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The Avocet

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

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Volume 30, Number 10

December 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 December - Dave Nauer (408)259-1283

- Dec. 3 **Coyote River Park, Morgan Hill.** Half day, Saturday, 8:00 a.m. Meet in the parking lot. Take Hwy. 101 south to Cochran Rd. in Morgan Hill. Continue east on Cochran to the parking lot. Woodland and chaparral species. Call in case of rain. Leader: Susie Formenti (408)779-8694.
- Dec. 3 **Monterey Bay Pelagic Trip.** \$25. Contact Shearwater Journeys, 362 Lee St., Santa Cruz, CA 95060 (408)425-8111.
- Dec. 4 **Charleston Slough.** Half day, Sunday, 9:00 a.m. Meet at east end of San Antonio Rd. off Hwy. 101. Wintering shorebirds and ducks. Call in case of rain. Leader: Bill Bousman (415)322-5282.
- Dec. 7 **SCVAS Photo Group,** Wednesday, 7:30 p.m. Palo Alto Baylands (Lucy Evans Interpretive Center). First gathering of this new group will discuss equipment -- cameras, lenses, flash, etc.) Bring two slides for evaluation.
- Dec. 11 **Lake Merritt,** Sunday, 9:00 a.m. Meet at Rotary Science Center, Oakland. North on Hwy. 17 to Oak, east on Oak, becomes Lakeside then Harrison. Right on Grand, right on Bellevue to meeting place. Possible Barrow's Goldeneye, Hooded Merganser, Red-necked Grebe. Afternoon spot to be announced. Call if raining. Leaders: Allen Royer (408)251-6133 and Lynn Tennefoss (415)329-1811.
- Dec. 13 **Bird Discussion Group,** Tuesday, 9:30 a.m. at the home of Eve Case, 20537 Verde Vista Lane, Saratoga. Topic: Grebes.
- Dec. 14 **Field Trip South,** Wednesday, 9:00 a.m. Deer Hollow Farm. Exit off I-280 at Foothill Expressway. Go one block south to Cristo Rey Drive and turn right. Go west on Cristo Rey almost one mile to Rancho San Antonio County Park sign. Go through gate to last parking lot. Half day. Bring lunch and liquids. Leader: Frank Farran (408)252-3874.
- Dec. 18 **Christmas Bird Count,** Sunday. Call Chairman: Steve Shugars (408)749-8126.

Field trip coordinator for January - Vicki Silvas-Young (408)293-7124.

- Jan. 7 **Post C.B.C. Rarities Chase.** Half-day to full day, Saturday. We will be looking for any exotics turned up in the Bay area Christmas counts. Leader Don Starks. Call Vicki Silvas-Young for reservations and information the week before the trip (408)293-7124.
- Jan. 11 **Field Trip South,** Wednesday, 9:00 a.m., Grant Ranch. Meet in parking lot beside visitor center. Highway 101 to Tully Road exit to Quimby Road or 680 to Alum Rock Ave. exit to Mt. Hamilton Road. Entrance to Grant Ranch County Park is at the junction of Mt. Hamilton and Quimby Roads. Oak-woodland, grassland, and lake. Leader: Phyllis Swanson (408)274-2349.
- Jan. 14 **Bird Banding Demonstration at Coyote Creek.** Half-day, Saturday. Meet at the San Jose sewage treatment plant on Zanker Rd. at 8:00 a.m. LIMITED TRIP. Call SFBBO for reservations (408)946-6548. Rain cancels.
- Jan. 15 **U.C. Santa Cruz Predatory Bird Lab.** Half-day Sunday. Guided tour of this facility and its work with a number of raptors. May include close views of Peregrine, Bat, Orange-breasted, and Aplomado Falcons and Harris's Hawks. Meet at 11:00 a.m. at the Carriage House parking lot on U.C. Santa Cruz campus. Hwy 17 south to Hwy 1, north onto Mission Street. Right at Bay, follow onto campus. Take first right into parking lot in front of buildings. LIMITED TRIP. Call Richard Jeffers for reservations until Dec. 17 or after Jan. 5 (415)325-9675. Rain cancels.



FIELD TRIPS, CLASSES, AND TRAVEL

Nature enthusiasts in the area have a wide variety of classes and field trips to select from.

Nature Explorations - Tuleyme has a brochure with 30 field trips throughout the Bay Area. To obtain a copy, write to them at 2253 Park Blvd., Palo Alto 94306, or call (415)324-8737.

The San Francisco Bay National Wildlife has a program on mammals of the Bay Area scheduled for Saturday, December 17 at 2 p.m. The refuge headquarters at the eastern end of Dumbarton Bridge also has many other programs. Information is available by calling (415)792-0222. The Center will also have a Christmas Art Show and Sale on Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 3 and 4, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Doug Cheeseman will offer a short course on Marine Mammals and Marine Birds through De Anza College, Jan. 5, 12 and 19, 8:15 - 10:15 p.m. Call (408)867-1371.

Rich Stallcup, naturalist who was instrumental in revising the text for the new edition of Birds of North America by Robbins, will teach a series on bird identification and behavior for the Point Reyes Bird Observatory Tuesday and Thursday evenings in January. Call (415)868-1221 for information.

The Cheesemans also are leading an expedition to Galapagos and the Peruvian Amazon, April 17- May 10. Land cost is \$2825. Call (408)867-1371 for details.

FIELD TRIP REPORTS

Ten people met by the Salz Tannery along Highway 9 in Santa Cruz on that beautiful Wednesday morning, October 12. We drove to Paradise Masonic Park, just up the road, where the Hagelins have had a cabin for over 50 years. Walking out the back gate and along the San Lorenzo River, we saw some familiar birds (Black Phoebe, Belted Kingfisher, Ruby Crowned Kinglet, Acorn Woodpecker, Great Blue Heron, Great Egret) as well as some a little less common (Townsend's Warbler, Red-shouldered Hawk). A Green Heron treated us a long look at him preening and fishing along the river in full view. Those who could stay enjoyed lunch by the water.

Linda Hagelin

Oct. 22 Beginners' trip to Campbell Percolation Ponds (Los Gatos Creek Park): Twenty-five of us enjoyed a sunny morning, seeing 26 species. Two extra scopes and several experienced birders helped everyone get a good look at a male Belted Kingfisher, a Spotted Sandpiper, and the Green-backed Heron. It was early for wintering ducks, but there were many American Wigeon, Ruddy Ducks and one Ring-necked Duck.

On weekends there is a \$2.00 vehicle fee (seniors over 62, free). We suggest parking in the street and walking in on the bike path leading from the parking lot of ADDA Corp. at the end of Dell Ave.

Russ and Marilyn Fowler

SAVE THE BAY CONFERENCE

The Save San Francisco Bay Association 1983 Biennial Conference will be held on Saturday, Dec. 10, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. at the Boalt Hall School of Law on the U.C. Berkeley campus. For registration and information call the association at (415)849-3044 or (415)849-3053.

PELAGIC TRIPS

There are a variety of pelagic bird and whale watching trips available in Monterey Bay during the coming months.

In addition to the Shearwater Journey trip listed in the calendar, Doug and Gail Cheeseman have trips listed for Dec. 31, Jan. 14, 15, and 21. Cost is \$28. Trip is from 7:45 a.m. - 3 p.m. Call (408)867-1371 for reservations and information.

Youth Science Institute has grey whale migration watching trips planned for Jan. 14 and 22, 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. Cost is \$25 for YSI members and \$30 for nonmembers. For information call (408)258-4322.

Kurt F. Campbell will lead pelagic trips out of Bodega Bay sponsored by the Bodega Marine Lab beginning early in 1984. For information call (707) 664-0104.

NEST CARD PROGRAM

Those who have filled out nest cards please mail them in to Gail Cheeseman, 20800 Kittredge Road, Saratoga, CA 95070. They need to be submitted to the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology.

Doug and Gail Cheeseman

FIELD NOTES - Bill Bousman

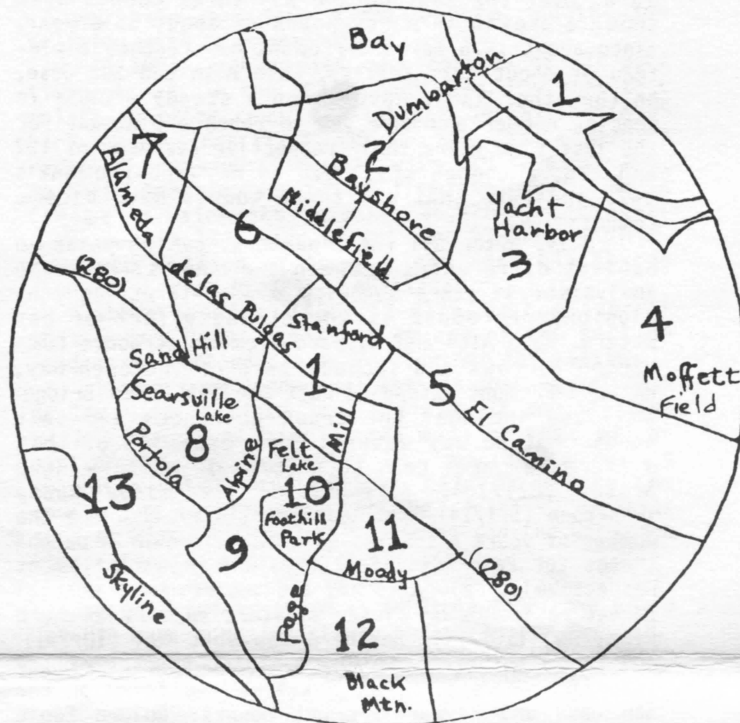
Two-three **Green-backed Herons** were seen in the Mountain View Forebay until mid-September (Dave Suddjian-DSU). They are rare winter visitors to the west side of the valley. Two male **Blue-winged Teal** were in Charleston Slough 3 November. **Redhead** were first reported from the North Pond in the Palo Alto Flood Control Basin 13 October (Dick Stovel-DST). They have wintered here for the last four years. **Golden Eagles** are rare on the west side of the valley with perhaps one or two pairs resident in the Santa Cruz Mountains. They have been seen regularly in Foothills Park this fall (DSU) and a single bird at the Palo Alto FCB on 3 September is unusual (DSU). A **Peregrine** has also been seen in this area with one in the basin and Mountain View Forebay 13 October and probably the same bird at the Palo Alto dump 23 October (both DST). A **Snowy Plover** was at Charleston Slough 2 October (DSU). Their habitat in the bay tends to be dredged fill on dikes which are poorly birded. **Lesser Yellowlegs** have continued their fall showing at the Mountain View Forebay through 3 November with peak numbers of 5 on 13 October (DST) and 4 on 26 October (Pete La Tourrette-PLT). A **Pectoral Sandpiper** at Charleston Slough on 23 October is one of the few reports this fall (DST). A light morph juvenile jaeger at the slough on 3 November was probably a **Parasitic Jaeger**, but was not positively identified to species. A **Golden-crowned Kinglet** in Palo Alto Foothills Park 14 October was the first of the season found away from the coastal forest association (DSU). The most unusual landbird report was of the plumbeous race of **Solitary Vireo** seen along Coyote Creek at Schallenberger Road 25 October (PLT). Our occasional migrants, **Solitary Vireos**, are usually past by the end of September. Unfortunately new construction has stripped more of the scant riparian growth away from the creek here - we continue to lose this scarce habitat.

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.

PALO ALTO CBC - DECEMBER 19

The annual PALO ALTO CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT will be held on Monday, December 19, this year. Birders interested in counting in any neighborhood should contact Clark Blake (415/948-6058 at home, 415/323-8111, Ext. 2221 at work).

The final tally will be held immediately following the count (6 p.m.) at the Palo Alto Baylands Interpretive Center. Dinner and beverages will be served at \$2.00 per person.



NEW BOOK

The second edition of *Exploring our Baylands*, written by long-time Audubon member Diane Conradson, is currently available. The original edition was written in 1966 about the Palo Alto salt marshes. The second edition is published by the Coastal Parks Association of Point Reyes, and describes the ecology, plants, animals, birds, and human history of the baylands from Bodega to Salinas to the Delta.

The book is illustrated with drawings, photographs by Howard King and others, with bird photographs by Kenneth Gardiner. Bay Area birders Ted Chandik, Maryann Danielson, Lyman Fancher, Phil Gordon, and Jean-Marie Spoelman, and salt marsh expert Tom Harvey contributed to updating the book's contents. It lists 35 public access baylands preserves and the notable birds of each place. Price is \$5.95.



THE CHRISTMAS COUNT IN THE BEGINNING

The original Christmas Bird Count, held at the turn of the century, was designed to replace one of the more forgettable eastern American traditions - the "Christmas Side Hunt".

Macho teams of shooters in the 19th century went out to see who could kill the largest number of wild birds and mammals on Christmas day. Frank M. Chapman, who served the American Museum of Natural History for 56 years, had seen enough carnage and he proposed count in October of 1900. Twenty-five bird censuses took place that year and Chapman published the results in "Bird Lore" the magazine he founded which was the predecessor of present Audubon publications.

Today the tradition continues sponsored by Audubon societies and other ardent birders across the Western hemisphere with nearly 30,000 Americans tallying 125,000,000 birds to make a scientific contribution to the environment's health.

The census has the potential of serving as an early warning system of future environmental perturbations. Birds, because of their mobility and sensitivity, are good barometers of environmental change.

For example, recent counts in Palo Alto have shown that common species such as mourning doves and house finches have increased due to man's activities, but there have been dramatic decreases in the numbers of burrowing and short eared owls due to habitat destruction.

SCVAS sponsors the San Jose count, but not all are Audubon organized. The Palo Alto count, for instance, was started in 1959 by a small group of birders who worked at the U.S. Geological Survey. This year a new count is beginning in the center of Monterey Bay, organized by naturalist Debra Love Shearwater.

Many Bay area birders are enthusiastic about their pastime as sports fans. Just as there are football widows and widowers, there are husbands, wives, and friends who are abandoned during the annual holiday two-week bird count period. Committed birders will not retreat to the warmth of their homes to sit in front of TV as a storm blows in.

One way for family members not to feel woefully abandoned during that period is to "join 'em". SCVAS leaders emphasize that you don't have to be an expert to contribute, and in addition to counting birds people are needed to help with the dinner following the count.

Clark Blake, who heads the Palo Alto count, points out that the most neglected areas are neighborhood parks and residential areas.

"Everyone wants to go somewhere more glamorous, but there is a real need for people to watch feeders or take time to look for birds in their own yards and neighborhoods."

Even rookie bird watchers who can recognize only the most common species such as mockingbirds, jays, robins, and mourning doves, can make a significant contribution, because documentation of fluctuations of common species is as important as sighting rare birds, he points out.

Shirley Shepard

FIRST ANNUAL PELAGIC COUNT

The only entirely pelagic Christmas Bird Count on the West Coast will be initiated this year on Monterey Bay on Saturday, December 29. A fee of \$20 includes the boat and count fee. For information contact Shearwater Journeys, 362 Lee Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060, (408)425-8111.

COUNTS BREED COMPETITION

There are three Christmas Bird Counts (CBC's) that are immediately adjacent to South San Francisco Bay. Palo Alto CBC is on the west side and covers roughly from Dumbarton Narrows to the crest of the Santa Cruz Mountains. San Jose CBC is on the south edge of the bay and picks up a good chunk of the Diablo Range to the east, including Calaveras Reservoir. Hayward-Fremont CBC is on the east side and extends from the Dumbarton Narrows into the Diablo Range. It is natural to wonder how similar and how different these three CBC's are.

I have examined 14 years of data (1969-1982) for these three counts to try to answer that question. The table below provides some statistics that will give us a start.

Christmas Bird Counts

	Palo Alto	San Jose	Hayward-Fremont
Average No. of Species	149.2	149.0	160.4
Low	136	129	144
High	162	168	165
No. of 1st Places	1.5	2.5	10
Average of Party-Hours	173	199	178
Adjusted Base	119	114	129
Adjusted Base & Likelies	153	151	162
All Species	197	204	209
Average of Last 5 Years	157	156	162

If we look at the average number of species recorded over the last 14 years we see that Palo Alto and San Jose are very evenly matched, while Hayward-Fremont has a 10-species advantage. Hayward-Fremont has avoided the bad years where Palo Alto and San Jose have not, but it is interesting that San Jose's 168 from last year is the best any of the counts have done. If we award a 1st place to the CBC with the highest count each year, then it is clear that Hayward-Fremont has put their 10-species advantage to good use with ten 1st places. How much effort is put into this competition? The average number of party-hours for Palo Alto and Hayward-Fremont is about the same, but it is clear that San Jose is trying harder with their 199 party-hour average over the 14 years.

Are any of these counts inherently better than the others? All of the counts have recorded 79 species every year. In addition each count has a number of species that are seen every year on their own count, but not on the other two counts- these represent the base number of species seen. To this base I've added species that have been missed only one year - call this an accident of fate or perhaps a typographical error in the compilation. This I call the Adjusted Base and we can see that Hayward-Fremont's 129 is 10-up on Palo Alto and 15-up on San Jose. So there's no question that Palo Alto and San

Jose are the underdogs here. If we add the "like-lies", that is species that have been seen at least half the time in 14 years, then Hayward-Fremont's 162 is now 9-up on Palo Alto and 11-up on San Jose. If we look at all the species recorded in 14 years, Hayward-Fremont still leads, although their margin over San Jose is only five species. Based on these 14 years we have to conclude that although Palo Alto and San Jose are well-matched, Hayward-Fremont is too far out in front to catch. However, if we look at recent trends, the picture is not so straightforward. Over the last decade all three counts have shown a growth in party-hours of about 5% a year. Since about 1976 Hayward-Fremont has reached a plateau of about 162 species. Palo Alto and San Jose, on the other hand, have shown a steady growth in species number and have yet to reach a plateau. For the last five years their respective averages of 157 and 156, although still behind Hayward-Fremont's 162, indicate that all three counts have become competitive.

Okay, after all these numbers, can we point to habitat differences between the counts? Here the analysis of 14 years suggests some interesting conclusions. Foremost is the strong effect of bay waters. Palo Alto and Hayward-Fremont straddle Dumbarton Narrows and include more of the open bay, Hayward-Fremont extending past the San Mateo Bridge. San Jose includes the creek entrances and salt ponds, but no bay waters. Some examples of this difference are: Com. Loon (5/0/9), White-winged Scoter (8/1/13), Surf Scoter (14/5/14), Ruddy Turnstone (9/1/14), and Red Knot (14/0/14) where the number of years a species is seen is shown in parentheses for Palo Alto, San Jose, and Hayward-Fremont respectively. Palo Alto has the advantage of coastal forest residents or winter visitors such as Northern Pygmy-Owl (10/2/1), Northern Saw-whet Owl (10/2/1), and Pygmy Nuthatch (9/0/0). Resident species of the interior ranges are more likely to be found on the San Jose and Hayward-Fremont counts: Golden Eagle (7/14/12), Prairie Falcon (0/6/7), Yellow-billed Magpie (0/13/8), Rock Wren (1/13/12), and Rufous-crowned Sparrow (2/13/11). Some species can be identified to a specific habitat such as the Bald Eagle (1/10/1) who winters on Calaveras Reservoir, but how do you explain Whimbrel (13/5/6)? Well, looking at all these numbers is great fun on a slow birding day, but now as Christmas approaches it is time to forget about past scores, and winners and losers get out there, scout your area, and count some birds!

Bill Bousman

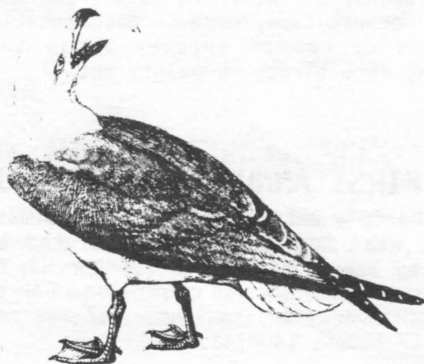
LOS BANOS COUNT

The 16th Los Banos Christmas Count will be held on Tuesday, 27 December. Western Merced County is justly famous for its raptors, concentrations of waterfowl, and White-faced Ibis. Many rare winter species have been found in the area of the count, including Ruff, Eastern Phoebe, Eurasian Wigeon, Sage Thrasher, even Emperor Goose, as well as Barn Swallows, Solitary Vireo, Yellow Warbler, Surf Scoter, and much more. Last year a Cassin's Kingbird, a Long-eared Owl and Mountain Bluebirds were seen. The count's potential for growth is very impressive. Seven species have been seen in national high numbers in the last three years.

This count depends heavily on help from outside the Los Banos area, and this year especially we are calling for help from everywhere.

The compilation is planned for one of California's finest (and most affordable) Basque restaurants, so join us for good birding, good eating and an all-around good time. For details, contact compiler Kurt Campbell, P.O. Box 1935, Novato, CA 94948 - or call (707)664-0104. Carpooling arrangements will be made.

Kurt F. Campbell



1983 SAN JOSE CBC

The all-day counting (rain or shine!) of ducks, geese, hawks, sparrows, and rarities followed by a marvelous dinner and tally will be held on Sunday, December 18. Your help is needed to make the day a success. It is important to have adequate coverage of all areas within the count in order to properly census both the common to abundant species, as well as the uncommon to rare ones. Choose an area to your liking and call the section leader ASAP. As sections fill up, we may ask people to count in other areas. If you have not done a CBC before, on-the-job training will be provided!

In 1983, 169 species were counted by 131 participants within the SCVAS count area. How does that relate to other count statistics? In California 96 bird counts identified 350 species. Santa Barbara recorded the highest number with 219 species. Now, in North America, stretching from the Canal Zone in Panama to Fairbanks, Alaska, 36,426 participants organized in 1241 bird counts saw 93,963,639 birds. Fourteen million of these birds were blackbirds sighted at Pine Prairie, Louisiana!

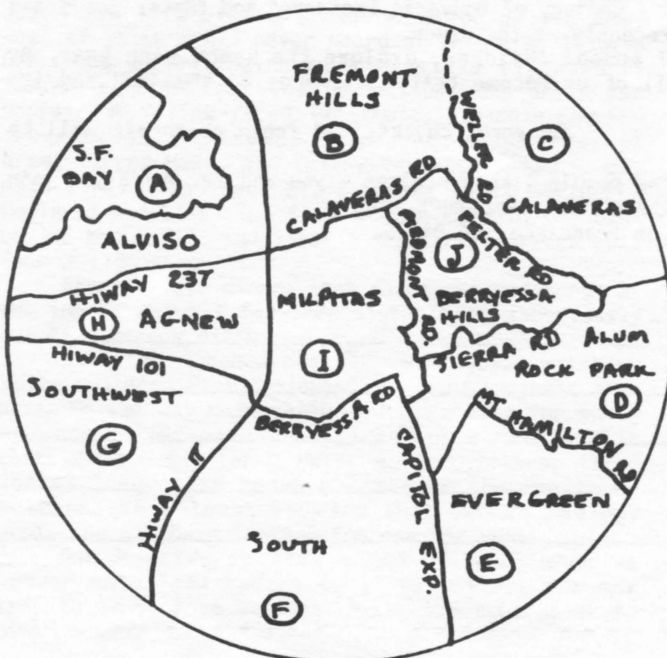
Steve Shugars, (408)749-8126, is compiler of this year's count. Call him or one of the section leaders to participate or for further information.

Inputs from feeder-watchers is just as valuable as the data obtained in the field. If you (1) live within the count circle, (2) will be home all or part of the day on December 18, and (3) are willing to watch your feeders, then call us before the count, and we can work out the details. Rarities such as wintering Bullock's Orioles and the uncommon White-throated sparrows are possible.

If you would like to help with the CBC dinner, please call Audrey Stoye at (408)249-2108. She would love to have some assistance before and on Dec. 18.

SECTION LEADER NAMES AND PHONE NUMBERS 1983 SAN JOSE CBC

A(Alviso)	Allen Royer (408)251-6133
B(Fremont Hills)	Vicki Silvas-Young (408)293-7124
C(Calaveras)	Kep Stone (408)251-2186
D(Alum Rock)	Dave Johnston (408)867-7278
E(Evergreen)	Howard Honig (408)224-1351
F(South)	Phil Hand (415)851-2623
G(Southwest)	Rick Palmer (408)243-0582
H(Agnew)	Mike Newcomer (408)736-4176
I(Milpitas)	Pete LaTourrette(415)961-2741
J(Berryessa)	Betty Groce (415)326-5540



OTHER CHRISTMAS TALLIES

Following is a list of Christmas Bird Counts with telephone numbers of coordinators.

Panoche Valley	Sat, Dec. 17	Steve Allison (408)462-0105
Morro Coast	Sat, Dec. 17	John McDonald (415)528-4855
Mt. Diablo	Sat, Dec. 17	Kent Fickett (415)768-7421
Pt. Reyes	Sat, Dec. 17	Bill Lenarz (415)457-1642
SAN JOSE (SCVAS sponsored)	Sun, Dec. 18	Steve Shugars (408)749-8126 Don Starks (408)371-9720
Crystal Springs	Sun, Dec. 18	Frank Allen (415)344-9339
Oakland	Sun, Dec. 18	Hilary Hulén (415)843-2222
Ohlone	Sun, Dec. 18	Phil Gordon (415)538-3550
Santa Cruz	Sun, Dec. 18	Bruce LaBar (408)476-7583
Palo Alto	Mon, Dec. 19	Clark Blake (415)948-6058
San Francisco	Wed, Dec. 21	Hilary Hulén (415)843-2222 Dan Murphy (415)546-0074
Mt. Hamilton	Thurs, Dec. 22	Don Schmoltdt (408)251-6133
Los Banos	Tues, Dec. 27	Kurt Campbell (707)664-0104
Monterey Bay Pelagic	Thurs, Dec. 29	Shearwater Journeys (408)425-8111
Monterey	Fri, Dec. 30	Don Roberson (408)375-0794
Southern Marin	Sat, Dec. 31	Dianne Sierra (415)388-8679 Ken Howard (415)332-4117
Ano Nuevo	Sun, Jan 1	Frank Allen (415)344-9339
Moss Landing	Sun, Jan 1	John & Ricki Warriner (408)722-5589
Arroyo Cheap Thrills	Date to be Decided	Dave Shufurd (415)669-7429

All of these counts can use help. If you would like to participate, please call the compiler, or the SCVAS office if you have any questions.



MT. HAMILTON XMAS COUNT

Christmas counters covering Mt. Hamilton on Thursday, Dec. 22, will enter some sections under private ownership. Leader Don Schmoltdt has obtained special permission in these areas east of Mt. Hamilton.

If you're interested, plan to allow a 1-1/2 hour ride to the top of Mt. Hamilton in the morning. Compilation of tallies is at a residence at Lick Observatory. Call Don at (408)251-6133.

GIFTS

Thanks to Joan Herrick for her donation of a Red-throated Loon print, and to Sybil Kushera for donating Enjoying Maine Birds, published by the Maine Audubon Society, Birds of Lake, River, Marsh and Field, by Jonsson, and Birds of the World: A Checklist, by Clements, to the Library.

SCVAS ENDORSES BAY RESOLUTION

The SCVAS Board of Directors officially endorsed the San Francisco Bay Estuary-Wetlands Resolution last month.

Created by Save San Francisco Bay Association for state-wide endorsement and distribution, the resolution focuses on the importance of marsh and wetlands ecosystems, the reduction of these ecosystems from 313 to 59 square miles during this century, and the continuing threat to their existence. The resolution and its endorsers urge promotion, protection, restoration, and enhancement of wetlands and marshes. Means to achieve these goals are education, application of the public trust doctrine, identification of habitats, and denial by the Army Corp of Engineers of permits to allow construction in wetlands unless under public trust goals and preservation policies.

Support is urged for inclusion of diked baylands and wetlands under BCDC jurisdiction, "highest priority" assignment to marsh and wetlands by the State Resources Agency, protection under EIR guidelines, identification and evaluation of the cumulative environmental impacts of bay shoreline use and development projects and recognition of existing state and federal regulations to preserve and enhance wetlands.

Copies of the one-page resolution are available in the SCVAS office.

Lynn Tennefoss

NATIONAL PARKS

Senator Ted Stevens (R. Alaska) has introduced S-49. It would redesignate millions of acres in Alaska as National Preserves rather than National Parks. If this legislation were successful, it would open those lands to hunting and perhaps other forms of exploitation. It would certainly set a precedent for changing the designation of National Park Lands elsewhere in our land. Closer to home, Lassen Volcanic National Park has been opened to snowmobiling for two years, in a pilot program. Another pilot program there has turned Manzanita Lake Campground over to a concessionaire. Almost to insure the success of the program, campground fees have increased 150% in the past two years and the Park Service continues to maintain Lassen's other six campgrounds which must operate at a considerable loss. The Park Service continues to patrol the Manzanita Lake Campground. They have only been relieved of daily maintenance and fee collecting.

From "The Gull", Golden Gate Chapter Newsletter



AUDUBON CANYON RANCH - CAN YOU HELP?

There's something special about Audubon Canyon Ranch. A certain magic surrounds the steep, wooded canyon on Bolinas Lagoon.

Each year Great Blue Herons and Great Egrets return to nest in the redwoods. Their treetop nurseries are a delight to watch from the vantage above the nests. Balls of downy fluff soon grow to gaiking awkward adolescents; then to sleek beautiful adult birds.

In addition to preserving the magnificent heron and egret colony, Audubon Canyon Ranch conducts an extensive environmental education program. "Finding Fault - Geology of Bouverie Preserve" and "Bats, Toads and Autumn Tricks" are just a sample of the classes offered recently at the Ranch.

More than 20,000 visitors, including thousands of school children, explore the Ranch each year. By exploring and learning about our natural environment, all of us become better stewards of the land and its creatures.

That magic of the Ranch, its steep wooded canyons, heron and egret chicks, and fresh ocean air will be carried home and long remembered by every visitor.

And to continue that magic, the Ranch relies on caring people like ourselves - you and me. Won't you join me in sending a gift to Audubon Canyon Ranch today. I believe in magic. Don't you?

Send donations to: Audubon Canyon Ranch, Box 2113, San Francisco, CA 94126.

Sue Liskovec

AUDUBON CANYON RANCH

Box 2113

San Francisco, CA 94126

Enclosed is my check

for \$ _____ to support

our efforts in 1983-84.

Name _____

Address _____

(Signature)

GIFTS

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Created by Save San Francisco Bay Association for state-wide endorsement and distribution, the resolution focuses on the importance of marsh and wetlands ecosystems, the reduction of these ecosystems from 313 to 59 square miles during this century, and the continuing threat to their existence. The resolution and its endorsers urge promotion, protection, restoration, and enhancement of wetlands and marshes. Means to achieve these goals are education, application of the public trust doctrine, identification of habitats, and denial by the Army Corp of Engineers of permits to allow construction in wetlands unless under public trust goals and preservation policies.

Support is urged for inclusion of diked baylands and wetlands under BCDC jurisdiction, "highest priority" assignment to marsh and wetlands by the State Resources Agency, protection under EIR guidelines, identification and evaluation of the cumulative environmental impacts of bay shoreline use and development projects and recognition of existing state and federal regulations to preserve and enhance wetlands.

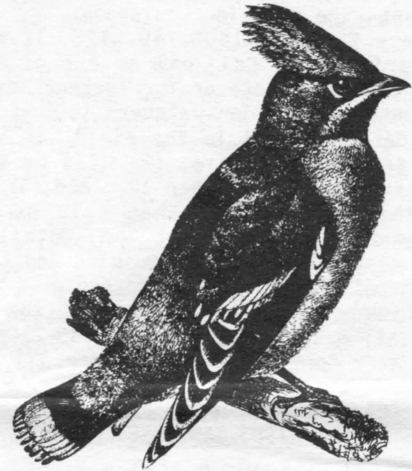
Copies of the one-page resolution are available in the SCVAS office.

Lynn Tennefoss

NATIONAL PARKS

Senator Ted Stevens (R. Alaska) has introduced S-49. It would redesignate millions of acres in Alaska as National Preserves rather than National Parks. If this legislation were successful, it would open those lands to hunting and perhaps other forms of exploitation. It would certainly set a precedent for changing the designation of National Park Lands elsewhere in our land. Closer to home, Lassen Volcanic National Park has been opened to snowmobiling for two years, in a pilot program. Another pilot program there has turned Manzanita Lake Campground over to a concessionaire. Almost to insure the success of the program, campground fees have increased 150% in the past two years and the Park Service continues to maintain Lassen's other six campgrounds which must operate at a considerable loss. The Park Service continues to patrol the Manzanita Lake Campground. They have only been relieved of daily maintenance and fee collecting.

From "The Gull", Golden Gate Chapter Newsletter



AUDUBON CANYON RANCH - CAN YOU HELP?

There's something special about Audubon Canyon Ranch. A certain magic surrounds the steep, wooded canyon on Bolinas Lagoon.

Each year Great Blue Herons and Great Egrets return to nest in the redwoods. Their treetop nurseries are a delight to watch from the vantage above the nests. Balls of downy fluff soon grow to gaiking awkward adolescents; then to sleek beautiful adult birds.

In addition to preserving the magnificent heron and egret colony, Audubon Canyon Ranch conducts an extensive environmental education program. "Finding Fault - Geology of Bouverie Preserve" and "Bats, Toads and Autumn Tricks" are just a sample of the classes offered recently at the Ranch.

More than 20,000 visitors, including thousands of school children, explore the Ranch each year. By exploring and learning about our natural environment, all of us become better stewards of the land and its creatures.

That magic of the Ranch, its steep wooded canyons, heron and egret chicks, and fresh ocean air will be carried home and long remembered by every visitor.

And to continue that magic, the Ranch relies on caring people like ourselves - you and me. Won't you join me in sending a gift to Audubon Canyon Ranch today. I believe in magic. Don't you?

Send donations to: Audubon Canyon Ranch, Box 2113, San Francisco, CA 94126.

Sue Liskovec

AUDUBON CANYON RANCH

Box 2113

San Francisco, CA 94126

Enclosed is my check

for \$ _____ to support

our efforts in 1983-84.

Name _____

Address _____

(Signature)

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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: Susan McCarthy, 475 So. 12th, San Jose, CA 95112.

CONSERVATION CHAIR SOUGHT

SCVAS is looking for a Chairperson to manage the activities of the Conservation Committee.

This group is key in focusing local Audubon efforts on issues of high priorities at local, state and national levels. As Chairperson, you would lead the organizing and planning of committee members involved in letter writing, the phone tree, attending meetings, contacting congresspersons, etc. Issues you'll be concerned with include those impacting the preservation and restoration of ecosystems supporting species of special concern, and control of toxic wastes and pollution.

Please contact Sue Liskovec at (415)329-1811 for more details about this challenging and all important post.

MONO LAKE PHOTO BOOK

An 80-page collection of photographs entitled AT MONO LAKE which was published to coincide with a recent exhibition at the California Academy of Sciences is now available for holiday shoppers.

The book contains 66 photographs, 17 in color, and serves as a historical record of the Mono Basin itself. Photographers represented are Timothy O'Sullivan, Ansel Adams, Philip Hyde, Edward and Brett Weston and Galen Rowell.

Sales proceeds will fund future educational programs by the Mono Lake Committee. The book is available at the Peninsula Conservation Center for \$12.95 or from the Mono Lake Committee, 1045 Sansome Street, Room 402, San Francisco, CA 94111, (415)956-7532.

PCC STORE



The Peninsula Conservation Center Store is in full gear for Christmas shoppers. Hours are 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. M-T-W-F and 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. Thursdays. For the holiday season it will be open 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. on Saturdays. To support the store that supports conservation, stop by at 2253 Park Blvd., Palo Alto. (415)329-5313.

SCVAS GRANTS

The Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society continues its program of providing grants to studies and projects that advance the knowledge, appreciation and protection of wildlife and its habitats. Proposals for grants will be accepted through January 31, 1984, for consideration in the 1983-84 funding cycle. Up to \$2,000 total will be awarded by April 15, 1984, to those proposals approved fully or partially by the SCVAS Grants Committee and Board of Directors.

Applications for grants must be submitted on a "Grant Request Form", which can be obtained by writing to: SCVAS Grants, c/o 2526 Amaryl Drive, San Jose, CA 95132.

Each completed request form must be accompanied by a proposed budget and schedule for the study or project. After completion of the funded activity, the recipient of a grant may be asked to give presentation at a SCVAS General Meeting, or to prepare an article for the Avocet.

Kepler Stone

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.

NAME _____
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