

The Avocet

The Newsletter of the Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society

October 1990

What is the Value of the Christmas Bird Count?

By Bill Bousman

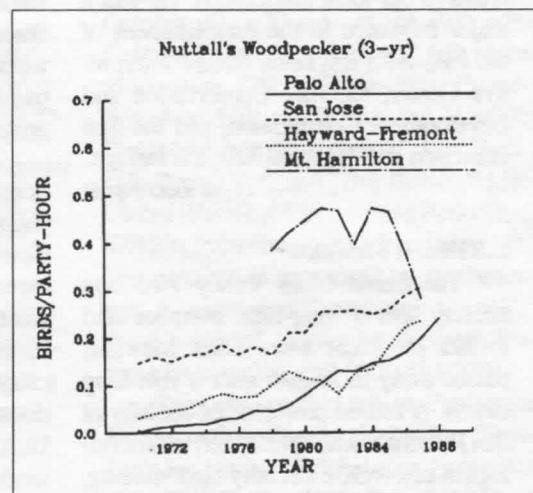
When December comes around, the more fanatical birders look forward to the Christmas Bird Count (CBC) season. Every year they go out on count day and see how many different birds they can count. Some years the weather is relatively balmy, but some years it is just horrible. They come back and tell their friends what a great time they had and the great birds that they saw. Is there any point to these bird counts besides confirming to families and friends that we are all a bit daft? Or to put it in another way, is it possible to obtain valid scientific data and still have fun?

The volume of CBC data is immense and it can tell us a great deal about the early winter distribution of birds throughout the United States and Canada. In addition, as more years of data are acquired, it is possible to obtain fundamental new knowledge about population trends. These trends may provide us an early warning of species undergoing a decline and encourage us to gather the additional necessary data that will show how widespread the decline is and what are the causes.

Over the last few years I have been generating a data base of CBC data for the South Bay. Many difficulties arise in using these data, but overall, I believe, the data are relatively accu-

rate and can be used to identify long-term population trends. An example of a species that is showing an expanding population is the Nuttall's Woodpecker. In the figure I show the number of birds recorded in four local counts, normalized by the number of party-hours. It is necessary to normalize the data with some measure of observer effort as the number of hours afield has doubled or tripled on the south bay counts since 1970.

I also use a running three-year average of the data to smooth out some of the year-to-year variation. Nuttall's Woodpecker is primarily a bird of the dry oak woodlands in the interior ranges of California and is not found in the wet and humid forests of the northwest. Observers first started noting this species in the Stanford area in the late 1960s and we finally found one on the Palo Alto count in 1971. The population has grown exponentially since that time in both the Palo Alto and Hayward-Fremont count circles and it is now one of the most common woodpeckers on the Palo Alto count. Comparing other counts, it is interesting to see that the bird has become significantly more common in the San Jose circle as well, but the population appears to be stable in the



Diablo Range, where it is most common. The increase shown here for the northern Santa Cruz mountains [reflected in the Palo Alto count — Ed.] is fascinating — what can be the explanation? Are we seeing a local warming and drying with the boundary between the Pacific Northwest and Californian zones shifting north?

Another species that has shown a strong population increase is the Black-necked Stilt. In this case (see Page 7), I do not normalize the data, as this species is readily visible along the bay, and the basic numbers should be independent of how many parties are counting in the marshes and salt ponds. In the early 1970s, the aggregate count of stilts was about 500 birds on the

Continued on Page 7

Chapter News

In Memoriam—Members Harvey and Mewaldt

Dr. H. Thomas Harvey

The Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society mourns the recent death of Dr. H. Thomas Harvey. During his long and distinguished career, Tom Harvey was beloved as a Professor of Ecology at San Jose State University and served as a research ecologist for the National Park Service, and as a representative of the National Audubon Society.

Tom was best known for his work with the Giant Sequoia and his efforts to preserve our local marshlands. He was a major influence in the establishment of the Palo Alto Baylands Nature Interpretive Center, the Bay Conservation and Development Commission, and the San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge.

— Donna Zetterquist

L. Richard Mewaldt

The Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society lost a long-time member and former president when Dick Mewaldt passed away in August after a year-long illness. A retired professor of zoology at San Jose State who specialized in ornithological research, especially bird-banding, he was an active Audubon member for several decades and made major contributions to our understanding of bird behavior.

Gifts & memorials

In memory of Tom Harvey:

David Craig and Kathy J. Smith

In memory of Corena Green:

Walter Testa

In memory of Martha White:

Robert Peters

Donations to SCVAS

SCVAS welcomes gifts and bequests in general, or in honor or memory of relatives and friends. Donors may specify that funds be placed in an Endowment Fund for Conservation, or a Fund for Education, or for other purposes. All gifts are acknowledged in the Avocet, as well as personally, by SCVAS. All gifts are tax-deductible.

A bird-bander for 50 years, Dick authored or co-authored over 250 publications on such topics as site-fidelity, migration of wintering populations, and homing mechanisms in passerines. His studies of the breeding habits and dispersal patterns of colonial nesting birds in San Francisco Bay were widely recognized. He was past president of the Western Bird Banding Association and Cooper Ornithologist's Union. He was co-founder of Point Reyes Bird Observatory, S.F. Bay Bird Observatory, and most recently, the founder and Director of Coyote Creek Riparian Station, where he actively managed the bird-banding and bio-monitoring research programs.

As an Audubon member, Dick participated in numerous activities over the years including field trips, Christmas Bird Count and the Bird Discussion Group. As recently as April, he and his wife, Fran, went out to count birds on the annual Birdathon and raised nearly \$1,000 for the chapter, even though his health was deteriorating. Audubon members who knew Dick join his friends, colleagues, co-workers and former students in extending our deepest sympathies to Fran and the Mewaldt family. We'll miss you Dick.

— Grant Hoyt

Help Support Your Chapter: Purchase Our New Birding Site Guide!

The long awaited second edition of *Birding at the Bottom of the Bay* has finally been completed. This site guide to the southern part of San Francisco Bay covers all your favorite birding sites. It tells where and when to visit, and what you'll see and hear. Fabulous art work and maps and directions to the sites are also included. Let's all take a field trip this fall with BABOB!

Once again, this effort has been made possible by a large group of terrific volunteers. Artists, authors, proofreaders, birding experts, an editor, a calligrapher

(See BABOB, page 7)

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General meetings are open to the public. Board of Directors meetings are open to all members. Call the office at (415) 329-1811 for times and directions.

The Avocet is published monthly (except for July and August) by the Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society, 415 Cambridge Ave., Suite 21, Palo Alto, CA 94306. Deadline is the first Monday of each month. Send contributions to the editor, Marilyn Kjellen-Rogers, c/o SCVAS at the above address.

October 1990, Volume 39, Number 8

We're For The Birds!

Whales & Tales

Wildlife Store and Gallery

Hummingbirds Raptors
Songbirds Shorebirds

Art, Gifts, Books, Clothing
and Kid's Stuff

800-422-8253
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Palo Alto

October 1990 Calendar

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.

****Denotes Field Trip**

Wed, Oct. 3, 7:30 PM

Bay Area Bird Photographers, Speaker: Rod Norden, The Natural History of Papua, New Guinea and Australia with slide show of birds. Lucy Evans Baylands Interpretive Center on East Embarcadero Rd, Palo Alto.

****Sat, Oct. 6, 8:00 AM**

Coyote Hills Regional Park
Leader: Phil Hand (415) 851-2623 Half day. Take Hwy. 84 (Dumbarton Bridge) east towards Newark, exit R. on Thornton, L. over freeway as Thornton becomes Paseo Padre. Left at Patterson Ranch/Commerce Rd. (approx. 1 mi.) into Park. Meet in parking lot at entrance. Possible day use fee. Highlights: migrant songbirds, waterfowl, raptors, etc. Lunch opt. Heavy rain cancels.

****Sun., Oct. 7, 9:00 AM**

Marin Headlands/Hawk Hill
Leader: Don Schmoldt (415) 215-1910 Full day. Directions: Meet at Vista Point. 1st exit no. of G.G. Bridge. Bring lunch and water. Highlights: migrating hawks.

****Wed., Oct. 10, 9:00 AM**

So. County Field Trip at Grant Park
Leader: Alan K. Thomas (408) 265-9286. Half day. Directions: Take Hwy. 101 to Alum Rock Ave. (exit east). Right on Mt. Hamilton Rd. 5-6 mi. to parking. Meet in parking lot on left and E. 100 yds. of entrance. Highlights: wintering waterfowl and raptors.

****Sun. Oct. 14, 9:00 AM**

Beginners Trip to Charleston Slough,
Leader: Paul Noble (415) 949-1743.
Directions: Meet at the east end of San Antonio Rd. Half-day. Emphasis on waterfowl and shorebirds.

Oct. 17, 7:30 PM

General Membership Meeting
Please see box this page for details.

****Sat. Oct. 20, 8:00 AM**

Wilder Ranch, Laguna Beach.
Leader: Earl Lebow (408) 475-5328.
Directions: Take Hwy. 17 so. to Santa Cruz. 17 turns into Ocean St. Meet in parking lot of S.C. City Gov. Center, 701 Ocean. 2-3 mi. of easy walking. Full Day.

****Sun., Oct. 21, 8:30 AM**

Sunnyvale Baylands Park.
Leader: Peter Metropulos (415) 592-2417.
Half day. Directions: Take Hwy. 237 to Caribbean Dr. N. to Borregas Ave. No. to Snyvl. Sewage Treatment Works. Left to parking lot. Highlights: gulls, ducks and wading birds.

****Wed., Oct. 24, 8:30 AM**

Arastradero Open Space Preserve, Palo Alto. Leader: Alberta Jasberg (415) 493-9546. Directions: Take Page Mill Rd. W. from I-280 to Arastradero Rd., about 1/2 mi. on right. Another 1/2 mi. to parking lot on right. This is a varied habitat that often yields some surprises.

****Sun, Oct. 28, 9:00 AM**

Hayward Shoreline
Leader: Mark Miller (415) 967-3429.
Half day but may bird into afternoon. Directions: Take Hwy. 880 to W. Winton Ave. exit. Drive west to end. Bring lunch. 2 mi. walk. Highlights: Lapland Longspur, ducks, hawks, shorebirds. Scope recommended.

****Sat., Nov. 3, 8:30 AM**

Alum Rock
Leader: Dave Johnston (408) 356-4904.
Directions: Take Alum Rock Ave. off Hwy. 680 or 101. E. to Park. Meet at Youth Sciences Institute. Moderate trip, 3 mi. walk. Highlights: Dipper, Golden eagle, Rufous-crowned Sparrow, Winter Wren, migrants. Lunch optional. Heavy rain cancels.

Non-Audubon Events

- **Volunteers are needed for plantings of native oak seedlings on Saturday mornings in October and November at Stanford University.** Plantings are part of an ongoing oak regeneration and ecological restoration project. Call Magic, Inc. at (415) 323-SEED (7333).

- **Native Plants Sale at San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge.** Saturday, October 6th 10 a.m. to 4 p. m. Maintenance-free, drought-resistant plants for local landscapes. Priced \$0.30 to \$3.50. Call (415) 792-0222 for more information.

- **Learn about the environmental issues on the November ballot.** Tuesday, October 30, 7:30 p.m. at the Palo Alto Cultural Center. Speakers will talk about Proposition 128: Environmental Protection Act; 130: the Forest and Wildlife Protection Act; "Big Green," 135: Pesticide Regulation; and "Big Brown," 138: Global Warming, Clear-cutting Reduction, Wildlife Protection and Reforestation Act. The program is sponsored by the Peninsula Conservation Center and American Association of University Women. For more information, call (415) 494-9301.

- **Two classes this fall at Peninsula Conservation Center:** Instructor, Steve Rutledge, teacher of global ecology courses at the PCC for four years, has a Masters in Environmental Science and has travelled and taken photographs throughout some of the world's most unusual ecosystems.

"Conserving the Diversity of Life," a slide and lecture series on Tuesday evenings, starts October 9th for seven weeks. \$45

"Global Ecology & You: Creating a Good Atmosphere," readings and discussion on Thursday evenings, starts October 4 for seven weeks. \$45

Join the Field Trip Committee?

SCVAS offers more field trips than most Audubon chapters, thanks to an energetic Field Trip Committee and a talented pool of trip leaders. Unfortunately, the Field Trip Committee lost most of its members this year, and replacements are desperately needed if we are to continue sponsoring so many outings. The committee meets 3-4 times a year. Call Edward Rooks at (408) 246-5152 or Grant Hoyt at (415) 969-7892 if you are interested in joining.

General Membership Meeting Wednesday, 7:30 p.m. October 17, 1990

Co-sponsored with the Palo Alto Open Space and Science Division, the general membership meeting will be held at the Palo Alto Cultural Center, Embarcadero Rd. at Newell. Doug Cheeseman will talk about The Birds and Mammals of Madagascar. Doug and Gail Cheeseman and seven other members of SCVAS spent three incredible weeks in the natural reserves of Madagascar during August of this year. Doug will talk about the fascinating behavior of the lemurs that they observed, plus the nedemic bird species that he was able to photograph.

Field Notes

By Bill Bousman

Pelicans and Cormorants

We normally find *Brown Pelicans* in good numbers in the fall. A high count of six at Crittenden Marsh 15 Aug (PJM) represents the worst fall showing we have had since 1982.

An immature *Pelagic Cormorant* at Vasona Reservoir 19-25 Aug (JDuB) is one of the few records for the county. This species is strictly coastal and is not normally found very far from its breeding colonies. The Vasona bird appeared to use the reservoir area for roosting — where it spent its days is even more of a puzzle.

Ducks

Four *Blue-winged Teal* were found at the Sunnyvale Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP) 19 Aug and a single bird was at the Palo Alto Flood Control Basin (FCB) 22 Aug (both PJM).

As of 5 Aug the estimate of the number of broods of *Lesser Scaup* had climbed to 12 (PJM) including one brood tended by a female *Gadwall*. Are these birds reacting to the drought in the areas where they normally breed?

Raptors

An *Osprey* near Cherry Flat Reservoir 12 Aug (MRo) is one of the earliest fall migrants on record. Single birds at the Sunnyvale WPCP 1 Sep (PJM et al.) and Coyote Creek at Bernal 3 Sep (FO'S) were seen at a more typical time. An adult *Golden Eagle* at Monte Bello OSP 25 Aug (WGB) is at the northern extreme of the range of the several pairs that breed in the Santa Cruz Mountains.

A *Merlin* in Los Altos 19 Aug (CB) is the earliest record we have for the county by three weeks. It is not surprising that the dates of record of this rare falcon have been extended

considering how much more frequent it has become in recent years.

Plovers to Terns

Late summer and fall is the time of the wind birds and as these amazing migrants come down through our estuaries and ponds we are on the lookout for the truly rare. *Snowy Plover* is a rare local resident and a single bird on the Knapp property 15 Jul (MJM)

“Nothing has quite the excitement of a Hudsonian Godwit in the South Bay”

at our eastern border is expected. A juvenile at the Sunnyvale WPCP 19 Aug (PJM) is less expected.

Lesser Yellowlegs have shown up as expected, although not in the numbers that we have seen in the last two years. A single bird was at the Mountain View Forebay 12 Aug (MJM), five were found in Crittenden Marsh 19 Aug (PJM), 20 were at the Palo Alto FCB 22 Aug (PJM), and four at the forebay 25 Aug.

A *Wandering Tattler* overhead at the Sunnyvale WPCP 5 Aug (PJM) for our sixth county record is well away from the rocky coast where it winters. Three of our previous county records were of misoriented fall birds. Of all our wind birds, however, none are more exciting than the juvenile *Hudsonian Godwit* that Peter Metropulos found at the Sunnyvale WPCP on 1 Sep. This rare North American godwit is seldom found on the west coast and only about six records in northern California have been accepted (fide JM). The bird has

remained through at least 4 Sep (MFe).

An adult *Ruddy Turnstone* at Crittenden Marsh 19 Aug (PJM) is rare away from the coast. Two *Red Knots* there the same day (PJM) are also rarely found in the county.

An adult and juvenile *Least Tern* still remained at Charleston Slough 14 Aug (WGB). Nineteen birds were found at Crittenden Marsh 19 Aug (PJM), which is the first time they have staged there since 1986.

Woodpeckers to Blackbirds

Two *Lewis' Woodpeckers* on Sierra Road east of Milpitas 12 Aug (MRo) were found away from areas where they normally breed. An adult *Red-eyed Vireo* was banded at CCRS on 12 Aug (fide MRi) for the first record for the county. This species is typically encountered at the coastal vagrant traps, but usually later in the season. A *Canyon Wren* found in Alum Rock Park 12 Aug (MRo) still remains where a pair bred successfully this year.

A *White-crowned Sparrow* of the Puget Sound race was banded at CCRS 13 Aug (fide MRi). This is a very early date for this sparrow, which normally shows up four weeks later. An immature male *Yellow-headed Blackbird* was at the Sunnyvale WPCP 5 Aug (PJM) for our only record this year.

Observers: Clark Blake (CB), Bill Bousman (WGB), Jean DuBois (JDuB), Mike Feighner (MFe), Mike Mammoser (MJM), Peter Metropulos (PJM), Joe Morlan (JM), Frank O'Sullivan (FS'O), Mike Rigney (MRi), and Mike Rogers (MRo).

For rarities in the county, please drop me a note, or phone: Bill Bousman, 321 Arlington Way, Menlo Park, CA 94025 (415) 322-5282.

Peninsula Conservation Center Raising Funds for New Home

An older home on Homer Street in Palo Alto could be the next home of SCVAS and other environmental groups at the Peninsula Conservation Center (PCC), if efforts now underway to lease the building from the city of Palo Alto prove successful.

The PCC's Trust Fund has been working for the past nine months to raise funds to secure a permanent home for local conservation groups. The Fund has prepared a proposal to the city of Palo Alto for a lease on the Rhona Williams house. Miss Williams passed away last summer and left her home to the city on the condition that it be used as a science library, a park and/or a cultural activities center. This pretty much matches what the PCC groups do. The Center currently houses the Loma Prieta Chapter of the Sierra Club, Camp Unalayee, Peninsula Greens, the

Committee for Green Foothills, and the Environmental Volunteers. SCVAS's 500 volume library collection is also situated there.

To prepare the building for public use and add a full-sized conference room, the Trust Fund plans to raise \$750,000. They will then apply to the city for a long-term, no-cost lease on the site. Fund-raising began early this spring, and almost \$400,000 has been raised through individual solicitations, including one gift of \$100,000.

Contributions to the Center's building fund are welcome. Tax-deductible checks should be made out to "PCC—Trust Fund" and sent to the Peninsula Conservation Center at 2448 Watson Court, Palo Alto, CA 94303. For more information, call Debbie Mytels, PCC Executive Director at (415) 494-9301.

New Merchandise Available at SCVAS Office!

Advanced Birding, by Kenn Kaufman, is a brand new Peterson Field Guide. The book describes bird identification challenges and how to avoid them. Describes the 35 most difficult groups of birds. \$14.95.

Bird Watcher's Life List and Diary, by Bernard A. Fashingbauer, is based on the AOU checklist, sixth edition. Each North American bird is listed by common and scientific name, and cross-referenced to Golden, National Geographic and Peterson field guides. An essential companion to your field guide. \$14.95.

An Illustrated Guide to Attracting Birds, by Sunset Magazine, helps you identify some more common backyard birds and what will attract them; the appropriate plants, habitat designs and birdseed. Tips on building birdhouses, feeders or birdbaths, with step-by-step projects and design ideas are also included. \$7.95.

Show off your chapter logo with SCVAS pins and patches and T-shirts. Pins, \$3.50; Patch, \$3; T-shirt, \$10.



Field Trip Report First Field Trip of Season: Pescadero and Princeton Harbor

If patience is a virtue and virtue is rewarded, we hope the 16 participants, in SCVAS's first fall field trip to Pescadero and the San Mateo Coast on August 25, felt the 70 species seen for the day was reward enough for waiting the leaders' tardy arrival.

Best-bird-of-the-day would be hard to single out: Was it the almost in-hand view of a male *Kingfisher* "tenderizing" a too big fish and eventually gulping it down? Or was it the intimate views of *Red-necked Phalaropes* feeding on the pond? Or the *Snowy Plovers* with their young on sand dunes? Or the binocular-full close ups of *Elegant Terns* loafing on the shore?

How about the breeding plumaged *Marbled Murrelet* scope-viewed by all, or the *Wandering Tattler*, who preened and dozed in full view for 10 minutes after his kin had teased and peek-a-boomed all morning? Several times the phrases, "My best look ever" or "That's new for me" were heard.

Nothing exotic turned up in the morning of birding from the Pescadero cliffs, circling the north pond and marsh edges. *Whimbrels*, *Surfbirds* and the usual peeps and waders (both yellow-legs), gulls, loons, and swallows were seen. Eclipse plumage ducks had everyone checking shapes and speculums for clues to identify. Water levels in Pescadero Marsh were critically low.

After lunch, a trip to Princeton Harbor added a few species to the day's list, including a scruffy plumaged *Oldsquaw* preening on the rocks.

The leaders thank the group for their gracious patience.

— Audrey Stoye & Betty Wyatt

Environmental Action News

California's Vanishing Ancient Forests

Our ancient redwood forests, some as old as 2,000 years, are being destroyed even faster than the Amazon forests. Our old-growth redwood forests are a symbol of the beauty of our state, yet, logging has destroyed 95% of all the ancient trees that were once part of California. This is our last chance to stop the timber industry from taking the last 5%. Many species of wildlife, not only the spotted owl, need these ancient forests to survive and without them could be lost forever. A yes vote on Proposition 130 will protect them and the forests forever.

These forests cleanse the air; because of their enormous size, they moderate global warming five times more effectively than the Amazon rain forests. They provide clear constant rivers and streams for drinking water and protect valuable salmon, steelhead and trout fisheries.

Proposition 130 will:

- Help save the last 5% of ancient redwood forests.
- Reform forest laws to protect water and wildlife.
- Stop the chainsaw massacre and clearcutting.
- Save jobs by stopping foreign export of logs.
- Ensure the economic survival of rural communities.
- Ensure Forests Forever.

Proposition 130 has been endorsed by SCVAS and the National Audubon Society. For more information and to vol-



**Forests
Forever!**

You can recycle your magazines by putting them to a good use

Do you have extra Audubon, National Geographic, Sierra Club or other environmental magazines? Have you saved any of the posters inserted in these magazines? An elementary school teacher, in need of environmental and animal resources for her classroom, could use them. Please send any to Mary Drumm, 882 Rubis Dr., Sunnyvale, CA 94087 or call (408) 739-1314 so she can arrange to pick them up.

HELP WANTED

Conservationists needed

Do you have an interest in local conservation issues? The Environmental Action Committee meets monthly to work on projects, letter-writing campaigns, conferences and much more. Native forests, endangered species, habitat restoration, and open space are some current topics. Call Cecily at the SCVAS office for more information (415-329-8111).

Telethon for Conservation

Mid-October brings the second SCVAS Telethon. This is a telephone effort to raise funds for local environmental issues. For example, funds are needed to provide Audubon Adventures, the youth environmental education program, to Santa Clara County elementary schools. Funds also support such programs as the Burrowing Owl Census and are used to help preserve San Francisco Bay.

The telethon will be the evening of Oct. 10, when volunteers will telephone SCVAS members to ask for donations. Not everyone can be called, so if you wish to contribute anyway, please send your donation directly to SCVAS with the completed coupon (see below).

We also need more volunteers to make the phone calls and to help with administrative details. If you can spare 2 or 3 hours on Oct. 10, please call Cecily at the SCVAS office at (415) 329-1811.

Remember, SCVAS needs your direct support for environmental issues.

Yes! I wish to support SCVAS Environmental Action!

I enclose a check for (please enter the amount below)

\$25 ___ \$35 ___ \$50 ___ Other _____ (Enter Amount)

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Check if you wish to volunteer: _____

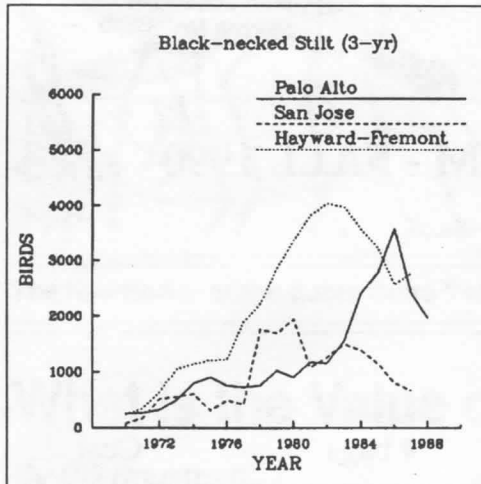
Please make checks payable to SCVAS and mail to:

Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society
415 Cambridge Avenue, Suite 21
Palo Alto, CA 94306

Your contribution is tax deductible.

Christmas Bird Count

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three south bay counts. Now the total is more like 5,000 birds, a ten-fold increase. A substantial part of the increase, especially in the early 1980s, was in the eastern portion of the south bay. Again this increase is striking and fascinating, but the cause is obscure. Were their populations affected by the creation of the San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge? Were preferred habitats elsewhere damaged, forcing these birds into the south bay? And why have the number of avocets, the stilt's close relative, remained unchanged?

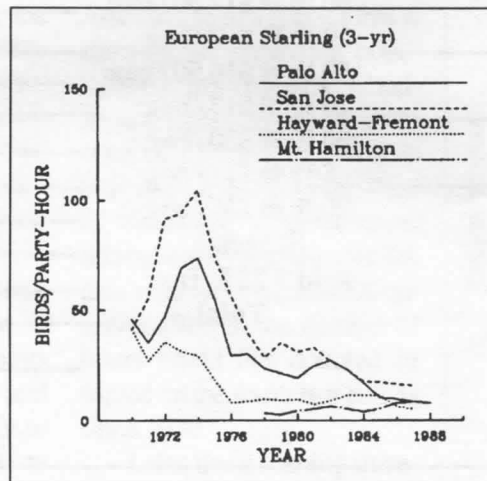
A final example is of a species in decline, but one that none of us will mourn. In the early 1970s, the introduced European Starling was one of the most abundant bird on all of our counts. The total count was of 24,000 birds on the San Jose CBC in 1973! Yet all of the counts have shown a significant decline starting in the mid-1970s. It is clear from the data that no one local influence can explain the decline as it is paralleled in each of the south bay counts.

On islands, introduced species frequently go through a cycle where they initially explode in population and then decline to some low and stable

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level. Perhaps the starling has at last met its fate on our small island.

Someday, all of the CBC data will be in a data base and accessible to both scientists and conservation organizations like our local chapter. We will sift through the data and look for species facing problems and then work up to regional data bases to see how widespread the problems are. Other data bases will be available to quickly tell of other factors. Has the rainfall



been decreasing? How much of the land is in farming and how much in light industry? We will have hard numbers and hard facts when we go before the local agencies responsible for land stewardship. But that time is not here yet. While we wait, there is another Christmas count season upon us, birds to count, and rarities to cherish.

Thanks to Our Terrific Summer and Fall Volunteers

To Ann Senuta for grantwriting, Glenda Lesondak for SCVAS Library Collection list preparation, Rose Green and Tibby Simon for much needed help in the office, and to Mary Drumm for all her enthusiasm and help with environmental fair booths.

BABOB

Continued from Page 2

and a mapmaker! We never could have done it without the expert guidance of Betty Wyatt, the BABOB editor. Betty coordinated this project throughout the summer and fall. Help us thank her when you see her.

The book will be available mid-October for \$10.00 at the SCVAS office. It can be shipped to you, your friends, co-workers and family for \$11.50. We'll also bring it to the October 17 General Meeting at Palo Alto Cultural Center.

Book Festival on Oct. 27

Please join us at The Peninsula Conservation Center for a Book Festival on Saturday, October 27th at 2 p.m. Meet some of the artists and authors and pick up a copy of the book.

Santa Clara Valley
Audubon Society's

ANNUAL FALL BIRD SEED SALE



THIS IS A PREPAID
SALE
ORDERS DUE
OCTOBER 8!

(Order form is on back page.)

