

SANTA CLARA VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY, Inc.

478 CLIFTON AVENUE

SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA 95128

AUDUBON SWITCHBOARD: 321-6008

Non-Profit Org.
U. S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT No. 1290
San Jose, Calif.

The Avocet



TIME VALUE

Volume 19, Number 78

October, 1972

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- October 3 Board of Directors Meeting, Tuesday, 7:30 P.M. at the home of Mrs. Martha Wilbur, 2190 Barbara Drive, Palo Alto. Any SCVAS member welcome.
- October 3 Bird Discussion Group, South County, Tuesday, 9:30 a.m. at the home of Eve Case, 20537 Verde Vista Lane, Saratoga, 867-4748. Topic: "Summer Bird Experiences."
- October 7 Alviso Baylands Field Trip, Saturday, 8:30 a.m. Take Mt. View-Alviso Road. Turn north to Alviso just east of SP tracks. Meet on Gold St. just east of Marina Sea Food Grotto. Leader: Allen Jamieson, 327-8310.
- October 11 Field Trip South--Taylor Ranch, Wednesday, 9:00 a.m. Highway 17 to Summit Road. Left on Summit about a mile to meeting point at intersection with Old Santa Cruz Highway. Leader: Catherine Lintott, 356-4264.
- October 18 General Meeting, Wednesday, 8 p.m. Homestead High School, Room 5, Building C. Mr. John Small, Executive Director of Point Reyes Bird Observatory, will discuss the purpose and activities of the observatory. See Program note on page 2.
- October 20 Bird Discussion Group, North County, Friday, 9:30 a.m. at the home of Eleanor Hottis, 2299 Bryant Street, Palo Alto, 327-5826. Topic: "The Glorious World of Our Gardens in Attracting Birds to Them." Color slides and narration by Louise Blakey.
- October 25 Field Trip North--Webb Ranch, Wednesday, 9 a.m. Meet at Ladera Shopping Center just south of Route 280 at the Shell Station. Leader: Ione Bradley, 327-5973.
- October 28 Isenberg Ranch Field Trip, Saturday 9:00 a.m. LaHonda Road to Skyline Blvd. Left about 4 1/2 miles on Skyline to a sideroad on right marked Isenberg Ranch, etc. Down sideroad to end. About 1 hour from Palo Alto. Leader: Howard Wolcott, 321-6694.

PROGRAM NOTE

Wednesday
October 18, 8 p.m.

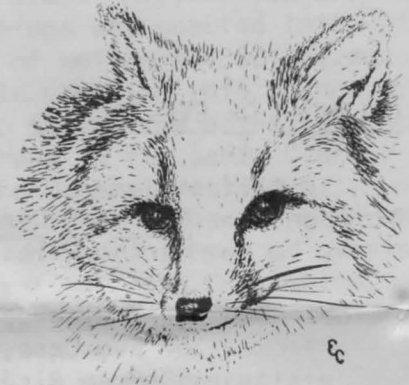
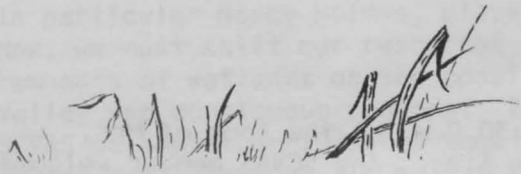
Homestead High School
Building C, Room 5

POINT REYES BIRD OBSERVATORY

The S.C.V.A.S. has been a supporting member of the Point Reyes Bird Observatory since its inception. What, specifically, are we supporting? John Smail, Executive Director of the bird observatory, will discuss its purpose and activities at the October 18th general meeting.

Many fall migrating birds pause at Point Reyes, which juts out into the Pacific Ocean, while traveling the coastal flyway. They are captured, studied, banded, and sent on their way again. Mr. Smail will describe the varied species seen, and what has been learned about them. If his work interests you, he will explain how you too can become a volunteer bird bander at Point Reyes and "get a piece of the action."

Frank Farran is scheduling a field trip to Point Reyes during November to follow up this meeting. Plan to attend both.



YOUR PROGRAM SUGGESTIONS ARE REQUESTED

The general meetings of SCVAS are for your enlightenment and pleasure. If you have any ideas about topics or guests that you would like to have presented at a general meeting, or want to present a program yourself, please phone Diane Conradson, 941-2102, before 9 a.m. or after 7:30 p.m.

BOARD NOTES

Field Trip Chairman Frank Farran stated he will be making no great changes in the handling of this years field trips. He will, however, be looking into the possibility of several supplementary field trips such as fairly easy backpack trips to areas such as Point Reyes, Coe Park, and Junipero Serra Peak to study what is in these areas. Other supplementary trips such as car camping trips to Morro Bay or Pinnacles, and out of area trips such as Malheur Wildlife Refuge, are also being studied.

Conservation Chairman Gerald Grow stressed the importance of voting this November with special emphasis on Proposition 20. This proposition is the one dealing with the California Coastline. See "Memo from the Conservation Chairman."

Motion passed to print 500 copies of welcome letters to new members along with requests asking for volunteers to work within SCVAS.

The proposed budget for 1972-1973 was reviewed and discussed. The budget, as adopted, should be available for your perusal in The Avocet in the near future.

AUDUBON WILDLIFE FILM SCHEDULES

The Audubon Wildlife Films will be shown at Palo Alto High School Auditorium, 50 Embarcadero Road, Palo Alto, at 4 p.m., and Morris Dailey Auditorium, California State University at San Jose, at 8 p.m. on the dates listed below.

A season ticket is \$6.00 for the 5 films. Single ticket prices are as listed:

<u>PALO ALTO</u>		<u>SAN JOSE</u>	
Adults	\$1.50	Adults	\$1.25
High/College Students . . .	\$1.00	Students	\$.90
Elementary Students	\$.75		

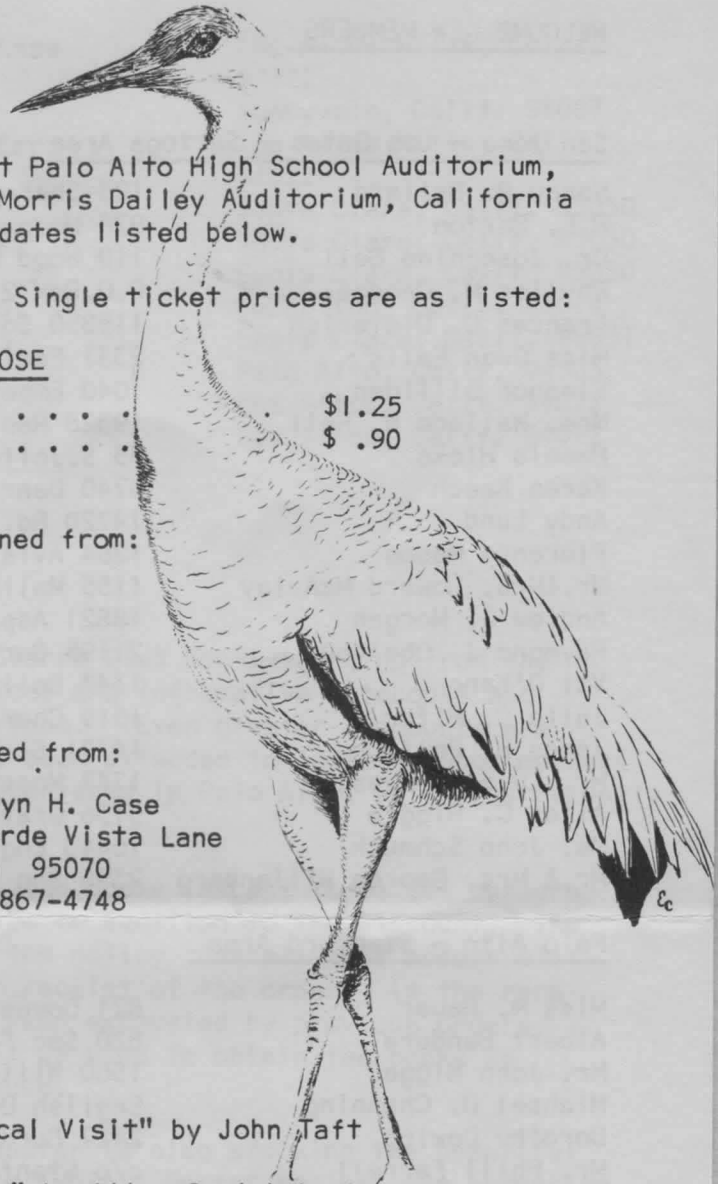
Tickets for the Palo Alto showings can be obtained from:

Palo Alto High School
50 Embarcadero Road
Auditors Office
Phone: 327-7100, ext. 4347

Tickets for the San Jose showings can be obtained from:

Science Room 18 or 38
California State University
Phone: 277-2321

Dr. Evelyn H. Case
20537 Verde Vista Lane
Saratoga 95070
Phone: 867-4748



The dates and film titles for Palo Alto are:

- Tuesday, October 24 - "Yosemite: An Ecological Visit" by John Taft
- Tuesday, November 21 - "The Big Sky Wilderness" by Allan Cruickshank
- Tuesday, January 23 - "Sky Island: Arizona's Chiricahua Mountain Range" by Robert Fultz
- Tuesday, February 23 - "Wildlife Safari to Ethiopia" by Jeffrey Boswall
- Tuesday, April 3 - "Twentieth Century Wilderness" by Tom Sterling

The dates and film titles for San Jose are:

- Thursday, October 26 - "Yosemite: An Ecological Visit" by John Taft
- Wednesday, November 29 - "The Big Sky Wilderness" by Allan Cruickshank
- Tuesday, February 13 - "Malheur: Marsh, Meadow, and Mountain" by James D. Hammond
- Tuesday, March 6 - "Wildlife Safari to Ethiopia" by Jeffrey Boswall
- Tuesday, April 10 - "Twentieth Century Wilderness" by Tom Sterling

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

San Jose - Los Gatos - Sartoga Area

Nancy R. Ballard	123 Sharon Ct.	Los Gatos, Calif. 95030
R.E. Barton	926 Hedgard Ave.	Campbell, Calif. 95008
Dr. Josephine Bell	110 Wood Rd., #B-206	Los Gatos, Calif. 95030
Phylliss M. Candee	P.O.Box 21004	San Jose, Calif. 95151
Frances C. Dieterich	115850 Soda Spg. Rd.	Los Gatos, Calif. 95030
Miss Gwen Ealis	2331 Pauline Dr., #4	San Jose, Calif. 95124
Eleanor Gilligan	1040 Empey Way	San Jose, Calif. 95128
Mrs. Wallace W, Hall	19328 Ranfre Le.	Saratoga, Calif. 95070
Pamela Hicks	55 S.Jeffers Way, #3	Campbell, Calif. 95008
Karen Keech	6740 Danridge Dr.	San Jose, Calif. 95129
Andy Lund	14720 Rd.	Saratoga Calif. 95070
Florence Mason	1264 Avis Dr.	San Jose, Calif. 95126
Mr.&Mrs. Howard McAulay	1155 Maliby Dr.	San Jose, Calif. 95129
Andrew J. Morgan	18821 Aspesi Dr.	Saratoga, Calif. 95070
Raymond J. Obeirne	21195 Bertram Rd.	San Jose, Calif. 95120
Val O'Kane	1343 Bellingham Dr.	San Jose, Calif. 95121
Julie C. Pifer	1519 Cherry Ave.	San Jose, Calif. 95125
James H. Pollock	14771 E. Hills Dr.	San Jose, Calif. 95127
Mr. Lyle E, Pyeatt	1747 Mossbook Ave.	San Jose, Calif. 95130
Allen C. Riggle	5156 Graves Ave.	San Jose, Calif. 95129
Ms. John Schmuck	16443 Englewood Ave.	Los Gatos, Calif. 95030
Mr.& Mrs. George Willenberg	2396 San Tomas Aquinas Rd.	Campbell, Calif. 95008

Palo Alto - Stanford Area

Miss M. Bauer	821 Cowper St.	Palo Alto, Calif. 94301
Albert Bendura	820 San Francisco St.	Stanford, Calif. 94305
Mr. John Bigge	1560 Willow Rd, #204	Palo Alto, Calif. 94304
Michael D. Channing	English Dept., Stanford Univ.	Stanford, Calif. 94305
Dorothy Dewing	2427 Burnham Way	Palo Alto, Calif. 94303
Mr. Phill Farrell	c/o Stanford Conserv. G. Tresidder Union	Stanford, Calif. 94305
Mrs. W.M.Gardiner	1651 Webster St.	Palo Alto, Calif. 94301
Allan Hayes	c/o Westinghouse Lrnge. 2680 Hanover St.	Palo Alto, Calif. 94304
Mrs. Phyllis Hill	3870 Corina Ct.	Palo Alto, Calif. 94303
Mr. & Mrs. Paul R. Kelly	816 Sutter Ave.	Palo Alto, Calif. 94303
Mrs. Virginia Kolence	3591 Louis Rd.	Palo Alto, Calif. 94303
Mr. A.J.Kramer	372 Ferne Ave.	Palo Alto, Calif. 94306
Mrs. Mary B. Lovell	460 Everett Ave., #8	Palo Alto, Calif. 94301
Denise MacLeod	466 Matadero	Palo Alto, Calif. 94306
Robbie Small	271 Parkside Dr.	Palo Alto, Calif. 94306
Mrs. Evan F. Thomas	1610 Emerson St.	Palo Alto, Calif. 94301
Winifred Vetter	1557 Madrono Ave.	Palo Alto, Calif. 94306
H. Coulter	3083 Cowper St.	Palo Alto, Calif. 94306

Other

Mrs. John H. Watson	1880 Vanness Ave.	Reno, Nevada 89503
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Santa Clara - Cupertino - Los Altos Area

Dr. Kenneth Carter	24612 Olive Tree Lane	Los Altos Hills, Calif. 94022
Mrs. E.L. Dessert	1342 Frontenac	Sunnyvale, Calif. 94087
Shannon M. Drew	11951 Club View Terr.	Los Altos Hills, Calif. 94022
Wallace R. Jackson	675 Malarin Ave.	Santa Clara, Calif. 95050
Connie Maurer	1341 Bellomy St., #2	Santa Clara, Calif. 95050
Byrdie McNeill	1050 Highland Ave., #1	Santa Clara, Calif. 95050
David Alfred Pederson	20900 Homestead Rd.	Cupertino, Calif. 95014
Ruth E. Richardson	825 Kiely Blvd., #3	Santa Clara, Calif. 95031
Charles W. Steele	3568 Louis Rd.	Palo Alto, Calif. 94303
June A. Tatum	536 Cuesta Dr.	Los Altos, Calif. 94022
Mr. David Thomas	1208 Eureka Ct.	Los Altos, Calif. 94022

SIERRA CLUB BOOKS AVAILABLE AT DISCOUNT

SCVAS members now have the opportunity to buy Sierra Club books--ranging from the magnificent Exhibit Format series to the practical and informative Totebooks and Battlebooks--at a discount of 15% off retail prices. (Even greater discounts are offered on a few titles.) This opportunity has been extended to local Audubon members by the Sierra Club's Loma Prieta Chapter, headquartered in Palo Alto, which has recently inaugurated a major book sale program.

Loma Prieta Chapter is now stocking all Sierra Club books (except for a few obscure titles) and is offering a fast mail-order service in addition to the discount. The Chapter's Book Sales Committee has established the policy that all mail orders will be shipped from Palo Alto within 48 hours after receipt of the order. In the rare instance when local stocks of a title may have been exhausted by previous orders, express freight--possibly even air freight--will be used to obtain the books as quickly as possible from the Club's main warehouse.

In addition to Sierra Club books proper, the Chapter is also stocking the beautiful Sierra Club/Ballantine paperback editions of the Exhibit Format series. An extensive selection of Ballantine's remarkable pocket books dealing with conservation and outdoor activities will also be stocked in the near future. Of course, the regular 15% discount and mail-order service applies to all of these Ballantine books, too.

Finally, a large supply of 1973 Sierra Club calendars--both the wall type and the engagement-book type--have been laid in. These calendars are immensely popular each year, and stocks are usually exhausted well before December, so it's advisable to order these items early.

Mail orders for books and calendars will be accepted by Loma Prieta Chapter on and after October 15, 1972. Anyone interested in buying Sierra Club publications can obtain a free discount price list by sending their name, address, and phone number to:

Book Sales Committee
Loma Prieta Chapter Office
190 California Avenue
Palo Alto, California 94306

Your affiliation with SCVAS should be mentioned when requesting the price list.

All Audubon members are welcome to drop in at the Chapter's office in Palo Alto to browse through the books and, if you desire, to buy directly at the office.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends,

It is time once again to get our organization rolling after an all too brief summer. The year ahead appears filled with exciting and both enjoyable and serious matters.

On the lighter side the wildlife film series appears interesting, and I am looking forward to an excellent season. Frank Farran has outlined an excellent array of field trips and has plans for intriguing back pack and overnight trips as additions to the regular schedule. Watch the Avocet for further information.

Diane Conradson has outlined a most interesting list of topics and speakers for our monthly meetings. They should be the high point of each month.

It appears, at long last, that the San Francisco Bay Wildlife Refuge is a reality. We can feel justly proud of our efforts in its creation. But the whole job is not done. The Bay appears not to have been saved, Guadalupe Creek is due for a Corps of Engineers facelift, the airport expansion is not dead and what remains of our beautiful coastline is in serious jeopardy of not being protected by proper legislation due to the efforts of special interest groups. Jerry Grow promises to keep us informed on these and other issues and to offer suggestions for the most effective course of action.

Considering the active field trip schedule, monthly talks, wildlife films, public information and education service, and environmental issues, it adds up to a busy Audubon year. I encourage you to become more active in some phase of your organization. I can promise that it will be very rewarding. Come on in, the water's fine.

Sincerely,

Bob Horner, President

IN MEMORIAM: EMILY SMITH

"Miss Emily" was not only a co-founder of SCVAS--for many years she was the guiding spirit and soul of our then small, but closely knit society. She was Editor of our monthly publication The Wren, an enthusiastic fieldtrip chairman, and for a longtime the only field trip leader until she was able to train other members to take over. She shared her extensive knowledge of Ornithology and Botany with everybody who wanted to learn. Emily was deeply interested in bird behavior long before Konrad Lorenz' work became known in the United States. We all loved and admired her!

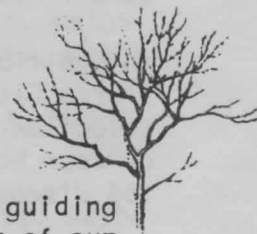
Miss Emily died on August 14th, but to her friends she was lost years before, when a tragic illness slowly destroyed her spirit, her enthusiasm, and her knowledge.

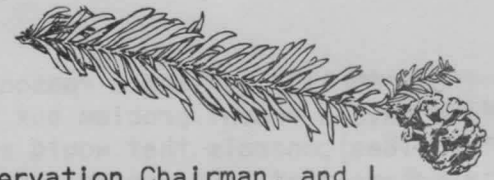
We want to remember her as a wonderful person and teacher.

Thank you, Emily, for everything you taught us.

Manette Wittgenstein (signed)

Unfortunately, the above note was received too late for publication in last months Avocet, but deserves publication now to express the feelings of those who knew Miss Smith.





MEMO FROM THE CONSERVATION CHAIRMAN

This is my first opportunity to serve SCVAS as its Conservation Chairman, and I anticipate that it's going to be a busy job. Three main areas of conservation activity were identified at the Board of Directors meeting on September 12 for future action:

1. The Coastal Initiative campaign.
2. A bill (SB 1177) to outlaw poisoning of wildlife.
3. Preservation of wetlands, with especial emphasis on Pescadero Marsh and other coastal marshes in San Mateo and Santa Cruz counties.

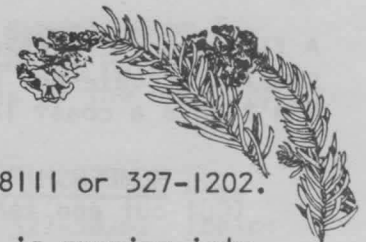
The usual Fall onslaught has not allowed me time to prepare an indepth artical on these three areas of concern, but I would like to touch briefly on each one. More definitive articles will, hopefully, appear in future issues of the Avocet.

By far the highest priority conservation project right now is the campaign to pass the Coastal Initiative at the November 7th election. Known as Proposition 20, the Coastal Initiative would set up a state commision and several regional commissions--much in the pattern of the Bay Conservation and Development Commission--to plan and regulate land use on the California coast. Not suprisingly, real estate developers and their allies have hired the publicity firm of Whittaker and Baxter and have amassed a fund estimated at \$1,500,000 to ensure the defeat of Proposition 20.

Both volunteers and money are needed to counteract the massive anti-Proposition 20 publicity campaign about to be unleashed by Whittaker and Baxter. There are several conservation groups working for passage of Proposition 20, but, from my own experience, I strongly recommend that donations of time or money be made to the Sierra Club's Loma Prieta Chapter in Palo Alto. I say that because Nancy McLane and Kermit Smith of the Loma Prieta Chapter put together a remarkable efficient and aggressive organization earlier this year that literally saved the petition drive to qualify the Coastal Initiative from almost certain defeat. Nancy and Kermit are now serving to coordinate all Sierra Club chapters in Northern California for the coastal campaign. They're doing a remarkable job, but they're going to need a lot of help.

Contributions for the Proposition 20 campaign may be made payable to "Sierra Club Coastal Campaign" and sent to the campaign committee at:

Loma Prieta Chapter Office
190 California Avenue
Palo Alto, California 94306



Volunteers may get involved by calling the Chapter office at 327-8111 or 327-1202.

Poisoning of wildlife would be outlawed by a bill, SB 1177, which is running into strong resistance in the state legislature. Apparently, most of the opposition comes from stockmen who are understandably concerned about the safety of their herds but who can't or won't comprehend the provisions of SB 1177. Fundamentally, the bill would channel predator control efforts towards the taking of individual predators known to be killing stock rather than trying to wipe out whole species by massive poisoning campaigns.

In its present form, SB 1177 would outlaw possession and use of coyote-getters and poisons of any kind for killing predators. It would also eliminate entirely the bounty system, shooting of animals from airplanes, and the use of sale of saw-tooth and spike traps. Rodenticides would be allowed but only under conditions assuring sufficient dilution of these poisons so they could only by used for rodent control and not for predator control.

(Cont'd. on page 8)

Thus, SB 1177 strikes a reasonable stance: it makes allowances for small farmers who have a rodent problem but who can't afford expensive control measures, and it provides controls that would eliminate the massive, unselective predator control programs that have wreaked such havoc on our wildlife. In future issues of the Avocet, I'll bring you details of the legislative situation regarding SB 1177; in the meantime, please write your State Senator urging prompt passage of SB 1177 in its present form.

Before leaving the topic of SB 1177, I want to mention an aggressive young organization that's lobbying hard to get that bill passed. I'm speaking of the National Coalition Against Poisoning of Wildlife which is based in San Francisco. The Coalition is just beginning a membership drive and can always use contributions to help publish its newsletter. Those of you who would like to know more about the Coalition can get information by writing:

National Coalition Against Poisoning of Wildlife
c/o 13 Columbus Avenue
San Francisco, California 94111

I'll touch just briefly on my last topic--wetlands--at this time. Most of you are aware by now that the San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge was enacted into law this year, thereby ultimately saving about 22,000 acres of wetlands. SCVAS, and in particular Nancy Holmes, played a highly important role in creating this refuge. Now, we must shift our resources from creating the refuge to saving the pathetic remnants of wetlands on the coast and in various isolated areas in the Santa Clara Valley and contiguous regions. Those of you who attended the General Meeting of SCVAS on September 20th now know something of the work needed to save Pescadero Marsh in San Mateo county. In my future columns, I will try to keep you informed of events concerning this marsh as well as other significant marsh areas in Santa Cruz which are slowly falling prey to our Department of Highways.

Since I'm new to the job of Conservation Chairman for SCVAS, I would appreciate receiving comments or criticisms from any of you concerning the topics I've covered here or anything else that interests or worries you about conservation matters. Please feel free to write or call me at any time:

Gerald R. Grow
23491 Corte Via
Los Altos, California 94022
Phone: 948-6586

A final word: Please take an active role in supporting Proposition 20. It is simply factual--not alarmist--to say that if we don't save the coast this year, we won't have a coast left to save. Ask any big developer!

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
(Cut out and send with remittance)

Name _____
Address _____
City _____
State _____ Zip _____

Membership: (Please check)
_____ \$12 individual
_____ \$15 family

Please remit proper amount with application

THE AVOCET is published monthly, except July and August. Copy deadline: 2 days after the published date set for the Board of Directors Meeting. Editor: Dick Knoetzsch, 1193 Somerset Drive, San Jose, 95132. Staff: Elsie Hoeck, addressing; Charles and Fanny Zwaal, mailing, 476 Clifton Avenue, San Jose, 95128. Please notify the Zwaal's if writing if your address has or will change.