

The Avocet



480j
Mr. & Mrs. R Jay Andree
12579 Radoyka Dr
Saratoga, CA 95070

November 1989

Volume 36, Number 35

Greenbelt Update

Notice of Habitat Endangerment

A new development, located east of Highway 101, along Silver Creek and San Felipe Roads, is currently going through the planning process. The Silver Creek Valley Country Club is to be a private, walled and gated community. A neighborhood group is fighting to save some of the wildlife and open space values of this area.

The proposed Silver Creek Valley Country Club Planned Development is habitat for many bird species in Santa Clara Valley. Some of the birds that would be impacted by the changes in their habitat are: Golden Eagle, Redtail Hawk, American Kestrel, Great Horned Owl, Screech Owl, Barn Owl, Scrub Jay, California Quail, Oriole, several species of flycatchers and other songbirds. The project area is also habitat for the Checkerspot Butterfly, a federally listed endangered species.

As would be expected in this open, oak studded hillside environment there are deer, coyotes, raccoons, opossums, squirrels and foxes. In short, it is a special area within the City of San Jose that is about to be drastically changed with the approval of the development as now proposed. Although development is inevitable, it could be done with more environmental sensitivity. The EIR gives lip service to preserving the rural atmosphere, but honors the terms with gross ignorance.

The Rezoning and Planned Development hearing comes before the San Jose City Council Tuesday, November 7, 7:30 pm in Council Chambers. It is urgent to gather as much support at possible to attempt to secure more stringent requirements on the permits for this development. San Jose has an opportunity to do something special here. Let's see if we can raise the sights of our representatives. Contact Phyllis Karsten (408) 274-4740 or Greenbelt Alliance (408) 983-0539 for more information.

- Phyllis Karsten.

Pro Esteros Meeting

What is pro esterros? Well, we're glad you asked! pro esterros is a grassroots organization founded in 1988 and dedicated to preserving the salt marshes in Baja California. The Baja estuaries provide critical habitat for migratory shore and water birds and other sensitive species such as clapper rails and least terns. Developers have recently proposed large scale commercial developments (resorts and marinas) that would alter the sensitive salt marsh ecosystems forever. Some folks have said the estuaries in Baja are like San Francisco Bay was 150 years ago. Perhaps you can do something to help save these wetlands!

You are invited to a pro esterros meeting to be held at the SF Bay National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center in Fremont on Friday evening, November 10, at 7:30 pm. Barbara Massey, co-chairperson of the International pro esterros will present a program on Baja salt marshes and the recent preservation efforts of the pro esterros group. Barbara is an adjunct professor in the biology department at Long Beach State University and a recognized expert on least terns and clapper rails. For more information, call (415) 792-0222.



Chapter News

San Jose Christmas Bird Count

The San Jose Christmas Bird Count will be held on Sunday, December 17. If you are new to Christmas Counts or are a new birder, please don't let that stop you. We need people of all abilities. Save December 17 for an exciting day of birding followed by a dinner and tally get together. For more information, call compilers Jim and Sue Liskovec (415) 969-5542, or one of the section leaders below. Call the SCVAS office for information on section boundaries.

Section	Leader	Phone
A (Alviso)	Jean Dubois	408-395-4264
B (Fremont Hills)	Ed Laak	415-324-1895
C (Calaveras)	Mike Mammoser	408-248-2288
D (Alum Rock)	Dave Johnston	408-867-7278
E (Evergreen)	Dave Johnston	408-867-7278
F (South)	Paul Noble	415-949-1743
G (Southwest)	Anne Wilson	415-941-0966
H (Agnew)	Grant Hoyt	415-969-7892
I (Milpitas)	Paul Noble	415-949-1743
J (Berryessa)	Chris Wolfe	408-987-6033
	Claire Wolfe	408-733-5654

CBC T-shirts/sweatshirts Available

1989 marks the 90th year birders have done Christmas Bird Bounts! In celebration, NAS is offering special sweatshirts (50/50 cotton/polyester) and T-shirts (100% heavyweight cotton). Both shirts are festive red with bright green and white lettering, and are available in adult sizes S, M, L, XL. The sweatshirt is \$20, T-shirt \$10. SCVAS will be encouraging members to purchase these, rather than designing our own CBC t-shirt this year. We have a picture of the shirts in the SCVAS office, if you would like to see one before ordering. To order a shirt, send your check to SCVAS.

SCVAS Fundraising Effort

As *The AVOCET* goes to press, the SCVAS Telethon is in full swing. But even if you have not been approached for a donation, we would like your assistance. Please consider making a contribution to the chapter to help with our conservation, and education events. You will find a space on the back page coupon for your donations, along with gift membership and sales

The Avocet 2

opportunities. We thank you for your help!!

Chapter Wins Birdathon Prize

As third place winner in the NAS Western Region category of chapters with 1000 or more members, SCVAS has received a full set of the Audubon Society's VideoGuides to the Birds of North America, Vols 1-5. We will make these available for members to borrow for a week at a time, through the office.

Zip Code Changed?

If so, please let the SCVAS office know immediately so your newsletter won't be delayed.

Oakland Museum Special Exhibit

Until January 28, 1990, SCVAS member Thomas Rountree's photographs of shorebirds will be on display in the Natural Sciences Special Gallery of the Oakland Museum. Tom was published in *AUDUBON* magazine earlier this year, so don't miss this opportunity to see his wonderful images!

SCVAS OFFICERS

Staff	Lynn Tennefoss	415/329-1811
President	Dave Johnston	408/867-7278
1st VP	Grant Hoyt	415/969-7892
2nd VP	Trish Mulvey	415/326-0252
Treasurer	Don Price	415/327-1254
Rec. Secty.	Theresa Spinler	408/559-1889
Past Pres	Judy McEuen	408/251-3086

DIRECTORS

Rob Colwell	415/326-2400
Nick Yatsko	408/865-4831
Gerri Brown	408/749-4840
Brian Wilson	
Kim Dreyfuss	
Christine Wolfe	408/245-9359
Jules Resnick	415/961-8619
Donna Zetterquist	408/429-9716

CHAIRPERSONS

Editor	Jim Schwertman	408/298-4333
Education	Judy McEuen	408/251-3086
Programs	Doug & Gail Cheeseman	408/867-1371
Library	Rita Colwell	415/326-2400
Field Trips	Paul Noble	415/948-3876
	Alberta Jasberg	
Membership		Vacant

Aud Adven	Elaine Gould	408/448-0622
Hospitality	Vacant	
Env. Act.	Vacant	
CBC	Jim & Sue Liskovec	415/969-5542
Grants	D. Zetterquist	408/429-9716
Photo Club	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.

The Avocet on the Mac

The computer age touches all of us in many ways. *The Avocet* is one of those ways. *The Avocet* is produced entirely on an Apple Macintosh computer using the Aldus Pagemaker software. Much of the newsletter is received on computer disk, but some of the news and information is sent in printed form. If you have a contribution for *The Avocet*, and you have access to a computer, please submit it on a floppy disk along with a printed copy. For a non-Mac computer, save in ASCII, and note what type of computer you used. We can take care of getting it translated into a Macintosh format. We can also transfer by modem. Thank you for your help.

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.

Field trip coordinator for Nov.: Paul Noble (415) 949-1743

Wednesday, Nov 1, 7:30 PM

Bay Area Bird Photographers

Baylands Interpretive Center @ the East end of Embarcadero, Palo Alto
The program will be by BABP member Glenn Herreman. Glenn has put together a presentation featuring an East African safari. His slides will show the different aspects of safari with emphasis on the mammals and birds.

Sat, Nov 4, 9 AM

Princeton-by-the-Sea

Leader: Rod Norden (408) 255-3033

Directions: Meet at the Harbormasters Office in Princeton. Take Hwy 92 west to Hwy 1. N. on Hwy 1 to Princeton. Hvy rain cancels. Bring lunch. Full day.

Wed, Nov 8, 9 AM

S.F. Bay Nat'l Wildlife Refuge

Leader: Gail Cheeseman (408) 867-1371

Directions: In Fremont, take Fremont Blvd exit W from 880. Soon after Treatment Plant at start of industry on right, look for small access sign beside a chain link fence and row of small willows. Drive in to parking lot. Half day.

Sat, Nov 11, 8:30 AM

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.

Sun, Nov 12, 9 am

Charleston Slough

Leader: (415) 329-1811 for info

Birdwalk for beginners. Basics of birding with emphasis on shorebirds and waterfowl in a wetland environment. Directions: Meet at the east end of San Antonio Rd. in Mt. View. Bring drinks. Half day.

Tuesday, Nov 14, 9:30 AM

Bird Discussion Group

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

Wed, Nov 15, 8:30 AM

Coyote Hills Regional Park

Leader: Phil Hand (415) 851-2623

Directions: Take Hwy 84 (Dumbarton) to Fremont. Exit at Thornton and go left over freeway on Paseo Padre. Go N to Commerce, turn left into park. Meet at 1st parking lot. Lunch opt. Rain cancels.

Sat, Nov 18, 8:30 AM

Coyote Point/Burlingame Bayfront

Leader: Paul Noble (415) 949-1743

Highlights: Waterfowl, Loons, Grebes.

Directions: Meet at the Coyote Point Yacht Club at the end of Coyote Point Blvd. in Burlingame. Take the exit off Hwy 101 marked by brown state signs. Follow signs to Yacht Club. Hvy rain cancels. Half day.

Fri-Sat, Nov 24-25

Sacramento Wildlife Refuges

Leader: Don Schmoltd

Highlights: Geese, ducks, swans—some by the thousands. Directions: Meet at 9 AM at the Colusa NWR hdqtrs. Take I-5 to Williams, E on Hwy 20 8 miles to Colusa NWR. Bring lunch for both days and warm clothing. Hvy rain cancels. Motels available in Williams and Marysville. Trip ltd to 25. Call for reservations to Paul Noble at (415) 949-1743.

Sat, Nov 25, 8:30 AM

Los Gatos Creek

Leader: Lynn Tennefoss (415) 329-1811

Beginners trip. Directions: Meet in parking area for Los Gatos Creek. Take Winchester

to Hacienda; left on Hacienda to Dall; left on Dall and right at park entrance. Bring water. Hvy rain cancels. \$3 prkng fee. Ducks, poss. Green-backed heron, Spotted Sandpiper.

Field trip coordinator for Dec: Betty Wyatt (408) 255-6091

Sat, Dec 2, 9 AM

Lake Merritt/Alameda shoreline

Leader: Allen Royer (408) 288-7768

Trip is good for beginners. Lots of ducks close up. Directions: Meet at the Rotary Science Center Lake Merritt, Oakland. Take I-880 N to Oak St. E on Oak which becomes Lakeside, then Harrison. R on Grand. R on Bellevue to meeting place. Lunch advised. Rain cancels. Poss. parking fee. Half day.

Sun, Dec 3, 1:45 PM

Elkhorn Slough Boat Trip

Leaders: Doug & Gail Cheeseman (408) 741-5330

Directions: Meet at the Moss Landing Marine Lab. Turn right off Hwy 1 in Moss Landing at the "Whole Enchilada". Cross bridge and look for leaders and their boats. Trip ltd. to 12. Call early for space. \$12 fee for boats and drivers. Bring warm clothing and warm drinks. Trip goes from 2 PM to 5PM.

Sat, Dec 9, 9 AM

SFBBO/SCVAS CBC Tune-up

Leaders: Don Starks, Bill Bousman, Paul Noble

Info: SFBBO (408) 255-3033

Here's a chance to brush-up on flock counting skills. Intro for new counters and how to report and document rarities. Open to all area Christmas counters. Coffee and donuts will be provided. Bring boots and rain gear for flock count Main session will be indoors. Directions: Meet at SFBBO hdqtrs in Alviso, 1290 Hope St.

Wed, Nov 15, 7:15 pm

General Membership Meeting

Palo Alto Cultural Center, Corner of Newell and Embarcadero

Refreshments at 7:15; Birdtalk at 7:45; main program at 8:00

Rod Norden will give the Birdtalk with excellent slides on Thick-billed Murre and Common Murre. The main program is in two parts. A special 15 min. program from the Greenbelt Coalition, with slides of our streams, creeks and valuable riparian habitat will be presented by SCVAS member Trish Mulvey. The second program is titled "Islands that Time Forgot". Greg Meyer will discuss the Midriff Islands of the Gulf of California, a sanctuary of breeding birds, rare plants, and endemic animals. Greg calls them the most pristine and untouched island group in the world. He has studied this region off Baja California and leads field trips to Baja. He also teaches marine biology of the S.F. Bay and guides kayak tours for groups such as ours.

Gulls & Terns

A 2nd-winter *Mew Gull* at the Sunnyvale WPCP 27 Aug (PJM) probably summered locally as this species does not normally turn up until late October. An adult *Sabine's Gull* at the Alviso Environmental Educational Center (EEC) 23 Sep (EA) is only our second county record. Five *Elegant Terns* at the Sunnyvale WPCP 25 Aug and two more 27 Aug (PJM) are the 7th and 8th county records



for this coastal species. *Least Terns* staging at Charleston Slough left earlier than in recent years with 15 birds left on 7 Aug, 8 on 9 Aug, 1 on 13 Aug, and none on 15 Aug (PJM, MFe). A juv. *Black Tern* at the Sunnyvale WPCP 23-25 Aug (PJM, AS) is a very rare sighting. Most of our local records fall between late June and early September.

Swifts et.al.

Five *Vaux's Swifts* over Los Gatos 25 Sep (MFe) represent the tail end of their migration. Decreased mesh size on the mist nets at CCRS and placement near tree tobacco has greatly increased the number of hummingbirds captured and our knowledge of their migration. This is especially true since many of the fall migrants are females and immatures and difficult to identify even in the hand. Twenty-eight additional *Black-chinned Hummingbirds* have been captured in the period 21 Aug-28 Sep. The median date of the fall migration was 26 Aug. Median

passage dates for *Rufous* and *Allen's Hummingbirds* were 13 Aug and 18 Aug respectively and the number of birds banded were 47 and 13 for these two *Selasphorus* species. Twenty-five *Willow Flycatchers* were banded at CCRS 13 Aug-20 Sep. An additional bird was observed in San Antonio Valley 27 Sep (CB, WGB). *Least Flycatchers* have been captured again at CCRS for the first time since 1986. Single birds were banded on 23, 25, and 26 Sep. All of our county records for this difficult-to-identify Empid are from CCRS. A Winter Wren at CCRS 14 Aug is an early migrant or wintering bird: we normally do not see any movement until early September. A *Nashville Warbler* banded at CCRS on 6 Sep was the only one reported this fall. *Black-throated Gray Warblers* were banded at CCRS on 26 Aug and 20 Sep. A *Northern Waterthrush* was found on Stevens Ck. below Hwy. 101 on 5 Sep (MRo) and a second bird was banded at CCRS 6 Sep for our 6th and 7th county records respectively. An imm. male *Yellow-headed Blackbird* was seen at the Sunnyvale WPCP 17 Aug (PJM, RSTh) for our second record this year in the county.

Observers: Ernie Abeles (EA), Clark Blake (CB), Bill Bousman (WGB), Alan Eisner (AME), Mike Feighner (MFe), Mary Fricano (MFr), Ed Gustafson (EG), Grant Hoyt (GHt), Mike Mammoser (MJM), Peter Metropulos (PJM), Mike Rogers (MRo), Ron Thorn (RSTh), Ann Verdi (AV), and Blair Wolf (BW).

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

Shorebird Census Results

The fall 1989 San Francisco Bay shorebird census run by the Pt. Reyes Bird Observatory was a success. On San Francisco and San Pablo Bays, at least 320,000 shorebirds, 1900 herons, egrets and rails, 200 raptors, and 3500 White Pelicans were found along tidal flats and adjacent wetlands.

Non-Audubon Events

- Taste of the Greenbelt, Sat, Oct 21, 1-4 pm, Pacheco Ranch Winery, Marin County- sample the edible delights of the Greenbelt, \$20, (415)543-4291 for info.
- International Reserach Expeditions offers unique opportunities to assist field research scientists throughout the world. Call (415) 323-4228 for free catalogue.
- Shearwater Journeys' Monterey Bay pelagic birding trips, Nov. 12 and 26, Monterey Bay CBC, Dec. 28. Call (408) 688-1990 for reservations.
- Dept. of Fish & Games Annual Photography Award Contest deadline is 12/29/89. For info, contact DFG, Conservation Education Office, 1416 Ninth St, Suite 1206-20, Sacramento, CA, 95814.
- Doug and Gail Cheeseman, with the help of Allen Royer, Lynn Tennefoss, and Rod Norden will lead 3 pelagic trips on Monterey Bay Jan 13, 17, and 20—the peak of the Gray Whale migration, 7:45 am - 3 pm, \$40. Call Doug or Gail at 408-741-5330.
- Scream as loud as you want at the Haunted Woods in Sanborn-Skyline Park, beginning Oct 18; a benefit for the Youth Science Institute. Call 408-356-4945 for exact dates, times, and prices.
- Earl Lebow is organizing a trip to Southern Manitoba and Churchill from Jun 16-25, 1990. Led by naturalist Dan Weedon, area expert on birds and wildlife. Call 408-475-5328 for more information.

Environmental Action News

Wildlife and Buildings in Peril

Strip Mining Threatens Historic Bodie

The old ghost town of Bodie, a national historic landmark and State Historic Park, is becoming the focal point for opposition to a new type of strip mining that is spreading throughout the West.

Using the new "heap-leach" process, these surface mining operations can profitably recover minute amounts of gold—0.069 ounces per ton, less gold than a '49er had stuck under his fingernail. Yet they do enormous damage to the landscape; at Bodie, the top 400 feet would be bulldozed off the mile-long ridge that forms the backdrop for the town. Effects on the fragile buildings of the town itself could be disastrous.

At least half a dozen big strip mines are operating or in the permit stage in California, and a couple more are working on privately owned land, with others in prospect.

Auduboners and wildlife agencies are particularly concerned over the loss of ducks, geese, shorebirds, and mammals ranging from deer to field mice in the huge recycling ponds filled with cyanide-laced water from the leaching of "heaps" of ore the size of Cheop's pyramid.

The Nevada Fish and Game Department has tallied 5,700 bird and animal deaths in mine ponds over the last five years, despite numerous and varied preventive efforts.

So far, environmentalists have been unable to more than slow down the multi-million dollar international mining corporations but they're hoping Bodie can be a rallying point.

The California State Park Rangers Association has formed a Save Bodie! committee and are asking Audubon chapters and others to help spread the word through their organization newsletters, and to write their state and federal legislators and the governor urging a strong stand to protect Bodie and a hard look at the environmental consequences of this kind of mining throughout the West.

The official application for mining permit at Bodie goes to the Mono county Board of Supervisors, and it is important also that they know of the concerns of the recreationists who are the mainstay of the county's tourist-based economy. Write and request that they keep you informed.

The book is available, along with the other four volumes (1985-1988/89), from Academic Press, Inc. For more information, call: 1-800-321-5068.

Help Plant Oak Trees

Peninsula ReLeaf will be planting native oaks on Stanford University's foothills lands on Saturday mornings during November, as part of an ongoing oak regeneration program. To volunteer, please call (415) 323-SEED.

Ten Minute Activist

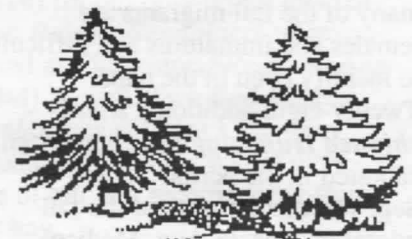
YOU can make a difference

Tongass National Forest Needs Your Help

Efforts to save the Tongass National Forest in Southeast Alaska from wanton clearcutting are gaining momentum and we need your help.

Currently the Forest Service is clearcutting 14,000 football fields of virgin rainforest a year in the Tongass at a cost of \$50 million/year. S 346 introduced by Senator Wirth (D-CO) would stop the destruction of this beautiful rainforest by canceling the sweetheart contracts that guarantee private industry a set amount of timber at a set price, introducing competitive bidding and taking away the automatic yearly appropriation of \$40 million for the Tongass timber program. It also repeals the mandated cut of 450 million boardfeet/decade. Ironically, this bill would simply eliminate the gross mismanagement of the Tongass and put it back on equal footing with the rest of the National Forests. But that's a big improvement over the current situation and one other important provision in the bill would establish 23 critical fish and wildlife areas for permanent wilderness protection.

The bill has 41 cosponsors and needs more. Please call your Senators and ask them to cosponsor S 346, the Tongass Timber Reform Act, to save the taxpayers' money and the rainforest in Alaska. You can reach them at 202-224-3121.



Audubon Wildlife Report

The 1989/1990 volume of the Audubon Wildlife Report is hot off the press. There are a number of informative and well-written chapters—ancient forests, nongame migratory birds, global warming, conserving Southeast coastal wetlands, western water land and wildlife, to name just a few. The species showcased are: ocelot, humpback whale, roseate tern, marbled murrelet, western north

Atlantic swordfish, hyacinth macaw, monarch butterfly, and the golden eagle.

The Avocet 6

Habitat Being Developed

Reserving Wild Homes for Condors

With the help of new technology, scientists are attempting to protect the real estate condors favor in southern California.

Habitat specialists and computer buffs have joined forces to sort through thousands of condor sightings compiled since the 1960s by biologists from National Audubon Society and government wildlife agencies, fire lookout personnel, and laypeople. Such an extensive network of observers was necessary to cover the 6 million or so acres of rough and bumpy territory where California condors roamed free.

All of the surviving birds are presently being housed in the San Diego Wild Animal Park and Los Angeles Zoo since the last of the endangered birds were removed from the wild in 1987. There are now 29 captive condors with the recent hatching of one chick in last April, and there are more on the way.

The collaborators—computer scientists and habitat specialists from Audubon, the University of California at Santa Barbara, the California Department of Fish and Game, and the Fish and Wildlife Service—juggle many factors in order to accurately determine what types of habitat the wild condors preferred, how that land is currently being used, and who owns the land. Their ultimate goal is to ensure that enough of the right kind of land is available to release future generations of captive-bred condors.

Only with modern methods employed by computers could so much information be handled at once. When the Geographic Information System project, as it is called, first began, data was manually sorted on punched paper cards. Techniques since then have become more sophisticated; with the use of multi-colored, digitized graphic layers within the computer—much

like sheets of maps overlaying one another—such details as the placement of roads, powerlines, and houses, the names of property owners, as well as the locations of condor hang-outs, can all be considered at the same time.

This level of effort to save a species from extinction and prepare for its future is unprecedented. It combines the worlds of high technology, wildlife management, and land-use planning, as well as avian biology and ecology.

Rangeland provides a reliable source of food for condors, with its abundant cattle and deer carcasses, but condors have been losing foraging territory at a rate of 21,000 acres every year mainly to new home development.

With the foresight and cooperation of county planning departments, and incentives provided by California, some grazing lands have already been rezoned for condors. Contact: Linda Blum, National Audubon Society, Condor Research Station, 2140 Eastman Avenue, Suite 100, Ventura, California 93003; (805) 654-1539.

Clean Air Alert

Clean air legislation is one of the more mercurial issues pending before Congress. If you want to help, now is the time to contact your senators and representative at 202-224-3121. Time is short!

When President Bush introduced HR 3030 in the House and S 1490 in the Senate, the two bills were short on substance, with the notable exception of his acid rain provisions. But having the White House weigh in on the clean air issue — stalled for the past 7 years — was the final catalyst needed to precipitate out a clean air bill.

Right now, the House Health and Environment Subcommittee is working on HR 3030 and making

notable improvements to it in key areas. At press time, the subcommittee was working on strengthening the provisions that deal with air toxics and acid rain. In need of grassroots support is the provision in the President's bill that caps pollution from utilities so that hard won gains in reducing acid rain pollution are not lost through growth. Let your representative know you support a cap on pollution in the acid rain bill.

The Senate is playing catch up and the Environment and Public Works Committee may take action on their package of clean air bills by mid-October. Now is a good time to write your two senators and let them know you want tough auto standards in any clean air bill they produce. Ask him/her to cosponsor S 1630, the strong urban smog bill. You can write to: The Honorable _____, US Senate, Washington, DC 20510.

Clean air is on a greased track in part because John Dingell, the House Energy and Commerce Committee Chair, and Henry Waxman, the subcommittee chair, reached an agreement on auto emission standards. The bill as amended would require cars to meet the California standards and would extend the useful life of pollution control equipment installed on cars to 100,000 miles. We hope to get the Senate to enact even tougher tailpipe standards and to hold the line on the acid rain cap. The Senate acid rain bill (no bill number yet but you can call it the Mitchell Acid Rain bill) will contain a cap to prevent growth in utilities emissions to degrade the acid rain improvements and we'll want to hang on to that as well.

After so many years of stalled action on clean air, all this activity is a breath of fresh air. Grassroots action helped shake it loose and we need lots of letters and phone calls, letters to the editor and editorials, to keep the pressure on and ensure that Congress passes strong legislation.

SCVAS Gift Catalogue

Your purchase of items listed below assists the chapter's educational, recreational, and environmental action programs.

GIFT INTRODUCTORY MEMBERSHIP \$20

The Avocet newsletter only \$8

Field Guide to Birds of North America, National Geographic Society, 2nd Edition, 1987. \$13 + \$1.25 postage

The Birder's Handbook, A Field Guide to the Natural History of North American Birds, Ehrlich, Dobkin, Wheye, 1988. \$14 + \$1.60 postage

San Francisco Peninsula Birdwatching, Sequoia Audubon Society, 1985. \$9.40 + \$.90 postage

Birding Northern California, Jean Richmond, 1985. \$10.50 + \$.90 postage

Best Birding in Napa and Solano Counties, Napa-Solano Audubon Society, 1989. \$5+\$0.90 postage

Nature Guide - A Directory for World-Traveling Nature Lovers, Tahoma Audubon Society, 1989. \$8 + \$.90 postage

The Natural History of the Point Reyes Peninsula, Jules G. Evens, 1988. \$15 + \$1.25 postage

Banquets for Birds, National Audubon Society., 1983. \$2.25 + \$.75 postage

A Beginners's Guide to Birdwatching, Nat'l Audubon Soc.. \$1

Checklist of the Birds of Santa Clara County, SCVAS. \$0.50

Field List of California Birds, Western Field Ornithologists. \$1

SCVAS Avocet T-Shirt. \$10 + \$1.25 postage

ORDER FORM

Name _____
 Address _____
 City, St _____ ZIP _____
 Phone _____

Qty	Item	Each	Total
___	NAS Membership	\$20.00	_____
___	Avocet only	\$8.00	_____
___	NGS Field Guide	\$14.25	_____
___	Birder's Handbook	\$15.60	_____
___	SF Pen. Birdwatch	\$10.30	_____
___	Birding No. Calif.	\$11.40	_____
___	Best Birding	\$5.90	_____
___	Nature Guide	\$8.90	_____
___	Nat. Hist. of Pt. Reyes	\$16.25	_____
___	Banquets for Birds	\$3.00	_____
___	Beginner's Guide	\$1.00	_____
___	SCVAS Checklist	\$0.50	_____
___	Field List	\$1.00	_____
___	SCVAS T-Shirt	\$11.25	_____
	(Circle 1) S M L XL		
___	SCVAS Tote Bag	\$11.25	_____
___	SCVAS Notecards	\$2.00	_____
___	SCVAS Pin	\$3.50	_____
 or 2 for \$6.00		
___	Hummingbird T-Shirt	\$11.25	_____
	(Circle 1) S M L XL		
___	WETLANDS Carshade	\$5.90	_____
___	WETLANDS Mug	\$9.25	_____
___	Wetlands Cards	\$5.00	_____
___	Dunlin Cards	\$8.00	_____
___	Burrowing Owl Cards	\$5.90	_____

TOTAL DUE:

All prices listed above include tax and postage. Please make checks payable to SCVAS, and send to SCVAS, 415 Cambridge Avenue, Suite 21, Palo Alto, CA, 94306 (415) 329-1811.

DONATIONS - SCVAS welcomes gifts in general, or gifts in honor or memory of relatives and friends. All gifts and donations are tax deductible.

MEMBERSHIP - To join the National Audubon Society/SCVAS, send a check payable to NAS, to the SCVAS office, 415 Cambridge Ave., Ste. 21, Palo Alto, CA 94306. Membership includes "AUDUBON" magazine, and "The Avocet" newsletter. "Audubon Activist" quarterly subscription is separate at \$9/yr., with checks made payable NAS. "The Avocet" subscription alone is \$8/yr, with checks made payable to SCVAS.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS - Send all changes of address promptly to the SCVAS office.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ St: _____ Zip: _____

Gift from: _____

Donation to SCVAS of \$ _____
 Introductory - \$20
 Individual - \$35
 Family - \$38
 Audubon Activist - \$9
 Avocet only - \$8