



THE AVOCET

The Newsletter of the Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society

September 1999

Nome, Sweet Nome!

An Alaskan Birding Adventure

by Jack Cole

Armed with our New National Geographic field guides, a copy of Nick Lethaby's Alaskan bird-finding guide and two pair of longjohns, Ed Frost and I departed for Nome, Alaska on June 8th. After a brief stop in Kotzebue, where we became certificate-carrying members of the Arctic Circle Club, we finally arrived in Nome after more than 12 hours of travel. The prospect of 21 hours of daylight had us delirious with anticipation, but after birding until midnight, reality set in and we had to settle for a few hours of restless sleep.

The main street of Nome is where everything happens. All of the important businesses are here. Children play, old men drink, and orange taxi-vans are omnipresent. On the outskirts of town, huge

dredges lie where they were abandoned, rusty remnants of the gold rush days at the turn of the century. Local miners still operate small dredges on floating Zodiac rafts just offshore east of town. Also around town were what I termed "husky hutches," where the dogs sat up and took notice every time a vehicle approached.

Fat Freddie's was jammed with hungry and eager birders at 7 AM, but soon the tundra absorbed them all, and we often drove for miles without seeing another vehicle. Three dirt roads radiate from Nome, and the Kougarak Highway was center stage for most of the specialties of the area. Here we saw Yellow Wagtails, brilliant little balls of sunshine flashing across the road; Rock Ptarmigans still in winter plumage; Willow Ptarmigans in spring molt running ahead of us like chickens; and Common and Hoary Redpolls, usually in pairs, twittering and chasing each other around the willows.

We held our breath as beautiful Bluethroats provided scope-filling views.

We paused as reindeer ambled unconcerned across the road, raced a wolverine but let it win, and looked in vain for the adult grizzly bear that had reared up near another birder's car the previous day. We spotted a Rock Sandpiper in attire we had never seen before, and saw pairs of Harlequin Ducks in the rapids where the books say they should be. In every patch of willows the birdsong was profuse. Northern Waterthrushes sang from the highest perches; Gray-cheeked Thrushes a little further down. American Tree Sparrows serenaded us with their light and airy song, whereas the Blackpoll Warblers "ticking" could hardly be considered a song at all.

THE bird of the Kougarak, however, is the Bristle-thighed Curlew. On our first day, at the 72-mile marker, we spent over two hours scrambling up the spongy, clumpy tundra, and failed to see or hear the one pair of curlews that has bred there

continued on page 4

General Membership Meeting

Wednesday Sept. 15

"Avian Africa"

with Doug Cheeseman

Palo Alto Cultural Center

Embarcadero & Newell Rds.

7:30 Hospitality 8:00 Program

Join ecologist-zoologist and photographer Doug Cheeseman in a lapse-dissolve slide show with two projectors and discussion of the birds of East and Central Africa. Doug and his wife Gail have led over 25 trips to Africa, and Doug has shot literally hundreds of rolls of African birds and mammals. The breeding and feeding strategies of African birds will be emphasized. The diverse behaviors of African birds are really quite incredible---plan on a very stimulating and educational program with all the wonder and beauty of avian Africa.

Field Notes-----Page 6

SFBBO/CCRS

Merger-----Page 8

Bird Classes-----Page 9

Craig's Summer-----Page 10

Monterey Bird

Festival-----Page 11

VIEW FROM THE OFFICE

by Leda Beth Gray



Our summer has been busy here at McClellan Ranch Park, and I've enjoyed interacting with members, both of SCVAS and the public who wander in to the office, either by accident or on purpose. I also enjoyed watching all the fledgling birds flying around McClellan Park and visiting our feeders. Baby Nuttall's Woodpeckers hung out at our suet and peanut feeders, acting goofy and then finally getting the hang of it. Baby chickadees were busy at the same feeders, and a few times decided to visit me inside the office, flying around and landing on shop items. I had a routine worked out that led them back outside: turn off the lights, close the blinds and the door to the hall. Finally, the light from outside shining in the door and their siblings calls beckoned them back outside. Hummers also came in the office, but only to look at the finger puppets, some of which have red on them. It didn't take them long to deselect the puppets and zoom back outside.

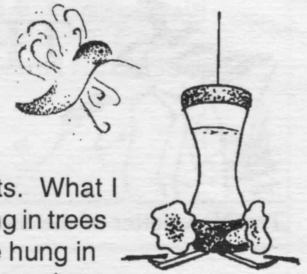
Still, I did have time to do some ordering for the Nature Shop, increasing the book section in three main areas: Children's Books, Plants and Wildflowers, and Site Guides/Foreign Field Guides.

The Children's section now has picture books, mostly for kids between 2 and 10, and mostly having to do with birds. Titles include: Late Little Robin, Rainbow Crow, Honk! Honk! A Story of Migration, Roadrunners and Sandwich Terns, and She's Wearing a Dead Bird on Her Head (a story about how the Massachusetts Audubon Society got started). We also have a good selection of coloring books including birds, wildflowers and butterflies, as well as stained glass coloring books that make me want to get some crayons or felt markers out and have some fun.

We now carry the CNPS series of wildflower posters, six in all, that feature illustrations of common wildflowers for different regions and habitats of California, as well as a selection of plant and wildflower books for the San Francisco Bay area, the Sierras, "Sagebrush Country" and Arizona.

Not a big foreign traveler myself, I have taken advice from others on which foreign bird or birding guides we should stock. Anyone who needs a particular guide can give us a call, and if we don't have it, we can order it for you. New titles on order from our distributor at the time of this writing include Birds of Kenya, Birds of Peru, Birding Indonesia and Birds of Southeast Asia. I've also added a number of site guides for places across the U.S. Yes, I am a big U.S. traveler---I've been to all fifty states but, unfortunately, some of those were before I was a birdwatcher.

I am happy to report that the squirrels have given up on the feeders at SCVAS, all placed in various ways out of



reach for our fluffy tailed bandits. What I have learned is that feeders hung in trees must have baffles, and must be hung in a place that doesn't have other branches nearby from which squirrels can jump sideways. I've also found that under the eaves of a house seems to be safe from squirrels, again, as long as there isn't a way for them to jump from the side. Periodically one of them climbs up on the tree in front of the office, and sits there staring in the window. I know they are trying to make me feel like a big meanie but I know they are getting the seed that spills on the ground, and they also have other "natural" sources that they can take advantage of for a little more effort.

I have had a wonderful time working for SCVAS and I thank you all for the opportunity. If all goes well we will have someone new on board by September, and I will be training her/him, and returning to my position on the Board with a new perspective. SCVAS is a great organization, and I want to see it continue to do great things, and maybe even expand its role in the community. Stay tuned.

* * * * *

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

by Ulrike Keyssner

I assumed, incorrectly, that summer would be a time to regroup and do those tasks one never quite gets to. Ha! It was a busy period in the office, with people dropping by and finding us for the first time, staff going on holiday (myself included to Israel and Egypt). With this in mind, I must thank our stalwart volunteers old (in service to SCVAS, at least) and new. I'm happy to introduce our new volunteers Joan Marlowe and Betty-Jo Watkins, who are helping out magnificently in the office and Nature Shop, and Kelly Reed and John Poole who have tirelessly sorted and catalogued our education materials and recently donated slides. Thank you all very much.

This great news might lead some of you who were considering volunteering to think we don't need any more volunteers. Wrong! For starters, we could use help from knowledgeable individuals in setting up and advising us on our Apple computer system, modems, printers, etc. We also have a need for more staff in the office and Nature Shop, especially on Saturdays from 10 AM to 2 PM. There are many other projects in education, community outreach, and environmental advocacy that need attention, as well. SCVAS is certainly a great organization in Santa Clara County, and I am proud to be working for you, our members. However, it is both mind-boggling and exciting to think how much *more* we could be doing with our resources if we had more volunteers. Please give me a call!

September 1999 Calendar

***Denotes field trip. On all trips carpool if possible; bring binoculars, field guides, layered clothing. LO = Lunch optional; RC = Heavy rain cancels.*

****Sunday Sept. 5, 8:30 AM. Moss Landing and vicinity.** Half day plus. Leader: John Mariani (408)997-2066. Meet at Jetty Rd off Hwy 1 just north of Moss Landing. Dress in layers, bring lunch and liquids. Trip will be extended beyond usual spots to cover any rare species currently in area. Emphasis on shorebirds, waterfowl, early migrants.

****Wednesday Sept. 8, 9:00 AM. Moss Landing/Elkhorn Slough.** Half day. Leader: Shirley Gordon (408)996-9863. Meet at Jetty Rd. and Hwy 1 just north of Moss Landing. Highlights: gulls, grebes, terns, ducks, shorebirds, and raptors. LO.

Wednesday Sept. 8, 7:30 PM. Bay Area Bird Photographers features the annual Members' Slide Program. *Note change of location for this meeting only:* Fireside Room of Stern Community Center, 1305 Middlefield Rd, Palo Alto.

****Saturday Sept. 11, 8:30 AM. Ogier Ponds.** Half day. Leader: Bob Reiling (408)253-7527. From Hwy 101 in Morgan Hill take Cochrane Rd west to Monterey Hwy, turn right, go north 2.6 miles, turn right toward Model Airplane park. Follow road 1/2 mile, park in gravel lot at first bend in road.

****Sunday Sept. 12, 9:00 AM. Charleston Slough.** Half day. Leader: Allen Royer (408)288-7768. From Hwy 101 in Mt. View take San Antonio Rd north to Terminal Way parking area. Meet at entrance nearest San Antonio. Trip recommended for, but not limited to, beginners. Ducks, shorebirds, herons.

Tuesday Sept. 14, 9:30 AM. Eve Case Bird Discussion Group will meet at the home of Pat and Jean Dubois, 17150 Buena Vista Ave., Los Gatos

(408)395-4267. Topic: Summer Birding Experiences.

****Saturday Sept. 18, 9:00 AM. Point Reyes.** Full day. Leader: Peter LaTourrette (650)961-2741. Our annual trip to the west coast's most active vagrant trap, where birds and weather are always exciting and unpredictable! From Hwy 1 in Marin County take Sir Francis Drake Blvd west approx 14 miles, turn left to Drake's Beach. Meet in parking area. Bring lunch, liquids, full tank of gas, and be prepared for fog, wind, sun, and challenging birds. Group will carpool from Drake's Beach.

****Sunday Sept. 19, 8:30 AM. SFBBO/Coyote Creek Riparian Station.** Half day. Leader: Alan Thomas (408)265-9286. A rare chance to to bird CCRS. From Hwy 237 take McCarthy Blvd exit north. Meet at entrance to McCarthy Ranch Shopping Center near Borders Books for carpooling. LO, RC.

****Wednesday Sept. 22, 8:30 AM. Palo Alto Baylands.** Half day. Leader: Rosalie Lefkowitz (650)494-6358. Fall warblers; shorebirds at incoming tide. From Hwy 101 take Embarcadero Rd east, taking left turn where road forks just past airport. Meet at parking lot across from Baylands Interpretive Center.

****Saturday Sept. 25, 9:00 AM. Hawk Hill/Marin Headlands.** Full day. Leader: Don Schmoltdt (510)215-1910. Note new meeting place: tunnel entrance near parking area on Hawk Hill. After crossing Golden Gate Bridge take exit just past Vista Pt., cross under Hwy 101 and turn right just before entrance back to Hwy 101 south. Drive up hill to highest point and park. This is the first of two outings to view migrating raptors from coast's premier hawk lookout. Heavy fog may change itinerary.

****Sunday Sept. 26, 8:00 AM. Alum Rock Park.** Half day. Leader: Dave Cook. From Hwy 101 or I-680 take

Alum Rock Ave. northeast toward hills and into park. Turn left at entrance kiosk (at bottom of hill, before bridge); meet in first parking lot near Rustic Lands area. Moderately strenuous 3 to 4 mile walk. Possible entrance fee; LO, RC.

****Saturday Oct. 2, 9:00 AM. Hawk Hill/Marin Headlands.** Full day. Leader: Nick Yatsko (408)247-5499. Meet at Page Mill Rd/I-280 Park'n'Ride at 8:00 for carpooling. Migrating raptors; possible Broad-winged Hawk. Heavy fog may change itinerary.

****Sunday Oct. 3, 8:30 AM. Arastradero Preserve.** Half day. Leader: Jim Liskovec (650)969-5542. From I-280 take Page Mill Rd west approx 1/2 mile to Arastradero Rd. Turn right and meet at parking lot 1/2 mile on right. Variety of woodland, grassland species, raptors. Two miles moderate walking. RC.

****Saturday - Sunday Oct. 9 - 10. Big Sur River/Molera State Park.** Leader: Rick Fournier (831)633-0572. Join Rick for Sat. evening owling on Old Coast Road and/or Sun. morning for half-day, two-mile walk along Big Sur R. in search of western migrants, residents, possible eastern vagrants. Trip ends with a visit to Big Sur Ornithology Lab for banding demonstrations. For owling, meet Sat. eve. at 7:30 PM at kiosk in parking lot at Andrew Molera State Park entrance. Sunday trip will meet at 8:00 AM, same location. Camping available at Molera & nearby campgrounds; Big Sur River Inn motel is nearby. Weather can be cool and damp. Call leader to reserve space on trip.

****Sunday Oct. 10, 9:00 AM. Charleston Slough.** Half day. Leader: Dick Stovel (650)856-6105. See Sept. 12 description.

****Wednesday Oct. 13, 8:30 AM. Alum Rock Park.** Half day. Leader: Bob Reiling (408)253-7527. See Sept. 26 write-up for directions.

Nome, Sweet Nome *continued*

the past eight years. Our hopes were dashed when the Whimbrels opened their mouths, and we settled for a beautiful American Golden Plover and a Short-eared Owl. Undaunted, we returned two days later and found a single curlew within fifteen minutes! After watching it feed for a while, we saw it fly across the road, calling all the way, and land over a mile up the hill on the other side, reminding us once again that birding is so much about being in the right place at the right time. Listen to the call of a Bristle-thighed Curlew on a CD-ROM, and then imagine how the hair stands up on your neck the first time you hear one on its breeding grounds.

At Safety Sound on the road to Council, we found a Red Phalarope, Western, Semipalmated and Least Sandpipers, Ruddy and Black Turnstones, and Dunlin, all decked out in their finest feathers. We watched and listened as two Arctic Loons called from across the road, while behind us Semipalmated Sandpiper hovered and twittered in display flight for at least ten minutes. Common Eiders loafed on the ice, three Brant flew into the lagoon, and a Parasitic Jaeger rested on the ice from a day of gull-chasing.

Other sights and sounds which captivated us included the flight song of the Lapland Longspur, the northern dialects of some of our common sparrows, winnowing Common Snipe (one kited down right beside us), the beautiful *iliaca* race

of the Fox Sparrow, snow-white Glaucous Gulls on snow-white ice, stunning Long-tailed Jaegers (one only 15 feet away along a river bank), and the scratchy song of the Northern Wheatear. On Anvil Mountain we encountered four musk oxen, and who wouldn't want a tuft of their fur for a souvenir, plucked from the willows along the road? One afternoon we sat and watched various swallow species weave their way around our pickup, while Red-necked Phalaropes twirled on the water like figure skaters, and a river otter casually drifted by. Suddenly Ed said, "There's a Barn Swallow!" To appreciate our surprise, look that one up on the range map in your NGS field guide.

Light snow was falling as we left Nome three days later with 23 members of the Massachusetts Audubon Society and a Peregrine Falcon headed for rehab. We spent a day in Anchorage, just in case there was a rarity hanging around like the Steller's Eider we saw there two years ago. No such luck this time, but nesting Red-necked Grebes, 60 Hudsonian Godwits on the island in Westchester Lagoon, and a Semipalmated Plover noisily guarding her four eggs were nice consolation prize. Would we return to Nome again? You bet! But next time we'll keep going over to St. Lawrence Island or St. Paul for a third and different Alaskan experience. The planning has already begun!

Students Explore Charleston Slough

On July 19th SCVAS volunteers led a group of 21 students on an expedition through the Charleston Slough area. The trip was a culmination of a summer biology class I taught at James Lick High School on San Jose's east side. As a birder since childhood, I felt it was important to introduce birding to my students.

The marsh was alive with shorebirds, waterfowl, and other avian fauna. Peering through binoculars supplied by SCVAS, the young birders identified 28 species. Most were first time sightings. Students bubbled over with questions as they observed birds in the wild, experienced a salt marsh, and interacted positively with people outside their age group.

After the trip each student filled out an anonymous survey. Responses were very encouraging. Only one individual had ever birded before, and many expected birding to be "boring". Without exception all had a very positive impression of birding after the trip. "I liked it and would do it again" was a typical response. One student remarked that prior to the trip she "thought they were all just 'birds' . . . now I have seen 28 different species!" Another said, "It's nice to see that humans aren't the only species with variety." The overall favorite bird was the Snowy Egret, described as "tall, white, beautiful, and healthy-looking." The Northern Harrier was a close second.

The trip was a great success. East side San Jose students hail from many different ethnic, cultural, and socioeconomic backgrounds. Most have had little or no environmental education. Outdoor "nature" activities are generally accepted with great enthusiasm. If we are to impress upon the next generation the importance of the natural environment, we must do so actively. I hope to see more of the same effort throughout the Santa Clara Valley.

My students and I wish to extend a special thanks to Jim Liskovec, Jerry Towner, and Peg Bernucci for generously giving of their time and expertise

---Greg Meissner

SCVAS Education Committee

Trailblazer '99

Sunday, October 3

Charleston Park in Mountain View

a Day of Family Fun to Benefit Friends of Stevens Creek Trail

- 10K and 5K races
 - 2 and 4 mile nature walks
 - Youth races
 - Fun for the entire family
- for more information call

650-903-6067 or 408-255-5780

www.stevenscreek.com/friends



Field Trip Reports

Ano Nuevo State Reserve Aug. 8

Santa Clara Valley Auduboners and friends toured Ano Nuevo State Reserve, including the ranger residences, New Year's Creek, South Beach, The Pond, the cliffs south of the staging area, the southern sand dunes, and Bight Beach. Wind was pleasantly moderate (unlike the last several years' summer trips), with a high overcast that burned off by 11 o'clock.

Songbird activity was light, with many expected species absent (Olive-sided Flycatcher and Violet-green Swallow, for example). A single PYGMY NUTHATCH twittering in the pines near the entrance station did not allow itself to be seen. A flock of 20 or so CALIFORNIA QUAIL on the old bridge at New Year's Beach included several half-grown young. A downy RUDDY DUCK making short dives at The Pond under its parents' supervision was a treat.

Not many swallows were present at The Pond, but the first one we saw was a BANK SWALLOW; BARN and CLIFF were the only other swallows present. A MARSH WREN called shyly from the reeds, and several people got good looks at it. At least four ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLERS were in the surrounding willows.

Between The Pond and the staging area, four BLACK SWIFTS flew low over our heads, giving great views; one individual looked rather worn underneath, especially around the undertail area, suggesting that some body molt was in progress. At the staging area cliffs, an impressive 20 MARBLED MURRELETS could be seen, along with some large rafts of COMMON MURRES. Many of the murres were adult-juvenile pairs. Gloria LeBlanc saw a CALIFORNIA THRASHER dart into a willow clump at the point where the more southern trail climbs steeply onto the sand dunes.

Shorebirds included SEMIPALMATED PLOVER (2), KILLDEER (1), BLACK OYSTERCATCHER (3),

WHIMBREL (3), WILLET (6), BLACK TURNSTONE (4), RUDDY TURNSTONE (3), WANDERING TATTLER (1), SANDERLING (10), LEAST SANDPIPER (3), and RED-NECKED PHALAROPE (10). When not startled by seals or seal-watchers, the phalaropes would walk and paddle at the water's edge (waves at Bight Beach were very small), unconcerned by our presence. Among flying creatures other than birds, there were many small bugs with jewel-like emerald-green wing plates and buff-colored abdomens, a round onyx-colored one with a red dot on its back, and a single unidentified butterfly (perhaps a Northern Checkerspot, but I got too short a look at it).

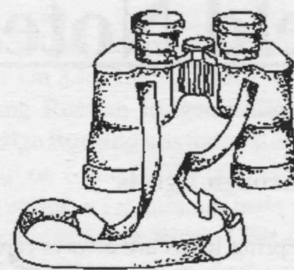
—Mark Miller

Skyline Ridge Open Space May 29

On the morning of May 29, when we met for the Skyline Ridge OSP field trip, it was 43 degrees F, wet and windy with visibility limited to less than 30 yards, and just plain nasty! It was therefore unanimously agreed to move the trip to a lower, more hospitable, if not more birdy, site. Monte Bello subsequently proved equally inhospitable, as expected, so Arastradero Preserve in Palo Alto was the next choice. Luckily, most of us had not been there on either of the recent field trips.

The first bird seen, as we were getting out of our cars, was a male LAZULI BUNTING flying across the parking lot. This was quickly followed by, in addition to the "usual suspects", 14 BROWN PELICANS flying over the hills to the south, a pair of WESTERN BLUEBIRDS, more male Laz Buntings, a SONG SPARROW, LESSER GOLDFINCHES and a CHIPPING SPARROW, all within 100 yards of the parking lot before we crossed the road into the Preserve!

The first of many ASH-THROATED FLYCATCHERS was then seen, followed by more looks at the Chipping Sparrow. A pair of young GREAT



HORNED OWLS standing together on a large oak on the hill and one of the parents in a tree came under careful scrutiny. A GREEN HERON with a "bad wheel" then flew overhead toward the pond (eventually to be seen a couple more times). Near the far end of the trail we had a family of at least three ALLEN'S HUMMINGBIRDS near a row of California Buckeye shrubs. One young hummer perched on a branch for long enough periods to allow prolonged 50x and 100x viewing using Frank Vanslager's Questar telescope.

A calling PACIFIC-SLOPE FLYCATCHER, calling HUTTON'S VIREOS, calling BLACK-HEADED GROSBEEK, an ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER and a WARBLING VIREO filled in the gaps and kept us looking. One of our last observations was of a pair of BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHERS valiantly trying to drive off a marauding SCRUB JAY. All in all, the only birds sorely missed because of our forced relocation were probable Black-throated Gray Warblers and a possible male Lawrence's Goldfinch seen the previous day on the southern edge of Alpine Pond during our scouting trip.

—Bob Reiling

Charleston Slough July 10

On the beginners' field trip to Charleston Slough the main item of interest was 12-14 LEAST TERNS that flew by headed toward Coast Casey Forebay. Also seen were one BLACK SKIMMER, one male NORTHERN HARRIER (who bombed through the shorebirds in the Flood Control Basin), two SCAUP sp., one CASPIAN TERN and one GREATER YELLOWLEGS.

---Nick Yatsko

Field Notes

by Bill Bousman

Loons through Egrets

Late spring loons are always rare in the county, but a basic-plumaged **Pacific Loon** at Shoreline Lake on 23 May (CIW, ChW) was exceptional. Nearly as rare, a basic **Common Loon** was on Calero Reservoir on 31 May (AV), a grounded bird was at Moffett Field on 4 Jun (WGB), and likely the same bird was found the next day at Shoreline Lake (SCR). **Western Grebes** were observed at the south end of Calaveras Reservoir again this year with at least two incubating and three involved in nest construction on 22 Jun (SCR). Representative of early or "oversummering" **American White Pelicans** were 27 on Salt Pond A1 in Mountain View on 5 Jun (SCR) and 18 across Stevens Creek in Salt Pond B1 the same day (WCa). Apparently the first influx of wintering birds was on 13 Jul when 99 were counted on Salt Pond A1 (WGB). A flock of 14 **Brown Pelicans** flying west over Arastradero Preserve in Palo Alto on 29 May were early and at an unusual location (RWR, FV). This pelican is rarely seen over land or flying at higher altitudes. **American Bitterns** along Llagas Creek above Bloomfield and near the South County Regional Wastewater Authority ponds in Gilroy on 29 May (SCR) may represent a portion of our rare breeding population. Our rarest heron, an adult **Least Bittern**, was seen at Vasona Reservoir on 10 Jul (DB). They nested in Olema Marsh in Marin County last year for the first Bay Region breeding record. A pair of **Great Egrets** was on a nest at Almaden Lake on 13 May (SCR), which represents a rare inland record for this species. Surprisingly, seven nests were established on lower Coyote Creek near where Great Blue Herons have nested in recent years. These birds were not here on 22 Jun, but were established by 1 Jul (SCR, AJ). This is a surprisingly late date and suggests a colony failure at another location. **Snowy Egrets** have expanded their inland breeding range by establish-

ing at least four nests on Almaden Lake on 13 May (SCR). They have continued to nest at Vasona Reservoir where at least three nests have been observed during the summer period (GO, DB). Four to six **Cattle Egrets** were seen at the Arzino Ranch in Alviso through 16 May (AME), but none have been found since then.

Geese through Skimmers

Rare at any time in the county, a **Brant** was at the Palo Alto Duck Pond on 5 Jun (SCR). A female **Blue-winged Teal** in the Palo Alto Flood Control Basin (FCB) on 5 Jun (SCR) was an unusual

*Common Nighthawk
and Dickcissel were
the summer's gems*

oversummering bird. A male **Redhead** has been more or less regular over the summer at the CCRS waterbird pond (v.ob.) with the last observation on 22 Jun (SCR). A female **Common Goldeneye** was found on Charleston Slough on 5 Jun (SCR) for one of our few summer records. Nearly as rare, a female **Red-breasted Merganser** was found on Salt Pond B1, east of Stevens Creek, on 5 Jun as well (WCa). Four records of **Ospreys** over the summer period was about typical of the past few years. **Peregrine Falcons** have been found more frequently this summer. Adult birds were seen on Salt Pond A18 in Alviso on 26 May (SCR) and at the Ogier Avenue ponds on 17 May (MJM). An immature at Rancho San Antonio OSP on 14 May (JLi) was away from the Bay, but immature or sub-adult birds found along the Bay 12 Jun to 27 Jul (v.ob.) may all refer to a single bird. An unaged bird was over Stanford on 6 Jul (GHt). Always rare, calling **Mountain Quail** were heard in May with two at Table Mountain on 1 May (MJM) and one on Loma Prieta on 25 May (MMR).

The first returning **Lesser Yellowlegs** were two birds on the CCRS waterbird pond on 2 Jul (AJ). The high count for July was of five on Calabazas Marsh on 24 Jul (MJM). An adult **Sanderling**, in mostly alternate plumage, was in Calabazas Marsh on 29 Jul (MMR). An adult **Semipalmated Sandpiper** was seen at the CCRS waterbird pond on 24 Jul (MJM) and an adult and a juvenile were at Calabazas Marsh on 28 Jul (SCR *vide* MMR). The next day, two juveniles were seen at Calabazas (MMR) and on 31 Jul three juveniles were found there (MJM). An adult **Common Tern** was found at the San Francisquito Creek mouth on 5 Jun (SCR), just across the county line. Staging **Least Terns** were found this summer on Charleston Slough, with 12-14 counted on 10 Jul (NY et al.), and just east of Stevens Creek, on the complex of salt ponds there, with the first birds found on 18 Jul (CKS). At least 93 birds were counted on 23 Jul (RWR, FV). Scarce in spring, a single **Black Tern** was seen on the Calabazas Marsh on 9 May (MJM) and six were at Lake Cunningham on 21 May (SCR). The dwindling **Black Skimmer** flock at Charleston Slough broke up in mid-May (v.ob.) and after that period birds were seen in mostly ones or twos in various South Bay locations.

Owls through Swallows

A calling **Long-eared Owl** was found along Llagas Creek above Bloomfield Road on 24 Jun (TR). Nesting birds were occasionally found along valley streams in the 1920s and 1930s, but now this rare owl breeds only at higher elevations. A June surprise was a calling **Common Nighthawk** flying over McClellan Ranch Park in Cupertino at dusk on the 17th (LBG) for our second county record. Our previous record was also of a late migrant in mid-June. **Black Swifts** are late migrants in the spring as well, so three over Monte Bello OSP on 23 May (MMi) and ten above the preserve on 5 Jun (LCh) are typical records for this rare passage bird. On 25 May, 23 birds were seen southwest

continued next page

Field Notes *continued*

of Loma Prieta in Santa Cruz County (MMR), a remarkable number. Four nestlings fell from a **Vaux's Swift** nest in a chimney in Saratoga on 22 Jul (*fide* PC) and were rescued. All our nest records for this species are from residential chimneys. An unusual summer record was a male **Rufous Hummingbird** at a feeder on Mt. Hamilton on 10–11 Jul (L&KB *fide* GHt). A pair of **Pileated Woodpeckers** has been found off and on near Table Mountain, where they bred last summer, but no indication of nesting has been obtained (m.ob.) The most recent observation was on 11 Jul (JA). A **Willow Flycatcher** on Coyote Creek below Anderson Reservoir on 12 Jun (RWR et al.) was the only migrant found this spring. **Hammond's Flycatcher** is more common in the spring and one or two birds at Smith Creek 20–22 May (MMR, AV) rounded out their spring migration. Much less expected, a calling **Dusky Flycatcher** was also at Smith Creek on 20 May (MMR). A pair of **Cassin's Kingbirds** was seen on a nest in a eucalyptus on San Felipe Road just north of the county line at Pacheco Creek on 29 May (SCR). An adult and three fledglings were seen there on 8 Jul (WGB). A male and female **Purple Martin** were seen near the end of Mt. Bache Road on the Santa Clara-Santa Cruz border on 21 Jul (RWR, FV). This has become one of our rarest breeding birds and may no longer nest in the county. A spring migrant **Bank Swallow** was recorded along Coyote Creek above Hwy 237 on 10 May (SBT *fide* SCR), and three to five birds were seen at Moffett Field on 20 May (SCR). An immature was found at the edge of Crittenden Marsh on 24 Jul (MMR) and seen again on 26 Jul (RWR, FV).

Dippers through Goldfinches

American Dippers along Twin Creeks on 8 May (JMa et al.) and Stevens Creek above Mt. Eden Road 9–31 May (v.ob.) are both from areas where they've nested in the past. Late spring **Nashville Warblers** included one near Smith Creek on 8 May (MMR) and another along Hicks Road the same day (JMa et al.). A male **Black-and-White Warbler**, in

heavy molt, was found along the Guadalupe River just above Montague on 24 Jul (MMR). This is our first July record of this eastern vagrant. Migrating **MacGillivray's Warblers** in May included a singing bird near Smith Creek 8–22 May (MMR, v.ob.), at least two more birds at Smith Creek 20–22 May (MMR, v.ob.), and a male singing on Loma Prieta on 25 May (MMR). A male was found just north of the county along Langley Hill Road on 5 Jun (JAC), where they've bred in the past. There are few records of breeding within Santa Clara County's borders, however. A **Yellow-breasted Chat** was found in Joseph Grant CP on 2 May (GHt) and a singing male was along Coyote Creek below Hwy 237 on 15 May (SCR); both apparently migrants. However, two chats singing along Llagas Creek above Bloomfield Road 27 May–7 Jun (TR, SCR) are from an area where they've nested in the past.

It has been an exceptional summer for **Grasshopper Sparrows**. On the Palo Alto Summer Bird Count (SBC) on 6 Jun, 13 birds were found at Russian Ridge OSP (JAC) and 17 were singing in the Windy Hill OSP (BC, MH). The mean recorded in the previous 15 years of the SBC was four birds and the previous high count was nine! On 3 Jul, 15 birds were singing on Russian Ridge and at least four broods of fledged young were found. Eight more birds seen at Windy Hill (both SCR). Inland, three birds were found along Metcalf Road on 8 Jun (MMR) and the next day 17 were found in the Silver Creek Hills (SCR). Later, on 23 Jun, 24 adults were counted in the Silver Creek Hills and there were at least two broods of young (SCR). Also in the Silver Creek Hills on 9 Jun, a single **Golden-crowned Sparrow** was found (SCR) for an unusual summer record. The tail end of the spring's **Blue Grosbeak** invasion was a male at Ed Levin CP on 6 Jun (SMi). No evidence of nesting was found this year. Matching the invasion status of Grasshopper Sparrows along the Santa Cruz Mountain crest were **Lazuli Buntings**. On 6 Jun, 21 were counted at Russian Ridge OSP (JAC) and 50 were at Skyline Ridge and Monte Bello (LCh et al.). This total of 71 birds is well above the mean of 19 recorded in the previous 15 years of

the SBC and the previous high count was 33! On 3 Jul 15–30 Lazulis were singing along Russian Ridge (SCR). A male **Indigo Bunting** was found at Monte Bello OSP on 6 Jun (MW) but not thereafter. However, a 1st-summer male was found nearby at Long Ridge OSP on 14 Jun (LCh) and seen by many through 15 Jul. Another male was seen at Windy Hill OSP 21–23 Jun (PLaT). An adult male **Dickcissel** was found along Guadalupe River above Montague on 24 Jul (MMR) for the second county record. It was found there at least through 26 Jul (v.ob.). Although we have become accustomed to spring records of **Yellow-headed Blackbirds** in the last few years a pair at the Gilroy sewer plant on 7 Jun (TR) was our first for June. **Lawrence's Goldfinches** appeared more common west of the Santa Clara Valley this season. Of most interest was a pair with the female carrying nest material on 5 Jun (FT) at a ranch near Windy Hill, a fledgling at the north end of the Silver Creek Hills on 9 Jun (SCR), a bird incubating on a nest at Windy Hill on 11 Jun (PLaT), and two fledglings found along Smith Creek on 17 Jul (AME).

Observers: John Arnold (JA), Lotus & Keith Baker (L&KB), Dusty Bleher (DB), Bill Bousman (WGB), Bill Cabot (WCa), Les Chibana (LCh), Jack Cole (JAC), Barbara Costa (BC), Pat Curtis (PC), Al Eisner (AME), Leda Beth Gray (LBG), Merry Haveman (MH), Grant Hoyt (GHt), Alvaro Jaramillo (AJ), Peter LaTourrette (PLaT), Jim Liskovec (JLi), Mike Mammoser (MJM), John Mariani (JMa), Mark Miller (MMi), Steve Miller (SMi), George Oetzel (GO), Bob Reiling (RWR), Mike Rogers (MMR), Steve Rottenborn (SCR), Tom Ryan (TR), Chris Salander (CKS), Scott Terrill (SBT), Francis Toldi (FT), Frank Vanslager (FV), Ann Verdi (AV), Michael Wienholt (MW), Chris Wolfe (ChW), Claire Wolfe (CIW), and Nick Yatsko (NY).

RARITIES: Please drop me a note: Bill Bousman, 321 Arlington Way, Menlo Park, CA 94025, or: bousman@merlin.arc.nasa.gov

Local Bird Groups Join Forces

SFBBO, CCRS Merge

The San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory (SFBBO) is pleased to announce the friendly acquisition of the bird-banding program of the Coyote Creek Riparian Station (CCRS).

As part of a monitoring program for a Santa Clara Valley Water District flood control permit, CCRS initiated the bird-banding program in 1986 to document year-round bird use in the flood basin of Coyote Creek, one mile north of Highway 237 and one-half mile west of Highway 880. This lush riparian habitat is owned by the City of San Jose and is the site of a re-vegetation project of the Santa Clara Valley Water District. The project was originally designed by Dr. Richard Mewaldt, Professor of Biology at San Jose State University.

In addition to avian research, CCRS also developed volunteer creek monitoring programs. The best known of these were StreamKeepers and Community Creek Watch. These programs have been made available to many other organizations and agencies that encourage community participation in water quality and aquatic resource monitoring programs. The Board of Directors of CCRS elected

to transfer these programs and related data to the North Bay Riparian Station, a program of the Bay Institute and the Bay Model Association, located in Marin County.

SFBBO was founded in 1981 by Mike and Theresa Rigney along with other biology students at San Jose State. Located in the historic Bayside Canning Co. building in Alviso, SFBBO currently has about 700 members, many of whom actively participate in our bird research and monitoring projects. SFBBO also offers a program of field trips and birding classes to the general public (call (408) 946-6548 or visit www.sfbbo.org for details).

SFBBO has compiled extensive data on the birds of the local baylands. Our studies have particularly focused on birds that utilize the salt ponds of the South Bay for foraging, roosting, and breeding. SFBBO is a Cooperator with the Don Edwards San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge, and also works cooperatively with the East Bay Regional Park District, the Santa Clara Valley Water District, the California Department of Fish and Game, the Cargill Salt Division of Newark, and numerous local governments.

Harriet and Her Wry Wrentits Birdathon Champs

by Leda Beth Gray

We didn't have the final results of this year's Birdathon in time for the June *Avocet*, so here they are---the total funds raised amount to \$5660, more than half of which was raised by our star Birdathon Team the Wry Wrentits, led by Harriet Gerson. Harriet was honored with an award at the annual potluck dinner in June.

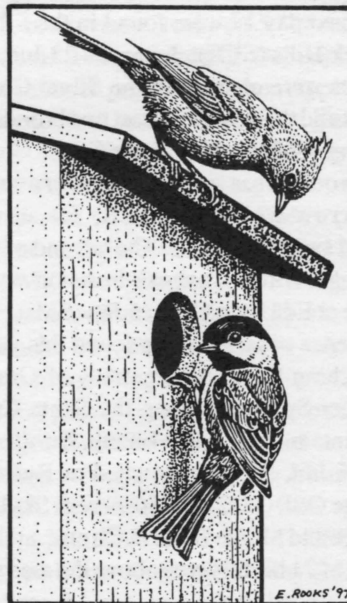
Proceeds from this event will be split between SCVAS education programs and a new project sponsored by Audubon California and the Bay Area Audubon Council, informally referred to as the "Bay Project". The goal of this project is to identify ways to restore wetlands around San Francisco Bay and ensure the long term health of the San Francisco Bay ecosystems.

I participated in this year's Birdathon, and it was my first time. We had a great time, and one of the highlights, believe it or not, was starting out at McClellan Ranch first thing in the morning, and getting an amazing forty species of birds in little more than an hour before moving on to other areas.

The highest number of species was recorded by Grant Hoyt's team, The Vagrants, a grand total of 131 species, all in Santa Clara County. I was feeling good about the 125 species racked up by my team, the Earthquacking Thrushfaulters, until Grant told me they had a "bad day"! Really, it isn't necessary to reach any particular number of birds in order to participate. Participants can just count in their own backyards if that is what suits them. Some of us just get carried away, that's all.

[The editor acknowledges getting carried away, indeed, one more than one occasion, while birdwatching.]

"Lookin' for a home"
by Ed Rooks.
See the description
of the drawing class
he will be teaching
on the next page.



Sign Up Now For Birding Classes Cupertino

Calling all beginning birders! On Saturday, Oct. 10, a 3-hour Birding Basics class will be taught by Sandy Cortright at McClellan Ranch Park in Cupertino. Topics will include: bird groups, bird identification, binocular and field guide selection, where and when to find birds, and a bit of birding etiquette. Fee: \$20. In addition, there will be a few copies of Sandy's book Birding Basics on sale for half-price. To register call the Audubon office at (408) 252-3747.

Menlo Park

Maryann Danielson of Sunbeam Ecology Expeditions is once again offering her popular birding classes this fall at Little House, 800 Middle Ave. in Menlo Park. Two classes are now open for registration:

◆ Birding for Beginners—a short course for beginning and less experienced birders. Resident birds and migrants that move through our area will be highlighted in this class series. Bird identification techniques will be stressed along with pertinent life histories of the birds. Seven slide lectures and four field trips. Tuesday mornings, 9 - 11 AM, starting Sept. 14. Register at first class. Fee: \$80.

◆ Fall Bird Identification Workshops—for intermediate and more advanced birders. Each workshop will have an evening study meeting followed by a field trip and is chosen to highlight seasonal events in a bird's life and to simplify the identification of these birds. The workshops will focus on birds in migration, island endemics, and wintering waterbirds. Workshop lectures begin on Monday, Sept. 13, 7 - 9 PM. Fee: \$75 for four workshops, plus additional fee for weekend trips. Four lectures only: \$35. Register at first class.

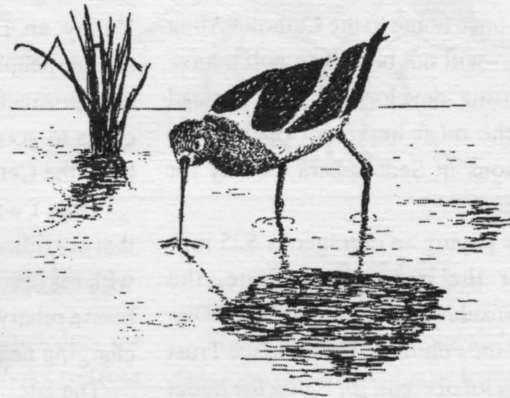
For more information contact Maryann Danielson at (650) 325-9349.

Learn to Draw Birds With Edward Rooks

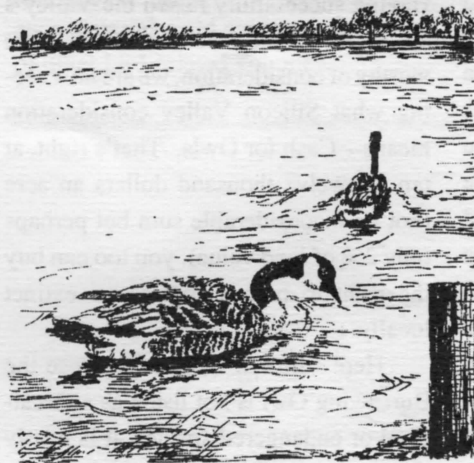
Local artist Edward Rooks will offer a Bird Drawing class this fall. There will be eight 2-hour evening classes and one 3-hour weekend field trip. Classes will be held at the SCVAS office at McClellan Ranch Park in Cupertino on Thursday evenings from 7:30 - 9:30 PM, starting

Thursday, Oct. 7. Fee: \$100; limit 15 participants.

To sign up, call the SCVAS office at (408) 252-3747. For further information about the drawing class, call Edward Rooks at (408) 369-8489; e-mail <edrooks@earthlink.net>.



Avocet by Dayton S. Misfeldt



Canada Geese by Susan Wilson



Stilt by Julie Davilla

Pictured here are a few drawings by Ed's students from last Spring's class.

What We Did for Summer Break

by Craig Breon
Environmental Advocate



Summer's Surprise— Bear Creek Redwoods Open Space Preserve

To the surprise of many, 1120 acres of redwoods, creeks, mixed oak woodlands and grasslands above Los Gatos---once home to the Catholic Alma College---will not become a golf course and housing development, but instead one of the most important open space acquisitions in Santa Clara County for many years.

After paying an outrageous \$25 million for the property in June, the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District and the Peninsula Open Space Trust deserve a lot of credit for biting the bullet and saying that no matter what the price, this land was too essential to give over to developers. While the timber rights to much of the land still belong to Big Creek Lumber, and therefore we will see some cutting in the area, the importance of this acquisition cannot be overstated. The County's Preservation 2020 Task Force ranked the site as the second highest priority for acquisition in Santa Clara County (#1, Boulder Ridge in South San Jose, will become a golf course).

A great group of local activists led the charge to fight development proposals and convey the importance of the site to POST and Midpen. The Committee for GreenFoothills and the Sierra Club helped the locals organize, and Greenbelt Alliance and SCVAS helped defeat the first golf course/restaurant/health spa proposal for the site more than two years ago. In short, our chapter played a small role in a satisfying team effort.

This success story highlights one of the best ways the activist community can work with the land acquisition agencies.

If we can defeat the development proposals long enough, the agencies may have the time to raise the money and put a deal together.

The Cash for Owls Deal

[Author's note: this begins cynically, then gets reasonable.]

Sometimes I just want to suggest the following: declare the entire Santa Clara Valley an Ecological Sacrifice Zone, charge people a percentage of their absurd profits for using it, and put the proceeds to good use protecting local foothills, the Central Valley, or Costa Rica.

Then I wake up . . . to the realization that my ridiculous idea is already in play, with two exceptions: the declaration has been a relatively silent one, and we aren't charging nearly enough.

The latest example of this hypothesis is occurring at the expense of our favorite vanishing species, the Burrowing Owl. Having successfully raised the Valley's awareness to the fact that the owls are worthy of consideration, we are now seeing what Silicon Valley consideration means---Cash for Owls. That's right, at ten or twelve thousand dollars an acre (not an inconsiderable sum but perhaps only 2% of land value), you too can buy the right to help a species go extinct locally.

Here's how it works. Because the Burrowing Owl is not listed as a threatened or endangered species, it is nearly impossible to stop a development proposed on owl habitat. However, the California Department of Fish and Game (DFG) does have authority over the permits needed to move an owl or pair of owls, and often development cannot begin until the owls have been removed from an area. While these permits used to be relatively easy to get, a hard-working DFG biologist named Caitlin Bean has recently demanded that developers enter

into an agreement where replacement land is found at the rate of 6.5 acres per pair of owls.

The unfortunate parts of this scenario are: 1) 6.5 acres is probably too low a number; 2) the land doesn't have to be found locally, so we could see land near Livermore or even further acquired to replace land lost in the Valley; and, worst of all, 3) it's possible that landowners may be able to avoid their responsibility to find replacement land by merely forfeiting a security deposit to DFG, amounting to about \$12,000 per acre plus transaction fees.

The latest example of this practice is happening on land owned by the city of Santa Clara, which is trying to develop about 110 acres of good owl habitat in the North Bayshore Redevelopment Area. The city will give DFG a security deposit of about \$750,000 and is looking to purchase some land near Byron in the Central Valley.

While this may be all we can ask for legally to mitigate the impacts to owls, morally we should demand more. A city like Santa Clara should not act according to the desires of some private landowners, but should instead make a balanced decision that allows for a level of development on city lands that does not drive the Burrowing Owl out of town.

Cerra Plata (AKA Ranches at Silver Creek)

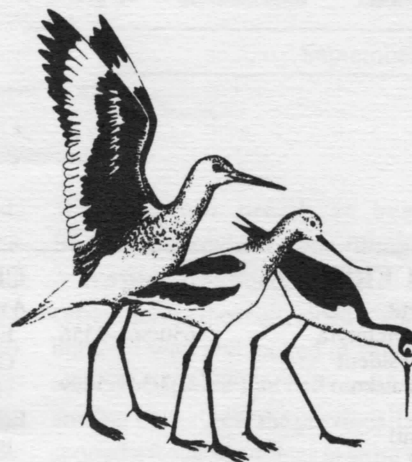
Six years ago the San Jose City Council made a truly pathetic decision, approving more than 500 homes and a golf course on a visually prominent ridgeline above Highway 101 in East San Jose. The land was and is essential habitat for the Bay Checkerspot Butterfly, a listed endangered species, and several listed species of plants. The council decision came despite the clear fact that the ap-

continued next page

Elkhorn Slough Foundation Presents
The Second Annual
Monterey Bay Bird Festival

October 1-3, 1999

Headquartered in Moss Landing, the festival offers a wide array of activities and events to highlight the spectacular birding of Monterey Bay and its surrounding landscape. Field trips for novice and experienced birders alike will explore varied habitats from pelagic to riparian, estuarine and upland spots. Workshops include condors, raptors, snowy plovers, banding, bird illustration for kids and adults and more! For a schedule of events check their website at www.elkhornslough.org or call (831) 728-3890.



Cerra Plata *cont'd.*

proval was in direct contradiction to the city's General Plan and despite the fact that the city's planning department and planning commission both made strong recommendations to reject the proposal.

Well, perhaps we are seeing karma in action. Six years later, the project has not been built, the property has changed hands, and it looks like both the environmental community and the US Fish and Wildlife Service are gearing up to sue or in some other way stop the project from moving forward. Environmental lawyers from as far away as Colorado are working on the issue. The current developers, Presley Homes, may be in trouble. They deserve it; on a personal note, representatives of Presley recently tried to tell other environmentalists that I approved of the project. Luckily, the other enviros knew me better than that, but such tactics are still deplorable.

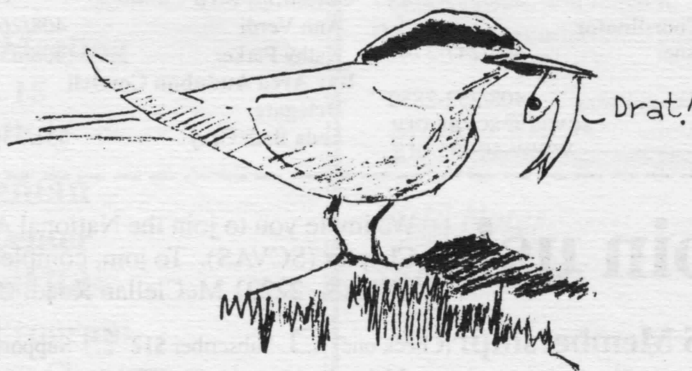
To date, our chapter has been playing a supportive role, gathering information to assist in the potential lawsuits and making contacts regarding the resources and tactics needed to move forward. If necessary, we might enter the fray more formally. More to come.

Library Donation

SCVAS gratefully acknowledges the generous donation of 199 books and four LP records to our library by Marion Honig. Members are encouraged to visit our growing bird and nature library for reference material, field guides, and a variety of other bird-related volumes.

2,768!

That's the number of bird slides volunteer John Poole tallied as he found, assimilated, counted, and catalogued Audubon's loosely organized collection of slides over the summer. The slide library is another valuable resource available at our McClellan Ranch headquarters.



Tern and annoyed fish by Rita Colwell.

Calling all artists! Please submit copies of your drawings to the SCVAS office so that we may consider them for publication in *The Avocet*. Don't forget to include your name so we can give you credit for your work!

Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society
 22221 McClellan Road
 Cupertino, CA 95014

Non-Profit Organization
 U.S. Postage Paid
 San Jose, CA
 Permit No. 5869

AUTO***5-DIGIT 95014
 ROBERT HIRT
 10325 DEMPSTER AVE
 CUPERTINO CA 95014-1222

OFFICERS

President
 David McIntyre 650/561-9356
Past President
 Nick Yatsko 408/247-5499
1st VP
 (Vacant)
2nd VP
 Mary Simpson 408/370-2177
Treasurer
 Douglas McLendon 408/288-9254
Secretary
 Ann Verdi 408/266-5108

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dave Cook '98-'01 408/871-9552
 Charles Preuss '98-'01 650/326-6451
 Freddy Howell '98-'01 408/358-9453
 Bobbie Handen '96-'99 408/356-4263
 Grant Hoyt '96-'99 650/969-7892
 Leda Beth Gray '96-'99 831/336-1127
 Debbie Thompson '97-'00 408/227-4604
 David Drake '97-'00 831/336-1127

STAFF

Chapter Manager
 Leda Beth Gray (Interim) 408/252-3747
Environmental Advocate
 Craig Breon 408/252-3748
Volunteer Coordinator
 Ulrike Keyssner 408/247-3747
 Office Fax 408/252-2850
 E-mail scvas@scvas.org
 Website www.scvas.org

CHAIRPERSONS

Avocet
 Editor: Grant Hoyt 650/969-7892
 Graphics, Layout:
 Bonnie Bedford-White 408/261-8210
Education
 Bobbie Handen 408/356-4263
Environmental Action
 (Vacant)
Field Trips: Weekend
 Bob Reiling 408/253-7527
Field Trips: Weekday
 Shirley Gordon 408/996-9863
 Rosalie Lefkowitz 650/494-6358
Finance
 Don Price 650/327-1254
Membership
 Debbie Thompson 408/227-4604
Library
 Joyce Chang 650/965-9682
Photo Club
 Pete LaTourrette 650/961-2741
Programs
 Gail Cheeseman 408/741-5330
Web page
 Pete LaTourrette 650/961-2741
Christmas Bird Count
 Ann Verdi 408/266-5108
 Kathy Parker 408/358-2832
Bay Area Audubon Council
Delegate
 Leda Beth Gray 831/336-1127

GENERAL MEETINGS are held on the third Wednesday of each month except July, August and December and 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.

RARE BIRD ALERT: (415) 681-7422

SCVAS welcomes gifts, including those made in honor of or in memory of friends or relatives. Such gifts will be used at SCVAS' discretion for its programs and activities unless specified otherwise by the donor. Tax-deductible donations may be made in the form of a check made out to SCVAS and sent to our Cupertino address. In addition, we gratefully accept bequests, which should specifically identify Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society as recipient. Gifts and bequests will be recognized by the Chapter in *The Avocet* unless the donor prefers otherwise.

The Avocet is published monthly (except for July and August) by the Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society, 22221 McClellan Rd., Cupertino, CA 95104. Deadline is the 25th of two months prior. Send submissions to *The Avocet*, c/o SCVAS at the above address.

SCVAS is the chapter of the National Audubon Society for Santa Clara County.

1999 Volume 46, Number 7

Join us!

We invite you to join the National Audubon Society and its Santa Clara County Chapter (SCVAS). To join, complete and mail this form with payment to: SCVAS, 22221 McClellan Road, Cupertino, CA 95014

SCVAS Membership: (Check one) Subscriber \$12 Supporter \$25 Donor \$35 Patron \$50 or more
 Members receive *The Avocet* newsletter. Make check payable to SCVAS.

or

National Audubon Society Membership: (Check one) New Members \$20 Membership renewal \$35
 Members receive *Audubon* magazine and *The Avocet* newsletter. Make check payable to National Audubon Society. Do not share my name and address

Donation: SCVAS greatly appreciates your tax-deductible donation. Your gift helps fund Audubon's birding, education and conservation programs.

NAME _____ GIFT FROM _____
 ADDRESS _____
 CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
 PHONE _____ 9MCH CC14