



## The Avocet

MR ALAN M EISNER  
3538 FARM HILL BLVD #4  
REDWOOD CITY, CA 94061

2020

Volume 30, Number 8

October 1983

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

On all field trips, CARPOOL and share expenses. Bring binoculars, field guides, lunch (optional on half-day trips), liquids. For carpooling arrangements call Dolores Norton (415)941-1666 or Manette Wittgenstein (408)354-9420. Unless specified, Informal Carpooling (IC), commuter parking at I-280 and Page Mill Road.

Field trip coordinator for October - Richard Jeffers (415)325-9675.

- Sept.30-  
Oct. 1 **Western Field Ornithologists Convention**, Santa Cruz. Contact Debi Shearwater (408)425-8111 for details. Many field trips and lectures. Membership, \$14/yr. Registration fee.
- Oct. 1 **Pelagic Trip (Shearwater Journeys)**, Saturday, 7:45 a.m., Monterey Bay, Fisherman's Wharf, return 3:00 p.m. \$25 per person. Reserve with check payable to Debi Love Shearwater, P.O. Box 7440, Santa Cruz, CA 95061, (408)425-8111. Enclose self-addressed stamped envelope for confirmation. Other trips on the following dates: Oct. 8, 9 (\$32 for this trip - storm-petrel study tour), 15, 16, 19, Nov. 7 and 14.
- Oct. 1 **Jetty Road and Moss Landing**, half-day, Saturday, 9 a.m. Meet at Jetty Rd. off Hwy. 1 north of Moss Landing. IC, 7:45 a.m. Looking for shorebirds, Elegant Terns. Leader: Don Starks (408)371-9720.
- Oct. 4 **Board of Directors meeting**, Tuesday, 7:30 p.m. Cupertino Public Library, 10400 Torre Ave., Cupertino. All members are welcome.
- Oct. 8 **Sunol Regional Park**, half-day, Saturday, 9:00 a.m. Meet at Park HQ. North on I-680 to Calaveras Rd; south about 4 miles, left at sign to park. Entrance fee. IC, 8:15 a.m. Denny's at Hwy 237 and Hwy 17 in Milpitas. Migrants and residents. Rufous-crowned and Lark Sparrows. Maybe Phainopepla and Golden Eagle. Leader: Frank Farran (408)252-3874.
- Oct. 9 **Marin Headlands and Rodeo Lagoon**, Sunday, 9:00 a.m. Meet at HQ parking lot, north side of Rodeo Lagoon. From Hwy 101, take Alexander Ave., Sausalito exit. Start downhill, swing left to tunnel entrance to Ft. Cronkhite. Stay on this road. Take right turn across bridge between pond and Lagoon. Park on left, opposite firehouse. IC, 7:30 a.m. Possible vagrants, excellent for accipiters and hawks, possible Broadwinged. Rain cancels. Leader: Allen Royer (408)251-6133.
- Oct. 11 **Bird Discussion Group**, Tuesday, 9:30 a.m., at the home of Eve Case, 20537 Verde Vista Lane, Saratoga. Topic: Summer Bird Experiences.
- Oct. 12 **Field Trip South**, Wednesday, 9 a.m. half day. Henry Cowell Redwood Park area in Santa Cruz. Meet at the Leather Store in front of the Salz Tannery on Highway 9 in Santa Cruz. Highway 17 to Santa Cruz, north at the Half Moon Bay - Highway 1 turnoff. About 1/2 mile to the first electric signal, turn right onto Highway 9. Salz Tannery is on your right about one block. Parking limited. We will bird along the San Lorenzo River for a combination of riparian and woodland birds. Leader: Linda Hagelin (408)867-3046.
- Oct. 15 **Point Reyes**, Saturday, 8:00 a.m. Meet at Pt. Reyes seashore HQ. Bring warm and waterproof clothing. IC, 6:00 a.m. Migrants and vagrants. Call if raining. Leader: Pete LaTourrette (415)961-2741.
- Oct. 19 **General Meeting**, Wednesday, refreshments and get acquainted at 7:30 p.m., program starts at 8 p.m. Palo Alto Cultural Center, 1313 Newell (at Embarcadero - west of Bayshore). Doug Cheeseman will present a program on The Birds of Australia. Emphasis will be on the unique groups of Australian Birds including their natural history and behavior.
- Oct. 22 **Birdwalk for Beginners, Campbell Percolation Ponds**, half-day, Saturday, 9:00 a.m. From Hwy. 17 south take San Tomas Exp. exit, turn right, take Winchester Blvd. exit south. Go left on Hacienda Ave., then left on Dell Ave. Meet in parking lot. Small entrance fee. Possible Green Heron. Rain cancels. Leader: Marilyn Fowler (408)356-7758.
- Oct. 22-23 **Nuts to You!** See separate article for information. Leader: Phyllis Swanson (408)274-2349.
- Oct. 29-30 **Nuts to You!** See separate article for information. Leader: Bob Houghton (415)327-2186.
- Oct. 30 **Alum Rock Park**, Sunday, 8:30 a.m. Meet at Youth Science Institute parking lot. Three miles moderate walking. Half day trip (bring lunch if interested in staying longer). Small entrance fee. Rain cancels. Leader: Allen Royer (408)251-6133.

**Field trip coordinator for November - Carol Zabel (415)948-5671.**

- Nov. 2 **Update on Management on the Peregrine Falcon in California.** Wednesday, 7:30 p.m., Saratoga Community Library. Brian Walton of the Peregrine Fund will speak and show slides on Peregrines as well as other research at the Raptor Center at U.C. Santa Cruz. The film "Peregrine" will be shown.
- Nov. 5 **Searsville Lake and Jasper Ridge,** half-day, Saturday, 8:30 a.m. Meet at the Stanford University Jasper Ridge Biological Preserve MAIN gate (not Whiskey Hill gate). From I-280 go west on Sandhill Road about 2 miles to gate on left side of road. Gate will be unlocked from 8:15 a.m. - 8:40 a.m.; please be prompt. Ring-necked Ducks, possible Wood Ducks and Red-shouldered Hawk. Suggested voluntary contribution of \$1.50 per person for the Preserve. LIMIT of 40 people. Leaders, rain or shine: Carol Zabel, Jean and Bill Clark and Richard Jeffers. For reservations call Carol Zabel (415) 948-5671.
- Nov. 5-6 **Nuts to You!** See article for information. Leader: Dave Johnston (408)356-4945 (work), (408)867-7278 (home)
- Nov. 13 **Birdwalk for Beginners, Ed Levin County Park,** half-day, Sunday, 8:30 a.m. Meet in the schoolyard on the north side of Calaveras Road near the park. From Hwy. 17 take Calaveras Blvd. east through Milpitas to the park. Hope for Golden Eagles. Leader, rain or shine: Vicki Silvas-Young (408)293-7124.
- Nov. 12-13 **Nuts to You!** See separate article for information. Leader: Phyllis Swanson (408)274-2349.
- Nov. 20 **Coyote Hills Regional Park,** half-day, Sunday, 8:30 a.m. Meet in parking lot to right of entrance. Entrance fee. From peninsula take Dumbarton Bridge (Hwy 84) east to Jarvis Ave. in Newark; left on Jarvis, left on Newark Blvd., left on Patterson Ranch Rd. From the east bay take Hwy. 17 north to Jarvis, left on Jarvis and right on Newark. Ducks, possible Black-shouldered Kites and Rock Wrens. Leader, rain or shine: Phil Hand (415)851-2623.
- Nov. 25,26 **Gray Lodge Wildlife Area and the Sutter Buttes,** Friday, 9:00 a.m. Meet at Gray Lodge Checking Station on Pennington Road 3 1/2 hours from Palo Alto. US 99 north and follow signs west out of Live Oak or Gridley. Overnight at Colusa Campground or Colusa Motel. Saturday - A day at the Buttes on private holdings with Walt Anderson. Cost: \$15.00, maximum 20 people. Meet at Colusa Campground at 8:30 a.m., prepared for some hiking. Call Doug or Gail Cheeseman for reservations and other details (408)867-1371.

**A REMINDER. . .**

The Christmas bird count will take place on Sunday, December 18, so mark your calendars. Beginners and experts alike are invited to participate. The 1982 count had 131 participants who sighted 170 species. Both numbers are a record for the SCVAS. Could there be a correlation? The 1983 Chairman is Steve Shugars (408) 749-8126.

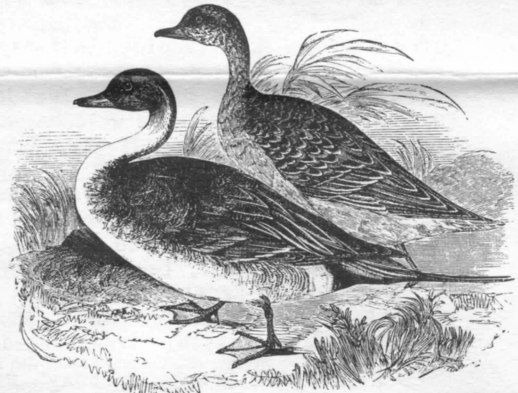
**NEW CONSERVATION COMMITTEE FORMED**

Four SCVAS members met this summer to plan and prepare for action on conservation issues during the coming year. Committee policies and procedures were established; jobs of chairperson, committee member, resource and support people described; and a tentative list of important issues formed - - much was based on answers on questionnaires returned from members.

The November AVOCET will report on discussion and decisions from September's board meeting. We will welcome your participation.

Watch in the next issue to see how you can get involved in this fun, important, social and rewarding committee.

Lynn Tennefoss



**SOUTH BAY ACTION**

Two SCVAS members attended a meeting with representatives from the San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge, Fish and Wildlife Service, Save San Francisco Bay Association, California Fish and Game, Santa Clara County Planning Department, San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory, the Peninsula Conservation Center, and the Sierra Club, in August.

Developments, both planned and currently underway, around the South Bay were discussed.

This group gathered in response to recent developments and manipulations of habitat that may result in loss of wetlands.

Preservation of wetlands and riparian habitat especially in the South Bay is an ongoing concern of SCVAS.

The AVOCET will continue to report monitoring efforts of the coalition. For more information, or to participate, contact Allen Royer (408)251-6133 or Lynn in the office (415)329-1811.



## THE TICO EXPERIENCE - PART II

By Lee Lovelady

Our Tropical Ecology class from San Jose State University spent several days at a gold mine on the Osa Peninsula in southwestern Costa Rica. Our bus from San Jose blew a tire and we stopped for lunch, when I spotted a Golden-hooded Tanager, a new life bird for my leader. It was frustrating to ride past the finca of Dr. Alexander F. Skutch, famous ornithologist, and not be able to stop. In the 101-degree heat, we saw a Gray-breasted Martin, Scaled Pigeon, Bronzed Cowbird, and many Swallow-tailed Kites.

At Golfito, eleven dollars bought us primitive rooms for the entire 20 students. From the veranda, we saw bold Black Vultures on rooftops. On a hill road above Golfito, we found flycatchers, Golden-naped Woodpecker, and Scarlet-rumped Tanagers. Black Terns and Laughing Gulls are common along the beach, and we saw a Northern Phalarope (rare here).

In the moonless night we re climbed a hill road, where a classmate found a new type of possum in her flashlight beam.

Next day I set a record of 22 new life birds. I started at dawn with a White-throated Crake in a wet ditch. A White Hawk soared over to us. Without boring you with a complete list of names, I will mention two kinds of toucan, Black-hooded Antshrike, Scarlet-rumped Cacique, Blue Dacnis, ground doves, hummingbirds, grassquits, Lesser Elaenia, and a Red-legged Honeycreeper.

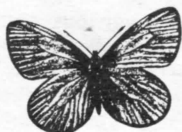
From a crowded ferry next day we sighted a Pomarine Jaeger and Bulwer's Petrel, neither on our lists. After lunch in Puerto Jimenez and a bus ride to Dos Bocas, we hiked up the Rio El Tigre, wading many shallow crossings. My leather boots did not dry out until I left the area.

This area is actually more southern than parts of Panama, Colombia, and Venezuela. Here, just outside Corcovado National Park, bird diversity is rich, but birds are difficult to see in the lush vegetation. Birders turned out at dawn to see the first birds that stirred and watch basilisks, or Jesus Christ lizards, run across the top of the water.

Along the river, we found saltators, two new kingfishers, Bright-rumped Attila, Tawny-crowned Greenlet, and a new ground dove. We were too thrilled with birds to go in for groceries, so lived on the free bananas, mangos, and our canned goods.

### RAPTOR REHABILITATION

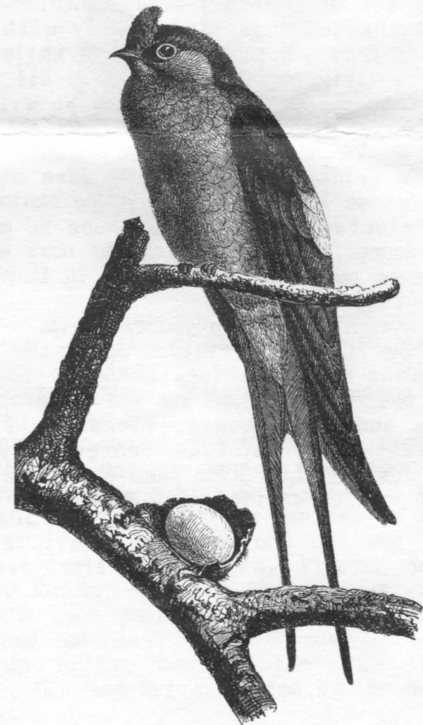
A raptor rehabilitation center that was begun as a spare-time venture at Louisiana State University by Dr. W. S. Bivin and some of his veterinary medicine students has been getting so many injured hawks, owls, and eagles to treat that Bivin is turning it into a full-time, permanent facility and is building an endowment fund for it. For information, write him at the university's School of Veterinary Medicine, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70803.



We preferred birding to cooking so, after a hasty breakfast of tuna and fruit cocktail, we climbed a ridge trail so steep we had to pull ourselves up by holding onto saplings. Our rewards included Scaly-throated Leaf-tosser (doing guess what), a Masked Tityra, and a Coati in a clearing. Among 16 new life birds, we saw hummingbirds, Dot-winged Antwren, Orange-chinned Parakeet, Green Honeycreeper, Black-bellied Wren, White-throated Shrike-Tanager, Black-throated Trogon, Red-capped Manakin, and a Long-tailed Woodcreeper.

During a rest stop on the ridge, we watched two green arrow-poison frogs wrestle for territory and tried to sort out the wave of small birds that drifted through the trees before us. That day I rounded out 100 new life birds. Along with Scarlet Macaws, Striped Cuckoo, another trogon, and a Sooty Robin, we saw a pan of new gold from a dredge cleanup.

It was standing room only on the ferry back to Golfito, where we rested for our bus ride to San Jose and our next trip, to Monteverde Park, the subject of my next column.



### FEEDING WILD BIRDS BOOKLET

National Audubon's latest booklet is "Banquets for Birds: Suggestions for Supplementary Feeding".

The booklet is available for \$1.60, including postage, from Information Services, National Audubon Society, 950 Third Avenue, New York, New York 10022.

**NAS CONVENTION  
THOUGHT AND ACTION,  
A MAGNIFICENT SETTING**

Think globally and act locally, that's what NAS convention participants were encouraged to do under the blue skies and towering peaks of Rocky Mountain National Park.

Gorgeous scenery and beautiful weather made concentration difficult as we pondered such global environmental issues as forestry practices, air and water quality, human population growth, and wildlife habitat protection.

One morning the pull of the outdoors was just too great. Lynn and I joined several new friends on a trip up Trail Ridge Road into the park to search for White-tailed Ptarmigan. As many a bird story goes, we "dipped out", but nonetheless enjoyed our morning escape.

The conference theme, Think Globally -- Act Locally, was introduced by representatives of the European community and of developing countries who stressed the importance - the necessity - of U.S. leadership in world environmental policy. The rest of the world looks to us to take a leadership role in international environmental treaties and wise resource management.

Concurrent afternoon workshops reinforced the global/local link and provided training in such areas as political action/lobbying, fundraising, membership recruitment, habitat inventory, and youth education. We scrambled from one session to the next, sat in on some special lunchtime roundtables, and exchanged ideas informally with new Audubon friends from across the country. While our chapters and activities varied greatly, we all agreed a livable tomorrow won't just happen. We will all have to work hard - thinking globally and acting locally - to make it happen.

On Friday afternoon, with five and a half days of intense learning and exchange behind us, we said our reluctant goodbyes. We hope to meet again at Lake George, N.Y. in 1985 at the next NAS convention to renew our chapter progress in thinking globally and acting locally.

And this is where you can help.

The SCVAS Conservation Committee is gearing up - gearing up to act locally. With your help we can work towards wise land use and the protection of our birds and their homes. Please call Allen Royer (408/251-6133) or Lynn Tennefoss (415/329-1811 mornings) and talk with them about how you can help. Thank you for caring - and acting.

Sue Liskovec



**NUTS TO YOU!**

Mono Lake still needs our help.

SCVAS members Martha and Lynn Hunton have again provided a way for Audubon members to help save the lake, by donating their entire walnut crop to SCVAS.

Four weekends in October and November have been set aside to harvest the crop in Los Altos Hills. It is the only scheduled fundraiser for the year.

The work will start about 9 a.m. and continue into the afternoon. Plan to bring a lunch as well as rubber gloves for shelling, and rubber boots in case it's muddy.

Call one of the following leaders for the weekend you can help:

- |             |   |
|-------------|---|
| Oct. 22, 23 | Phyllis Swanson   |
| Nov. 12, 13 | 408/274-2349  |
| Oct. 29-30  | Bob Houghton, 415/327-2186                              |
| Nov. 5, 6   | Dave Johnston, 408/356-4945(work)<br>408/867-7278(home) |

Let's show the Huntons our appreciation by providing a good turnout.

Dave Johnston

**GRAYS LAKE WHOOPERS**

This season, so far, has been the best yet in the attempt to start a new wild flock of whooping cranes by putting whooper eggs in the nests of sandhill crane foster parents in the vicinity of Grays Lake National Wildlife Refuge, Idaho. Of 28 eggs this year, 26 hatched-a remarkably good record. However, as many as 60 percent of these chicks can be expected to die of various causes before they are old enough to fly, and of those that make it, half may be lost on their first year's migration to and from their wintering grounds. There are currently 14 Idaho whooping cranes still surviving from earlier foster chick hatchings.





## BIRDING IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Frank Farran, a long-time active chapter member and trip leader has extensive experience birding in Southern California as well as in the Bay Area. He has prepared a guide to some of his favorite areas in Southern California for the AVOCET to be used as space is available. Here is the first in the series.

**MORONGO NARROWS:** The birding area consists of three adjacent properties: the Big Morongo Wildlife Reserve (a San Bernadino County park), Covington Park, and Nature Conservancy Property. There is a sign along State 62 on the East side of the town of Morongo Valley for the reserve.

Morongo is the best land bird area in California. It is a riparian oasis in a north/south trending valley in an arid area on a major migration route. Virtually every species of migrating passerine on the Pacific coast passes through Morongo in spring or fall. Morongo is the extreme northwestern breeding station for such southwestern birds as Summer Tanager, Weid's Crested Flycatcher, Vermilian Flycatcher, and Lucy's Warbler. It is also a place where "rare in California" riparian species like the Long Eared Owl, Bell's Vireo and Chat still breed. The Chat is an abundant bird there from April on into summer. It also has interesting and unusual winter residents like the Lewis' Woodpecker and Lincoln Sparrow. During heavy snow storms birds from the high San Bernadino Mountains take refuge in Morongo. At these times Nutcrackers, Mt. Quail, and Solitaires can be seen there. The common resident birds in the bottom of the canyon and woods are primarily coastal or universal western species such as the California Thrasher, Lesser Goldfinch, Song Sparrow, and Bewick's Wren; but the common birds of the immediately adjacent arid canyon walls are typical of desert species like the Verdin and Black Throated Sparrow. It also attracts errant migrants. I have seen Rose Breasted Grosbeaks, Eastern Kingbirds, Indigo Buntings and Yellow Throated Vireos. There are 235 species on the Morongo check list.

Morongo is a good place for vertebrates other than birds. I have seen coyotes and have found many bobcat tracks and one set of mountain lion tracks. Desert bighorn sheep have been seen on the canyon walls. Rattlesnakes are common enough to be a concern.

The main birding areas in Morongo are as follows:

Covington Park, the meadow between Covington Park and the parking lot for the Reserve and the area just south of the parking lot. A check of the fences and bushes on all sides of the meadow may produce Vermilian Flycatchers (March to summer). A

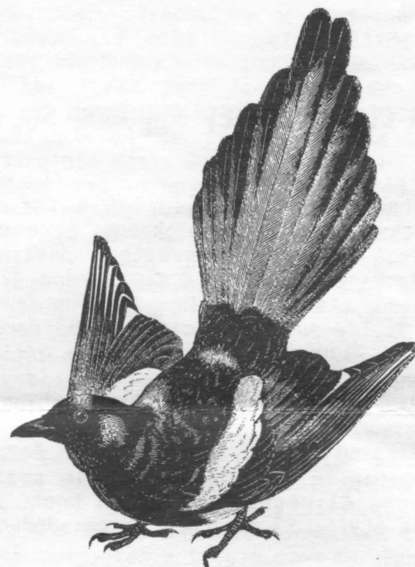


NEW HEAD FOR SFBBO

Kathy Hobson has been appointed executive director of the San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory. She replaces Mike Rigney who resigned in August.

check of the cottonwood snag a few hundred feet south of the kiosk below the reserve parking lot may yield an active Horned Owl nest. In early April the trees in this area are full of Northern Orioles and in early May Western Tanagers. Any time during migration any tree may contain migrating Warblers. Several times I have seen Roadrunners just south of the Reserve parking lot. One year a Red-Tailed Hawk had a nest in a cottonwood just north of the parking lot and I saw one of the parents carrying a dead snake to its young. Several times I have found a Kestrel nest just south of the parking lot.

The Riparian area from a point east of the Reserve parking lot on downstream to the silted in pond at the mouth of the canyon is a good area for Chats (mid-April on), Sora and Virginia Rails, Summer Tanagers (late April on), Ladder-Backed and Nuttall's Woodpeckers and hybrids of the two.



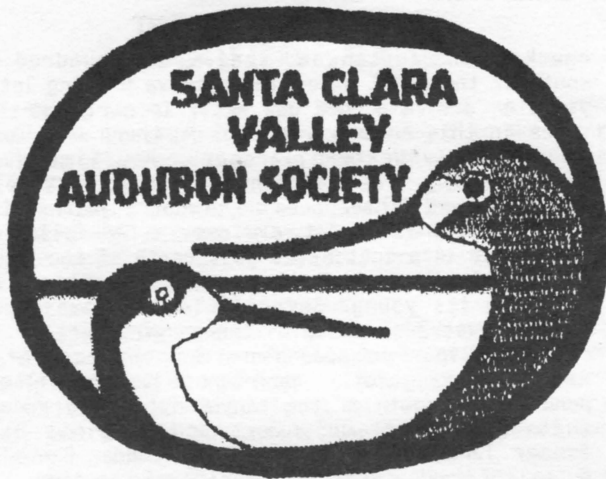
The Mesquite area northeast (east and then upstream) from the Reserve parking lot is the place to see Lucy's Warblers (late April on), Gambel's Quail and Phainopeplas. This is also where I have seen the most Bobcat tracks.

In the canyon below the silted-in pond there is a boardwalk through the dense willow thicket. It was here where I saw a Blue Grosbeak. A dirt road goes down the west side of the canyon. In Spring, looking east from this road one can see Summer Tanagers, all sorts of Warblers, Vireos, Swainson Thrushes and Cooper Hawks in the willows. Looking west from the same point on the road are Verdins, Black-Throated Sparrows, Black Chinned and Costa's Hummingbirds in the desert plants on the dry hillside. The hummers are attracted by the numerous wildflowers.

In Spring migration the unusual birds are often seen some ways down the canyon. The last place down the canyon where there is water is often a good observation point since it is the first place where the thirsty and exhausted northbound migrants come to after crossing the desert. The canyon can be hot. Take a hat and water.

Morongo is best in April and May. Get there early. Frequently it is hot by 11 a.m. The other weather factor which can ruin birding at Morongo is wind. In case of either heat or wind forget Morongo and go to Hidden Valley in Joshua Tree or go up the Palm Springs Tramway. More on those areas in future Avocets.

**MORRO BAY  
AS NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY**



**SANTA CLARA VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY PATCH**

Chapter Patches, suitable for sewing onto backpacks, jackets, or bookbags, have arrived. To be the first on your block with a distinctive Avocet and Black-necked Stilt design, send \$2 and a self-addressed, stamped envelope to Lynn Tennefoss, Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society, 2253 Park Blvd., Palo Alto, CA 94306, or come into the office between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m., Monday through Friday. The emblem is in four colors - black, white, blue and brown - and measures 4" by 3".

**Birding At The Bottom Of The Bay**, SCVAS's new site guide to the South Bay, is available. Send \$6.50 and \$1 postage for each book. All proceeds benefit SCVAS; \$3 per book is tax deductible.



Morro Bay has been included in the National Marine Sanctuary Program Final Site Evaluation List.

Listing a site on the SEL does not mean it is a proposed sanctuary, or that it will be considered an active candidate for sanctuary designation; however, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) will only consider those sites on the Site Evaluation List for further review as active candidates for marine sanctuary designation.

NOAA has been authorized to designate ocean waters as far seaward as the outer edge of the continental shelf as marine sanctuaries to preserve or restore their distinctive conservation, recreational, ecological, or aesthetic values.

The issue of Morro Bay as a Marine Sanctuary was brought to our attention by past members Glenn and Ferol Burris, who are now members of Morro Coast Audubon Society.

Letters were sent from SCVAS, with the help of Jim Royer, recommending inclusion of Morro Bay on the list.

Lynn Tennefoss

**CONSERVATION NEWS**

The Florida Naturalist warns that "the Everglades are dying. Ninety percent of the wading birds once there have disappeared. In the absence of prompt, well planned action to restore this ecosystem, it will be gone within our lifetime." The increasing use of Florida's water for agriculture, cities, and industrial uses has altered the region's natural seasonal flow. Salt water intrusion increases yearly, changing the natural balance.

Thirteen miles from the border of Yellowstone National Park, seventy industries and utility companies have filed 200 lease applications for development of geothermal power. This could have a major affect on Yellowstone's famous geysers. Old Faithful could be faithful no more.

-from "The Quill"- Mt. Diablo Chapter

**AUDUBON CALENDARS**

National Audubon has published wall and desk 1984 calendars. Both measure up to the unsurpassed standards for nature photography that are the hallmark of Audubon magazine.

The wall calendar measures about 10 by 14 inches, and the engagement calendar, about 6 by 9 inches. The 14 full-page photographs in the wall calendar are different from the 60 in the desk model. All the pictures are in full color. Subjects include wildlife, spectacular scenery, wildflowers, a little humor - there is a tree-climbing grizzly bear cub clinging to a shaky branch, and a pair of wrens nesting in an old felt hat - and such unclassifiable shots as a close-up of jewel-like drops of dew on a spider web.

The price is \$6.95 for each. Available by mail order from Marketing, National Audubon Society, 950 Third Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10022. Add a dollar for postage and handling.



## FIELD NOTES - By Bill Bousman

October is the month when we start to see large numbers of eastern vagrants in the vagrant traps along the coast. I have written in past years about the absence of concentrating factors for our inland county. If we continue to persevere, however, we may discover preferred habitats for vagrant species. Last year Pete LaTourrette found a Black-and-White Warbler along Coyote Creek off Schallenberger Road. This bird may have planned to winter, but could not be found after the late November flooding. This area is remnant riparian with tangled willow thickets and is clearly attractive to migrating and wintering western warblers. Is this a preferred habitat for vagrants?



### Wildlife Refuge Activities

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service offers a wide variety of activities and programs through the San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge in Newark, which is located just opposite the Dumbarton Bridge Toll Plaza on Highway 84.

Events scheduled this month include: A Walk From the Past, Oct. 1, 2 p.m.; Migration Slide Show, Oct. 3, 2 p.m.; Bird Tour By Van, Oct. 8, 10 a.m. (reservations required); Snakes Alive, Oct. 9 and 23, 4 p.m.; Duck Identification Workshop, Oct. 9, 2 p.m.; Duck Van Tour, Oct. 15, 2 p.m. (reservations required); Shoreline Trail Tour, Oct. 16, 2 p.m. (reservations required); Birds of Prey Around the Bay, Oct. 22, 2 p.m.; Canoe the Slough, Oct. 23, 10 a.m. (reservations required); Halloween Ghost Open House, Oct. 30, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Call 415/792-0222 for details and reservations.

Another strange migratory pattern is the reverse migration of Mexican flycatchers. In winter California the Tropical Kingbird that breeds in Mexico is far more likely than our summer resident Western Kingbird. But what of Olive-sided Flycatchers and Greater Pewee (formerly Coue's Flycatcher), or Ash-throated and Nutting's Flycatchers? They cannot be readily separated in the field, so before we can start to determine which is the more likely we will need to mist net them or obtain good photographs.

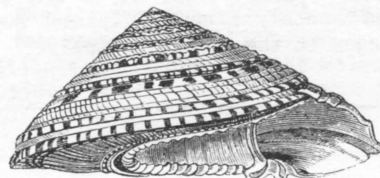
The first **Eared Grebe** chicks at Moffett Field hatched out about 31 July (Tom Rountree). As successive birds hatched, they left the nesting colony and most moved into the Crittenden Marsh area. A survey on 19 August counted 39 juveniles in the marsh, many still dependent on adults. As the juveniles have begun to feed for themselves the adults have left. Dependent young have been seen as late as 1 September. Production of 40 young seems a fair lower bound. Flocks of **White Pelicans** have moved into the south bay with 100 off Shoreline Park 25 August, the first date noted (later than in recent years). The Mountain View Forebay continues to be a good place for freshwater rails with occasional **Virginia Rails** and **Sora**, and good numbers of **Common Moorhens** in August. **Lesser Yellowlegs** have been there regularly in August also, as well as at Moffett Field 25 August and 1 September. **Red Knots** are rarely found in the south bay although regular at Dumbarton Narrows, thus, 100+ birds at Charleston Slough was unexpected. **Sanderling** had returned there by 2 August as well; they now winter here on a regular basis. Two **Baird's Sandpiper** were in the settling ponds behind the El Camino Dog Kennels on 17 August (Bob Dyer). They have been found here or in the Forebay for the last four Augusts. Nine **Least Terns** at Charleston Slough on 2 August were in their regular spot. A **Red-Breasted Nuthatch** was in Portola Valley 31 August (Phil Hand). **Pygmy** and **White-Breasted Nuthatches** there in the same week completed a triple play for Phil.

If you see an "uncommon to rare" please call or drop a note to Bill Bousman, 321 Arlington Way, Menlo Park, CA 94025, (415) 322-5282.

### CLASSES AND TRAVEL

The chapter office (415/329-1811) has information on a variety of upcoming nature and wildlife classes and trips.

Some course offerings include Introduction to Birding II taught by Judith L. Wagner through Foot-hill College Community Services, Tuesday evenings, October 11 and 25 with field trips on Saturdays, October 15 and 29; and a variety of photography and arts and crafts offerings in October by the Yosemite Natural History Association. Among travel opportunities is the Cheeseman's Natural History of the Galapagos and Peruvian Amazon, April 3-27, 1984. Call the office for further information on these and others.



SANTA CLARA VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY, INC.

Staff	Lynn Tennefoss (days) 415/329-1811	DIRECTORS (1982-85)		Publicity	Tom Dargan	408/249-9388
President	Sue Liskovec 415/969-5542	Betty Groce	415/326-5540	Library	Ann Jilg	415/321-8336
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		Richard Jeffers	(days) 415/325-9675	Conservation	Allen Royer	408/251-6133
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Lyman Fancher	408/942-1195	Programs	Doug & Gail Cheeseman 408/867-1371			

General membership meetings, held the third Wednesday of each month, at 7:30 p.m., are open to the public. Board of Directors meetings, open to all members, are held at 7:15 p.m., the first Tuesday of each month. Call the office for directions.

**AVOCET DEADLINE IS THE FIRST MONDAY OF THE MONTH. Send contributions to the editor: Shirley Shepard, 3866 Corina Court, Palo Alto, CA 94303.**

SANTA CLARA VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY  
STATEMENT OF INCOME, EXPENSE, AND NET WORTH  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED MAY 31, 1983



THE BAEER FAIR

The Baer Fair, largest environmental and energy education event in northern California, will be held on Treasure Island in San Francisco Bay on Saturday, October 22, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. It's a community event involving volunteer efforts of concerned educators. The best of environmental education in northern California is presented with exhibits, workshops, and songs.

NET WORTH on June 1, 1982 \$137,346

INCOME	
N.A.S. Dues	\$20,230
Investment Income	13,423
AVOCET Subscriptions	345
Walnuts	549
Field Trips	156
Gifts/Memorials	246
Reimbursements & Misc.	1,158
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$36,107</b>

EXPENDITURES	
Staff	6,349
Rent	835
General Operating	2,908
AVOCET	14,083
Field Trips	866
Education	1,447
Conservation	4,698
Social	611
Grants	4,968

TOTAL EXPENDITURES 36,760

EXCESS OF EXPENDITURES (653)

NET WORTH on May 31, 1983 \$136,693  
(Investments at Cost) =====

first annual

**NATURE THEMES ART & BOOK SALE**

Thursday  
November 10, 1983  
5:30-8:30 pm

original paintings, drawings, crafts,  
photographs, & signed books

Enjoy a **no-host light supper, raffle & the PCC store** well stocked for the holidays

TO BENEFIT THE ORGANIZATIONS IN THE PCC:

Audubon (SCVAS), Camp Unalaska, Committee for Green Foothills, Environmental Volunteers, Nature Explorations-Tuleyme, PCC Foundation, & the Sierra Club - Loma Prieta Chapter.

Peninsula Conservation Center 2253 Park Blvd. Palo Alto (415) 328-5313



DONATIONS

Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society welcomes gifts in general, or gifts in honor or memory of relatives and friends. Such donations will be used as specified, or, if unspecified, will be used to support environmental education and projects. All gifts and donations are tax deductible.

MEMBERSHIP

To join the Audubon Society send a check, payable to NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY, to SCVAS office, 2253 Park Boulevard, Palo Alto, CA 94306. Membership includes AUDUBON magazine, the national publication, and THE AVOCET. AVOCET subscriptions alone are \$5/year. It is published monthly except July and August. Send address changes to the office promptly.

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