centre. Among Edward's awards and honors for his artwork are: 1st place for his painting of Trinidad's Oilbirds at the Los Gatos Art Gallery and 1st place for his painting of a California Tiger Salamander in the California Department of Fish and Game's Native Species Stamp Contest in 1994. His Golden Trout appeared on the 1993 California Sport Fishing License. Edward's illustrations appear in biological journals, nature magazines, booklets, newsletters, calendars, and brochures. In 2009 he illustrated a bilingual children's book. Edward teaches

(Continued on page 5)

**Jasper Ridge Biological Preserve
Saturday September 11, 8:45 AM
Accompanying Field Trip to the
September 9th Birding Class:**

Follow-up field trip to study Acorn Woodpecker colonies at Jasper Ridge. The field trip is open to everyone with a \$5.00 fee paid to the instructor. Please meet at the gate at 8:45 AM.

Directions: Take the Sandhill Road exit from Highway 280 and go west about 1½ miles. The preserve is on the left side of the road. Parking is limited, so please carpool if possible. Jasper Ridge Preserve is located at 4001 Sandhill Road, Woodside, CA

Leaders: Ruth Troetschler and Sonny Mencher -- sequoiaaudubon@yahoo.com

Burleigh Murray State Park

Saturday October 9, 8:30 AM – Noon

Burleigh Murray State Park is a former ranch. The park's only active trail consists of the old ranch road. The habitats include mature eucalyptus groves, grassy valleys, and an extensive riparian corridor along the ranch road. It is a pleasingly birdy hike of just over a mile from the parking lot to the barn, with nearly constant activity and bird sounds. The road gains elevation quite slowly, and would be an appropriate trail for people with mild mobility issues.

Birds to expect include California Quail, Red-tailed and Red-shouldered Hawk, Band-tailed Pigeon, Downy and Hairy Woodpeckers, Northern Flicker, Black Phoebe, Hutton's Vireo, Bewick's and Winter Wrens, Wrentit, Dark-eyed Junco, and finches.

Directions: Burleigh Murray State Park is located on Higgins-Purissima Road in Half Moon Bay. Higgins-Purissima Road begins just off of SR1, going east where Main Street ends. Serving as a landmark is a local Fire Station at the corner. The park is about 1½ miles east on the left side of Higgins-Purissima Road.

Leader: Jennifer Rycenga – jryralfalcon@earthlink.net

**Point San Bruno to Colma Creek
Marsh**

Sunday October 17, 8:00 – 11:00 AM

The trail is easy and well-paved, but be aware it is a multi-use trail. Bring water

and snacks. We will walk 2-4 hours, depending upon your stamina and interest. Birds should include migrant shorebirds, ducks, and resident land birds. Weather can be variable.

Directions: Meet at Point San Bruno Public Shore parking lot at 8:00 am. <http://tinyurl.com/274ve7r>

Leaders: Laurie Graham and Jeff Fairclough -- Fair80@comcast.net

Marina Lagoon, Foster City

Sunday October 24, 8:30 AM – Noon

Marina Lagoon is one of two large bodies of water in Foster City. It extends about three miles from Belmont Slough to Third Avenue in San Mateo. We will walk just a section of it looking for Hooded Mergansers, American White Pelicans, grebes, Spotted Sandpipers, Semipalmated Plovers, and other water and shorebirds. There are often some surprises in store. Last year's Christmas Count yielded a Red-necked Grebe! Plan to walk about one mile along a level, paved path. Beginners welcome. Rain cancels.

Directions: Meet at the intersection of Port Royal Avenue and Rock Harbor Lane at the Lantern Cove housing complex. Port Royal Ave can be reached by turning right from Hillsdale Boulevard (when coming from US 101) onto Edgewater Boulevard, and proceeding about 0.8 mile past the Edgewater Place Shopping Center to a right turn on Port Royal Ave. (Note that Port Royal is a circular drive and has two intersections with Edgewater. Take the second right onto Port Royal). Drive to the intersection with Rock Harbor Lane at Lantern Cove and park in the lot to the right.

Leader: Leslie Flint – 650-573-6279

Redwood Shores

Sunday November 7, 8:30 AM – Noon

Redwood Shores is more than Radio Road. Learn some of the other great places to bird. Nob Hill Pond, Davit Lane, Starboard and Marlin Parks, Belmont Slough, Oracle Pond, and the Sofitel Lagoon are some of the sites we will visit. We will take an approximately five-mile walk over flat terrain, passing several rest rooms.

(Continued on page 4)

Upcoming Field Trips

(Continued from page 1)

walking shoes or boots, sun block, and hat, and always dress in layers for hot sunny weather to cool windy conditions. While we make every attempt to stay on schedule, circumstances may dictate changes to field trip leaders, dates, or times.

For the latest schedule and updates always check the Sequoia Audubon web site or contact the trip leader.

Sequoia Audubon on the Web

Remember to check out our web site for updates on field trips, conservation news, and links to great birding sites.

www.sequoia-audubon.org

Rare Birds in San Mateo County

By George Chrisman

The year to date species list for San Mateo County has been posted to the Sequoia Audubon Society webpage at <http://www.sequoia-audubon.org/SMCbirds.php>. Ten new species were spotted in May, bringing us to a total of 268 species. We have already seen some exciting reports for June including the Northern Parula and a Summer Tanager. Keep reporting your new sightings to peninsula-birding@yahoogroups.com or to me directly at Geo-dani55@yahoo.com.

(Field Trips, continued from page 3)

Directions: Meet at 8:30 in front of Starbucks, next to Nob Hill Market located about 1/3 mile east of the Holly Street/Redwood Shores Parkway exit off Highway 101.

Leader: Sonny Mencher -- sequoiaaudubon@yahoo.com

Accompanying Drawing Field Trip

Palo Alto Duck Pond

2775 Embarcadero Road, Palo Alto

Saturday, November 13, 2010, 9:00 AM – Noon

The duck pond is an ideal place to draw large tame birds at close range. Fall and winter is a great time to see the ducks, geese, gulls, and shorebirds that make their way to this popular pond. The field trip is open to everyone with a \$5.00 fee paid to the instructor.

Same supplies recommended as for the class – see above.

Directions: Drive east on Embarcadero Road in Palo Alto toward the Lucy Evans Baylands Nature Interpretive Center. Before you reach the center you will see the duck pond on the left. It has an east and west parking lot. We'll meet in the east lot. There's also a small picnic area nearby.

Leader: Edward Rooks – Edward_rooks@comcast.net

Pescadero Marsh – State Park Docent Nature Walks

First Sunday of each month is a morning walk 10:00 AM – Noon

Third Sunday of each month is an afternoon walk 1:00 – 3:00 PM

Walks in September are September 5 and 19

Walks in October are October 3 and 17

Come and discover Pescadero Marsh. The California State Park Docents will lead a field trip to learn about the marsh. This beautiful park has a mile-long shoreline, rocky cliffs, and of course, a world-famous marsh. The docents will point out the plants and animals that inhabit this San Mateo County treasure. If it is not raining, meet in the parking lot just over the bridge at Pescadero State Beach. Wear clothing in layers for cold and windy to sunny weather. Heavy rain cancels.

Contact: The park ranger station for voice mail information 650-879-2170 or Rita Jennings at 650-728-2254.

Directions: From Half Moon Bay, go south about 12 miles on Hwy 1. Just past the bridge over Pescadero Creek, look for the south parking lot. If you get to the intersection of Pescadero Road and Hwy 1 you have gone too far.

Beginner/Family Nature Hike

2010 Shearwater Journeys Pelagic Trips

Pillar Point/Princeton Harbor, Half Moon Bay

September 13, 17, 18, 19, 27

October 2, 10, 11

Register early and get the SAS discounted rate of \$103, which does not include fuel surcharges. For new sign ups, ONLY – no refunds if you've already reserved at full price.

Regular rates start at \$148.

All trips depart from Huck Finn Center, 15 Johnson Pier at Pillar Point Harbor on Half Moon Bay in El Granada, CA.

Certain conditions apply: Discounts apply only to Sequoia Audubon members and not their friends or families. Discounts are non-refundable and non-transferable for any reason. Only a certain number of spaces at the discounted rate will be available on each trip. Advance reservations are a must. Include full name, address,

phone, and email, as required by the harbor master. Any discounted reservation that does not include this information will be returned to the sender. Please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Send the information to:

Debra Shearwater

Shearwater Journeys, Inc.

PO Box 190

Hollister, CA 95024

831-637-8527

debi@shearwaterjourneys.com

SCOTT FEIERABEND—NEW ACR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

BY LESLIE FLINT

After an extensive search process, Audubon Canyon Ranch was pleased to announce in December the selection of J. Scott Feierabend, a seasoned conservation leader from San Rafael, to succeed Skip Schwartz as ACR's Executive Director.

Scott brings almost 30 years of management experience with major non-profit environmental organizations. A native of Louisiana, Scott received his B.S. in Biology from Emory University and M.S. in Wildlife Biology from West Virginia University. He spent 21 years with the National Wildlife Federation, first in Washington, DC for 12 years, then moving west to take executive positions in Anchorage, Alaska and Boulder, Colorado. Following NWF, Scott served as the director of conservation programs for The Nature Conservancy's Alaska chapter. After moving to San Rafael, Scott served as Executive Director of the Marin Conservation League and, most recently, Conservation Director and Interim Executive Director at California Trout. He has published numerous scientific papers on a variety of conservation issues including California's native fish, the status of wetlands, and lead poisoning in waterfowl and bald eagles.

"It is an honor and privilege to have been selected for this important leadership position in the Bay Area's environmental community," Feierabend noted. "ACR's donors, volunteers, programs, board, and staff, combined with the organization's credibility and 47-year legacy, have set the stage for transformational change as we enter a new decade."

Scott will lead ACR with an emphasis on conservation science, habitat protection and restoration, and environmental education programs.

Skip Schwartz, after serving as ACR's founding executive director for 34 years, will transition into a consultative role with the organization.

Sequoia Audubon is one of four local Audubon chapters that have representatives on the ACR Board of Directors and we look forward to working with Scott Feierabend. Our current representatives are Leslie Flint and Francis Toldi.

(SAS Programs, continued from page 2)

nature drawing in Antarctica for Cheesemans' Ecology Safaris, and he teaches drawing part-time at Santa Clara University. He has also given workshops on drawing at numerous local venues.

Since 1990, Edward has been leading natural history/birding tours to Trinidad and Tobago for the Cheesemans' Ecology Safaris. The next one will be in May 2011. For more information, see his website: <http://www.rooksart.com/>

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(California County Birding, continued from page 1)

find some species which are common in our area in counties where they are very difficult to find. Seen Oak Titmouse in San Francisco? Western Scrub-Jay in Plumas? Northern Mockingbird in Trinity? I haven't, but I would sure like to! There is some downside as well: my 2000 Jeep has 318,000 miles on it; I consume more gasoline than I should; I have spent too many nights in not-so-nice accommodations; and have had many heart-burning meals in restaurants that have to improve quite a bit to become mediocre. Then, there was the time in Kings County (the toxic dump of California) when I was surrounded by the Corcoran State Prison SWAT Team for having pointed my scope at their walls. Or the early April in Modoc County when I thought my Jeep could take me down a snow-covered secondary Forest Service road where a previous vehicle had obviously decided not to go. After trying for a couple of hours to free myself from a snow bank, I hiked out 12.1 miles to get help. WAY too old for that kind of adventure.

The most common "issue" with county birding occurs on back roads in farm/ranch areas. You park off the road in a turnout, walk up and down the road looking in the fields and riparian areas along creeks, minding your own business and not trespassing. A pickup truck slows down near you, stops, the driver's window comes down, and he says "Can I help you?" Now, you know from his tone and the suspicious looks you're getting, that he has not stopped to "help" you. He wants to know what the heck you are doing there. I sometimes get a little smart-alecky and say something like, "Why, yes! Have you seen a Blue Grosbeak around here?" However, that just prolongs the conversation. I try to explain what I'm doing, carefully pointing out that I'm on this public road, and

(Continued on page 6)

SAS GIVES HEALTHY HABITAT AWARD TO WOODSIDE PRIORY

In a ceremony on May 25, 2010 Sequoia Audubon recognized the Woodside Priory School for grades 6-12, for its efforts to transform its 50-acre campus into a healthy habitat for birds. The Priory Sustainability Club — parents, staff, faculty, and students — worked to neuter feral cats, build and install bird boxes, construct brush piles, and raise awareness through a print and web-media campaign, all of which resulted in an observable increase in the local and migratory bird population.

"It's a win-win situation for us and the birds," said Hovey Clark, science faculty member and Sustainability Club Coordinator. "We get the benefit of viewing remarkable birds like Peregrine Falcons and Red-tailed Hawks doing what they do best and the birds get an environment that helps them thrive."

At the Priory, students now have more feathery and furry friends on campus. Quail, foxes, hawks, deer, falcons, and an occasional Great Blue Heron cruise the campus, just as they did for millennia before the Priory opened more than 50 years ago.

The Priory's sustainability effort emphasizes being good stewards of the earth and serves as a powerful teaching tool for students in helping them grow into environmentally responsible adults.

The award was presented by SAS Bluebird Coordinator, Susan Kritzik, and SAS President, Sonny Mencher. Several other members of SAS attended and, following the ceremony, Hovey Clark led a tour of the campus to see the work done by the Sustainability Club.



Left to right: SAS President, Sonny Mencher, presenting the Healthy Habitat Award to Hovey Clark, Woodside Priory Sustainability Club Coordinator, and Sean Brown, Director of Communications.



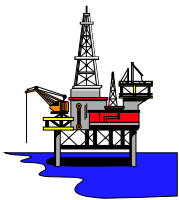
CONSERVATION COMMITTEE NEWS

By Nancy Arbuckle

Take action to stop Cargill's massive salt pond development!

Check out the new website at www.DontPaveMyBay.org! This new site will be a hub for information and advocacy against Cargill and DMB as we move forward.

As we have stated before, Cargill's development proposal in Redwood City would threaten San Francisco Bay and place up to 30,000 new residents in the path of rising seas. The entire 1,436 acres of salt ponds should be protected and restored to wetlands to benefit wildlife, water quality, residents, and future generations. Urge the Redwood City Council to immediately reject Cargill's destructive Bay-fill proposal and promote full restoration of the site to protect the Bay Area's quality of life. Visit www.DontPaveMyBay.org for tools for speaking out and spreading the word and opportunities to take action.



Gulf Coast Oil Disaster

The National Audubon Society has taken a lead role in responding to this disaster. Their website, www.audubon.org, lists ways you can help in the effort. In addition to organizing volunteers and seeking donations, NAS is asking people to stay informed and "take action" via email. One such email campaign is to urge Congress to fully fund restoration in coastal Louisiana.

(California County Birding, continued from page 5)

wouldn't dream of trespassing in his cow pie-covered field. Usually, the interrogator relaxes and passes a few pleasantries before departing. I've been told by some of these fellows that they are concerned about trespassers, hunters, rustlers(!), etc. Similar events occur to all birders when chasing a rarity in a residential area. In both environments, I'm always happy to see a female birder at the scene, because that defuses a lot of concerns. (So, ladies, get out in the field more!)

Most of us in this group will never reach 200 in every county, nor do we want to. It's fun just going to birdy counties like Humboldt, Santa Barbara, Imperial, etc, to see as many as we can. Or to try to get 200 or 250 in the counties near your home county. The Bay Area is a great place for that. This cuts down on overly long drives and enables one to go out in the morning and get back for dinner. Like birding in general, county listing is all about what you want to get out of it.

P.S. If any readers are AviSys users and want up-to-date California county checklists in that format, email me at rbcarlson1@aol.com, and I'll be happy to send all the files you want.

OTHER BIRDING ACTIVITIES

2010 Monterey Bay Birding Festival Watsonville Civic Plaza

Thursday – Sunday, September 23 – 26

The Monterey Bay region has long been regarded as one of

the greatest birding areas in the world. A wide variety of habitats, a moderate climate, and the scenic geographic location guarantee a long and interesting bird list. Where else in the country could you look for Wrentit, Lawrence's Goldfinch, Clark's Grebe, White-tailed Kite, Nuttall's Woodpecker, Yellow-billed Magpie, California Thrasher, California Towhee, Snowy Plover, Ashy Storm-Petrel, Pink-footed Shearwater, and Black-footed Albatross?

Contact: www.montereybaybirding.org

Kern River Valley Autumn Nature & Vulture Festival

Kern River Preserve, Weldon, CA

Saturday, September 25

Visit the Southern Sierra's Kern River Valley to experience one of the largest known Turkey Vulture migrations and the height of fall landbird migration at desert oases.

Contact: <http://kern.audubon.org/tvfest.htm>

The 35th Annual Meeting of Western Field Ornithologists

Embassy Suites Hotel, Palm Desert, CA

Wednesday – Sunday, October 13 – 17

Please check on the website for planning, registration, workshops, field trips, and updates as they become available.

Contact: <http://www.westernfieldornithologists.org/conference>

14th Annual Sandhill Crane Festival

Hutchins Street Square, Lodi, CA

Friday – Sunday, November 5 – 7

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.

Contact: info@cranefestival.com or 800-581-6150

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Field Trip Chairperson

SAS is in need of a volunteer to fill the position of Field Trip Chairperson. The chairperson works with volunteer trip leaders to plan and schedule our various birding trips and provide the trip write-ups for publication in the newsletter and website. For more information contact Sonny Mencher at sequoiaaudubon@yahoo.com or 650-366-3571.

Hospitality Co-chairpeople for Our Monthly Meetings

SAS is currently looking for additional Hospitality Co-Chairpeople to help with the monthly general meetings. This is a great opportunity to be of service to SAS and meet other people that share your birding interest. In this role you'll greet visitors and new members and assist with refreshments. We meet on the second Thursday of every month, September through June, for approximately three hours a month: 6:00 – 9:00 PM, at the San Mateo Garden Center. For more information contact Sonny Mencher at sequoiaaudubon@yahoo.com or 650-366-3571

Bluebird Coordinator

Our current coordinator is looking for someone to take over next year. Contact Susan Kritzik for a job summary. It's fun and interesting! Susan Kritzik, sgkritzik@sbcglobal.net or 650-851-4529

Newsletter Coordinator or Assistant Coordinator

This position entails gathering articles from our committee chairpersons as well as writing or soliciting articles for our quarterly newsletter, *The Needles*. The files are then sent to our editor for formatting in Microsoft Publisher before being sent to the printer. It can be a very satisfying assignment for someone with an interest in journalism. For more information please contact Sonny Mencher at sequoiaaudubon@yahoo.com or 650-366-3571.

Fall Birding Classes in San Francisco

Field Ornithology I, II, and III classes will be starting September 14, 15, and 16. All classes meet from 7:00 – 9:15 PM in room 139 at Marina Middle School, 3500 Fillmore, at Bay St. Free parking is in the school lot off Bay St. on the east side of the building.

The instructor, Joseph Morlan, is co-author of *Birds of San Francisco and the Bay Area* and *Birds of Northern California*. He is also coordinator of the recorded "Northern California Birdbox." Slides illustrate all lectures and the text for all classes is *A Field Guide to Birds of North America*, 5th ed., by the National Geographic Society. *The Sibley Guide to Birds* is recommended as an adjunct text for Ornithology II & III.

The instructor may arrange optional field trips on weekends. Please bring binoculars and field guides to class if you have them. Fees are \$140 for seven-week classes (EA101 & EA105) and \$125 for six-week classes (all others), with a \$10 discount if you pre-register at least a week early. For further information call 415-561-1860 or visit the instructor's web site: <http://fog.ccsf.edu/jmorlan/fall10.htm>. To enroll, please register online <https://www.evolvewww.com/ce.ccsf/> or mail or fax this registration form: http://www.ccsf.edu/Services/Continuing_Education/images/regform/reg.html.

Field Trip Sponsored by Bay Nature Magazine

Birding by the Bay at Arrowhead Marsh Sunday September 19, 10:00 AM to Noon

Join Bay Nature Magazine staff and an East Bay Regional Park District naturalist at Arrowhead Marsh in Oakland. You'll walk about three miles and hear about the marsh's history and the challenges of managing habitat in an urban area. This marsh has a remarkable history and a pretty interesting present as well – it was born of a burst dam, and is now an important habitat for endangered California Clapper Rails and other birds.

We'll meet at the observation tower at the Arrowhead Marsh Staging Area and walk along the Arrowhead Marsh Trail to the observation pier and tower near Arrowhead Marsh, then along the San Leandro Creek channel and back to the parking lot. **Directions:** The marsh is located at Doolittle Dr. and Swan Way in Oakland. From I-880 in Oakland, exit at Hegenberger Road and head west. Turn right onto Doolittle Drive (Hwy. 61) and right again onto Swan Way. You will then turn left into the park and follow the road until it ends at the Arrowhead Marsh Staging Area. There is no charge for this field trip but please RSVP to Judith at hikes@baynature.org or 510-528-8550 x205.

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

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May 27, 2010: SAS Contributes to Science Day at Brewer Island Elementary School, Foster City.

SAS members Kay Partelow and Eileen Kay are shown presenting an interactive birding game to the first graders. Bob and Sue Cossins invented and constructed the game and it's kept in our storage locker for others to use.

Reminder: Please save any birding-related items that you would like to donate to the raffle at our December 9th general meeting. Items can be picked up by Sue Cossins sas-sue@earthlink.net or 650-347-9358.

Saturday, September 25
9:00 AM - 6:00 PM

Join fellow SAS members
 for a special sale day at
Birder's Garden
 926 El Camino Real
 San Carlos, CA
 650-595-0300

15% off your entire purchase
 (excludes optics)

Look for in-store specials!!



Summer Tanager

THE BIRD BOX
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Mission Statement

The mission of Sequoia Audubon Society is to participate in environmental education, and conservation and in the restoration, preservation, protection and enjoyment of our native natural resources with emphasis on birds and their habitats.