



THE AVOCET

The Newsletter of the Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society

September-October 2011

Summer Camp Success!

by Toby Goldberg, SCVAS Programs Coordinator

Bird watching, owl-pellet dissections, bug "building", creek explorations, animal games, and some good old-fashioned dirt - July turned out to be a great month!



Camp participants discover the world of "wow" inside an owl pellet
Photo by Jerry Kaminski

With the support of our Board, some truly amazing volunteers, a lot of enthusiasm (and yes, some trepidation, too), the SCVAS Education Committee launched its first Summer

Day Camp program this July. As part of a wonderful collaboration with the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District (MROSD) - who teamed up with us to coordinate and plan the activities, and

who generously provided supplies, logistical support, and access to some of their beautiful open space areas - we offered a three day camp program that highlighted local natural areas, nature themes, and of course, a lot of fun.

During the initial planning stages, our goals were to get children outside, plan activities that would give them a sense of wonder,

and help to make some good summer memories. While there are always some hiccups along the way during a new project (Who knew that the folding picnic tables would be so heavy? And, oh yeah - children don't walk as quickly as adults do...), the smiles and excitement seen in both the participating children and their parents told us we were definitely doing something right. After all, 30 eager, happy youngsters - excited about learning and exploring - told us we had indeed achieved our goals.

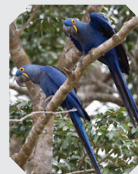
The number of sign-ups at the start of the week was comforting, as we were

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General Membership Meetings

**Cubberly Community Center - Rm H1
Palo Alto - Middlefield & Montrose Rds**
(go to www.scvas.org for maps to this location)

Doors open 7:30; program 8:00



Wednesday, September 21st

**"Some Dilemmas for
Birdwatchers"
with Todd Newberry**

Many of us keep lists of the birds we have seen or heard, which are more than "stamp collections," even if they are as personal as, say, golf-scores. Rather, behind the names, they record moments of our being-in-nature. Being-in-nature sticks in our memory when, as the artist Giorgio Morandi once put it, we "achieve understanding not by seeing many things but rather by looking hard at what we do see." Good advice, but laden with dilemmas. How can we look harder and listen more closely? What can't we see or hear? How can we best share our encounters? An evening, let's call it, of shared speculation.

Wednesday, October 19th

**"The Amazing Pantanal"
with Doug Cheeseman**

This exciting show presented by Doug Cheeseman about the Pantanal in Brazil will feature many photos taken during his extended visit this summer. Doug will discuss several of the amazing 600 bird species that can be found there, including Hyacinth Macaws, Jabiru, parrots, raptors, and more. The life of rare mammals will also be revealed, such as Jaguar, Giant Anteater, Giant Otter and Tapir. Doug will also talk about the fascinating dynamics of the Pantanal ecosystem itself.

Photos Above:

Left: Todd Newberry, author of "The Ardent Birder: On the Craft of Birdwatching"

*Right: Hyacinth Macaws
©Doug Cheeseman*

❖ **Annual End-of-Season CNRP Meeting**
— Page 3

❖ **Woodpecker Workshop with Stephen Shunk**
— Page 4

❖ **Rare Summer Visits by Condors and Lesser Nighthawks**
— Field Notes, Page 6

❖ **Help Save the Valley Habitat Conservation Plan!**
— Page 8

Sept-Oct '11 Field Trips

(Full details for all of our Field Trips are also available online at www.scvas.org)

Please carpool if possible; bring binoculars, field guides, layered clothing.

LO = Lunch optional; RC = Heavy rain cancels; NF = No facilities available

Saturday Sept. 3, 8:00 AM

Arastradero Preserve

Half day. **Leader:** Steve Tracey (408) 996-3860. **Directions:** From I-280 take Page Mill Rd. west approx .5 miles to Arastradero Rd. Turn right and meet at parking lot located .5 miles on right. **Notes:** Woodland and grassland species as well as a good assortment of raptors are possible. **Difficulty Level:** Trip involves 2+ miles of moderately strenuous walking. **RC**

Sunday Sept. 4, 8:00 AM

Ogier Ponds

Half day. **Leader:** Bob Reiling (408) 253-7527. **Directions:** From Hwy 101 in Morgan Hill take Cochrane Rd. west to Monterey Hwy, turn right, go north 2.6 miles, turn right towards the Model Airplane Park (street is unnamed). Follow the road for 1/4 mile and park in gravel lot at first bend in road (meet at the gate if entrance is locked). **RC**

Wednesday Sept. 7, 12:00 PM

City of Sunnyvale Landfill

One hour. **Leaders:** Freddy Howell, Allen Royer and/or Elaine Gould. Contact organizer Silviana Ruiz (408) 730-7545 to attend. **Directions:** Donald M. Somers Water Pollution Control Plant, junction of Borregas and Caribbean. Meet at Trailhead at north end. **Difficulty Level:** Birding geared toward beginners. Bring binoculars; loaners also available. **RC**

Saturday Sept. 10, 8:00 AM

Alum Rock Park

Half day. **Leader:** Jim Johnson (408) 996-3506. **Directions:** From Hwy 101 or I-680 take McKee Rd. northeast toward the hills then left on Toyon Ave. then right on Penitencia Creek Rd and continue on into the park. Drive under the bridge and meet at far end of the parking lot. **Difficulty Level:** Trip is a moderately strenuous 3-4 mile walk. **Notes:** Possible entrance fee. **LO, RC**

Sunday Sept. 11, 8:00 AM

Almaden Lake Park and Alamos Creek

Half day. **Leader:** Janna Pauser (408) 569-9264. **Directions:** Meet at bathrooms (blue building) near the east entrance to Almaden Lake Park (note: parking is free on Winfield Blvd). From Hwy 85 take Almaden Expwy

south, turn left on Coleman Rd. and then right on Winfield Blvd. **Difficulty Level:** Expect about 3 miles of easy walking. **Notes:** We will bird the lake and the trail upstream looking for waterfowl, raptors, and a wide variety of riparian birds. Hoped for species include Western Tanager, Black-headed Grosbeak, Wilson's Warbler, Yellow Warbler, and early fall migrants. **LO, RC**

Wednesday Sept. 14, 9:30 AM

Charleston Slough

Half day. **Leader:** Allen Royer. (408) 288-7768. **Directions:** From Hwy 101 in Mt. View take San Antonio Rd. north to Terminal Way parking area. Meet at the entrance nearest San Antonio Rd. **Difficulty Level:** This trip recommended for beginning birders but all are encouraged to attend. **Notes:** Bring your spotting scope and a friend.

Saturday Sept. 17, 9:00 AM

Point Reyes

Full day. **Leader:** Peter LaTourette (650) 961-2741. Our annual trip to the west coast's most active vagrant trap where birds and the weather are always exciting and unpredictable! **Directions:** From Hwy. 1 in Marin Co. take Sir Francis Drake Blvd. west approx 14 miles and turn left to Drakes Beach. Meet in the parking area. **Notes:** Bring lunch, liquids, a full tank of gas, and be ready for fog, wind, sun and lots of difficult to ID birds. Be prepared to carpool from Drakes Beach.

Sunday Sept. 18, 9:00 AM

Charleston Slough

Half day. **Leader:** Allen Royer (408) 288-7768. See details from Sept 14th.

Saturday Sept. 24, 7:30 AM

Sunnyvale Baylands Park

Half Day. **Leader:** Pat Kenny (408) 725-0468. **Directions:** From Hwy 237 take the Lawrence Expwy/Caribbean Dr. exit toward Caribbean Dr. Turn right into the park at the first stoplight on Caribbean Dr. north of Hwy 237. Meet in the first parking lot to the right of the entrance kiosk. **Notes:** \$6.00 parking fee may be required. **RC**

Sunday Sept. 25, 8:30 AM

Coyote Hills Regional Park

Half day. **Leader:** Frank Vanslager (650)

961-1505. **Directions:** Take Hwy 84 (Dumbarton Bridge) east to Newark. Exit right at Thornton, then go left on overpass, as Thornton becomes Paseo Padre turn left at Patterson Ranch/Commerce Rd. into park. Meet at far end of Quarry parking lot located on the left, 1/4 mile past park entrance. **Notes:** Entrance fee required. **LO, RC**

Saturday Oct. 1, 8:00 AM

Moss Landing & vicinity

Half day. **Leader:** Todd Newberry, Santa Cruz Bird Club (831) 426-8741. **Directions:** Meet in Moss Landing in big parking lot and boat launch ramp just north of the Elkhorn Slough Bridge off Hwy 1 next to the Restaurant. **Notes:** Weather conditions can be highly variable so dress in layers, bring lunch and liquids. Highlights: Shorebirds, waterfowl and other migrants.

Sunday Oct. 2, 8:00 AM

Windy Hills OSP

Half day. **Leader:** Kirsten Holmquist (408) 747-0988. **Directions:** Meet in the parking lot at Sausal Pond edge of the preserve. From I-280 in Portola Valley take Alpine Rd. south (toward hills) about 2.9 miles to the first stop sign, turn right on Portola Rd. and go 0.8 miles to parking lot on left side of road, just past entrance to The Sequoias. **RC**

Wednesday Oct. 5, 12:00 PM

City of Sunnyvale Landfill

One hour. **Leaders:** Freddy Howell, Allen Royer and/or Elaine Gould. Contact organizer Silviana Ruiz (408) 730-7545 to attend. See details from Sept 7th.

Saturday Oct. 8, 8:00 AM

Monterey Peninsula

Full day. **Leader:** Kathy Parker (408) 358-2832. **Directions:** We will meet at the Municipal Wharf in Monterey. Take the Pacific Grove Del Monte Ave. exit from Hwy 1, after approx 1.7 miles on Del Monte turn right at Figueroa St. into the parking lot and meet at the base of the wharf. **Notes:** Be sure to bring quarters for parking meters at the Coast Guard Pier, lunch and a full tank of gas

Sunday Oct. 9, 8:00 AM

Ogier Ponds

Half day. **Leader:** Rich Page (408) 377-1092. For directions see the write-up for Sept 4th. **RC**

Field Trips *continued*

Wednesday Oct. 12, 8:30 AM

Elkhorn Slough & Moss Landing

Half day. **Leader:** Todd Newberry (831) 426-8741. **Directions:** Meet in the parking lot of the Sea Harvest Restaurant, just north of Elkhorn Slough Bridge on Hwy 1 in Moss landing. **Notes:** Dress in layers. Highlights: shorebirds, terns, gulls, ducks, raptors. Scopes welcome.

Saturday Oct. 15, 8:00 AM

Sunnyvale Water Treatment Facility

Half day. **Leader:** Frank Vanslager (650) 961-1505. **Directions:** From Hwy 101 take Hwy 237 east, exit North on Caribbean Dr., turn right on Borregas Ave. then left to the parking area. **Difficulty Level:** Trip is fairly easy but a long walk is possible. **Notes:** This is a great place to study ducks. Scopes are highly recommended. **RC**

Sunday Oct. 16, 9:00 AM

Charleston Slough

Half day. **Leader:** Allen Royer (408) 288-7768. See write-up for Sept 18th.

Saturday Oct. 22, 7:30 AM

Local Hot Spots

Half day. **Leader:** Bob Reiling (408) 253-7527. **Directions:** We'll meet at the Alviso Marina. From Hwy 237 in San Jose take Gold St. north to the end of the street, bear left on Elizabeth St. and then right on Hope St. to the Marina parking lot. **Notes:** A chance to visit some of the local hot spots you hear about and, we hope, to see some "good" birds

Saturday Oct. 22, 8:00-10:00 AM

"Early Bird" Shorebird Walk at Charleston Slough - RSVP REQUIRED.

As part of Wildlife Education Day (see page 10), we'll share the wonder of the wetlands with local families. **Difficulty Level:** Great for children and beginners. **Notes: RSVP at 408-252-3740.**

Sunday Oct. 23, 9:00 AM

Hawk Hill/Marin Headlands

Full day. **Leader:** Nick Yatsko (408) 891-3187. **Directions:** Going north on Hwy. 101, after crossing the Golden Gate Bridge exit just past the Vista Point, cross under Hwy 101 and turn right just before entrance back onto Hwy 101 south. Drive up hill to the highest point and park. Meet at the parking area or at the Hawk watch on top of the hill. Highlights: Migrating raptors including the possibility of seeing a rare Broadwing Hawk. **Notes:** Weather condi-

tions can be highly variable, dress in layers, bring lunch and liquids. **IMPORTANT:** This will be our only field trip to the Hawk Hill/Marin Headlands this fall. Heavy fog in the headlands will likely cancel the trip.

Saturday, Oct. 29, 8:30 AM

Grant Ranch County Park

Half day. **Leader:** Jim Johnson (408) 996-3506. **Directions:** From I-680 take Alum Rock Ave. northeast, turn right on Hamilton Rd. and go approx 9 miles to the park. Meet at Grant Lake (aka Hall's Valley Lake) parking lot, which is the first parking lot on the left side of the road (do not enter the Main Park Entrance on the right). **Difficulty Level:** Moderate 2 mile walk. **Notes:** Fresh water ducks, oak woodland birds and possible Golden Eagle. A Park entrance fee will be required for the last half of the trip. **LO, RC**

Sunday, Oct. 30, 8:00 AM

Elkhorn Slough, Moss Landing, Moon Glow Dairy

Half day plus. **Leader:** Norm Kikuchi - (831) 459-9424. **Directions:** Meet in the parking lot just north of the Elkhorn Slough Bridge just off Hwy 1 in Moss Landing at the Restaurant. **Notes:** With fall at hand, we will bird the watershed looking for returning ducks, shorebirds, wintering land birds and reported vagrants. Bring food and liquids. Dress in layers.

Saturday Nov. 5, 8:00 AM

Alum Rock Park

Half day. **Leader:** Rich Page (408) 377-1092. For directions see the write-up for Sept 10th. **Notes:** We will be looking for resident birds (possible Rufous-Crowned Sparrow if we are lucky), migrants and early wintering birds. Possible entrance fee. **LO, RC**

Sunday Nov. 6, 9:00 AM

Charleston Slough

Half day. **Leader:** Dick Stovel (650) 856-6105. **Directions:** Meet at Terminal Way at the end of San Antonio Rd. north off Hwy 101 in Mtn View. **Difficulty Level:** This is a trip that is geared toward the beginning birder but all are encouraged to attend. **Notes:** Bring a scope if you have one, friends and non-members are always welcome. **IMPORTANT:** Daylight Savings Time change for 2011; fall back or be an hour early for this trip.

A Look Ahead:

Friday – Saturday Nov. 25 – 26

Sacramento Valley Wildlife Refuges, Gray Lodge, Sutter Buttes

Full day and a half. **Leader:** Mike Mammoser (408) 578-2429. Trip limited to fifteen people; call leader to reserve a space. **Directions:** Meet at Sacramento NWR headquarters (entrance fee) on I-5 approx 20 miles north of Williams. (It's recommended that people meet and carpool from McDonald's 2nd parking lot in Williams; carpooling and use of FRS radios set to Ch 11 will allow for best viewing possibilities on this trip). Take Rd. 68 exit east (towards Princeton) from I-5, then immediately north on frontage road to Refuge. **Notes:** Bring spotting scope, full tank of gas. Allow for a three-hour drive from the South Bay. Highlights include ducks, geese, swans, cranes, and raptors. Trip is highly recommended for beginning birders.

SCVAS Events

Calendar:

Wed. 9/7 & 10/5, 7-9PM

Bay Area Bird Photographers Meeting

Lucy Evans Interpretive Cntr, Palo Alto

Topic: TBA - go to www.scvas.org/babp for details

Tues. 9/13 & 10/11, 9:30AM

Eve Case Bird Discussion Group

- meets at the home of Pat Dubois, 17150 Buena Vista Ave., Los Gatos (408) 395-4264

Topic 9/13: Folklore of Birds

Topic 10/11: Common and Hooded Mergansers

Thurs. 9/15, 7-9PM

Cavity Nesters Recovery Program

(CNRP) End-of-Season Meeting

McClellan Ranch Park

All monitors are invited to attend. We'll all introduce ourselves, talk about the season, get a chance to ask questions, look at the data that has been submitted and bring closure to the 2011 nest box season. Please remember to submit your data online before the 15th! Go to <http://www.eichlerrealtor.com/birds3/>

Sat. 10/22, 10AM-2PM

Wildlife Education Day

McClellan Ranch Park

See page 9 for details

Volunteer Ventures

by Toby Goldberg

SCVAS Programs Coordinator

September is a special time for us around the office - the school year has begun, and with it, lots and LOTS of fun! We're always thrilled to be able to offer high quality educational programs to classrooms around the county, but we need your help!

If you're interested in education or working with children, this is definitely the perfect time to get involved. But, we have a lot of other opportunities - office assistance, committee participation, and more - that will fit any interest and any schedule. Here are just a few pressing needs, but these, and many more, are also listed on our website under "Get Involved."

Wetlands Discovery Program Docent (Note: this one comes up a lot because we can always use more volunteers to help keep this program running smoothly. It's also one of our most FUN programs!) - This program, our flagship educational program, shares the wonder and importance of wetland habitats with third through sixth graders throughout Santa Clara County. In fact, SCVAS is well known for this well-designed and engaging program, and we often have more schools inquiring than we have room for! Volunteers guide students in exploring wetland wildlife and habitat both in the classroom and out in the field. This program is rewarding for both volunteers and the hundreds of South Bay children who participate (17 schools and 1423 students in 2010-2011!). **No previous birding or field trip experience is necessary**, as we will provide training for both field and class sessions. All a potential docent needs is a love of nature and a desire to share it with children.

Educational Presenters - With the school year approaching, we will need more volunteers to fill requests for educational presentations in classrooms k-12 throughout Santa Clara County. We use slideshows, stuffed birds, and real nests to teach youth about local birds and their habitat. These presentations are engaging and come fully scripted. No experience is necessary though teaching and birding experience are helpful. Time commitment is flexible, and scheduling is based on classroom and volunteer availability.

Wildlife Education Day Support - As our largest annual event, Wildlife Education Day fields an abundance of ways in which you can volunteer. With wonderful interactive booths, environmental organizations, educational presentations, live animals, a poster contest, raffle, and much more, this fun-filled affair will require a lot of volunteer support weeks before the event as well as on the big day - Saturday, October 22 (see page 9 - or online at www.scvas.org/WildlifeFestival - for more details). Check out these many and varied ways YOU can help:

Prior to the Event:	Classroom Presenter (CA Wildlife, fully-scripted - and lots of fun!)
Poster Contest Coordinator	
Publicity	
Mailing Support/ Handout Prep	
Day of the Event:	Nest Box Building Station
Set Up	Event Photographer (camera can be provided)
Registration	Parking
Nature Arts & Crafts	Clean Up
High School Volunteer Coordinator	And so much more!



Woodpecker Anatomy and Behavior with Stephen Shunk

Join professional naturalist and North American woodpecker specialist, Stephen Shunk, for an inside look at the woodpeckers of the south Bay Area. In this two-part workshop, Steve will introduce the anatomical and behavioral adaptations of one of the world's most specialized bird families.



Seminar: Tongues, Toes, and Tales of South Bay Woodpeckers

Imagine for a moment slamming your face into a brick wall at 16 miles per hour. This self-destructive (and foolish) act would require about 1,200 g of force, almost certainly resulting in your death. Yet, a Pileated Woodpecker exerts the same force up to 20 times per second, and as many as 12,000 times per day, pounding its head into trees! The woodpecker anatomy is perfectly suited for its climbing and excavating lifestyle. Some woodpecker species also possess adaptations for aerial acrobatics, for drilling sap wells, or for extracting ants from underground burrows. And, woodpecker adaptation goes well beyond the anatomy. Cavity excavation, drumming, and food storage are just a few examples of their amazing specialization.

Date: Tues. 9/20; 6:30-8:30PM. **Location:** McClellan Ranch Park. **Fee:** \$10 members, \$15 non-members. **Class size limited to 25.**

Field Course: Woodpeckers in the Wild

Explore a wide variety of habitats as Steve provides detailed natural histories of the region's woodpeckers. He will also discuss the ecological roles that each species plays in its respective habitat, as well as historic and current conservation challenges. Enjoy first-hand observations of unique feeding, climbing, and communication behaviors, while Steve translates the evening seminar into practical field experience.

Date: Sun. 9/25; 8AM-4PM. **Location:** McClellan Ranch Park (to start). **Fee:** \$35 members, \$45 non-members. **Class size limited to 12.**

NOTE: Take both the classroom and field sessions for \$40 (for members; \$50 for non-members); classroom session required for registration in field class.

Call the SCVAS Education Office - 408-252-3740 - to register for this special event.

Photos by Tom Grey

Left: Acorn Woodpecker; Right: Nuttall's Woodpecker

Adult Education Classes & Seminars

The following are sponsored by the SCVAS Education Committee. To register please call the office at (408) 252-3740. All cancellations require 72-hour prior notification for refunds. Information about our upcoming classes is also available on our website at www.scvas.org.

The SCVAS Education Committee is thrilled to welcome back some of our favorite instructors (Lisa, Ashok, Bob, Tom & Bill!), as well as to introduce Eddie Bartley, who is new to us here in the south bay, but definitely not new to the birding world!

Beginning Birding with Lisa Myers



Yellow Warbler
©Tom Grey

This class is intended for all who ever wanted to learn what bird watching was all about, and for those of you that want to go back to some basics. It will be a fun, interactive class that combines evening lectures with in-the-field adventures! We'll review how to get started from field guides to optics to area hot spots and organizations and how to identify birds. Guaranteed to have a good

time and you'll meet other people who also want to learn more about birds and nature.

Dates: Class: Mon. 9/12, 9/19, 9/26, & 10/3; 6:30-8:30PM. Field: 9/17, 9/25, & 10/1; 8AM-12:30PM. **Location:** Class: McClellan Ranch Park. Field: TBD based on recent sightings. **Fee:** \$90 members; \$125 non-members. **Class size limited to 20.**

Bird Photography in the Field with Ashok Khosla, Tom Grey, and Bill Walker

If you love birds and want to capture those kodak moments - join a team of experienced bird photographers and get the personalized coaching you need to take better pictures of your birding experiences. Curious about places to go for bird photography? Trying to decide what gear to buy? Then join us and learn how to improve the drama of your photos and bring home more keepers. The class has three parts - an evening class to discuss bird photography techniques - a morning session in the field, and a lunch session to review the groups' work. All levels of photographic skills are welcome to join, as are digiscopers.



Barn Swallow
©Tom Grey

Dates: Class (Orientation): Fri. 11/4; 7PM (refreshments at 6:30PM); Field Trip: Sat. 11/5; Time TBD. **Locations:** Class: McClellan Ranch Park. Field Trip: TBD (most likely Shoreline Park in Mountain View or Radio Road Ponds in Redwood City), with post-field trip wrap-up at Ming's Restaurant in Palo Alto. **Fee:** \$50 members; \$75 non-members. **Class size limited to 15**

Raptors in Flight with Bob Power

Raptors hold everyone's attention. Their grace as they dominate the airways and their power as they hunt are mesmerizing, and their beauty and majesty when they deign to allow us a prolonged look on a distant perch always makes a lasting impression. This class will focus on identification of raptors in flight using multi-media to focus on the size, shape, flight style, and field marks of the common and not so common raptors of the Bay Area. Field trips will reinforce the classroom experience with one trip to the west's most productive Hawkwatch site, Hawk Hill in the Marin Headlands, and one trip to Pinnacles National Monument to search for our rarest raptor, the California Condor.



Red-tailed Hawk
©Tom Grey

Dates: Class: Mon. 10/10 & 10/17; 7-8:30PM. Field: Sun. 10/16 (10AM-1PM) & 10/23 (7AM-5PM).

Location: Class: McClellan Ranch Park. Field: Hawk Hill, Marin County (10/16); Pinnacles National Monument, San Benito County (10/23). **Fee:** \$60 members; \$95 non-members.

Additional Information: Carpooling highly recommended for the trip to Hawk Hill and is **required** for the Pinnacles field trip (we will have a maximum of four vehicles for that trip). **Please do not sign up for this class if you're not prepared to carpool to Pinnacles and back. Class size limited to 15.**

A Look Ahead (Hold these dates and see the Nov-Dec Avocet - or online after Oct 1 - for a complete description):

Bay Area Birds with Eddie Bartley

Eddie has instructed many courses on ornithology for a large variety of groups at locations around the SF Bay Area. Eddie is a founding partner for Nature Trip (naturetrip.com), a wildlife and bird watching, natural history and photography company based in San Francisco. His photography has been published in Bay Nature Magazine, the Presidio Times, the San Francisco Chronicle and Golden Gate Audubon's newsletter, the Gull. This class is suitable for beginning and intermediate level bird enthusiasts

Dates: Class: Wed. 11/2, 11/9, & 11/16; 7-9PM. **Field:** Sun, 11/6 (9AM-12PM), 11/13 (1-4PM), & 11/20 (9AM-12PM).

Location: Class: McClellan Ranch Park. Field: TBD based on recent sightings. **Fee:** \$90 members; \$125 non-members.

Field Notes

(June-July 2010)

By Bill Bousman

Geese through Rails

A **Cackling Goose** was seen at Shoreline Park on 4 Jun and 10 Jul (WGB). Two birds were at Vasona CP on 5 Jun (LSu). A pair of **Blue-winged Teal** was on the Coyote Creek Field Station (CCFS) waterbird pond on 28 Jun (WGB). An eclipse male **Redhead** was found in Pond A17 in Alviso 20-26 Jun (MJM, RGJ). As in recent summers, we have been seeing more summering **Common Goldeneyes**. A 2nd-year male was at Shoreline Lake on 4 Jun (WGB), a male and female were on the Ogier Avenue ponds on 9 Jun (RPh et al.), and a female was in Adobe Creek at the Palo Alto FCB 28-31 Jul (PMB, PDu). **Brown Pelicans** returned to the South Bay by 16 Jun with an adult on the Alviso ponds (WGB). Mostly single birds were seen into July, but a number of juveniles were found inland (v.ob.). The **Brandt's Cormorant** "wreck" apparently ended in early June with lingering birds, including one on the Los Gatos Creek CP percolation ponds on 10 Jun (SN), three birds fishing at Shoreline the same day (PLD), and an adult along Hwy 85 near Fremont Avenue on 15 Jun (SCR). Two **American Bitterns** were at the Ogier Avenue ponds on 9 Jun (RPh et al.), they have nested in this area in the past. Five immature and sub-adult **California Condors** showed up on the summit of Mt. Hamilton on 21 Jun (KB, LHB). All their tags were carefully read and we later found that #51, which had a GPS transmitter, had flown up into Alameda County the previous day (MTy). Only #0 lingered into the next morning (P&DH), the rest returned to the Pinnacles. The two young **Bald Eagles** at the nest northwest of San Felipe Lake fledged about 7 Jun (WGB). A **Virginia Rail** was calling persistently in a marsh at the north end of Moffett Field on 4 Jun (MMR), they may well be nesting there. Birds heard at the Monte Bello OSP sag pond in the spring were not found again, but one showed up at the Gate 5 pond nearby 13 Jun-25 Jul (GHa).

Shorebirds through Skimmers

The center of our **Snowy Plover** population was in New Chicago Marsh again this year (m.ob.) with a high count of 16 birds on 23 Jul (MJM). Both nesting birds and birds with precocial young were observed. On 24 Jul, observers (MMR, MJM) counted a total of 27 adults, with at least 17 of them on Pond A13. Only two **Lesser Yellowlegs** were found during the period with one at the South County Regional Waste Water Authority (SCRWA) treatment ponds in Gilroy on 20 Jul (RWR, FV) and one in Artesian Slough on 30 Jul (WGB). In many years,

Five of the Pinnacles' California Condors showed up one June day on Mt. Hamilton; equally rare was an urban Lesser Nighthawk in Sunnyvale.

the passage of **Wilson's Phalaropes** in July and August numbers in the thousands. Last year the July peak was completely missed. We did better this year with the first flock of 55 birds at the CCFS waterbird pond on 28 Jun (WGB) and a high count at the Sunnyvale WPCP oxidation ponds of 250 on 23 Jul (MJM). The **Red-necked Phalarope** passage peaks a month later so the high count of 219 birds in Alviso on 24 Jul (MMR, MJM) does not foretell what will happen in August. Our summer gull treat was a juvenile **Heermann's Gull** found at Shoreline Lake on 8 Jul (AS). The youngster remained there at least through 12 Jul (m.ob.) and was refound on the Sunnyvale WPCP oxidation ponds on 17 Jul (MJM). Staging **Least Terns** were first found at Pond A2E on 3 Jul (WGB) and the high count for the period was of 56 birds there on 21 Jul (MJM). With the opening of the Bay Trail on the A2E south levee, these terns are more easily observed. The first **Elegant Tern** of the season was found on Pond A4 in Sunnyvale on 31 Jul (SCT, FV). **Black Skimmers** have been found at a number of locations, the best count being of 11 birds seen on Ponds A1 and A2W on 4 Jun (WGB). There has been no evidence of nesting this season.

Gulls through Phainopepla

Diablo Range **Greater Roadrunners** included one seen east of Mt. Hamilton on 10 Jun (MJM, SM) and one singing on Route #5 of the Coe Bird Study on 25 Jun (RCP). An urban surprise was a **Lesser Nighthawk** over Murphy Avenue in Sunnyvale on 15 Jul (MMR, ARo). The nearest known breeding locations are in the Central Valley or southeastern Monterey County. The heavy rain on 4 Jun resulted in upwards of 13 or more **Vaux's Swifts** in seven or so locations on the flatlands away from known nesting areas (v.ob.). Nestlings were heard in a chimney in San Jose on 12 Jul (JPa) where they nested last year. Otherwise, small numbers were seen along the foothills from Almaden-Quicksilver CP to the Stanford Dish (v.ob.). An immature male **Black-chinned Hummingbird** on Churchill Avenue in Palo Alto on 26 Jul was a surprise (PJM). Reports of **Lewis's Woodpeckers** were limited to two to four birds in the San Antonio Valley 10-12 Jun (MJM, SM, AME). A **Willow Flycatcher** was singing in Morgan Hill on 4 Jun (SCR), this species is found perhaps every other year on spring migration. An adult **Say's Phoebe** was seen feeding a youngster near the new CDF station in San Antonio Valley on 10 Jun (MJM, SM), they are a rare breeder in the Diablo Range. A family of four **Chestnut-backed Chickadees** was found on Pacheco Ridge in Henry Coe SP on 13 May and 7 Jun (WGB), about as far east as any have been found in the Diablo Range. Lowland **Red-breasted Nuthatches** included one



California Condor
©William F. Walker

Field Notes *cont'd*

in a Mountain View yard on 5 Jun (MDo) and another in a Los Altos yard on 27 Jul (JLi), there have been a handful of summer records in the last few years. A **Canyon Wren** was again heard singing along Route #12 in Henry Coe SP on 11 Jun (SCR). An **American Dipper** was found again along Stevens Creek above Mt. Eden Road on 18 Jun (DPe). A singing male **Phainopepla** was along Route #4 in Coe Park on 25 Jun (KHo, RP).

Warblers through Goldfinches

Only two **Yellow-rumped Warblers** on territory were reported, both in Sanborn-Skyline CP. One near the entrance kiosk on 11 Jun (JTh) was at a remarkably low elevation, the other was singing off Skyline on the Summit Rock Loop Trail 18 Jun (WGB). A juvenile at Vasona CP on 30 Jun (JPa) was undoubtedly from the local Santa Cruz Mountain population. A singing male **Townsend's Warbler** at Hidden Villa on 4 Jun (RFu) and one along Route #12 in Coe on 11 Jun (SCR) were both exceptionally late. A male **Hermit Warbler** was along the John Nicholas Trail in Sanborn-Skyline CP on 14 Jun (JPa). A singing adult male **Black-and-White Warbler** was a real delight at Ulistac Natural Area on 17 Jun (PW), it is only our second June record for this eastern vagrant. A male **MacGil-**

livray's Warbler was banded at CCFS on 22 Jun (TGo). Our only other June record in recent decades was one captured there on 9 Jun 1988. A **Yellow-breasted Chat** singing along Llagas Creek on 3 Jun (WGB) was the only one found this summer. A **White-crowned Sparrow** was seen and photographed in Guadalupe Oak Grove Park on 4 Jun (JPa), we have few summer records. Equally rare, a **Golden-crowned Sparrow** was found in a Morgan Hill yard the same day (SCR). A singing male **Blue Grosbeak** was at Ed Levin CP on 20 Jun (PLaT). Up to six **Great-tailed Grackles** have been seen near the Geng Road pond through 21 Jun (MMR, WGB). A female was feeding two fledged young there on the last date (WGB). Birds have continued near the Ogier Avenue ponds with 3 males there on 7 Jun (RPh et al.). A new location was Lake Cunningham, where 5+ birds were seen on 29 Jul (DJ). It has been a long time since anyone has encountered summer **Pine Siskins**, so 15 foraging at the Arastradero Preserve on 14 Jun (JLi et al.) were unusual. **Lawrence's Goldfinches** have not been abundant in the Diablo Range this summer so 13+ birds along Route #8 in Coe Park on 7 Jun (MMR) was a good count and included a few begging young. Less expected were a male and female in a Los Altos yard on 2 Jul (AH, AT) and a single bird in Monte Bello OSP on 26 Jul (GHa).



Lesser Nighthawk
©William F. Walker

Observers: Keith Baker (KB), Lotus Baker (LHB), Bill Bousman (WGB), Phyllis Browning (PMB), Matthew Dodder (MDo), Peggy Don (PLD), Pete Dunten (PDU), Al Eisner (AME), Rob Furrow (RFu), Tom Goodier (TGo), Peter & Diane Hart (P&DH), Garth Harwood (GHa), Ann Hepenstal (AH), Kirsten Holmquist (KHo), Richard Jeffers (RGJ), Douglas Joo (DJ), Pete LaTourrette (PLaT), Jim Liskovec (JLi), Mike Mammoser (MJM), Peter Metropulos (PJM), Sandy Moore (SM), Sharon Nelson (SN), Richard Page (RP), Janna Pauser (JPa), Don Pendleton (DPe), Ryan Phillips (RPh), Bob Power (RCP), Bob Reiling (RWR), Alma Rogers (ARo), Mike Rogers (MMR), Steve Rottenborn (SCR), Ashutosh Sinha (AS), Linda Sullivan (LSu), Andrew Tey (AT), Jim Thomas (JTh), Steve Tracey (SCT), Mike Tyner (MTy), Frank Vanslager (FV), and Pingang Wang (PW).

RARITIES: Please drop me a note:

Bill Bousman, 321 Arlington Way,
Menlo Park, CA 94025,
or: barlowi@earthlink.net

Fall Education & Outreach Intern Needed

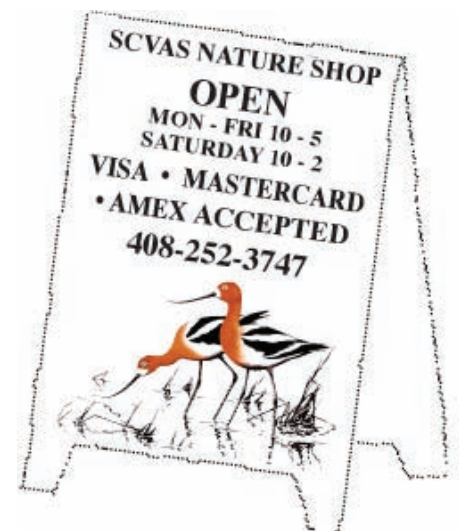
Each fall, we search for an outstanding Education & Outreach Intern to help us deliver the many programs we offer to local schools, community groups, and neighborhoods.

If you or someone you know is outgoing, enjoys working with children, wants to learn more about the world of environmental education, and wants to help us continue to offer high-quality programs, give us a call! We are looking for someone available during the day (and occasional weekends) for about 10-15 hours per week. The exact schedule will be flexible, but **Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday mornings** will be required. **Saturday, October 22nd** is also required. Some experience with environmental science, biology, education, or working with children is desirable, but we will train the right candidate.

Note: this is a *paid* internship.

More information is available online at www.scvas.org - click on "About Us" - or contact the Programs Coordinator, Toby, at 408-252-3740 or programs@scvas.org.

Applications are due by Sept 9th.



Don't forget to stop by the SCVAS Nature Shop first for all your birding, bird feeder, and nature needs!

Conservation Corner

by Shani Kleinhaus

SCVAS Environmental Advocate (EA)

Here are some of the projects that our EA and Environmental Action Committee are working on:

Panoche Valley Update

SCVAS, together with Save Panoche Valley and the Sierra Club, finally had our day in court! On August 8th, judge Robert O’Farrell presided over the San Benito County court and listened attentively as our attorney, Rose Zoia, and Solargen’s attorneys presented their arguments. We had a nice turnout, with more than two dozen of our supporters attending. Our attorney focused on the unlawful cancellation of Williamson Act Land Conservation contracts, approval of the project in the face of an environmentally feasible alternative (the Westlands), and unmitigated impacts to endangered species. The judge took the case under consideration, and is expected to decide within 90 days.

Good News: Burrowing Owl habitat at the San Jose Water Pollution Control Plant

The bufferlands surrounding the Water Pollution Control Plant in Alviso are critical to keeping a viable population of Burrowing Owls in Santa Clara County. SCVAS has been driving a coalition of nine local environmental organizations in advocating for an ecological alternative to developing the bufferlands. Our advocacy efforts are already bearing fruit: in July, we gained agreement from the City of San Jose to prepare an Interim Burrowing Owl Preservation and Enhancement Plan for the property. We expect the city to start and implement the plan prior to the upcoming nesting season.

Bad News: Palo Alto initiative to undedicate parkland

In November, Palo Alto residents will vote on a proposal to undedicate 10-acres of Byxbee Park for the purpose of building a waste processing facility at the site. SCVAS supports renewable energy, responsible disposal of waste, and environmental stewardship, so we spent a significant amount of time researching all aspects of the proposition.



Our analysis shows that the proposed undedication of parkland is unnecessary, and that the proposed initiative promotes an inferior, redundant and costly solution at a significant and permanent cost to the environment. The initiative is misleading in its assessments of environmental and economic benefits, ignores adverse environmental impacts, circumvents the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), and creates a dangerous precedent of sacrificing parkland for industrial development in the Baylands and beyond.

Please contact shani@scvas.org for more detail on the research and analysis we have conducted, or to **volunteer to help save the Baylands and parks from irresponsible development.**

Please Help: Santa Clara County Habitat Plan is at Risk – help save the Plan and Burrowing Owls

The Santa Clara Valley Habitat Plan, aimed to protect and enhance endangered species habitat while facilitating the permission process for infrastructure and residential development in less-sensitive habitats, is at risk. Interest groups are asking for a leaner plan, and ongoing negotiations and compromises may result in the abandonment of the effort, or in a Plan that is not as effective in protecting our open space and our endangered species.

Please call your County Supervisor’s office, and express your support for a comprehensive, effective, and beneficial Habitat Plan that would protect open space and enhance habitat for endangered plants and animals (especially burrowing owls).

Supervisors Shirakawa (**San Jose**) and Wasserman (**Los Gatos, Almaden, Morgan Hill, Gilroy, San Martin...**) are key – please do not hesitate – call or write today.

Supervisor Mike Wasserman – District 1	Supervisor George Shirakawa – District 2
Tel: 408.299.5010 or 408.686.3642	Tel: 408.299.5020
mike.wasserman@bos.sccgov.org	supervisor.shirakawa@bos.sccgov.org

For more information or to volunteer, please contact Shani via email at shani@scvas.org



Native Gray Foxes at Byxbee Park in Palo Alto.
Photos © Bill Leikam

Birdhouse Building!



Join the Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society and local Nature and Environmental Organizations for

Environmental Groups from around the Bay Area!

Raffle Prizes!



Nature Arts and Crafts!

the 20th Annual Wildlife Education Day!

Saturday, October 22, 2011

10am-2pm

McClellan Ranch Park in Cupertino



Environmental Presentations!



Live Animals - Birds of Prey, Snakes, Insects - and more (maybe even a live shark...)!



"Early Bird" Shorebird Walk

8:00 am @ Charleston Slough in Mountain View

RSVP Required for walk only

Annual Wildlife Poster Contest

Prizes and Awards announced @ 1:00 pm

Submission deadline 10/8



HEAVY RAIN Cancels

For details or reservations, call (408) 252-3740, or visit www.scvas.org

General Parking @ Monta Vista High School w/ FREE SHUTTLE SERVICE.
Disabled Parking ONLY @ McClellan Ranch Park

Outside Events

Thurs-Sun. 9/22-25

Seventh Annual Monterey Bay Birding Festival
Watsonville, CA

"The Evolution of Birding - From Field Guides to Hi-Tech" celebrates the days of John James Audubon to the modern days of hi-tech innovations in birding. Designed for birders of all levels, as well as outdoor lovers, the festival offers a unique opportunity to explore, learn and appreciate world-class habitats. Go to www.montereybaybirding.org for more details and how to register.



A Look Ahead:

Thurs-Sun. 11/17-20

Fifteenth Annual Central Valley Birding Symposium
Stockton, CA

Come meet the CVBS board & staff members! Reconnect with old friends! Meet new ones! Take advantage of the scrumptious Hors D'oeuvres buffet & No Host Bar on Thursday night. Listen to amazing speakers on Central Valley Birds (and beyond). And of course, participate in fabulous field trips and the Birder's Market. *The schedule, brochure, registration form, etc. are available at: <http://cvbs.org>.*



Calling All CNRP Monitors:



The end of the breeding season is upon us, so don't forget to **submit your data!** Our end-of-the-season meeting, on Sept 15th, depends on having information to share, so please don't procrastinate!

The online database is the preferred method for receiving year-end data - go to <http://www.eichlerrealtor.com/birds3/>.

Contact Toby at programs@scvas.org with any questions.

New SCVAS Membership Program Launched!

We are excited to announce our 2012 Membership Program complete with new benefits that you can now enjoy. Your membership supports our mission to preserve, enjoy, restore, and foster public awareness of native birds and their ecosystems. Your membership and support are what make SCVAS a significant voice in the south bay's conservation and environmental education community.

The changes to our membership program include NEW student and family categories, invitations to special events, discounts on field seminars and Young Audubon adventures, and more!

*Here are some benefits of joining or renewing your membership now
(see full benefits listed below):*

- Subscription to our bi-monthly newsletter, invitations to Monthly Lectures and Field Trips, access to our 1,300 publication library, plus much more
- Invitations to special events, birding adventures, annual meeting
- DISCOUNTS and Gift Certificates at the nature store, classes and seminars depending on your membership level
- Exclusive invitations to a Sneak Preview of our Holiday Open House, Birding Adventures

The Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society is one of the most active and successful conservation organizations in the San Francisco Bay Area. Founded in 1926 and with over 3,500 members, we have grown to be one of the largest National Audubon Society chapters in California.

Double your support with an employer's matching gift! Invite your friends and family to become members and support our mission too....

Join or renew by filling out the tear-off section on the last page of the Avocet and mail it to us at:

SCVAS
22221 McClellan Rd.
Cupertino, CA 95014

Note: Membership information is confidential and not shared.

Membership Categories

	\$25 Song Sparrow (Student)	\$35 American Avocet (Ind)	\$65 Calif. Quail (family)	\$100 Burrowing Owl	\$250 White-tailed Kite	\$500 Peregrine Falcon	\$1,000 Golden Eagle	\$ Other
Free subscription to bi-monthly Avocet newsletter	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Invitation to Annual Meeting	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Free attendance at Monthly Lectures	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Free access to SCVAS library	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Free copy of "Birding at the Bottom of the Bay"	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Discount price for Audubon Field Seminars/Classes	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
10% at Nature Store	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Special event invitation such as Birdathon Kickoff night	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
25% Family discount for Young Audubon adventures			X	X	X	X	X	
\$25 Gift certificate for any fee-based class or event*			X	X	X			
One free pass for any fee-based class or event*						X	X	
Free copy of the "Breeding Bird Atlas of Santa Clara County"				X	X	X	X	
Sneak Preview Holiday Open House					X	X	X	
Invitation to join Fall Birding Adventure with Executive Director and Board members.					X	X	X	
Invitation to join Spring Birding Adventure with Executive Director and Board members.					X	X	X	

**Not applicable to classes or events outside of California*

2011 Friends of SCVAS Gifts received between June 1st and July 31st, 2011

Golden Eagle:

Adu Bagley, The Charlene and Dirk Kabcenell Foundation, David Presotto and Caryl Carr, The Rathmann Family Foundation

Peregrine Falcon (\$500-999):

Mount Diablo Audubon Society

White-tailed Kite (\$250-499):

Jitze and Nancy Couperus, Robnett Hill

Burrowing Owl (\$100-249):

Stacy Clamage, Mary Murphy and George Schuttinger, Vrishali Wagle, Ofer Zajicek

California Quail (\$60-99):

Manav Deshanukh, Jill Jensen, Michael Salo and Cecilie Schulze, Joyce Sogg

American Avocet (Up to \$59):

Harish Balasubramaniam, Bonnie Bedford-White, Michelle Belmonte, Barbara Boyington, Patricia Boyle, Eda Coburn, Greg Dittmer, Linda Dolan,

Shari Emling, Marty Empringham, Anita Gat, Billie Gordon, Richard Grindelndland, Pete Heller, Carol Jordan, John and Jane Kesselring, Elsa Kirkpatrick, Shan March, Mike Sanderson, Bradford and Janice Santos, Bradley Stookey, Anthony Swan, Monica Sylvanus, Stephen Tam, Ted and Jane Wassam, Marilyn Waterman

A special thank you to the following corporations for their generous direct or matching grant support: Google Matching Gifts Program

almost at full capacity (at least for the first day). But, the highest accolade I could ask for was parents calling after that first day ("All About Birds" at Picchetti Ranch Open Space Preserve) to see if there was any chance there might still be some room in the following two days - their kids had so much fun, they wanted to come back and complete the week.

Of course, there are lots of components that contributed to this very successful effort, and I would be remiss if I neglected to express my gratitude for all the help and assistance that was provided before, during, and after! In particular, I want to thank **Renee Fitzsimons**, Docent Coordinator at the MROSD - and co-coordinator for this activity.



Volunteer Leaders help campers explore during one of the week's nature hikes.

We made a great team, and SCVAS was thrilled to be able to partner with such a well-established, and well-reputed organization. I'd also like to express a tremendous amount of thanks to the Los Gatos Birdwatcher, for material support, and to the many volunteers - from SCVAS, MROSD, and students from local High Schools - who came out for the training, helped with the early morning set-up and afternoon clean-up, and, most importantly, made sure the kids had a good time. We worked them hard, and asked a lot from them, but they all rose to the challenge with flying colors.

So - a good, fulfilling, learning experience all around. And we're already making plans for next year...

A Special Invitation to Birdathon Contributors

*by Jim Liskovec, Education Committee Member and
Wetlands Discovery Program Volunteer*

To ALL of the SCVAS Birdathon supporters, leaders and participants: Thank you for your financial and moral support of our programs, and for your commitment to SCVAS education. Your contributions help in so many ways, but especially in supporting the Wetlands Discovery Program, a field-trip based program for students in 3rd-6th grades. We couldn't do it without you!

Last school year, over 1400 students participated in the Wetlands Discovery Program. Some of these kids see a slice of nature for the very first time through this program, and the good we do shows in their thank you letters. Here's one that says it all:

Thank you for teaching me all about birds. I enjoyed seeing wildlife survive. I live in the city and don't usually see so many beautiful birds. I think I enjoyed seeing the White-faced Ibis. I learned so much! Thank you for all the time you spent with us. I hope that I will have the time to see the American Avocet and Black-necked Stilt once again. Thank you for all you have done to expand my thought and knowledge about birds.

*Thank you,
Aviv*

As a way to share this joy with those that help to make it happen, we'd like to invite you to come and observe a classroom presentation, or a field trip to Charleston slough, or both. We'd like you to see for yourself what your support is doing in the lives of the kids. If interested, contact the SCVAS Programs Coordinator, Toby Goldberg, at 408-252-3740. We hope to see you soon!

Support the Wildlife Education and Rehabilitation Center

Help support the rehabilitation of orphaned, sick or injured wild birds. Join Wildlife Education and Rehabilitation Center at their annual BBQ/Auction on Oct. 22, from 12 - 3 p.m. at the Buddhist Community Center in Morgan Hill. Meet our educational birds: a Red-tailed Hawk, Peregrine Falcon, Merlin, Great-horned Owl, Pygmy Owl, Acorn Woodpecker and Turkey Vulture. **Advance ticket purchase required.**

Please go to www.werc-ca.org for details about W.E.R.C. and the event.

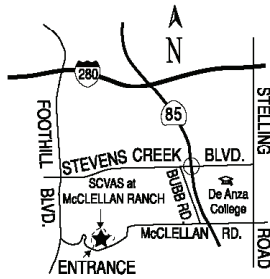


Great Horned Owl

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

Phone: 408-252-3747
 Fax: 408-252-2850
 E-mail: scvas@scvas.org
 www.scvas.org

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NOTE: Room Change for the November General Meeting - Nov 16th will be in Room H6 at the Cubberly Community Center

Go Paperless!
 Sign up to receive your newsletter via email - get your issues faster, help save natural resources and reduce waste!



Contact the SCVAS office at 408-252-3747 or scvas@scvas.org to start your paper-free membership today!

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Vice President
 Bob Hirt

Treasurer
 Peter LaTourrette
Secretary
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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.

DIRECTORS

Dotty Calabrese '11-'14
 Debbie Thompson '11-'14
 Tom Grey '09-'12
 Julio Mulero '11-'14
 Melanie O'Brien '10-'13

RARE BIRD ALERT: (415) 681-7422

GIFTS: 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.

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Avocet Editor: Toby Goldberg

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday 10 AM - 5 PM
Saturday 10 AM - 2 PM

2011 Volume 58, Number 5

Chapter Members in the Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society (SCVAS) receive the SCVAS newsletter, *The Avocet*.

- \$25 Song Sparrow (Student)
- \$35 American Avocet (Individual)
- \$60 California Quail (Family)
- \$100 Burrowing Owl
- \$250 White-tailed Kite
- \$500 Peregrine Falcon
- \$1000 Golden Eagle
- Other _____

Membership \$ _____ + Donation \$ _____ = Total Enclosed \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

City State & Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

C1ZC140Z

Come by the office to pick up your free copy of *Birding at the Bottom of the Bay*, and our *Breeding Bird Atlas* (if joining at the Burrowing Owl level or above).

Make all checks payable to SCVAS.

Please note: As an organizational policy, SCVAS does not share member information with other organizations.