



# The Avocet

The Newsletter of the Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society

May 1992

## Ballpark Versus Birds

By Grant Hoyt

Attention, South Bay clapper rails, burrowing owls, harvest mice, yellowthroats, and environmentalists—the San Francisco Giants are looking to play some hardball right here in San Jose, and you may be facing a called third strike with two outs and the bases loaded.

I'm only half-kidding. As San Jose steps up its pitch to grab a coveted pro baseball franchise, many area residents are voicing serious concerns about the city's plan to build a ballpark on or near sensitive wildlife habitat, as well as the impact the stadium might have on air quality, traffic, and the already imperiled riparian and wetland environs nearby. At the same time, however, plenty of local citizens are drooling over the prospect of going "big-league" by attracting the Giants to San Jose at virtually any cost, arguing that the long-term benefits of major-league baseball will outweigh any existing economic or environmental contraindications. As a passionate devotee of both birding and baseball, I've found myself straddling the fence on the ballpark issue; there are compelling arguments both pro and con.

What position does the the average Audubon member take on the ballpark? That's a rhetorical question, since some of us undoubtedly hate baseball, but even a baseball-hater might perceive some civic, economic, or other benefits from having the Giants move to San Jose. Ignoring, for the moment, the crucial question of how the stadium is to be funded, let's focus on environmental factors. First, the proposed Zanker Road stadium site is awfully close to Coyote Creek, one of the few healthy riparian corridors left in the county. Countless bird species, as well as mammals, fish and amphibians, use this corridor for foraging,

breeding, and sanctuary from creeping urbanization. Wildlife experts, including biologist (and SCVAS Board member) Mike Rigney, feel that the noise, traffic, and potential pollution generated by a stadium close to Coyote Creek could have a seriously damaging effect on the quality of the riparian ecosystem. And just north of the proposed site lies Coyote Creek Riparian Station (CCRS), one of the largest bird-banding and bio-monitoring research stations in western North America. Rigney, who also manages CCRS and spends over 50 hours a week at the site, is fearful of the negative impact the ballpark could have on the important research conducted in both the riparian and wetlands areas there, where the abovementioned clapper rail, burrowing owl, salt marsh harvest mouse, and endangered species candidate salt marsh yellowthroat struggle to survive.

While the environmental community has been slow to take a stand on the ballpark, the Sierra Club has recently come out in opposition to the Zanker Road site. Echoing Rigney's sentiments, Conservation Coordinator Linda Barr noted that "due to the Zanker site's proximity to prime wetlands and sensitive riparian habitat along Coyote Creek and the proposed stadium's possible threat to certain endangered or threatened species living there, we are opposed to stadium construction on this site." She further cited poor roadway access and the effects of an intensive large development on air quality as factors influencing the Club's decision.

Will the puny harvest mouse blow a fastball by the mighty Will Clark, sending the Giants packing for Denver or St.

Petersburg? Like the spotted owl vs. timber industry controversy, it's not a simple, black-and-white situation. San Jose Mayor Susan Hammer, considered an environmentally responsive politician, is actively promoting a stadium initiative (Measure G) and wooing the Giants most energetically, as well she might be expected to—pro sports franchises are widely believed to enhance a city's stature. While she and the other ballpark proponents seem sincere in their efforts to improve San Jose's image and quality of life by landing the Giants, the price in habitat loss, air quality degradation and traffic chaos may be too high to pay, at least at the Zanker site.

As a CCRS volunteer who has enjoyed spectacular birding on Coyote Creek and participation in quality research projects at CCRS, I'll admit to having a slanted viewpoint on this issue; the prospect of a stadium-sized development near the creek worries me. My biggest beef with the whole Giants situation, though, is the anti-Candlestick Park mind-set everyone seems to have adopted. Giants' owner Bob Lurie ought to fix up the 'Stick with a partial dome or wind-screen (it can be done) and keep the team in San Francisco, but this option seems to have been irrevocably buried. Furthermore, I have serious misgivings about Mayor Hammer's funding scheme for this enterprise, and I suspect many San Jose residents will refuse to support Measure G for this reason alone. Finally, the Zanker site is just too close to Coyote Creek, where I'd rather watch the Salt Marsh Yellowthroats than the St. Louis Cardinals.

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# Chapter News

## Announcing New Nature Shop Merchandise

### Some New Books:

*Birds in Jeopardy* by Paul R. Ehrlich, \$19.95; *The Bluebird Book* by Donald & Lillian Stokes, \$9.95; *Getting Started in Birdwatching* by Edward W. Cronin, Jr., \$6.95; and *1001 Questions Answered About Birds* by Allan D. and Helen G. Cruikshank, \$6.95.

### And Some Special Books for Kids:

*A Kid's First Book of Birdwatching* (book and tape), \$17.95; *Audubon Bird Stickers*, \$3.50; *Eyewitness Books: Bird* \$15.00; *Eyewitness Juniors: Amazing Birds*, \$6.95; and *Fifty Favorite Birds Coloring Book* \$2.95.

Our Nature Shop is growing in leaps and bounds. Each month we will be adding new birding-related items. Come to see our expanded selection of bird T-shirts!

We will now be carrying limited amounts of birdseed in the Nature Shop all year and will continue to offer our tri-annual bird seed sales with pickups around the county. Watch for our McClellan Ranch Seed Sale in June '92.

## SCVAS Audubon Education Day

Our new McClellan Ranch site provided a perfect setting for the first SCVAS Education Day. Approximately 300 people, primarily families with children, enthusiastically enjoyed a variety of activities from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. They could choose to:

Take a birdwalk with Allen Royer,

Explore Stevens Creek with Lee Lovelady,

Do a Scavenger Hunt with McClellan Park Naturalist Barbara Banfield,

Watch and learn about Birdbanding with Mike Rigney and others from CCRS,

Dissect owl pellets, use Project Wild games, use microscopes set up by Fran McTamaney and her SF Bay National Wildlife Refuge education staff,

Learn about Burrowing Owls, their habits and habitat from Joan Priest of the Humane Society of Santa Clara Valley and meet "Sunshine", an actual owl,

Learn about programs of Wildlife Rescue from Amy Izzo-Olander and volunteers and meet a Kestrel,

Participate in Environmental Volunteer activities with Debra Higgins, Karen Meisenheimer and Linda Schild-Jones,

Explore the McClellan Ranch Park Junior Museum,

Learn about SCVAS' Seasonal Wetlands Discovery and "The Birds Around Us" Programs,

Meet Edward Rooks, wildlife artist, to view and purchase his work,

Enjoy food provided by the Cupertino Historical Society,

Or view National Audubon Society videos.

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### SCVAS OFFICERS

President	Grant Hoyt	415/969-7892
1st VP	Nick Yatsko	408/865-4831
2nd VP	Tony Eppstein	415/326-1376
Treasurer	John McLemore	408/261-9431
Rec. Secty.	Yana Arnold	408/371-4393

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Managing Dir.	Cecily Harris	408/252-3747
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	Alberta Jasberg	415/493-9546
South County Field Trips		
	Shirley Gordon	408/996-9863


General meetings are open to the public. Board of Directors meetings are open to all members. Call the office at (408) 252-3747 for times and directions.

*The Avocet* is published monthly (except for July and August) by the Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society, 22221 McClellan Rd., Cupertino, CA 95014. Deadline is the 25th of two months prior. Send contributions to *The Avocet*, c/o SCVAS at the above address.

SCVAS is a chapter of the National Audubon Society.

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# May 1992 Calendar

*On all field trips carpool and share expenses. Bring binoculars, field guides, warm clothing, lunch (optional on half-day trips) and liquids. Field Trip Coordinator for May: Marc Fenner (408) 942-8685.*

\*\*Denotes Field Trips

## Monday, May 4, 7:30-9:00 PM.

**Environmental Action Committee.** Have you told yourself that you would like to do more for the environment? Then you can get involved and help to shape our future environmentally. Meetings are held at SCVAS, 22221 McClellan Rd in Cupertino. Directions: From I-280 take Foothill Expy. exit towards Cupertino. Turn left at McClellan Rd. Turn left into McClellan Ranch Park. If you would like to add agenda items or have input for the meeting please call Cecily Harris at (408)-252-3747. If you would like to join the Letter Writing Team, please call the same number.

## Monday, May 4, 7:30-9:30 PM.

**Bay Area Bird Photographers.** Speaker: B. "Moose" Peterson, who writes a nature photography column for *POPULAR PHOTOGRAPHY*, has specialized in photographing California's rare, sensitive and endangered species. All meetings are held at Palo Alto's Lucy Evans Baylands Interpretive Center on East Embarcadero Rd.

## \*\*Wednesday, May 6, 8:30 AM. Half day.

**Coyote Creek Riparian Station.** Leader: Alan Thomas (408) 265-9286. Directions: Carpooling is required! Meet at the shopping center on southeast corner of Hwys 880 and 237. Please be on time because CCRS has locked gates. No birder less than 18 years permitted at CCRS. Bring water, lunch optional. Rain on trip day or day prior cancels. Highlights: migratory passerines.

## \*\*Saturday, May 9, 8:30 AM, Half day.

**Smith Creek Fire Station.** Leader: Alan Thomas (408) 265-9286. Directions: Meet at the Smith Creek Fire Station on Mt. Hamilton Rd. 4.5 miles past Grant Ranch Park entrance. Lunch optional, no restrooms available. Highlights: A good variety of woodland and riparian species.

## Saturday, May 9, 8:00-10:00 AM.

**Bird Banding Demonstration** at McClellan Ranch Park, 22221 McClellan Rd, Cupertino. Coyote Creek Riparian Station staff and volunteers will demonstrate the techniques of birdbanding. Possible species include White-crowned Sparrow, Dark-eyed Junco, and California Thrashers. An excellent opportunity to see birds in the wild. For information call Kristin Shields at (408) 262-9204.

## Tuesday, May 12, 9:30 AM.

**Eve Case Bird Discussion Group** at the home of Edward & Janice Rooks, 20537 Verde Vista, Saratoga. (408) 867-4748. Topic: Spotted Sandpiper.

## Wednesday, May 13, 7:00-9:00 PM.

**Candidate's Environmental Forum-14th Congressional District.** Co-sponsored by the PCCF, Sequoia and Santa Clara Valley Audubon Societies, Committee for Green Foothills and the South San Mateo County League of Women Voters. All of the candidates have been invited and will respond to two formal questions. One about wetlands issues and the other about energy policy. This free forum will be held at the Menlo Park City Council Chambers, 701 Laurel St. Parking is available. Call (415) 494-9301 for more information.

## \*\*Saturday, May 16, 8:30 AM, Half day.

**Stevens Creek County Park.** (Birding by Sound.) Leader: Frank Farran (408) 252-3874. Directions: Exit I-280 south onto Foothill Blvd. Travel about 2.1 miles, turn left and go down to the first parking lot. Bring a bag lunch.

**\*\*Sunday, May 17, 9:00 AM, Half day.** Beginners Trip to Charleston Slough. Leader: Allen Royes (408) 288-7768. Directions: Take Hwy. 101 to Mountain View, exit at San Antonio Rd north. Meet at its end at Terminal Way parking area. Highlights: Basics of birding, with emphasis on shore bird and waterfowl.

## Wednesday, May 20, 7:30 PM.

**May General Meeting.** Program will include "The Natural History of the Burrowing Owl" and "Wildlife and National Parks of Northern India". (See box below.)

## \*\*Saturday/Sunday May 23/24.

**Arcata / Crescent City Leaders:** Betty Wyatt (408) 255-6091 and Audrey Stoye (408) 249-2108. Directions: Meet at the south end of the Arcata Marina near the rest rooms. This is just south of Crescent City. We suggest that participants arrive Friday night. Hotels are available in both Crescent City and Arcata. Camping is available at Smith River. Bring food and water for both days. Trip limited to 15. Call trip leaders for more information and to register. Highlights: Puffins, guillemots, Black-capped Chickadees, and Grey Jays.

## \*\*Wednesday, May 27, 8:00 AM.

**North County Field Trip to Coalmine Ridge.** Leader: Phil Hand (415) 851-2623. Directions: From I-280 in Portola Valley take Alpine Rd. south. After stop at Portola Rd. continue .9 miles to parking at side of road just before Willowbrook. Highlights: Warblers, flycatchers and views.

**Sunday, May 31 9:00 AM, Half day.** **Gazos Creek** Leader: Dan Keller (415) 365-2032. Directions: Meet at Gazos Creek Access Beach. Parking across from Gazos Creek. Highlights: Coastal breeders.

## General Membership Meeting Wednesday, May 20, 7:30 PM.

Refreshments, 7:45 PM Program: "The Natural History of the Burrowing Owl" by Lynn Trulio, Shoreline Park Ecologist. 8:00 PM: "Wildlife and National Parks of Northern India" by Ted Chandik, City of Palo Alto Biologist. It is very exciting to have Ted Chandik back with a program on India's natural areas and famous cultural attractions. Ted and Zoe Chandik took a Ben King Birding Trip to India in January '91 where they saw over 250 life birds. Ted will have outstanding slides and many good stories to tell of his safari to India. MEETINGS ARE HELD AT PALO ALTO CULTURAL CENTER, corner of Embarcadero and Newell Rds in Palo Alto. All meetings are co-sponsored by the Palo Alto Open Space and Sciences Division.

# Field Notes

By Bill Bousman

## Pelicans to Goatsuckers

A **Brown Pelican** at the Sunnyvale Water Pollution Control Plant (WPCP) 26 Feb (RF) was unseasonal. Lingering birds have normally gone by the new year and first arrivals seldom show up before May in the South Bay. The flock of **Wood Ducks** at Almaden Res. dropped to 22 by 29 Feb, and 17 by 14 Mar, and after that they were gone (all AV). We have seen staging birds like this a few times before and it isn't clear if these are local birds or migrants. An **Osprey** seen at Chesbro Res. 28 Feb (EC *fide* JG) was a good find. A sub-adult **Bald Eagle** was at Calaveras Res. 1 Mar (AME). A **Merlin** in Los Gatos 10 Mar (MiF) was the only report this month. The **Franklin's Gull** reported last month was seen 3 Mar (MiF) as well at Sandy Wool Lake in Ed Levin CP. A **Common Poorwill** heard calling 25 and 27 Feb (JG) at Chesbro Res. is earlier than we expect returning birds, but a fraction of the population may overwinter - does anybody know? **Passerines**

### A Pacific-slope Flycatcher

that overwintered on Coyote Creek was last captured 29 Jan (*fide* WGB). This is the first record of an overwintering bird that I know of locally. The first returning bird was heard 19 Mar in Los Gatos (MiF). A **Blue-gray Gnatcatcher** in Henry Coe SP 26 Feb (CB) was two to three weeks early. A **Townsend's Solitaire** at Henry Coe SP 24 Feb (BBr) is the second one found there this winter. A male **Yellow Warbler** along the entrance channel to the Mountain View Forebay 24 Mar (KP) is early for a migrant and is more likely a wintering bird. A **Western Tanager** in Henry Coe SP, Stanislaus Co. 19 Mar (CB) is very early for a migrant, but also well away from areas where this species will occasionally winter. A **Vesper Sparrow** in the Palo Alto Baylands 23 Mar (MiF) is rare for the county.

Early Arrivals: **Western Kingbird**, Henry Coe SP, Stanislaus Co., 19 Mar (CB); **Violet-green Swallow**, Henry Coe SP, 26 Feb (CB); **Northern Rough-winged, Cliff**, and **Barn Swallow** Moffett Field, 3 Mar (MMR); **Orange-crowned Warbler**, Henry Coe

SP, 27 Feb (CB); **Wilson's Warbler**, Los Gatos, 18 Mar (MiF); **Hooded Oriole**, San Jose, 21 Mar (EGu); and **Northern Oriole**, San Jose, 23 Mar (CM *fide* MiF).

## Winter visitors start their journeys north and the first of the summer residents arrive.

Observers: Clark Blake (CB), Bill Bousman (WGB), Barry Breckling (BBr), Emelie Curtis (EC), Al Eisner (AME), Mike Feighner (MiF), Reid Freeman (RF), Jane Glass (JG), Ed Gustafson (EGu), Carol McCarthy (CM), Mike Mammoser (MJM), Kathy Parker (KP), Mike Rogers (MMR), and Ann Verdi (AV).

### Santa Clara County Breeding Bird Atlas:

This is the final year of the atlas. If you find a nest in the county this season call Roy Cameron, 408/867-6632. We are particularly interested in the less common birds, raptors, owls, and so forth.

RARITIES: Please drop me a note:  
Bill Bousman, 321 Arlington Way,  
Menlo Park, CA 94025 (415) 322-5282.

## Non-Audubon Events

### De Anza Day Date Set for Sunday, May 31.

De Anza Day is an annual spring environmental fair held at De Anza College in Cupertino. Activities begin at 9:00 AM and continue until 5:00 PM. Lectures are offered on environmental issues; including endangered species, energy efficiency, wildlife conservation, the Antarctic, India, Costa Rica, wildlife regions in contrast, Spotted Owl biology, recycling, wildlife. Speakers include: Doug Cheeseman, Julie Phillips, Jim Anderson, Vicki Jennings and many more. Many conservation groups such as SCVAS, Save Both, Sierra Club, and Youth Science Institute will have booths with information about their projects and volunteer

opportunities. The De Anza Environmental Study Area (ESA), an arboretum of 12 native plant communities will be open for tours from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. The California Native Plant Society will have a native plant sale in the ESA (Corner of Stelling and McClellan). Exhibits on solar energy, solar-powered automobiles. Come join us at this premier event.

### Open Space Protection Workshops To Be Held In June.

Greenbelt Alliance and the Santa Clara County Greenbelt Coalition are hosting a special educational workshop entitled "How to Protect Open Space in Santa Clara County and a Plan for a Sustainable Future". The workshops will be held on Saturday, June 6, 9:30 am-3:00 pm at Greenbelt Alliance's South Bay office, at 1922 The Alameda, San Jose.

This free workshop is designed for people who would like to learn about the most important issues affecting open space protection in Santa Clara County and how to be effective as individuals or in a group in influencing decisions that will protect open space.

In the morning, learn about critical land issues facing Santa Clara County in the next few years. The workshop will cover open space protection through purchase and zoning, the future of the Santa Clara Open Space Authority, the County and City of San Jose General Plan Revisions, South Valley Floor Greenbelt proposals between Gilroy, Morgan Hill and San Jose, and other important issues and opportunities.

The afternoon session is geared toward learning the tools of trade — how to become a truly effective citizen voice for open space. Areas covered include: how to write effective letters, lobbying techniques that work, how to get favorable publicity through mailings and the media, and how to organize a group. Leaders of successful groups will be featured.

Greenbelt Alliance is the Bay Area's regionwide citizen land conservation organization. The Santa Clara

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# Education News

## Audubon Native Wildlife Habitat Poster Contest Winners

### Kindergarten

1st	Jeremy Rowland	Orchard School
2nd	Cindy Morales	Edenvale School
3rd	Tanya Freitas	Edenvale School

### 1st Grade

1st	Ross Levin	Country Lane School
2nd	Becky Anderson	Country Lane School
3rd	Gina Novak	Country Lane School

### Honorable Mention

Jennifer, Country Lane School; Nicole Stern, Country Lane School; and Joshua San Diego, Burnett School.

### 2nd Grade

1st	Maria Estremera	Meadows School
2nd	Chithra Krishngmurthy	Ponderosa School
3rd	Carrie Winegarten	Ponderosa School

### Honorable Mention

David Vye, Graystone School; Tracy Osborn, Ponderosa School; and Hanh Do, Meadow School.

### 3rd Grade

1st	Andrea Gayer	St. Lucy Parish School
2nd	Nikita Shah	Graystone School
3rd	Zack Minor	Country Lane School

### Honorable Mention

Kindra Silva, St. Lucy Parish School; Fredrick Rivera, Burnett School; Jeedan Samamiego, Country Lane School; Zohra Ashpari, Burnett School; Heather Fettenberger, Country Lane School, and Aaron Lechuga, Meadows School.

### 4th Grade

1st	Mio Ohashi	Hacienda School
2nd	Matthew Castillo	Alta Vista School
3rd	Matt Jones	Alta Vista School

### Honorable Mention

Tyler Ichien, Alta Vista School; Jamie Giannotti, Alta Vista School; Jenny Wells, Alta Vista School; Nicole Bryce, Alta Vista School; Eric Blazek, Alta Vista School; Creighton Jones, Alta Vista School; Kelly Rose, Alta Vista School; Heather McMurray, Graystone School; Fred Rivera, Burnett School; Lorenzo Cadiona, Burnett School; and Aiko Wada, Country Lane School.

### 5th Grade

1st	James Southworth	Weller School
2nd	Jesse Lowe	Burnett School
3rd	Cami Street	Weller School

### Honorable Mention

Elena Bauske, St Lucy's School; Rossalynn Le, Burnett School; and Chad Wolffe, Hacienda School.

### 6th Grade

1st	Joseph Kim	Cabrini School
2nd	Robert Delfino	Montclair School
3rd	Kathleen Boyle	Cabrini School

### Honorable Mention

Stacey Stagner, Cabrini School; Charlene Ng, Cabrini School; Kelly Beard, Burnett School; and Kimberly Jones, Burnett School.

# Environmental Action News

## Keep a Good Thing Going on June 2

### Vote Yes on Measure A to Extend the Santa Clara County Parks Charter Fund

Measure A will extend the Santa Clara County Parks Fund another four years if adopted by County voters on the June 2 ballot. Measure A will guarantee that existing tax dollars will continue to support County parks acquisition, improvements, maintenance and ranger staffing. Measure A will continue to earmark existing tax revenues to provide picnic areas, improve public access to bicycling, hiking and equestrian trails, rehabilitate and restore park facilities, and maintain adequate ranger staffing in all county parks.

The measure will transfer to the County park fund approximately \$15 million annually, of which 20 percent or about \$3 million will be used for acquisition and \$12 million will be used for development, maintenance and operations. In the last two years, the County Parks Department acquired approximately 1,400 acres of

new parkland near the Lexington Reservoir, Sanborn/Skyline Park, Santa Teresa Park, and Uvas Canyon. Master Plans for improvement of parks have been completed. Passage of Measure A is necessary to develop, maintain, and improve all of our parks.

Measure A will extend the mandate as approved by voters in 1972, 1978, 1986, and 1988 that set aside county funds to provide an adequate park system for the residents of Santa Clara County and the region. It is a responsible and proven way to address our needs for quality recreation areas. Vote "Yes" on Measure A on June 2nd and call Greenbelt Alliance at (408) 983-0539 to help with the campaign.



### Bird Banding Training Class

Starts June 3, 1992 at Coyote Creek Riparian Station. Come and learn the skills you need to become a volunteer bird bander at Coyote Creek Riparian Station. In this exciting class you will learn how to identify birds in the hand, how to age and sex them, as well as make various body measurements. This class runs for three weeks. Call Kristin Shields at CCRS (408) 262-9204 for details about the times and locations.

### Bay Area Wetlands Workshop

A Bay Area Wetlands Workshop will be held on Saturday, May 9, from 9:00 am -3:00 pm at Richardson Bay Audubon Sanctuary, 876 Greenwood Rd., Tiburon. (415) 388-2524.

The proposed agenda includes introduction of and discussion about the new "Saving Wetlands: A Citizen's Guide for Action in California", discussion about Wetlands Restoration and Enhancement Projects that are funded by Regional Water Quality Control Board fines and North Bay Wetlands Acquisition Plans of Action. There will be opportunity for questions and further discussion.

Questions about the Workshop may be directed to Trish Mulvey (415) 326-0252, Marc Holmes (510) 452-9261 or Jesse Grantham (916) 481-5332.



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## Profile of a Birder: Eve Case

The history of the Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society is steeped in rich heritage. There is a long list of members within our chapter who have distinguished themselves through their enthusiasm, dedication and commitment. It's hard to imagine having all the possibilities we as birders enjoy today, without their contributions. Due to the positive response I've received I have decided to write a series of profiles on fellow members reflecting on the great human resource we have in our midst.

A few months ago my wife and I became members of the Eve Case Bird Discussion Group. The group has lively discussions which focus on learning the life histories of birds and sharing birding experiences. During a meeting with longtime members Jean and Pat Dubois I inquired about Eve Case. What they had to say inspired me to write about her. To write this story I have spoken to several of Eve's longtime friends.

Eve came to California at the end of the first World War. She attended the College of the Pacific where she met her husband Lloyd. She later graduated from medical school at Stanford University. This was a remarkable feat, for at that time very few women attended medical school. During World War II she became the head anesthesiologist at an Oakland Hospital. When Eve retired in 1953, she and Lloyd moved to Santa Clara and became actively involved in the Audubon Society.

They became field trip leaders and Eve served as Vice President of the Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society. Eve started the Bird Discussion Group almost 25 years ago. It did then and still does meet at her home once a month.

"Eve has been very generous in a quiet kind of way," noted Fran Mewaldt. When Eve learned that the Point Reyes Bird Observatory was in need of a new microscope, she didn't hesitate to help out.

Eve has made contributions which have been vital to the establishment of the Point Reyes Bird Observatory, the San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory, and the Coyote Creek Riparian Station and that is just for starters.

"Her *let's do it* attitude was contagious to all those around her," recalls Emelie Curtis who accompanied Eve and Lloyd on such birding adventures as visiting Churchill on the Hudson Bay and the Everglades.

"Her most remarkable quality was her indefatigable thirst to know more and more and more!" Emelie added. I became aware as I spoke to Eve's friends how her list of accomplishments grew and grew. She and Lloyd were avid sailors, and they were geology enthusiasts long



before becoming interested in birding. Lloyd had an extensive collection of rocks and minerals which Eve donated to the Youth Science Institute after his death. Eve is an astute horticulturist and even has a native plant named after her.

Everyone I spoke with commented on Eve's remarkable memory. She has this marvelous quality when you are with her of making you feel like you're the center of her attention. Eve is now 93 years old and lives at Westgate Convalescent Center. When I went to see Eve the other day I quickly discovered all the amazing stories I had heard about her had been true. She fondly recounted her early bird experiences at her childhood home in Haganan, New York. Although her eyesight is not very good, Eve still enjoys listening to stories about traveling and nature.

When I think of Eve and of Lloyd and of the accomplishments they have made I can't help feeling thankful and inspired!

— Mark Hermann

### SCVAS would like to thank the following individuals and organizations for all their hard work and generosity in February and March

**Thanks to Organizations:** Bread of Life and Yamagami's Nursery for contributing prizes for the Audubon Education Day raffle. REI, Peninsula Conservation Center, Pets Friend Animal Clinic, Humane Society of Santa Clara Valley and Youth Science Institute for hosting Bird Seed Sales.

**Thanks to Individuals:** Mike Rigney, CCRS biologists and the Cupertino Boy Scouts who installed nestboxes at McClellan Ranch Park. All the volunteers who helped out with the Spring Bird Seed Sale. Rita Colwell, Reid Freeman, Alan Thomas, and Joyce Todd who helped with moving the library to McClellan Ranch Park. And to the many individuals who help out with projects at the office.

### Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society

#### Library Wish List

- Portable cart for our TV/VCR so that we might show our Audubon Society videos.
- Cassette player for library users to hear birding tapes.
- 2-3 more bookshelves for our Birding Library books still remaining in boxes.
- Volunteers to help with cataloguing and shelving books.

#### Volunteers Needed!

##### Please Sign Up

We would like to keep our office open five days a week (Monday to Friday 9:00 am to 5:00 pm). People are needed for morning or afternoon shifts on these days. Among the duties are answering the phone, greeting visitors, selling items in the Nature Shop and checking out books in the Library. To volunteer, call Cecily Harris (408) 252-3747.

Santa Clara Valley  
Audubon Society  
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Cupertino, CA 95014

Non-Profit Organization  
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Permit No. 5869

**SCVAS Audubon Education Day** (continued from page 2)

All elementary school children in Santa Clara County were invited to attend and participate in a poster contest. Approximately 650 children from K through 6th grades sent in posters. Prizes were awarded for 1st, 2nd, 3rd and honorable mentions. The winning posters were on display at the center's conference room during March and April.

At 1:00 PM SCVAS President Grant Hoyt announced the poster winners and distributed prizes and drew names for the many door prizes.

The Education Committee composed of chairperson Bobbie Handen, Elaine Gould, Cecily Harris, Pearl Lawson, Fran McTamane and Allen Royer extends thanks to the many organizations who participated, as well as the many volunteers who arrived early and worked all day to make this first Education Day such a success. We are in the process of evaluating and planning for next year's Education Day.— Elaine Gould

**BallPark Versus Birds** (continued from page 1)

Birds vs. baseball—that's a tough call. But massive, habitat-threatening development vs. preservation of sensitive ecosystems—that's much easier. Wetland and riparian habitats have nearly disappeared in Santa Clara County due to rampant development, and those areas that do survive and the diverse wildlife they support deserve our efforts to protect them. The Giants, if they absolutely must move, need to find a more suitable location than the Zanker Road site.

**Open Space Workshops** (Continued from page 4)

County Greenbelt Coalition, composed of 24 local organizations (Including SCVAS) is a volunteer organization dedicated to the secure protection of Santa Clara County's Greenbelt in order to ensure the environmental, economic and social well-being of all County residents.

**To Register:** Call Greenbelt Alliance at (408) 983-0539 by June 1 and leave your name, address and daytime phone number. A detailed agenda and maps of the workshop location will be sent to all registrants.

**Bird Banding Training Class**

Starts June 3, 1992 at Coyote Creek Riparian Station. Come and learn the skills you need to become a volunteer bird bander at Coyote Creek Riparian Station. In this exciting class you will learn how to identify birds in the hand, how to age and sex them, as well as make various body measurements. This class runs for three weeks. Call Kristin Shields at CCRS (408) 262-9204 for details about the times and locations.

**Membership:** We invite your membership in the National Audubon Society/SCVAS. To join, please complete and mail this form with payment to SCVAS, 22221 McClellan Road, Cupertino, CA 95014. C14

**National Audubon Society Membership:** Check One

Introductory \$20  Individual \$35  Family \$38

Members receive *Audubon* magazine and *The Avocet* newsletter. Make check payable to National Audubon Society.

**Or**

**Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society Membership:** Check One

Subscriber \$10  Supporter \$20  Donor \$35  Patron \$50 and more

Members receive *The Avocet* newsletter. Make check payable to SCVAS.

**Donation:** SCVAS greatly appreciates your tax-deductible donation. Your gift helps to fund the Chapter's birding, education, conservation and research programs.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

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