

SANTA CLARA VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY

Chapter C14 of the National Audubon Society
2253 Park Boulevard, Palo Alto, CA 94306
Telephone: (415) 329-1811

Non-Profit Org.
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Permit No. 5869



Mr Alan M Eisner
3538 Farm Hill Blvd #4
Redwood City, CA 94061

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June 1985

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

On all field trips, CARPOOL and share expenses. Bring binoculars, field guides, lunch (optional on half-days) and liquids. For carpooling arrangements call Dolores Norton (415)941-1666 or Gail Cheeseman (408)741-5330.

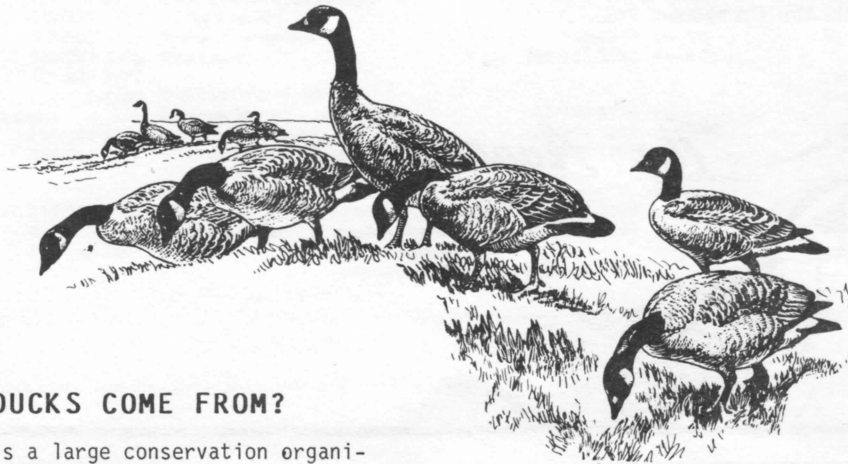
Field Trip Coordinator for June , Vicki Silvas-Young (408)293-7124.

- June 4 **Board of Directors Meeting.** Cupertino, Tuesday, 7:15 pm. Please call office for directions. All members welcome.
- June 5 **Bay Area Bird Photographers.** Wednesday, 7:30 pm at Baylands. Doug Cheeseman will show slides from last year's trips to Australia, New Zealand, the Antarctic, Ecuador, the Galapagos, Peru, and East Africa. Co-sponsored by the City of Palo Alto.
- June 8 **Skyline-to-the-Sea Trail.** Saturday (not Sunday), 8 am, full day. Meet at Saratoga Gap, parking lot on SE corner of intersection of Hwy 9 & Skyline Blvd (Hwy 35). From Hwy 280 in Cupertino take Hwy 85 S. In Saratoga turn right onto Congress Springs Rd (Hwy 9). We will hike part of the Skyline-to-the-Sea Trail, about 8 miles. Bring lunch and liquids and wear walking shoes. Possible birds: Black-throated Gray Warbler, Solitary Vireo, Western Tanager. Leader: Vicki Silvas-Young (408)293-7124.
- June 11 **Bird Discussion Group.** Tuesday, 9:30 am at the home of Eve Case, 20537 Verde Vista, Saratoga. Bring lunch for birding trip to Hakone Gardens.
- June 12 **Field Trip South.** Wednesday, 8:30 am, half day. South end of Montebello Ridge. Take Stevens Creek Blvd. W to Foothill Blvd, left on Foothill about 1 1/2 miles. Turn left and go down into parking lot below the dam. We will carpool from here up Montebello Rd. and will go through a locked gate. Bring water and lunch since we will not return through the locked gate until 1:30 pm. Leader: Frank Farran (408)252-3874.
- June 12 **Annual Member Appreciation Dinner.** Wednesday, 6 pm Los Altos. See details inside.
- June 22-23 **Burney Falls Field Trip.** Saturday and Sunday morning. We'll start 9 am at Ranger Station in McArthur/Burney Falls State Park near Lassen National Park - about 325 miles from San Jose. Take Interstate Hwy 5 N as far as Redding, then Hwy 99 E (Alturas exit) through Burney to Hwy 44 N to the park. Camping available for Friday & Saturday night at Burney Falls Park; tickets available from Ticketron. Motels in Burney also. Call leader for information. Bald Eagles, Ospreys, Black Swifts, possible Pileated Woodpecker . . . lots of good birding. Please call if you plan to go. Leader: Dave Nauer (408)259-1283.

CONDOR HABITAT THREATENED

In a blow to the California Condor, whose numbers appear to have dropped drastically this year, the U.S. Forest Service has recommended, through a Draft Environmental Impact Statement, the construction of the Peppermint Mountain Resort. A year-round resort is proposed for Slate Mountain, in Sequoia National Forest. The project would be detrimental to wildlife habitat in general and to California Condors in particular, with access roads passing through critical foraging habitat and within 1.2 miles of an active nest. The Sierra foothills would experience a great amount of secondary growth induced by this project - motels, restaurants, gas stations, bars, and employee housing. In addition, cattle ranchers in the area may be forced out of

business, because of increased costs. This would result in a reduced food supply for carcass-eating condors. One of the largest remaining hindrances to the recovery of the condor population is habitat loss or degradation. This project will continue that trend. There will be a 45 day review of the DEIS and an addendum dealing specifically with impacts on the condor. This is the only opportunity for public involvement before the Forest Supervisor makes his decision. Please contact the SCVAS office for additional information, or write to: U.S. Forest Service, Sequoia National Forest, 900 West Grand, Porterville, CA 93257, and urge denial of the project.



WHERE DO DUCKS COME FROM?

Ducks Unlimited is a large conservation organization dedicated to preserving and restoring wetlands, extending protection to more than 3.3 million acres in Canada, Mexico, and, lately, the U.S. Yet many conservationists know very little about Ducks Unlimited (DU) because its membership is mainly made up of hunters. (Non-hunters are welcome.)

DU was founded in 1937 by waterfowl hunters concerned about dwindling numbers of game birds. Research showed that more than 70% of waterfowl production in North America originated in Canada, so that's where they directed their efforts.

Since then DU has restored or protected millions of acres, mostly through long-term leases and easements in cooperation with landholders. Last year DU raised \$45 million for waterfowl habitat.

More recently, DU has begun protecting wintering habitat in Mexico, and has implemented habitat construction in North and South Dakota, Montana, Minnesota, and Alaska, prime U.S. breeding area.

Another new program will direct a percentage of the money raised in each state back to state wetland preservation. Last year, the first year of this plan, California received \$235,000.

Because DU can reach across national borders, unlike state and federal agencies, it is able to care for waterfowl throughout their migrations.

DU is supported by over 500,000 members. Volunteer committees put on fund-raising events and banquets. Nineteen states also contribute to DU through duck stamp programs and wildlife funds.

DU's goal is to preserve and restore waterfowl habitats. "That's it," says Jerry Cawthon, regional director, "We don't lobby, we don't take policy positions...While everybody else is out talking, DU is doing something."

DU has recently undertaken an intensive program to increase their acreage of Canadian wetlands, which is fast diminishing. Their success in this may determine the status of waterfowl populations for decades to come.

Of course, wetland protection benefits more than game birds. Many non-game birds and animals live or breed on DU preserves.

Although some people find contradiction in an organization of hunters engaged in active conservation, the next duck or goose you see may owe its existence to Ducks Unlimited.

You can reach our local DU chapter at: DU, c/o Gary Harris, 1570 La Pradera, Campbell, CA 95008. "It's one program where people can put their money in and look and see that they're really getting results," says Jerry Cawthon.

- S. J. McCarthy

(First in a series of profiles of conservation organizations.)

PUSH BUTTON PHONE WANTED

Do you have an extra push-button phone at home or at work that you aren't using? Please call Lynn at (415)329-1811 if you can donate or lend one to the office.



RUMMAGE SALE

The Peninsula Conservation Center Foundation will hold a library rummage sale on Saturday, June 1 from 9-3 at 2253 Park Blvd., Palo Alto. Please mark your calendars!

As you clean out your closets, remember the library would like your rummage. Please call Connie Sutton at (415)328-5313 for drop-off information.

ITEMS FOR SALE

National Geographic Society Field Guide to Birds of North America (\$13.00 + .63 if you want it sent).
 SCVAS Birding at the Bottom of the Bay (\$6.55 + \$1 to send).

Sequoia Audubon Society SF Peninsula Birdwatching (\$9.10 + \$1 to send).

New Birds of The Sierra Coloring Book by Keith and Rob Hansen (\$5 + \$1 to send).

ANNUAL POTLUCK

JUNE GENERAL MEETING

BIRTHDAY PARTY

Please set aside the evening of Wednesday, June 12, for a celebration! This year marks John James Audubon's 200th birthday, SCVAS' 60th birthday, and the *Avocet's* 30th year of publication. We will commemorate each of these anniversaries, and also recognize volunteers and members who have contributed to the past, successful year. We will be meeting at 6 p.m. at the home of Lynn and Martha Hunton, 25600 Fernhill Drive, Los Altos Hills. Please call the office for directions. ALL MEMBERS ARE VERY WELCOME, AND ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND! We will have a scrumptious feast, to which you may contribute accordingly:

- A-G SALAD
- H-N HOR D'OEUVRES
- O-S DESSERT
- T-Z MAIN DISH

SCVAS and the Huntons will provide liquid refreshments. This is a fun occasion to socialize, meet fellow members, remember the year, and celebrate the birthdays! New members will find this event a good way to find out about the chapter's activities.

BOTTLE BILL RECYCLES

The Bottle Bill is back! Introduced by Assemblyman Burt Margolin (D-Los Angeles) and sponsored by Californians Against Waste, AB 2020 starts its long route through the legislative committees.

Last year the Assembly Natural Resource Committee defeated the bottle bill with its abstentions. Byron Sher is the chair; please write him and urge his support.

Sanderling

DONATION

Thanks to Don and Pauline Walcott for their donation to the Chapter.



GRAVE THREAT TO BAYLANDS

How would you like to see every available square foot of the former ITT property and 92 acres of the Flood Control Basin permanently submerged under 2 feet of sewage effluent water? Does the prospect of creating a mini-Kesterson by the introduction of heavy metals into these holding basins sound inviting? And how does the idea strike you of making a sewage water lake out of the Yacht Harbor by diking it off from the Bay and providing a \$1.5 million lock for a handful of boaters?

All of this and more is proposed in the name of "water quality and environmental enhancement" in a just-released study. The study concluded that the lock was feasible, but failed to indicate that its operation would endanger more than 30 acres of prime marsh and its wildlife. The alternative given the City by the Regional Water Quality Control Board, in what at least one expert feels is a misguided effort, is the construction of a \$200 million "Super Sewer" that would cut through the baylands of San Jose, Sunnyvale and Palo Alto.

The P. A. Yacht Club has also just announced its intention of circulating a petition to keep the harbor open by continued dredging, under the blanket provision that "... all reasonable actions necessary to accomplish this will be permitted". Reasonable by whose standards? And where do they plan to dump the mud?

To top it all off, the Palo Alto engineering staff recently unveiled its 50-year plan to continue landfilling at the dump to a height of 205 feet, higher than a 20-story building!

PLEASE take a few moments NOW to fill out the coupon, because public officials need to know how you feel. YOUR EARLY RESPONSE WILL BE INFLUENTIAL, no matter where you live. Send to: Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society, 2253 Park Blvd., Palo Alto, CA 94306.

Dear Palo Alto Councilmember:

The marshes and wetlands of the San Francisco Bay estuarine system are vital to the health and welfare of the total Bay Community. I therefore affirm my desire to see the Palo Alto Baylands protected from any further harmful intrusion.

Signature _____

Name _____

Street _____

City _____ Zip _____

Telephone (_____) _____ Date _____

DID YOU KNOW...?

The world's smallest mammal, largest flower and biggest butterfly are among the species currently in great danger of extinction? What are they? The Bumblebee Bat of Thailand, Queen Alexandra's Birdwing Butterfly (one foot wingspan) of Papua, New Guinea, and the flower that is a yard wide - the *Rafflesia* of Sumatra.

-Donna Mackiewicz
Wandering Tattler

SANTA CLARA vs. McCLOUD RIVER

How would we feel if the city of Mt. Shasta decided to build dams and powerhouses on the Guadalupe River, or the Coyote? We haven't heard of any plans to do so, but the City of Santa Clara is studying a plan to build three dams and powerhouses on the upper McCloud River in the Mt. Shasta area.

Shirley Shepard, former Avocet editor, now edits the Audubon Endeavor in the Shasta area. She writes that the dams are projected for a gorgeous, free-flowing stretch of the McCloud with several little-known waterfalls.

"Santa Clara Electrical Department spokesperson, John Roukema, claims his office has received only four letters in opposition to the hydro project. Let's see what we can do about that! Write: John Roukema, c/o Electrical Department, City of Santa Clara, 1500 Warburton Ave., Santa Clara, CA 95050," writes Phil Rhodes in the Endeavor.

Letters from people in this part of the state would be a good idea, too, especially from Santa Clara residents. Looks like we need to be aware of what our local governments are doing, and not just locally.



AVOCET MAILING POLICY

At the Avocet we hear two complaints in about equal numbers. The first is that our deadline is too early, and the second is that the issues sometimes arrive too late. Unfortunately, a later deadline would mean later issues, and earlier issues would require an earlier deadline, which isn't practical, especially for field trips.

The Avocet is mailed under a special bulk mail rate available to non-profit organizations. (Under the terms of our permit, we may not print 'Dated material' or a date mailed on the Avocet.) This kind of mail - second class - does not have to be delivered right away by carriers. If your mail carriers have a heavy load, they may leave the Avocet waiting at the post office for days, until they have less mail to deliver. The result is that it may arrive on time one month, and be quite late the next, without our having done anything differently. If your Avocet is consistently late, it may help to call your local post office. If this doesn't get any results, let Lynn know in the office. If we get a lot of complaints from one area, it might be something we can remedy.

Lastly, don't forget that there are no July and August issues of the Avocet.

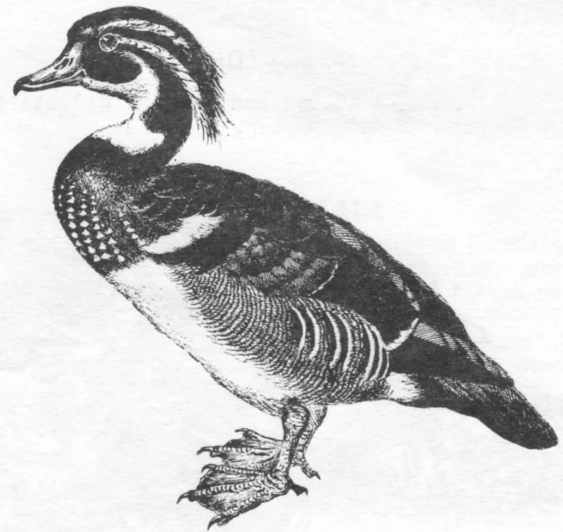
THREE WARNING SIGNS

There are three signs that mark the hopelessly hooked bird freak - the Pivotal Sighting, the Totemic Species, and the Imagined Experience.

The Pivotal Sighting is what turns an ordinary person into a fanatic. Shirley S. was a camp counselor, uninterested in the difference between a bluebird and a bluejay. Then, one morning, a Pileated Woodpecker flew whooping into her cabin and chiseled 'Happy Birthday, Shirley' on the top of the dresser. Ever since then, the woman has been a slave to birds.

The Totemic Species is not a person's favorite bird, the bird a person most closely resembles, or the one a person owns a carved statue of. It's the one a person can't see. Peter E. birded the whole U.S., seeing the Mangrove Cuckoo, the Laysan Albatross, and almost everything in between, but could not see a Varied Thrush. He visited Varied Thrush strongholds, but the thrushes had always just stepped out of the office. He spent hours staring at robins, willing them to turn into Varied Thrushes. No dice. He grew sullen when they were mentioned, hostile to remarks like, "I saw a whole bunch here yesterday," and "There's one - whoops, he's gone." Terms like 'common' made him snarl. You think that's funny? Well, if anyone wants to discuss Yellow-breasted Chats, I'm leaving.

The Imagined Experience may be related to the Pivotal Sighting. The Imagined Experience is what the birder thinks birdwatching is - an imagined or remembered good time. Diane R. once spent a spring evening sitting on the deck of a boat in the Florida Keys, sipping margaritas and watching Roseate Spoonbills do water ballet. The impact was so great that for years to come she'd exclaim, "Sure! You bet!" when invited to spend ten hours searching an endless alkali flat in 110° weather for a nondescript dust-colored bird with a bad attitude. I'd call that diagnostic, wouldn't you?



SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

The SCVAS office will be closed from June 17 - July 29.

FIELD NOTES - Bill Bousman

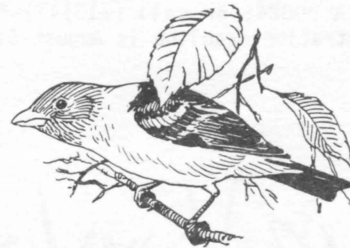
A search in the south bay in June will turn up a number of shorebird species that don't belong here. The question is, are they late going north or early going south? By July it's clear that we're seeing the early migrants coming south and it is strange to come from Stevens Creek or Monte Bello OSP where one has been watching passerines busily feeding their nestlings to Charleston Slough or the Baylands where shorebirds are eagerly feeding to build their reserves to continue their trip south. Late summer along the bay is one of our best shows. We get shorebirds in both quantity and quality in areas like Charleston Slough and the Mountain View Foreby and it's not difficult to get in excess of 15 species. Most years the Little Blue Herons start moving around locally at about the same time, Least Terns come to Charleston Slough after nesting to stay a few weeks, and pelicans of both species arrive from their breeding areas.



A **Common Loon** was at Shoreline Lake 10 Apr for one of our few spring records; this despite the return of the wind surfers. Spring records for **White Pelicans** are also scarce; the 6 seen in Mallard Slough 20 Apr continue a pattern of this year. A **Little Blue Heron** at the Mountain View Forebay on 30 Apr (Debbie Wright fide Lynn Teneffoss-LT) is an early return for this local specialty. Breeding of **Cattle Egrets** in the Alviso heronry seems inevitable (or has it already occurred?). A single bird flying into the heronry on 20 Apr lends support to this hypothesis, but was devoid of nuptial feathering or colors. A **Green-backed Heron** was found along San Francisquito Creek 21 Apr (David Suddjian-DSu, Paul Noble-PN). They are rare on this side of the valley. Five **Wood Ducks** along Coyote Creek at Coyote Ranch Road on 23 Apr probably nest in this remnant of riparian forest. Three **Blue-winged Teal** were in Charleston Slough 26 Apr. They have been found here irregularly over the last few years. One **Redhead** still remained in the Palo Alto FCB as of 21 Apr (DSu,PN). They nested here last year. Migrating **Osprey** continue to be found this spring with one in Henry Coe SP about 31 Mar (James Yurchenko-JY, Amy Lauterbach-AL) and another bird in Menlo Park 31 Mar. West side **Golden Eagles** continue to be found with sightings from Menlo Park (Elgin Juri, 19 Apr) to Palo Alto at Matadero Creek (DSu, 29 Mar) and Page Mill and Deer Creek roads (Tom Freese, 11 Apr). Six **Wild Turkeys** were found in two groups in Henry Coe SP about 31 Mar (JY,AL). They are well-established here and Fish and Game periodically traps and moves birds to new areas (Bruce Elliott). Dick Stovel (DSt) found two male **Mountain Quail** at the end of Stevens Creek Canyon Road 20 Apr. They were observed there approximately 10 years ago. Are they part of the Santa Cruz Mountain population? A



Lesser Yellowlegs at the west end of the Dumbarton Bridge 20 Apr was one of our few spring records (DSu). A **Spotted Sandpiper** was seen along San Francisquito Creek on 21 Apr (DSu,PN). A **Northern Pygmy-Owl** heard calling in Monte Bello OSP 27 Apr (DSu) is from an area where they have nested. Early **Vaux's Swifts** included 5 over Palo Alto 18 Apr (DSt) and others were seen on 20 Apr in Stevens Creek Park (DSt) and at Stanford. A male **Calliope Hummingbird** in Palo Alto's Foothill Park 28 Apr (DSu) is one of our few west side records for this rare migrant hummer. Jack Cole's father, Gene Cole, brought his eastern skills from Michigan and heard a singing **Willow Flycatcher** in Alum Rock Park on 30 Apr. This is the first record since they were banded in small numbers on the Wool Ranch Transect in the early 1970's. **Western Kingbirds** are seldom found on the west side of the valley so one seen on 24 Apr west of I-280 on El Monte is of interest (DSu). Several **Canyon Wrens** were found along upper Pacheco Creek in Henry Coe SP at the end of March (JY,AL). **House Wrens** are rare along the west side of the valley. They have been found regularly at higher elevations, however, and in better numbers this year than in past years. One was found near the lake in Skyline OSP from 15 Apr on, another along Langley Hill Road 27 Apr, and two were at Monte Bello OSP also on 27 Apr (all DSu). A **Winter Wren** was singing along Stevens Creek in Monte Bello OSP 5 Apr. They are more typically found along creeks draining towards the ocean. First arrival of **Solitary Vireo** was a bird singing at Monte Bello OSP 5 Apr. After that they have been found regularly there and in Foothill Park in Palo Alto (Al Eisner, DSu,PN). A **Nashville Warbler** was found in a Los Altos back yard 21 Apr (DSu,PN). At least six singing **Black-throated Gray Warblers** had returned to Monte Bello OSP by 5 Apr where they nest. Migrating **Hermit Warblers** were found this spring with one seen at Stevens Creek CP 27 Apr (LT, Allen Royer), another seen in Portola Valley the same day (Lee French fide LT), and two found in the Coulter Pine belt east of Mt. Hamilton 3 May. A migrating **MacGillivray's Warbler** was found in Menlo Park 13 Apr and three males were found singing along Langley Hill Road where they nest on 27 Apr (DSu). A **White-throated Sparrow** remained at Betty Groce's feeder until 23 Apr. The **Red Crossbill** invasion continues with 29 seen in 3 flocks at Monte Bello OSP 27 Apr, 20 along Langley Hill Road the same day, and 6 at Foothill Park on 28 Apr (all DSu). Three **Lawrence's Goldfinches** were at Smith's Creek 3 May where they have been found in the spring for the last five years.



Early arrivals include: **Olive-sided Flycatcher**, Stevens Creek CP, 11 Apr; **Western Wood-Pewee**, Langley Hill Road, 27 Apr (DSu); **Ash-throated Flycatcher**, Stevens Creek CP, 11 Apr; **Yellow Warbler**, Menlo Park, 21 Apr; **Western Tanager**, Monte Bello OSP, 27 Apr (DSu); **Lazuli Bunting**, Monte Bello OSP, 27 Apr (DSu); and **Chipping Sparrow**, Monte Bello OSP, 5 Apr.

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



MONO LAKE BIKE-A-THON

Whether old or young, beginner or expert, you are invited to cycle in the Sixth Annual Mono Lake Bike-a-Thon.

The six day, 350 mile ride departs from the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power headquarters on Aug. 26 and arrives on Aug. 31 at Mono Lake, the jewel of the recently established Mono Basin National Forest Scenic Area. Support vehicles carry cyclists' gear.

Each rider will carry a vial of water from DWP's reflecting ponds and will return the water to its natural destination, Mono Lake. Some of this water once flowed through streams feeding Mono Lake, but was diverted to supply Los Angeles with cheap water -- diversions which are destroying the lake.

Money raised through the Bike-a-Thon will support efforts to protect Mono Lake. All cyclists secure pledges from sponsors. The rider who raises the most money will win Plumline and Kangaroo Bags bicycle touring equipment. Last year 44 people from as far away as Florida cycled, publicizing Mono's plight and raising \$18,000 to help save Mono Lake.

To sign up, to volunteer the use of a support vehicle, to pledge support, or for more information, send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to: Mono Lake Bike-a-Thon, 1355 Westwood Blvd., #6, Los Angeles, CA 90024; or call (213)477-5754 or 477-8229. Registration deadline is August 9.

SPACE ALERT!

The Peninsula Conservation Center and its resident organizations (including SCVAS) are searching for a new home! Our lease with the City of Palo Alto for our present quarters is up in 1988, and prospects for its renewal are cloudy at best.

We are looking for at least 7,000 square feet in a central Peninsula location.

Please contact Jacquelyn Brown at (415)328-5313 if you know of low-cost space available, or if you would like to donate space for our offices.

Jacquelyn Brown

BIRD CARVING CLASS

SCVAS is pleased to announce a special class in beginning bird carving taught by Hillary Hulen and David Ruegg on Saturday, September 21. We announce the class early because it is limited to 12 participants, and you should register early to insure a reservation.

The carved bird decoy is considered to be the only folk art form to have originated in North America. Scrimshaw, ship's figureheads, weathervanes and other functional art objects that we associate with colonial America were simply "Americanizations" or adaptations of some European art form. There is archaeological evidence to prove that American Indians made decoys as early as 1000 AD.

"The prime reason of course for the emergence of bird carving was necessity. The early settlers simply needed game to supplement their food supplies. They began to devise ways to attract the abundant migratory bird populations and thus bird carving was born. What began as a very primitive art form has evolved in recent years into a very sophisticated type of sculpture where "realism" is the desired result."

The workshop will cover basic techniques that will aid anyone with limited or no previous woodcarving experience in completing a pleasing bird carving. We will not cover advanced techniques as feather burning. Each carver will have the option of carving a lifelike, stylized or country primitive bird.

Participants will need only a knife to complete a carving of a shorebird (recommendations of places to purchase an inexpensive knife will be included in the class syllabus). Basic carving, painting and finishing techniques, patterns, tool sharpening and much more will be covered in this all-day workshop.

Cost for the workshop is \$25 with an additional \$5 materials fee. This is the only class of its type in the Bay Area. For more information call Lynn at (415)329-1811, or send a check for \$30 to SCVAS, 2253 Park Blvd., Palo Alto, CA 94306 to register. You will be sent a confirmation.



NON-AUDUBON CLASSES AND TRIPS

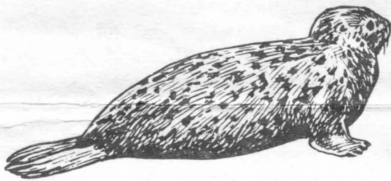
The following are not sponsored by Audubon, but are listed for your information.

- The Mono Lake Foundation is offering a series of weekend workshops throughout the summer, including a June Birds of Mono Basin class taught by David Gaines, founder of the Mono Lake Committee. Also offered will be workshops on Mono area history, geology, insects, and islands. There will be classes in Paiute basketry and watercolor painting, also. Contact the MLF at P.O. Box 153, Lee Vining, CA 93541; (619)647-6360.

- A birding and natural history trip will go to the Galapagos, the Peruvian Amazon and the Andes, led by Paul Donahue and Ted Chandik. July 27-Aug. 18, 1986. Cost \$2600 + airfare. Contact Doug or Gail Cheeseman (408)867-1371, 741-5330.

- De Anza College Instructor Doug Cheeseman will give a short course with nine 2-hour lectures with slides on birds, mammals, and natural history of Australia, New Guinea, the Galapagos, Peru, Amazon and the Antarctic. Starts Sept. 26 and following 8 successive Thursday nights 7:30 p.m. Cost \$36.00. Call De Anza Short Course office (408)996-4673 or 996-4674 or Doug at 867-1371.

- The Whale Center, a nonprofit conservation organization, is offering cruises out to the Farallon Island (cruises do not land) to view birds and marine mammals. The cruises are from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sundays, leave from Sausalito, and cost \$42. Free pre-trip seminars are given on the preceding Thursday evening. Call the Whale Center (415)654-6621.



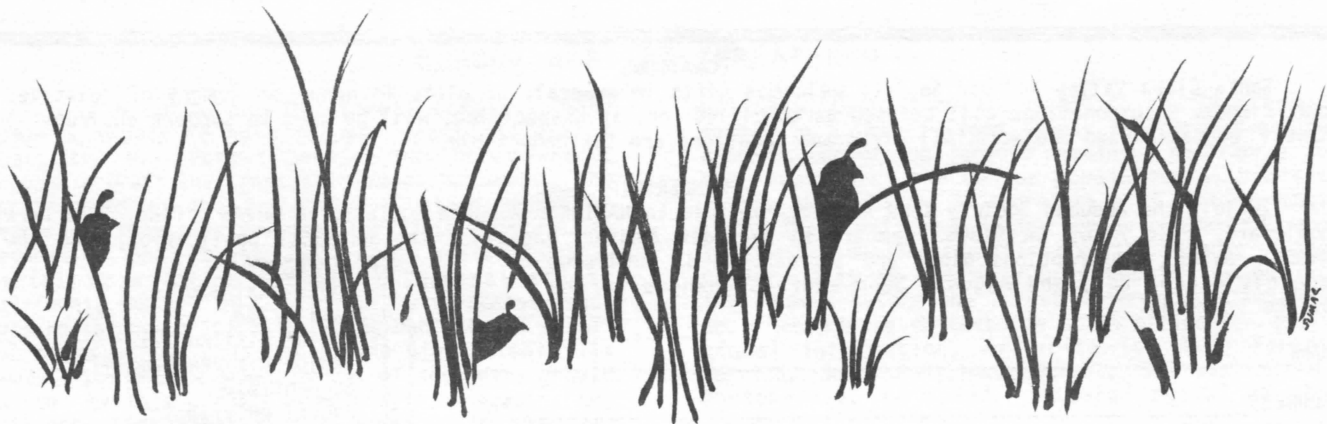
- This summer the Fremont Adult School will offer "Birding Field Trips". The six-week class will meet on Tuesday mornings from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., June 18 - July 23. It will be taught by Alice Hoch, an experienced teacher and birder. Students will observe and learn about field identification and life styles of local birds during trips to different birding spots each Tuesday. For more information contact the Fremont Adult School, Community Education, (415)791-5841 or the instructor at (415)657-0475.

- The Fremont Adult School will also offer a field class, "Birds and Flowers of Point Lobos" on Saturday, June 29, also taught by Alice Hoch. The trip is timed to coincide with the height of nesting activity of the Brandt's Cormorants there. The class will begin at 9 a.m. at the Fremont Adult School and will end at 3 p.m. Students must PRE-REGISTER for this trip by Monday, June 24th. Register by mail or in person at the Fremont Adult School, 4700 Calaveras Ave., Fremont 94538. Include \$10.50 class fee. For registration confirmation, include a stamped, self-addressed envelope.



- Summer Field Studies in Natural History programs from San Jose State University will let you explore the depths of the Grand Canyon, climb through the wonders of Lassen Volcanic National Park, or investigate various ecological systems in the San Francisco Bay Area for university credit with a difference. Marshes, Hills and Beaches of the South Bay meets from June 22-27, with daily trips from the SJSU area. Fee is \$115 for the 2-unit course. For information on all trips call (408)277-3736.

- Learn to be a Natural Resource!! and have fun with children! Take the Environmental Volunteer Fall Training, Sept. 12 to Dec. 12, every Thursday, 9 to 1 at the Hillview Community Center in Los Altos. Field trips and class presentations for grades 1-6. Learn about your own environment; Bay, forest and earthquake geology! For information call Environmental Volunteer Office (415)327-6017 or Fran Stevenson (415)493-0464



Staff	Lynn Tennefoss (days)	415/329-1811	DIRECTORS (1983-86)	Richard Jeffers	415/325-9675	Publicity	Deborah Manley	408/749-8126
President	Kevin Monahan	408/559-8713	Barbara Hambelton	Barbara Hambelton	408/446-3645	Library	Myra Hodgson	415/326-3641
1st Vice Pres	Judy McEuen	408/251-3086	Roy Lowe	Roy Lowe	408/251-2323	Field Trips	Vicki Silvas-Young	408/293-7124
2nd Vice Pres	Diana Stillens	408/972-2777	DIRECTORS (1984-87)	Deborah Manley	408/749-8126	Membership	Dolores Norton	415/941-1666
Treasurer	Dave Nauer	408/259-1283	Mark McEuen	Mark McEuen	408/251-3086	Education	Linda Hagelin	408/867-3046
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Past President	Sue Liskovec	415/969-5542	CHAIRPERSONS	Susan McCarthy	408/293-7498	Conservation	Barbara Hambelton	408/446-3645
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						Photo Club		

General meetings are open to the public. Board of Directors meetings are open to all members. Call the office for times and directions.

Avocet deadline is the first Monday of the month. Send contributions to the editor, Susan McCarthy, 475 S 12th, San Jose, CA 95112.

APRIL VOLUNTEERS

The following people helped out in the office and at the General Meeting: Harry Beerbohm, Yvonne Cheng, Deborah Manley, Marion Lockwood, Tibby Simon. Please call Lynn (415)329-1811 if you are able to offer some time to SCVAS

NEW CONSERVATION CHAIR

Barbara Hambelton has graciously consented to be the new SCVAS Conservation Chairman. Watch for continuing news of Conservation Committee activity!

CLARIFICATION ON RED INSULATORS

In response to a note in the Sept. 1984 Avocet, a representative from North Central Plastics, Inc., the company that made red insulators for electric fences, has contacted our office. The company stopped making red Snap'rs last July, and now they make only black insulators. However, many people still use the red insulators on their fences, and you are encouraged to tell anyone you know of who uses them to change or spray-paint the red away! (Hummingbirds have been electrocuted after being attracted to the insulators.)

NEW IN THE LIBRARY

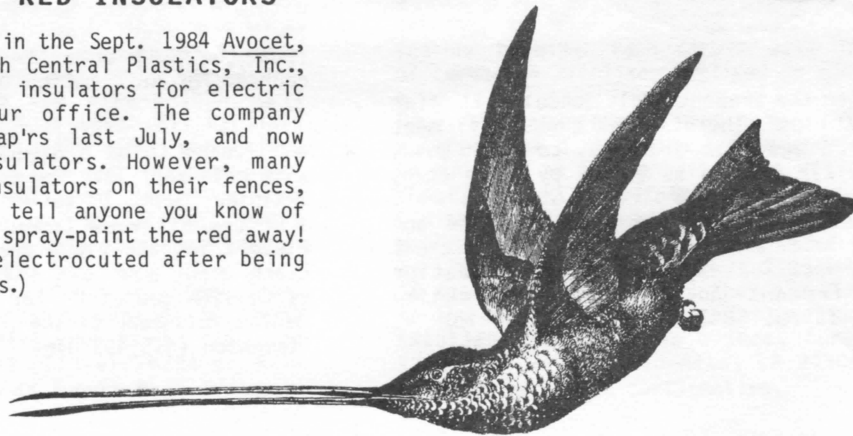
Thanks to Cindy Jones for a donation of Guide to North American Bird Clubs by Rickert.

FIELD TRIP REPORT

The April 24 Field Trip to the San Francisco Watershed went in to Pilarcitos Lake and hiked down to Stone Dam. The flowers were beautiful, especially the rare Romanzoffia. The sun was shining and we all enjoyed a picnic lunch at Stone Dam.

There were 22 participants. We saw 35 species of birds. Among the rarities were Red Crossbills, Lazuli Buntings, and two Common Loons. The Winter Wrens were singing everywhere.

-Kay McCann



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 \$6/year. It is published monthly except July and August. Send address changes to the office promptly.

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