



# The Avocet

April 1989

Volume 36, Number 34

## Birdathon 1989

**Y**ou have many opportunities to support the 1989 SCVAS Birdathon! On April 29-30 nine teams of eagle-eyed bird-watchers will use their birding skills to raise money for Audubon's local and national programs. **All funds raised will go to the National Audubon Society Mono Lake Legal Fund, to SCVAS's brand new Wetlands Legal Defense Fund, and to the chapter's education projects** - Audubon Adventures and a film about the Bay are examples.

*Choose your favorite SCVAS team*, and pledge to donate a certain amount of money per species spotted. (Example: you want the Wrentits to do well, so you pledge 20¢ per species; they find 50 species, so you owe 20¢ x 50 = \$10) We suggest a minimum pledge of 10¢ per species, but please consider more. *Any* contribution will be gratefully accepted.

### "The Teams"

Christopher and Marlene Bekins, Mary Ann Leer, Trish Mulvey, and Jules Resnick ..... "If You've Seen One Bird, You've Seen Them All"

Clark Blake and Bill Bousman ..... "The Poorwills"

Jerry Estruth, Dave and Monica Johnston,  
 Geri Brown, & David Suddjian ..... "Eagle-eyed Goatsuckers"

Paul Edstrom, Perry Penvenne and Alan Waltner ..... "The Eagle Eyes"

Mike Feighner ..... "Sapsucker"

Grant Hoyt and Dick Stovel ..... "The Vagrants"

Rod Norden, Lynn Tennefoss, KC and Nick Yatsko "Un-Common Loons"

Kathy Parker ..... "Me, Myself and I"

Chris and Claire Wolfe ..... "Mangrove Cuckoos"

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## Special Hummingbird Plant Sale

Karen Sullivan, proprietor of Hummingbird Gardens Nursery in La Honda, has made a special offer to SCVAS. She will attend the Palo Alto Bird Seed Sale pickup, at the PENINSULA CONSERVATION CENTER, TUESDAY, APRIL 4, FROM 4 TO 6 PM, and offer drought-tolerant hummingbird attracting plants for sale. SCVAS will receive 20% of all sales made. Karen can also offer lots of advice about planning, and caring for, plants that attract hummingbirds. Please stop by to support both your hummingbirds and SCVAS!

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# Chapter Elections

SCVAS members present at the May 17 General Meeting will vote on the following nominated officers and directors for 1989-90:

- PRESIDENT - Dave Johnston
- FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT - Grant Hoyt
- SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT - Martha Nungesser
- TREASURER - Don Price
- RECORDING SECRETARY - To be announced
- DIRECTORS FOR THREE YEARS (1989-1992)
- Rob Colwell
- Nick Yatsko
- Director to be announced

Any member present at the meeting may place names in nomination providing the written consent of the candidate has been obtained.

## Birdathon Continued from Page 1

Or perhaps YOU would like to *create your own team*. We will send you a sponsor form, and pledge cards. Another way still to participate is to get your own pledges from friends, neighbors, family and co-workers, then *join in on the Birdathon Field Trip*. You can help that team find more species, and contribute your own share to SCVAS at the same time. And everyone is welcome to join us for a potluck dinner, celebrating the Birdathon. Call the office for location.

We will be competing with NAS and other local chapters to raise the most money. Let's show we know how to compete with the best of them. Sign up now as a participant or sponsor in the 1989 Birdathon, using the form on page 2. We need your support! For more information on participating as a counter, please call Grant Hoyt at (415) 969-7892 or Lynn Teneffoss at (415) 329-1811.

## From the Editor...

Heraclitus observed in the fifth century B.C. that there is nothing permanent except change. The same is true today. Regular readers of *The Avocet* have seen plenty of changes in their newsletter over the past several issues. As your new editor I can promise you even more. You will see a few changes in the format to make *The Avocet* more readable, and some changes in the content to make it more enjoyable to read.

This is where you, the members of SCVAS get to participate. I invite all of you to contribute articles on birding and environmental action, field trips and events, original writings and drawings, and, of course, any suggestions for improvement. Thanks for your help.

Jim Schwertman



### YES! I want to support the 1989 Birdathon as a:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Counter. I/We want to have my/our own team. Please send info to the name below.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Sponsor. I/We pledge the following amount per species to the Team(s) circled. (Estimated number of species to be seen in parantheses.)

If You've Seen One...(20)	Me, Myself, & I	Goatsuckers (150)
Uncommon Loons (100)	Eagle Eyes (110)	Vagrants (150)
Mangrove Cuckoos (100)	Poorwills (147)	Sapsucker (100)

Name: _____		Phone: _____	
Address: _____			
City: _____	State: _____	ZIP: _____	

Circle Amount Pledged
5¢
10¢
20¢
25¢
50¢
\$1
_____

Please return to SCVAS, 415 Cambridge Ave., #21, Palo Alto, CA 94306

# 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 Gail Cheeseman (408) 741-5330.

**April Field Trip Coordinator:**  
**Paul L. Noble (415) 948-3876**

## **Saturday, Apr 1, 8 AM** **Coal Mine Ridge**

Leader: Phil Hand (415) 851-2623  
Directions: Take I-280 to Alpine Rd., S about 3 miles to stop at Portola Rd. Continue on Alpine .9 miles to parking on right just before Willowbrook. Heavy rain cancels. Lunch optional. Bluebirds, vireos, warblers, views. Half day

## **Sunday, Apr 2, 8 AM** **CCRS Banding Demo**

Leader: Allen Royer (408) 288-7768  
Directions: Meet at the San Jose/Santa Clara Water Pollution Control Plant parking area on Los Esteros in Alviso. Take Zanker off 237. Zanker becomes Los Esteros at curve. Lot on left. Carpool from here. RESERVATIONS REQUIRED. Call leader to sign up. Heavy rain cancels. Intro to bird banding at CCRS research area. Hands on experience. Half day

## **Tuesday, Apr 4, 4-6 PM** **Palo Alto Bird Seed Pickup & Hummingbird Plant Sale**

Peninsula Conservation Center parking lot, 2448 Watson Ct, Palo Alto. Some extra seed will be available for sale, as well as plants. (See article on page one.)

## **Wed, Apr 5, 7:30 PM**

**Bay Area Bird Photographers**  
Baylands Interpretive Center. Birds of the Central Pacific and its Atolls, by Mark Rauzon. See photos from Clipperton, Jarvis, Christmas Islands with discussion of interesting landbird migration patterns as well as the extensive habitat destruction caused by feral introduced mammals.

## **Sunday, Apr 9** **Coyote Lake County Park**

Leader: Jean-Marie Spoelman (415) 797-0265  
Directions: Take 101 S from San Jose to Gilroy. Exit E. on Leavesley Rd. Go over freeway then left into Denny's. Go to back of building. Highlights: Rufous-crowned Sparrow, Turkey, Spring migrants. Half to Full day

## **Sunday, Apr 9, 9 AM** **Intro Birdwalk for Beginners**

Leader: Rod Norden (408) 255-3033  
Directions: Meet at the end of San Antonio Rd. in Mtn. View. Trip stresses the basics of birding. Easy walk of 1-2 miles. Half day

## **Tuesday, Apr 11, 9:30 AM** **Bird Discussion Group**

At the home of Eve Case, 20537 Verde Vista Lane, Saratoga, CA. (408) 867-4748. Topic: Bitterns. All members are invited to attend these monthly open discussions about different species. Call for details and directions.

## **Wed, Apr 12, 8:30 AM** **South County Field Trip**

Leader: Frank Vanslager (408) 257-3647  
Directions: Stevens Creek Park. From I-280 exit onto Foothill and proceed south 2.1 miles to first park entrance. Meet at first parking lot (Chestnut Picnic Area).

## **Saturday, Apr 15, 8:30 A** **Jasper Ridge Preserve**

Leaders: Bill and Jean Clark  
Directions: Meet at the preserve Main Gate, not Whiskey Hill Gate!!! \$3.00 Gate Fee. Gate open from 8:10 to 8:30 *only*. BE PROMPT!! Trip goes RAIN OR SHINE!!! 2-3 miles easy walking. Trip limited to 40 participants BY RESERVATION ONLY. Call Bill or Jean Clark for reservations. (415) 326-7565. Wide variety of species in varied habitats. Half day

## **Saturday, Apr 15, 8 AM** **Pinnacles National Monument**

Leader: Phyllis Swanson (408) 274-2349 (After 5:30 pm)  
Directions: Meet at Chalone Picnic Area in the Monument. Take 101 S. from San Jose to Hwy 25 in Gilroy. Take 25 E. to 146. Right on 146 to Monument. 4 miles easy walking. Entrance fee. Bring lunch and liquids. Flashlights for caves. Full Day

*Continued on page 5*



# Notes From the Field

by Bill Bousman

## Pelicans to Teal

A flock of 45 *Am. White Pelicans* at the Sunnyvale Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP) 16 Feb (PJM) may be lingering birds or part of the flock that sometimes oversummers in the south bay. There is speculation that some of these birds will not return to their breeding grounds in the Great Basin in drought years because of the reduced water and food. An *Am. Bittern* in the Palo Alto Flood Control

(FCB) 11 Feb (DLSu et al.) was the only report this month. A male *Eurasian Green-winged Teal* at the Sunnyvale WPCP 16 Feb (PJM) is one of the few records we have for the county for the Eurasian race of this teal. A hybrid male *Blue-winged x Cinnamon Teal* there the same day (PJM) is also of interest.

## Mergansers

*Hooded Mergansers* have continued to be found into February. A pair were on the Los Gatos Creek ponds on 20 Jan (DLSu). Two birds were at the pond at Skylonda on 31 Jan (JG). Seven were seen at Lexington Reservoir on 1 Feb and 6 more at the Page Groundwater Recharge Facility (GRF) on 8 Feb (DLSu). These are unusually high numbers compared to past winters. More expected are wintering *Common Mergansers* such as the 14 at Lexington Res. 1 Feb (DLSu).

## Hawks

An *Osprey* over Atherton 28 Feb (PJM) may represent the start of the spring movement of these birds. Two adult *Bald Eagles* at Calaveras Res. 11 Feb (AME) are undoubtedly the same birds seen there in December. A *Rough-*

*legged Hawk* over Atherton 12 Feb (PJM) was away from the coast where they have been plentiful this winter. *Merlin* have also been found in unusual numbers this winter. Records include single birds at: Morgan

Hill 20 Jan (BC vide DLSu); the Palo Alto FCB 11 Feb (DLSu et al.); the Sunnyvale WPCP 16 Feb (PJM); a female of the dark race, suckleyi, at Henry Coe SP 17 Feb (JY, AL), apparently another suckleyi at Arastradero Preserve 21 Feb (G&KHo); and a bird in Los Gatos 25 Feb striking a *Cooper's Hawk* (MF). An imm. *Peregrine Falcon* was at Moffett Field 1 Feb (MRO).

## Gulls to Flycatchers

A *Glaucous Gull* first found at the Sunnyvale WPCP in mid-January was seen there again 26 Jan (MRO) and 16 Feb (PJM). A late winter sighting of *Lesser Yellowlegs* was of a single bird at the Sunnyvale WPCP 16 Feb (PJM). A *Northern Pygmy-Owl* at Monte Bello OSP 26 Feb (MRO) was in a typical location. The first *Rufous Hummingbirds* of the season were males at feeders in San

Jose 26 Feb (Ernest A. Abeles) and Los Gatos 28 Feb (MF). On 18 Feb a pair of *Phainopeplas* was found at the Arastradero Preserve (G&KHo). A male *Phainopepla* was found there again 20 Feb (MJM). A *Western Flycatcher* along Adobe Creek in Los Altos Hills 27 Jan (DLSu) represents one of our few winter records. The first arrival of this species is normally in mid to late March.

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**Merlin have been sighted in greater than usual numbers this winter.**

## Thoughts on Exotics

Over the years of this column I have rarely reported on sightings of exotic species such as parrots, ring-necked doves, and the like. This is not because I dislike these exotics; my problem is that I don't know how to characterize these sightings. Did the bird reported to me escape from someone's aviary five minutes ago? Or twenty years ago? Is it still in the wild or did the owner recapture it the day after you wrote your note to me about this sighting? However, if this bird is breeding locally then it is a very different circumstance. Here we can say that the species is attempting to start a local population and keep our eyes on its success or failure. I am not aware of any breeding records for Santa Clara County of any introduced species except, of course, the well-established ones such as the European Starling, Wild Turkey, and so forth. If you do observe nesting evidence of any species I would be interested in sharing that information in this column.

## Notes From the Field

Continued from page 4

### Warblers to Crossbills

Three wintering *Orange-crowned Warblers* were found in various places along Adobe Creek on 20 and 27 Jan (DLSu). Seven singing birds at Stevens Creek CP 26 Feb (MJM) represents the first spring influx. A female *Yellow Warbler* in Los Gatos 25 Feb (MFe) was undoubtedly wintering locally. A male *Black-throated Gray Warbler* along Adobe Creek in Los Altos Hills 27 Jan (DLSu) was in the same place as during December. A female *Western*

*Tanager* was found the same day in Saratoga (DLSu). A *White-throated Sparrow* has remained at a feeder in Menlo Park at least through 4 Mar (Bill Bousman). Three *Red Crossbills* at Bear Gulch 1 Feb (JG) indicate that at least some birds of this nomadic species are still lingering in the Santa Cruz Mountains.

### Early arrivals

*Tree Swallow*, 19 Feb, *Sunnyvale WPCP (PJM)*; *iolet-green Swallow*, 18 Feb, Arastradero Preserve (G&KHo); *Northern Rough-winged Swallow*, 24 Feb, Crittenden Marsh (MRo); *Cliff*

*Swallow*, 28 Feb, Crittenden Marsh (MRo); and *Barn Swallow*, 19 Feb, Shoreline Lake (AME).

### Contributors:

Ernest A. Abeles, Bill Bousman, Bob Costa, Al Eisner, Mike Feighner, Jennifer Green, Grant & Karen Hoyt, Amy Lauterbach, Peter Metropulos, Mike Rogers, David Suddjian, James Yurchenco.

*If you see an "uncommon to rare" or spot early arrivals and migrants please drop a note or call: Bill Bousman, 321 Arlington Way, Menlo Park, CA 94025 (414/322-5282).*

## Calendar of Events

Continued from page 3

### Sunday, Apr 16, 8:30 AM Henry Coe State Park

Leader: Jim and Sue Liskovec  
(415) 969-5542

Directions: Meet at Park HQ. Take 101 S. from San Jose to Dunne Ave. Exit E. Continue on Dunne to Park, 13 miles. Bring lunch and water. 5 miles hiking. Full Day

### Wed, Apr 19, 7:30 PM General Membership Meeting

Palo Alto Cultural Center, Embarcadero at Newell  
Refreshments at 7:30; bird ID workshop at 7:45; program with Frank Almeda on Costa Rica at 8.

The Bird Identification Workshop will feature two species of Empidonax flycatchers. Paul Noble will describe differences in vocalizations, summer plumage, habitat, and behavior. Then, Dr. Frank Almeda, Senior Curator at Calif. Academy of Sciences, will present a program on the Natural History of Costa Rica from a Botanical Perspective. Dr. Almeda has visited this marvelously diverse tropical country more than 15 times in the

### Sat/Sun, Apr 22-23 PRBO Spring Shorebird Census

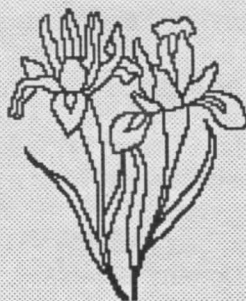
Saturday is North Bay, Sunday, South Bay. For info on how to participate, call (415) 868-1221.

### Wed, Apr 26, 9 AM Arastra Preserve

Leader: Jane Ardley (415) 494-1787

Directions: Meet in parking lot of

last 17 years. The flora is particularly rich; for example, there are at least 1500 species of orchids. Although botany is his specialty, he is just as knowledgeable about the birds and other wildlife. The 850 species of birds are spectacular and diverse. This will be an outstanding program on rainforest ecology.



preserve on north side of Arastradero Rd.—this is the section between Page Mill and Alpine Rds, south of I-280.

### Sat/Sun, April 29-30 Birdathon

#### Sat, April 29, 8:30 AM Birdathon Field Trip

Contact: Lynn Tennefoss (415) 329-1811

Join Birdathon Team "Uncommon Loons" at Charleston Slough, and help the team find species. The team will start at Charleston Slough, and move on to Palo Alto Baylands, Stanford Arboretum, and the Arastra Property. Members are encouraged to get their own sponsors and help the chapter raise money. For more details, call the office.

#### May Field Trip Coordinator: Grant Hoyt (415) 969-7892

#### WANTED: MID-WEEK FIELD TRIP COORDINATOR

Volunteer assistance is sought in planning the two mid-week field trips offered each month. If you can help out, please call the SCVAS office at (415) 329-1811.



# Environmental Action News

## NAS and Local Chapters Working Together

### April is Rivers and Wildlife Month

April 1989 is the fourth year in which NAS and its local chapters focus on an issue of specific concern to the organization. Audubon Adventures, National Audubon's youth education program, will feature rivers in its bimonthly publication, focusing on the many links in a chain of plant and animal life, with wildlife corridors receiving special attention.

Rivers and wildlife are valuable resources we have across the nation, whether in

major urban areas or remote rural locations. People not only make many recreational uses of rivers, but depend on them or a number of things including transportation and water supplies.

#### ***You can help your local rivers in several ways:***

#### **Urban Creeks Council Forming South Bay Chapter**

Volunteers are sought to represent SCVAS on a new chapter of the dynamic Urban Creeks Council. Members will form "stream watch" teams, plan stream restoration goals, and policies regarding stream protection. Please call SCVAS if you are interested in joining this important work, (415) 329-1811. No previous experience needed!

#### **Hale Creek Diversion Threatens Wildlife and Habitat**

Creeks of Los Altos (a group focusing on environmental responsibility for local creeks) is concerned about the reclamation of Neary Quarry through diversion of Hale Creek waters, thereby creating a lake. We are appealing the acceptance of a Negative Declaration by the Santa Clara County Planning

Commission. This implies that no significant negative environmental impacts are associated with the project, and that no Environmental Impact Report is necessary. However, the effects of diverting the flow from heritage oaks and resident wildlife downstream, the geologic risks of filling the quarry, and the toxic pollution and subsidence risks in the Los Altos aquifer have not been adequately addressed. If you would like to show your concern, letters and signatures are needed ASAP to present to the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors, to demonstrate significant public concern, and request an EIR be required. Please phone Dorothy Humphrey (415) 964-8495 or Marie Lomas (415) 962-0879 for more details OR write a letter to the Supervisors, 70 W. Hedding, 10th Floor, San Jose, CA 95110.

- Dorothy Humphrey, "Creeks of Los Altos"

***Rivers and Wildlife  
are Valuable  
Natural  
Resources in  
Urban  
or Rural Areas***

## **Ten Minute Activist**

***YOU can make a difference***

### **Time to Write Your Letters to the White House!!**

Now is one of the best, and most important, times in recent memory to write the President about your views - in particular your concern over the state of the environment, or lack thereof. The nation's attention has been focused recently on the "state of the endangered planet" as displayed in *Time* magazine's Endangered Planet of the Year, and the December 1988 *National Geographic* magazine, with its question on the cover "CAN MAN SAVE THIS FRAGILE EARTH". There is a growing awareness that all is not well on the planet and we need to make some changes, NOW! Your representatives in Washington and President Bush need to hear your concerns, RIGHT NOW, before a major or minor crisis creeps up and the "noise" from that event overshadows the often seemingly trivial environmental problems, which of course are not! Write President George Bush, The White House, Washington, DC 20500.

- Jim Anderson

### **Rare and Endangered Species Preservation Program**

When filling out your California state tax Form 540, don't forget line 45. Your voluntary contribution can help the fight to save our rare and endangered species.

# Environmental Action News

## Stanford Marsh

A few years ago, a marsh arose in the middle of the bone-dry Stanford Arboretum, the result of storm damage and land subsidence. Now the University is combining a need to manage local storm runoff with modern environmental planning and has created a small pond in the middle of the marsh, thereby officially recognizing the value of the marsh as a habitat for birds and other wildlife, and as a place to establish tree species not otherwise found in the grassland/woodland arboretum.

Preservation of this freshwater marsh did not just happen. Planning for the 100-year flood and construction of bigger storm sewers could have outweighed the need to preserve marsh and riparian habitat. Ever since the marsh first appeared, members of "Friends of the Arboretum" have been trying to make Uni-

versity officials aware of the importance of this increasingly rare habitat, and to encourage its preservation. Three members of the "Friends" are currently on the SCVAS Board of Directors—Don Price, founder of "Friends", Jules Resnick, and Grant Hoyt. In 1988 a young landscape architect with Stanford, Tom Richman, developed an idea to couple preservation of the marsh with the need to better manage University storm runoff. If this effort is successful, additional marshes and ponds might be created in the Arboretum which should then become one of the prime birding spots in the mid-Peninsula. For more information on how to join and support "Friends of the Arboretum" please contact Don Price at (415) 327-1254.



## Support Non-Game Wildlife Habitat Preservation

California's first wildlife preservation stamp, the non-game Native Species Stamp, is now for sale through SCVAS. The \$7.50 fee will be used by the Dept. of Fish and Game to purchase wildlife habitat for endangered and more common, but declining, species. Part of the California Wildlands Program, a \$10 annual pass to nine wildlife areas or ecological reserves is also available for sale, along with a discount \$4.50 annual subscription to the DFG's bimonthly magazine *Outdoor California*. As of March 15, a pass or day use fee is required for entrance to Gray Lodge, Los Banos, and Elkhorn Slough Reserve. Call SCVAS for more details.

## Thanks to Jim, Barbara and Kevin

### Board Members Resign

SCVAS Board members Jim Anderson and Barbara Monahan have recently resigned from the Board.

Jim, a director for two and a half years, has a very busy schedule to pursue as an instructor at Foothill and DeAnza Colleges, but will continue to keep SCVAS informed about national and global environmental issues.

Barbara Monahan has been an invaluable member of the SCVAS board for the last four years. From her first volunteer activity, signing in members at a June potluck, she has placed considerable energy and enthusiasm into the chapter. As chair of the Environmental Action

Committee, she has charted the chapter in the direction of strong, vocal activism. Caring deeply about the fate of Sunnyvale Bayland Park, she worked tirelessly with a coalition of other individuals and groups, to see the park's wetlands completely preserved. Her concern for other wetlands in the South Bay led to leadership in Save Our South (SOS) Bay Wetlands Committee. Barbara pioneered the idea of the Ten Minute Activist articles in the *Avocet*, which have been adopted by chapters in many other parts of the Audubon network.

Kevin Monahan is a past president and long-time SCVAS board member, and has continued to be

very actively involved in chapter activities. Both Kevin and Barbara have spent many hours helping to clarify future directions for *The Avocet*, in both content and format. Kevin has been especially generous in offering assistance with the office Macintosh.

Kevin also found time to donate his considerable skills as photographer, offering slide shows for the membership, and capturing the essence of avian grace in his prints. Both Barbara and Kevin will continue their dedication to wetlands preservation in their work for the Citizens Committee to Complete the Refuge.

We wish Jim, Barbara, and Kevin the best of luck in all they pursue.



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 Env. Act.  
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 Photo Clb Pete LaTourrette 415/961-2741

General meetings are open to the public. Board of Directors meetings are open to all members. Call the office for times and directions. *The Avocet* deadline is the first Monday of each month. Send contributions to the editor, Jim Schwertman, 1168 Willow Glen Way, San Jose, CA 95125.

## Non-Audobon Trips and Events

● 17th Annual Spring Wildflower Show and Native Plant Sale, April 22-23, 10 am to 4 pm, Foothill College Student College, call (408) 985-5994. ● California Trail Days, April 22 and 23. Join 1000's of volunteers state-wide, by helping build or repair a local trail; for info, call the Trail Center, (415) 968-7065.

● SFBBO Arizona and West Texas camping/birding tour, Apr 22-May 7, call Don Starks for info, (408) 946-6548 or (408) 226-4134.

● Texas Trip with Maryann Danielson and Jean-Marie Spoelman, April 22-May 6, limited to 9 persons, for info, call (415) 325-9349.

● Birding Mines Road Class, Sat, April 29, and Tuesday Morning Birding Field Trips Apr 25- May 30, with Alice Hoch. Call Fremont Adult School, (415) 791-5841.

● Oceanic Society's State of the Bay Conference, Sat., Apr 29, 9 am, Holiday Inn Hotel, San Francisco, \$40, call (415) 441-5970.

● Randall Davey Audubon Center, NAS's education center and state office in Santa Fe, offers bird-watching/river rafting trips on the Rio Chama and the Rio Grande in northern New Mexico, May 12-14,

May 20-21, and June 3-4. Also art history/birding tour June 11-18. For info, contact Davey Aud. Center, P.O. Box 9314, Santa Fe, NM, 87504, (505) 983-4609.

● SF State University's Sierra Nevada Field Campus, near Yuba Pass, offers Recording Bird Songs, Function of Bird Song, Birds of Sierra Nevada, and Nature Illustration in June. Call Jim Steele at (415) 338-1571 or 759-0970 for more info.

● See where birds of prey that migrate through our area spend the summer, join Raptors of the Alaskan Spring tour, May 27-June 4, 10% benefits Golden Gate Raptor Observatory, call Fran McDermott, (415) 826-8459 by April 10.

● Look Tours offers Backroads of Scotland trip, June 12-29, inc. Orkney Islands for pelagic birds and mammals. Call (415) 948-6790.

● The Cheeseman's Ecology Safaris has openings on their Kenya Wildlife Safari, June 22 to July 10. Leaders are resident naturalist/birder Terry Stevenson and photographer Frank Balthis, who is also a naturalist at Año Nuevo. Call Gail and Doug Cheeseman for more details at (408) 741-5330.

## Gifts and Memorials

### *In Memory of Robert Spellman*

*From Internal Medicine Associates, Linda & Charles Bonin, Staff of Moorpark Community School, West Set Bridge Club, Richard & Dorothy Jones, Don and Margaret Fitzgerald, Pat & Don McAndrews, Robert & Jacqueline Martin, Richard & Vivian Smith, and Julia Smith.*

### *In Memory of Larry Sleizer for the Legal Fund*

*From Chip Haven and Jane Becker-Haven*

### *In Memory of Rich Allen*

*From Diana Moller and Evelyn West*

### *In Memory of Agnes Gaylord*

*From the San Jose Main Library Staff*

**SCVAS extends condolences** to the family of Dr. J.W. Tilden, who passed away this winter. Dr. Tilden, a renowned entomologist, was an emeritus professor from San Jose State University, and co-author of U.C. Press's, California Butterflies, as well as the Peterson Guide, A Field Guide to Western Butterflies. A long-time SCVAS member, he and Hazel were familiar sights at both field trips and general meetings. Dr. Tilden's expertise, curiosity about all living creatures, and warm good nature will be missed.

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

**MEMBERSHIP** - To join the Audubon Society or subscribe to the Audubon Activist, send checks, payable to NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY, to SCVAS office, 415 Cambridge Ave., Suite 21, Palo Alto, CA 94306. Membership includes AUDUBON magazine, the national publication, and *The Avocet*. Subscriptions to the *The Avocet* alone are \$6/year. Make checks payable to SCVAS. *The Avocet* is published monthly except July and August. **SEND ALL ADDRESS CHANGES TO THE OFFICE PROMPTLY.**