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 Mr. Alan M Eisner
 3538 Farm Hill Blvd #4
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Volume 34, Number 8

October 1987

**TRACKS IN THE SKY
 AN AUDUBON SOCIETY BENEFIT**

There is still time left for you to join in the **TRACKS IN THE SKY RECEPTION AND BENEFIT!** The **MONO LAKE COMMITTEE** has joined all **EIGHT BAY AREA AUDUBON CHAPTERS**, and the **WESTERN REGIONAL NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY**, as hosts of a very special wine and cheese reception, booksigning and special lecture/slide show, celebrating the recent release of a new book, and the opening of a related traveling exhibition. The event will be held **Tuesday, October 13, from 7-9 pm** at the California Academy of Sciences, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco.

TRACKS IN THE SKY, a Smithsonian Traveling Exhibition, chronicles the past and current status of a phenomenon of great importance to all birdwatchers - the Pacific Flyway. Featuring **Tupper Ansel Blake's** spectacular photographs, the exhibit is supplemented by sounds and artifacts of the Flyway from Alaska to Mexico. Many of the photographs have been taken from a new book of the same name, written by Audubon magazine's contributing editor, **Peter Steinhart**, with a forward by Audubon's Vice President for the Western Region, Glenn Olson. We will have exclusive use of the exhibition gallery, for uncrowded viewing, and both Tupper and Peter will be on hand to autograph books and talk about their experiences, while wine and hors d'oeuvres are served.

All proceeds from the reception will go towards efforts to save Mono Lake, a wetland integral to the Pacific Flyway. We are honored to announce that **PALMER MADDEN**, a member of the litigation team that argued and won a 1983 landmark decision on the Public Trust before the Supreme Court for Mono Lake, has agreed to introduce the authors, and speak briefly about the current status of Mono Lake. As a finale, Tupper and Peter will show slides and discuss the issues of wetlands and wildlife associated with the Flyway.

Tickets are \$25/person, and may be purchased by calling Lynn Tennefoss at (415)329-1811 or sending in the coupon below. Copies of Tracks in

the Sky are available **now** at the pre-publication price of \$32, incl tax (\$37.50 AFTER PUBLICATION), and may be either held for you at the opening, or sent to your home. See coupon below for ordering information. **PLEASE PURCHASE TICKETS BEFORE OCTOBER 8.**

Yes, I (we) will attend the Tracks in Sky Opening.
 Number in party _____ @ \$25 each = \$ _____ enclosed

No, I (we) cannot attend.
 Please accept my donation of \$ _____ to the NAS- Mono Lake Fund.

I would like to order _____ copies of Tracks in the Sky at pre-publication price of \$32 each = \$ _____ enclosed.

I will pick up my book(s) at the opening.
 Please send my book(s). (Add \$1.20/bk for postage.)

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____ for benefit and/or books.

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ Zip _____
 Phone (d) _____ (e) _____

PLEASE REPLY BY OCTOBER 8, 1987

Please make checks payable to SCVAS-Tracks. Send to SCVAS, 415 Cambridge Ave., #21, Palo Alto, CA 94306.

BIRD DISCUSSION GROUP

In November 1967 the following announcement appeared in the *Avocet*, Volume XIV, Number 9:

A NEW ACTIVITY IS PLANNED

Are you interested in forming and participating in a "Bird Discussion Group"? If so, please come and join us for coffee at my home at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, November 14th. New members are especially welcome. Eve Case, 20537 Verde Vista Lane, Saratoga. Telephone 867-4748.

This was the beginning of the Bird Discussion Group twenty years ago this November 1987.

In an interview, Eve stated as follows:

"The Monterey Society had a bird of the month club. I thought it would be a good idea to have a local bird of the month club.

"I put the article in the *Avocet* asking for anybody who was interested in forming a bird club.

"We didn't want to copy Monterey and call it Bird of the Month Club, so we decided to call it Bird Discussion Group.

"Eleanor Hollis and Roberta Wright came to my home. We spent the whole morning talking avidly.

"I had some goodies ready, but we became so engrossed that we didn't have them until almost lunch time. So we made our lunch out of tea, cookies and muffins."

The Bird Discussion Group is open to anyone who has an interest in birds. There is no central speaker. Everyone contributes in his/her own way.

Each September we discuss our Summer Bird Experiences. Some members have done some travelling around the world and others have made interesting trips, walks, etc. in the area.

October and November have a different bird designated for discussion. Each of the members brings a book, picture, whatever to be shown and discussed.

The December meeting is usually at the home of Jean and Pat Dubois and the topic is usually general as the birds are eating right outside the windows at the feeders.

January through May again have monthly bird topics. Sometimes, slides are shown or a speaker may introduce the members to something of interest.

The June meeting is a picnic and birdwalk.

At the moment the group consists of about 20 active members. The meetings are very relaxed and informative.

Over the years we have discussed over 90 different birds, from Penguins to House Finches.

Some birds have been discussed more than once. Hummingbirds have the lead with six meetings. Double-crested Cormorants, White-crowned sparrows have had four meetings each. Sandpipers, Owls, Woodpeckers, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Towhees, Juncos and Golden-crowned sparrows each have been discussed three times.

Some of the topics were: Bills and feet in relation to feeding, what spring migrants stopped in your garden, earliest bird memories, your favorite books on birds, and many others.

There have also been some field trips to Big Basin, Hakone Gardens, Stevens Creek Park, Vasona Park and others.

The meetings are held at the home of Dr. Eve Case, 20537 Verde Vista Lane, Saratoga at 9:30 a.m. on the second Tuesday of the month.

Tea, coffee and cookies are served before the meeting.

The meetings are always stimulating and interesting. Most of the members contribute something at every meeting, but no one is made to feel that they must.

The group consists of birders from knowledgeable to novice. Everyone contributes in whatever way he/she can. We all learn and have a good time doing it.

Eve Case, the originator, is still a most active participant.

We look forward to the coming years with interest and anticipation.

New members are always welcome.

KLAMATH BASIN BALD EAGLE CONFERENCE

February 12-14, 1988

The Klamath Basin is world famous for its spectacular flocks of migratory waterfowl. In addition, over 170 species of birds nest in the area. The Basin hosts the largest concentration of wintering Bald Eagles in North America, outside Alaska, up to 600. The Bald Eagle Conference is sponsored each year by the Klamath Basin Chapter of National Audubon Society. It is held at the Oregon Institute of Technology in Klamath Falls, Oregon. Estimated cost of the 1988 conference is \$25 and includes free film festival, art show, wine tasting, field trips to Bear Valley to watch eagles, conference speakers on raptors and other wildlife, banquet with guest speaker, and workshops on bird identification, photography and other topics. For more information, write to: Charlotte Opp, 5873 Estate Drive, Klamath Falls, Oregon, 97601, (503) 882-8488.

CALIFORNIANS FOR PARKS AND WILDLIFE UPDATE

As of September 4, SCVAS members have gathered 2912 signatures. Only 2088 to go to reach our pledge. If you are willing to help us reach our goal by mid-October, by taking a petition home or to work with you, or by joining several other volunteers to sit at a table in a shopping center, please call Lynn at the SCVAS office, (415)329-1811.

Thanks to volunteers who spent time during August gathering signatures: Bill Bousman, Wanda Broadie, Betty Groce, Ann Harrington, Amy Lauterbach, Jean Lyons, Don Price, Dee Price, Margaret Slemmons, Kathleen Smith, Audrey Stoye, and James Yurchenko.

PROPOSED MARINA THREATENS FOSTER CITY WETLANDS

Foster City is entirely landfill with nary an original or natural square foot left, right? Well, not quite. Of the historic tidal marshland upon which this residential community was built there remains an almost idyllic wetland habitat. Lining the southeast shore of the city along Belmont Slough and stretching north almost to the San Mateo Bridge, the wetlands enjoy protection from the prevailing northwest winds and are easily accessible to birders, joggers, families, residents out for a quiet stroll. Relatively broad expanses of marshland comprising both sides of the slough form a Wildlife Sanctuary that gives a walker the feeling of being suddenly and surprisingly removed from suburban sprawl and bustle. Most importantly, the area is a rich and productive home, breeding ground and stopping-off place for many species of local and migratory birds and other creatures.

Now this habitat is being threatened by a plan to build a marina at the mouth of Belmont Slough. The most recent of three similar proposals dating back to 1980, the present version would occupy 31 acres of publicly owned land (half dry land and half submerged) along the Beach Park Boulevard shoreline between Halibut and Swordfish Streets. It would include 330 berths, two restaurants, various marina-related buildings, and on-site parking for 530 vehicles. This could effectively be expanded sometime in the future by the building of a private marina on neighboring land to the north owned by the Transbay Corporation.

Several aspects of this project arouse considerable concern regarding potential impact on the wetland habitat.

1. Use of Land Protected in a Previous Agreement. 12.3 acres of the marina site are part of a 57 acre area that was set aside as a wildlife area under a landfill permit issued to Foster City by the Corps of Engineers in 1976. The planners propose to mitigate for this by setting aside yet another area in a different part of the city and to designate part of the marina site itself as "open space".

2. Siting. Aside from wetlands destroyed for the marina itself (see below), the location would have a severe effect on the neighboring Wildlife Sanctuary. Both on land and on water, there would be substantial disruption of the present relatively undisturbed environment. Boat engine noise would be disturbing. While all this would not affect the more distant reaches of the habitat, its proximity to the entrance would be particularly critical.

3. Loss of Wetlands. A total of 15.7 acres of wetlands, including 3.0 acres of tidal marsh, 1.4 acres of seasonal/tidal wetland, and 11.3 acres of mudflat or shallow subtidal water would be lost. Their destruction would interrupt the present unbroken strip of pickleweed/cord grass wetland area that extends in both directions from the site.

4. Endangered Species. The studies done so far are inadequate to prove that the area does not host the Clapper Rail or Salt Marsh Harvest Mouse, and no studies for other species have been included in the EIR.

5. Inadequate Mitigation. A somewhat complicated mitigation proposal, using five different sites in the city, is offered by the planners to attempt to compensate for the loss of habitat values. It does, in fact, include some positive measure, including creation of some new wetlands and tidal marsh by grading and diking. However, much of the mitigation proposal involves simply preserving already existing wetland. In addition, the mitigation proposals do not even address the problem of impact on neighboring habitat discussed in Item 2 above.

6. Dredging. Since the waters off Foster City are so shallow, considerable construction dredging and periodic maintenance dredging would be required. Exact locations for the dumping of all the dredging spoils, which can have considerable ecological impact, have not been spelled out. One proposed location at Sea Cloud Park has been designated by the Corps as a seasonal wetland and so cannot be filled without further mitigation.

7. State Land. Part of the proposed marina site, including some tidal marshland and mudflats, are State owned. Foster City is trying to get a lease from the State Lands Commission or else a grant from the State Legislature for this area.

8. Piecemealing. The additional impact of an anticipated future neighboring private marina development is not addressed in the present EIR, although indications are that the project's backers fully expect the future development to materialize and possibly even catch up to the present proposed project in construction time.

Are there alternatives to the present plan? Rick Johnson, Conservation Chairman of the Audubon Sequoia Chapter, urges a comprehensive regional marina study to find potential sites throughout the Bay Area with minimal environmental impact and to explore possible expansion of already existing marinas.

Several environmentally concerned people have been impressed by the courteous and cooperative attitude of the Foster City Planning Department staff. One senses that these are competent and thoughtful people, carrying out a job in a professional manner, rather than bulldozer-happy bad guys. Informed public input could have considerable positive effect here. Anyone interested is invited and encouraged to contact Rick Johnson (415)581-8533 or Dick Lee (415)326-6839. Copies of the EIR (you need both the 1985 and 1987 EIR's) can be seen at the Foster City offices or at the Foster City Public Library, both at 610 Foster City Boulevard.

-- Dick Lee, SCVAS member



FIELD NOTES - Bill Bousman

A Breeding Bird Atlas Conference was held in San Francisco 9 and 10 August in conjunction with the annual meeting of the American Ornithologist's Union. Raymond O'Connor who is the director of the British Trust for Ornithology (BTO) was the keynote speaker and his discussion of the various methods used to survey and monitor bird populations was very stimulating. One of his examples was for Stock Dove and there are a number of useful lessons in the data for all of us.

One of the most detailed population monitoring methods used by BTO is the Common Bird Census (CBC), not to be confused with our Christmas Bird Counts. This is a census done in the spring and attempts to determine the number of nesting birds within a study area. The CBCs are done all over England by interested (and skilled) amateurs. The CBCs started in the early 1960's and the results for Stock Dove show a steadily increasing population. People interested in wildlife management concluded that the Stock Dove should have its status changed from a protected species to a game species. However, BTO also had other monitoring data stretching back to the Second World War. These data were from a bird banding and a nest card program. When these data were examined with the CBC data it was clear that the Stock Dove population had crashed in the era of widespread DDT use in the 1950's and the increase seen in the 1960's was the recovery of a devastated population which was far from its post-war population levels. With these long-term data there was no question about retaining the Stock Dove as a protected species. The moral of the story is, of course, that if we wish to retain a healthy environment we must pay for the long-term bio-monitoring of bird populations. It is a quirk of government research grants that they are directed to short term research objectives of one, two or three years. There is rarely government funding for the long-term programs. So the next time you send in your check to the Point Reyes Bird Observatory, or the Coyote Creek Riparian Station, or the San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory, remember you are helping to pay for long-term monitoring of our bird populations. One year's data is useless, of course. Ten year's data is better, but fifty year's data is absolutely invaluable. And when you send them that check remind them that you want to see healthy and viable long-term monitoring programs supported.

Green-back Heron have been using the fresh water habitat at the Mountain View Forebay this month with one seen 18 Jul (Alan Eisner - AME) and an imm. on 4-5 Aug (Paul Noble - PLN). A male **Blue-winged Teal** in the Mountain View Forebay 8 Aug was in eclipse plumage (Ron Thorn - RSTh). They are probably regular in the South Bay in late summer, but are rarely identified while in eclipse. A **Cooper's Hawk** along Matadero at El Camino 11 Aug (PLN) was away from the normal breeding sites in the Santa Cruz Mountains. However, as noted last month two immature Cooper's Hawks attempted to nest on the main campus at Stanford. They appeared to have incubated on the nest for two months without the eggs hatching. They were not seen after 5 Jul (Holly Wilkins). A **Virginia Rail** briefly seen at the Mountain View Forebay 18 Jul (AME) was probably resident. The normal influx of fall birds usually occurs at the beginning of August. The major news of August is invariably shorebirds and the hot spot is the

Mountain View Forebay. **Lesser Yellowlegs** have been seen there irregularly all through late July and August (PLN, AME). Regular visits by PLN suggest that individual birds stay only for a day or two, and then move on. The high count was four birds on 7 Aug (PLN). A **Solitary Sandpiper** was found in the forebay 23 Aug (Derek Currall - DCu) for our fifth county record. It was remained in the forebay at least through 31 Aug (PLN, Mike Mammoser - MM, WGB). **Spotted Sandpiper** is a rare migrant in the fall in the South Bay. One at the Mountain View Forebay 21 Aug (DCu) was within the normal range of dates. Less expected was a **Ruddy Turnstone** at the Sunnyvale wastewater treatment plant 4 Aug (April Sapsford vide Dave Suddjian - DLSu). Since **Semipalmated Sandpipers** were first recorded in the Mountain View Forebay in 1980 they have been regular fall visitors. An adult was described from there 14-17 Aug (PLN), a single juvenile was observed 24-25 Aug (PLN, DCu), and two juveniles on 29 Aug (MM). A **Baird's Sandpiper** at the Forebay 24 Aug (PLN) and two there 1 Sep (MM) are about the number we have come to expect there in recent years. A **Pectoral Sandpiper** was at the forebay 6-13 Aug (PLN, MM, AME) which is earlier than expected. Our normal migration of juvenile birds starts in September and finishes in mid-October. Careful observation of this bird (PLN) suggests that it was an adult molting into winter plumage and not a juvenile, thus the earlier date is not unexpected. An adult **Glaucous-winged Gull** at the Mountain View



Forebay 31 Aug (WGB) probably summered locally as the wintering birds are not expected until October. The second **Elegant Tern** of the fall migration was found over Mountain View Salt Pond #1 3 Aug (PLN). This is only the sixth county record. Three migrating adult **Common Terns** were over the Palo Alto FCB 17 Aug (PLN). They are regular at this time of year, but rarely identified. **Least Terns** continued to use Charleston Slough as a staging point at least through 12 Aug (WBG). Ten were seen on that date including only one juvenile. A **Vaux's Swift** was caught and banded at the Coyote Creek Riparian Station (CCRS) 16 Aug (vide Chris Otahal). Fall migrants do not usually appear until late September and it is suspected that this bird came from the local Santa Cruz Mountain population. There are few August records for this species. An out-of-range male **Costa's Hummingbird** took up residence at a feeder in south San Jose 26 Jul - 9 Aug (Kristine Ferguson). A male **Phainopepla** was seen in Portola Valley 28 Jul - 2 Aug (Barbara Johnson). They occasionally breed in the southern Santa Cruz Mountains and there appears to be a pattern of summer vagrancy north along the eastern edge of the range. A female **Townsend's Warbler** in Menlo Park 29 Aug (WGB) was an early arrival. They usually are not found locally until the end of September.

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

LAST CALL FOR BIRD SEED

If you hurry, you can still order bird seed in our Fall sale. This is a pre-paid sale. Your order, including a check payable to SCVAS, must be received by **MONDAY, OCTOBER 5**. ALL ORDERS MUST BE PICKED UP FROM THE **PENINSULA CONSERVATION CENTER, 2253 Park Blvd., Palo Alto**, on either Friday, October 23 between 3 and 6 pm, or on Saturday, October 24, between 11 am and 1 pm. Please send your order, with your name, address, phone number and a check to SCVAS, 415 Cambridge #21, Palo Alto, CA 94306.

BIRD SEED SALE ORDER FORM	
FALL 1987	
# Bags	Cost
Premium Seed 20 lb @ \$ 7/bag	
Premium Seed 50 lb @ \$15/bag	
Western Wild 20 lb @ \$ 6 /bag	
Western Wild 50 lb @ \$13/bag	
Black Oil Sun. 20 lb @ \$12/bag	
Black Oil Sun. 50 lb @ \$27/bag	
Striped Sun. 20 lb @ \$15/bag	
Striped Sun. 50 lb @ \$34/bag	
Thistle 5 lb @ \$10/bag	
Thistle 20 lb @ \$35/bag	
Subtotal	
Add 7% Tax	
Total	
Name	
Address	
City	Zip
Phone ()	
PLEASE RETURN THIS ORDER TO THE SCVAS OFFICE BY	
MONDAY, OCTOBER 5.	
SCVAS, 415 CAMBRIDGE, #21, PALO ALTO, CA 94306	



SAN JOSE CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

This year the San Jose Christmas Bird Count will be held on Sunday, December 20 - mark your calendars. In recent counts well over 100 people have participated. ALL levels of birding expertise are needed. Please join us that day. More information will be provided in the next issue of the *Avocet*. If you have any questions, please contact the compilers, Sue and Jim Liskovec at (415)969-5542.

NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY BIENNIAL CONVENTION REPORT

The NAS Convention was held Aug. 24-29, in Bellingham, Washington, on the grounds of the University of Western Washington. The Convention is a great way to meet many of the NAS staff, and fellow Audubon activists, as well as a chance to learn about the work being done across the country by these dedicated environmentalists. During the next year, I hope to offer articles on some of the topics discussed in the workshops, panel discussions and plenary sessions I attended:

NAS is concentrating on five High Priority Campaigns this year - Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, Old Growth Forests, Platte River, Wetlands Preservation, and Clean Air. A description of the different issues is available from the SCVAS office on request.

As many of you may know, in an attempt to cut their projected budget deficit, this summer NAS closed several of the regional offices without discussing their action with chapter leaders. This move angered just about everyone, as it was directly contrary to a newly implemented Chapter Policy, which every chapter contributed to, and which stressed communication between the National and Chapter organizations. NAS' Board of Directors is attempting to rectify their mistake. The first move they have made is to approve the nomination to the Board of 9 Chapter Activists, one from each Region. Voting will be done by individual chapter boards, and should be decided by the time this newsletter reaches you. This fall, when you receive a ballot for NAS board members, please be sure to support the regional delegates - they will have a direct and active knowledge of the issues of concern to chapters.

NAS Computer Network - an exciting new development! NAS has created a computer network, through a large satellite - supported communications system, that will tie all chapters, regional offices, and national offices together. A bulletin board, and access to mailboxes for all participants will be available, with one box for each chapter allowed. The network will allow us to get and send press releases, read bird alerts, share information on conservation and administrative activities, send letters instantly to the Washington, DC office for critiques, and much much more. We hope to be connected to the network by the time you receive this newsletter - come by the office sometime to see how it works!

The Western Regional Conference at Asilomar will be held in March, 1988, during the week before Easter. If you have any ideas about speakers, workshops, field trips, etc., please contact me at the office. And if you have never attended an Audubon Conference, do plan on going to this one - it is nearby and offers the chance to learn about issues that affect us all.

The next National Convention will be held in the summer of 1989, in Tuscon, Arizona.

-- Lynn Tennefoss



**GAYLORD ANDROES
MEMORIAL EDUCATION FUND**

In Memory of Gaylord Androes
Gifts of Pauline Christensen, Muriel Bell,
Norris Pope and Janet Gardiner

GILL NETS - SB 40

After slightly more than five years, we are very close to ending the problem of the incidental take of seabirds and marine mammals in halibut, shark, flounder, and white croaker gill nets from Sonoma to Ano Nuevo. SB 40 is almost out of the legislature. Where help is needed now is in letters to the Governor.

There may be a problem with Governor Deukmejian, because of the money appropriated by SB 40. There are two parts to the bill. One has the regulations that end gill net fisheries above Point Reyes and within three miles of the Farallones and Noonday Rock buoy, and, by April 1, 1988, prohibits them inside

40 fathoms south of Point Reyes. The other section provides some funding: \$100,000 from the general fund for low interest *loans* to fishermen impacted by gill net closures, to help them "develop alternative gear for existing fisheries and to enter new fisheries", as well as \$100,000 from the Environmental Licence Plate Fund "for assessing and monitoring alternative gear fishing activities and effects upon marine life."

The current emergency regulations expire July 29. Dept. of Fish and Game has begun the process to renew those regulations through November 26, by which time we expect SB 40 to have been signed into law. We NEED the regulations section of SB 40 to make the controls permanent. We WANT the money appropriated in order to reduce the impact on the fishermen. This bill also gives the state the opportunity to invest in the development of new and potentially more valuable (and less destructive) fisheries.

So ... letters one more time, please, to: Gov. George Deukmejian, State Capitol, Sacramento, CA 95814. Thank you.

-- Burr Heneman



NON -AUDUBON TRIPS AND EVENTS

These activities are not sponsored by Audubon, but are listed for your information.

Jim Rosso will lead a course in Nature Photography on Oct. 10 & 11. The weekend course costs \$24 and will show basic equipment and techniques on Saturday and a field trip on Sunday. Call Palo Alto Adult Education for details, 415/329-3752.

Alice Hoch will lead a series of Tuesday Birding Field Trips, sponsored by the Fremont Adult School. The class will meet for six weeks, commencing November 3. For more information, call 415/793-2240.

In June the U.S. Supreme Court issued two major decisions on land use planning and regulation. These cases are described and analyzed in detail in a new report from the Bay Area conservation group, People for Open Space/Green-belt Congress. For a single copy, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope with \$.39 postage to: POS/GC, 512 Second St., San Francisco 94107.

The City of Palo Alto is sponsoring an Autumn Nature Walk on Sunday, October 18, 9-11 am, at Foothills Park. On October 24, there will be a Nature Hike at the city's newest nature preserve, the Arastradero Preserve. Meet in the Preserve parking lot at 9 am. Reminder: Foothills Park is open only to Palo Alto residents and their accompanied guests.

The City of Palo Alto Baylands conducts weekend activities every Saturday and Sunday at the Lucy Evans Center. Slide shows, nature walks, ecology workshops and movies are offered. For more information call 415/329-2506.



SPECIAL SOUTH COUNTY MEETING

Resident Kenyan Terry Stevenson will show his best mammal and bird slides October 19 at Saratoga Community Library, corner of Fruitvale and Saratoga Ave. Take Saratoga Ave. exit from 280. Refreshments at 7:30 pm, program at 8 pm. Terry holds the world's record for the most birds seen on a 24-hr. "Big Day": 342 species in Kenya last November. He is well-known also as a safari leader and as resident naturalist at Lake Baringo Lodge.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

On all field trips, CARPOOL and share expenses. Bring binoculars, field guides, warm clothing, lunch (optional on half-day trips) and liquids. If you can provide or need transportation, call Dolores Norton (415)941-1666 or Gail Cheeseman (408)741-5330.

Field Trip Coordinator for October: Bill Clark (415)326-7565.

- Oct. 3 **Coyote Hills Regional Park.** Saturday, 8 am. Half day. Take Hwy 84 to Thornton Ave. exit just E of the new toll plaza. Go N on Thornton (Paseo Padre on new maps) about 1 mi. to Commerce Dr. Turn left into the park and meet at the lot near the entrance. HEAVY RAIN CANCELS. Leader: Grant Hoyt (415)969-7892.
- Oct. 4 **Ravenswood National Wildlife Refuge.** Sunday 9 am. Half day. Take Hwy 84 towards Fremont. Just before the initial approach, exit to right as indicated by Ravenswood National Refuge sign. RAIN CANCELS. Leader: Allen Royer (408)288-7768.
- Oct. 10 **Alum Rock Park.** Saturday, 8:30 am. Half day. Meet at parking lot in front of Youth Science Institute. From I-680 in San Jose take Alum Rock Ave. exit (1 mi. N of 280/101/680 interchange). Go E on Alum Rock Ave. into park. Follow signs to YSI. Lunch advisable. Easy walking 3-4 mis. HEAVY RAIN CANCELS. Highlights: early returning winter visitants. Leader: Dave Johnston (408)867-7278.
- Oct. 11 **Point Reyes.** Sunday, 8:30 am. Full day. Meet at the Drake's Beach parking lot. From Hwy 1 take Sir Francis Drake Blvd W 14 mis. to Drake's Beach turnoff. Go left about a mile to parking area. Car consolidation at Drake's Beach. Bring plenty of lunch, water and fuel. Highlights: Vagrant warblers and migrant shorebirds. Trip goes RAIN OR SHINE. Leader: Lynne Aldrich and Peter Gottschling (415)325-9349.
- Oct. 13 **Bird Discussion Group.** Tuesday, 9:30 am at the home of Eve Case, 20537 Verde Vista Lane, Saratoga (408)867-4748. Topic: Wandering Tattler.
- Oct. 14 **South County Field Trip: Los Gatos Creek Park Area.** Wednesday, 9 am. Half day. Take Winchester Blvd. S past Hacienda (park entrance) to Knowles Dr. Go left (E) 1 block toward Dell Ave. Park in street near JDR Microdevices. RAIN CANCELS. Leader: Frank Vanslager (408)257-3647.
- Oct. 14 **Bay Area Bird Photographers.** Wednesday, 7:30 pm at the Baylands. BABP member, Mike Danzenbaker, will present the program on California birds. Mike was a member of the winning team of the 1985 World Series of Birding. Co-sponsored by the City of Palo Alto.
- Oct. 17 **Ano Nuevo Point.** Saturday, 9 am. Full day. Meet at Ano Nuevo State Park Visitors Parking Lot. Take Hwy 84 to Hwy 1 and then S to Ano Nuevo. Or take Hwy 17 to Santa Cruz then N on 1 to Ano Nuevo. We will be making a three-mile hike across picturesque dunes to the rocky tip of the point, so be prepared for a fairly strenuous trek. Should be plenty of shorebirds, gulls, oceanbirds and possibly migrant passerines. Bring a scope and some munchies for the trail. Optional visit to Pescadero Marsh (and perhaps Dinelli's Greek Restaurant) later in the afternoon. There will be a \$3 per vehicle fee at Ano Nuevo State Park. Leader: Peter Metropulos (415)592-2417.
- Oct. 18 **Birdwalk for Beginners.** Palo Alto Baylands. Sunday, 8:30 am. Half day. Meet at the Duck Pond parking area. From Hwy 101 go E on Embarcadero past Airport to Duck Pond. This trip is essentially for beginners, but experienced birders welcome. Trip goes rain or shine. Leader: Phil Hand (415)851-2623.
- Oct. 19 **Special So. County General Meeting at Saratoga Community Library.** Monday. Refreshments at 7:30, program at 8 p.m. Program is "A Birdwatcher's Adventures in Africa". Details and directions inside.
- Oct. 21 **General Meeting.** Palo Alto Cultural Center, corner Embarcadero and Newell. Refreshments at 7:30, program at 8 pm. Doug Cheeseman will present a program on the Birds and Mammals of Brazil. Doug and Gail led a 30-daytrip in July for 10 naturalists to Brazil. All but two were SCVAS members. Doug will try to capture some of the excitement of the trip with his slide presentation.
- Oct. 24 **Moss Landing/Jetty Road.** Saturday, 8:30 am. Half to full day. Meet on Jetty Road just off Hwy 1. Take Hwy 1 S from Watsonville. Turn right on Jetty Rd. approximately 1 mi. N of Moss Landing. Bring lunch and liquids. Possible State Park entrance fee. Highlights: Wintering shorebirds. Trip goes rain or shine. Leader: Don Starks (408)371-9720.
- Oct. 25 **Mt. View Forebay/Charleston Slough.** Sunday, 8:30 am. Half day. Meet at the end of San Antonio Rd. at Terminal Rd. Take Hwy 101 to San Antonio Rd. and go E to Terminal. Trip goes rain or shine. Leader: Dick Stovel (415)856-6105.
- Oct. 28 **Field Trip North.** Wednesday, 9 am. Half day. Pescadero Marsh. Meet at the parking lot on the W side of the highway between the bridge and Pescadero Rd. Lunch optional. Leaders: Elgin Juri (415)325-7470 and Dolores Norton (415)941-1666.

Field Trip Coordinators for November: Alan and Karen Thomas (408)265-9286.

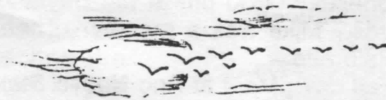
- Nov. 1 **Jasper Ridge Biological Reserve.** Sunday, 8:30 am. Half day. Meet at the Preserve Main Gate. From I-280 go 2 mis. W on Sand Hill Rd. to main gate on left. Gate will be unlocked from 8:10 to 8:40 am. BE PROMPT. \$2 gate fee. Limited to 40 participants. BY RESERVATION ONLY. 60-70 species with Ring-necked Ducks and Wood Ducks possible and maybe a surprise or two. Lunch optional. Trip goes rain or shine. Leaders: Bill and Jean Clark, Bill Kirsher and Bob Buell. For reservations call leaders: Bill and Jean Clark (415)326-7565.
- Nov. 7 **Salinas River Mouth.** Saturday, 8:30 am. Full day. Meet in the parking area at the W end of Del Monte Blvd. This is the first exit off Hwy 1 after crossing the Salinas River. Take Hwy 1 S from Santa Cruz or Hwy 101 S to Hwy 156 W to Hwy 1. Bring lunch and liquids. Highlights: wintering shorebirds. Heavy rains on or one week prior to trip date cancels trip, due to dirt access road becoming a quagmire when wet. Leader: Don Starks (408)371-9720.
- Nov. 8 **Birdwalk for Beginners.** Ed Levin Park. Sunday, 8:30 am. Half day. Meet at the old school yard across from park. This is the second school going E on Calaveras Blvd. From Hwy 17 take Calaveras Blvd. E through Milpitas to park. Or take Hwy 680 N from San Jose to Calaveras Blvd. Lunch optional - bring liquids. Possible raptors - Golden Eagle and Prairie Falcon. Leader: Vicki Silvas-Young (408)293-7124.

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

Avocet deadline is the first Monday of the month. Send contributions to the editor, Levona Sterngold, 720 M Blair Court, Sunnyvale 94087.

- Nov. 10 **Bird Discussion Group.** Tuesday, 9:30 am at the home of Eve Case, 20537 Verde Vista Lane, Saratoga. This is our 20 year anniversary meeting. Topic: Skuas and Jaegers.
- Nov. 11 **Field Trip South,** McClellan Park, Cupertino. Wednesday, 9 am. South off I-280 at De Anza Blvd. (also marked as Cupertino-Sunnyvale exit). Go 1/2 mi. past Stevens Creek Blvd. to McClellan Rd. Go W on McClellan past Monta Vista High School and down into the canyon. The park is on the right just before McClellan crosses the creek. Leader: Frank Farran (408)252-3874.



KTEH PLEDGE NIGHT

ON AUGUST 19TH, FIFTEEN MEMBERS OF THE SCVAS ANSWERED TELEPHONES FOR A KTEH, CHANNEL 54, PLEDGE NIGHT. WE GOT GREAT PUBLICITY FOR THE AUDUBON SOCIETY AND WERE ABLE TO HELP A LOCAL PUBLIC TV STATION.

SINCERE THANKS TO VOLUNTEERS JIM ANDERSON, BETTY GROCE, BOB AND ROB HASSEL, JIM AND SUE LISKOVEC, DEBORAH MANLEY-SUGARS, JUDY MCEUEN, KEVIN AND BARBARA MONAHAN, KATHY PARKER, JACK AND THERESA SPINLER AND KAREN TODD.

WANTED - Sightings of color-banded Osprey from the Deschutes National Forest, Oregon

In addition to the USFWS band, another band of varied color combinations has been placed on selected Osprey within the Deschutes National Forest as an aid to a long-term study. Bands of one color, two-color, or three-color could be observed. Please report any sightings of these marked birds by writing Osprey Study, Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife, 61374 Parrell Rd., Bend, OR 97702, or call the project leader, Jim Anderson, Central Oregon Audubon Society, (503)388-1659. Collect calls will be accepted!

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, 415 Cambridge Avenue, Suite 21, Palo Alto, CA 94306. Membership includes AUDUBON magazine, the national publication, and the AVOCET. AVOCET subscriptions alone are \$6/year.

Make checks payable to SCVAS. They are published monthly except July and August. Send all address changes to the office promptly.

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