

# THE AVOCET

The Newsletter of the Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society

September-October 2014

## Summer Nature Days 2014 was Fun in LOTS of Sun!

by Andrew Bradshaw

SCVAS Programs Assistant

Despite some warmer than usual temperatures, campers and counselors were undaunted by the heat and went about exploring the wonders of nature in many of our beautiful, local open spaces. Once again teamed up with Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District and Shoreline at Mountain View, we were able to put on a phenomenal summer camp giving young children the opportunity to learn about nature and begin developing a personal conservation ethic.

This year, camp began with a sunny day of exploration at Picchetti Ranch with an emphasis on exploration and increasing awareness of the natural world. Campers hit the trail with binoculars and self-made field guides as they looked for signs of animals and learned to identify local plant species.



Photo courtesy of Jerry Kaminski

We spent the second day of camp learning about the natural and cultural history of the wetlands around Shoreline. Campers were treated to a guided tour of the Rengstorff House by docents dressed in period-correct clothing followed by Victorian era games on the lawn. The highlight of the day for many was getting down-and-dirty in the mud while searching for macroinvertebrates and small crustaceans.

Birds were our primary focus on the third day of camp. Campers had a great time spotting and identifying many different bird species throughout McClellan Ranch. Campers were also able to peek inside some of the active nest boxes on the site. Our conservation-minded campers then helped the birds in their own backyards by building bird feeders and nest boxes to take home.

**Please Vote  
for Santa Clara  
Valley Open Space  
in November**  
**-Page 10**

Summer Camp 2014  
sponsored by



Day four demonstrated the fearlessness of our campers. They spent the day learning about, searching for, and even holding many different types of insects. Near the end of the day, everyone cooled off by checking out some pretty awesome insects and crawdads in Stevens Creek!

Our final day of camp was spent at the unique and inspiring Skyline Ridge

*(continued on page 8)*

- 🦉 *Burrowing Owls Bouncing Back.*  
— Conservation Corner on Page 4
- 🦉 *Birding on the Move!*  
Field Seminars— Page 5
- 🦉 *Swainson's Hawk Chick Fledges!*  
— Field Notes, Page 6
- 🦉 *23rd Annual Wildlife Education Day*  
— Join the Fun, Page 9

### General Membership Meetings

#### Cubberley Community Center, Rm H1

Palo Alto - Middlefield & Montrose Rds

Doors open 7:30; program 8:00



Wednesday, September 17th

#### “Helping the Western Snowy Plover”

with Catherine Burns and Karine Tokatlian of SFBBO

Did you know there are only about 200 Western Snowy Plovers that still commonly breed in the Bay Area? Come hear about the status of this sensitive species, including research and habitat enhancement work that the San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory is doing to increase plover numbers in the Bay Area.

Above Left: Western Snowy Plover  
Photo ©Michael Kern

Above Right: Marie Read  
Photo courtesy of the author

Wednesday, October 15th

#### “Habitats and Seasons of the Mono Lake Basin”

with Marie Read

Mono Lake is a high desert sea with a majestic backdrop of the snow-capped Sierra Nevada, famous for the iconic tufa towers rising from its surface and for its highly saline and alkaline water. The lake is also a birding hotspot, attracting huge numbers of breeding and migratory birds. Join Marie Read, a nationally known bird photographer, as she journeys through the habitats and seasons of Mono Lake Basin. Hear her tales from the field, and the stories behind the pictures of her new book *Sierra Wings: Birds of the Mono Lake Basin*.

(Additional information and directions available at [www.scvas.org](http://www.scvas.org) or by calling 408-252-3747)

---

# Sept - Oct '14 Field Trips

(Full details for all of our Field Trips are also available online at [www.scvas.org](http://www.scvas.org))

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

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

## Wednesday Sept. 3, 12:00 PM

### City of Sunnyvale Landfill

One hour. Leaders: Freddy Howell and Allen Royer. 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. **Notes:** Bring binoculars; loaners also available. **RC**

## Saturday Sept. 6, 8:15 AM

### Arastradero Preserve

Half day. Leader: Rich Page (408) 377-1092. **Directions:** From I-280 take Page Mill Rd. west approx. ½ mile to Arastradero Rd. Turn right and meet at the parking lot located ½ mile on the right. **Highlights:** Woodland and grassland species as well as a good assortment of raptors are possible. **Difficulty Level:** Trip involves two plus miles of moderately strenuous walking. **RC**

## Sunday Sept. 7, 8:00 AM

### Ogier Ponds

Half day. Leader: Kirsten Holmquist (408) 747-0988. **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 the gravel lot at the first bend in road (meet at the gate if the entrance is locked). **RC**

## Wednesday Sept. 10, 8:30 AM

### Vasona Lake County Park

Half day Leader: Janna Pauser 408-569-9264 **Directions:** From Hwy 17 exit at Lark Ave., go west to University Ave. Turn left onto Blossom Hill Rd. and use main entrance. Turn into first parking lot on your left after kiosk. **Difficulty Level:** Easy walking. We'll bird the south end of this popular Los Gatos Park. **Notes:** Gate opens at 8 am. Parking fee \$6 or SC county park pass. Easy walking, **LO, RC**

## Saturday Sept. 13, 9:00 AM

### Point Reyes

Full day. Leader: Peter LaTourrette (650) 961-2741. **Highlights:** 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. 14, 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 Sept. 20, 9:00 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.

## Sunday Sept. 21, 8:15 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. right on Penitencia Creek Rd. and continue on into the park. Drive under the bridge and meet at the far end of the parking lot. **Notes:** Entrance fee required. **Difficulty Level:** Trip is a moderately strenuous 3-4 mile walk. **LO, RC.**

## Saturday Sept. 27, 9:00 AM

### Almaden Lake Park and Alamos Creek

Half day. Leader: Steve Tracey (408) 966-3860. Meet at the bathrooms (blue building) near the east entrance to Almaden Lake Park. **Notes:** Parking is free on Winfield Blvd. **Directions:** 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. **Highlights:** We will bird the lake and the trail upstream looking for waterfowl, raptors, and a wide variety of riparian birds. **LO, RC**

## Sunday Sept. 28, 7:30 AM

### Sunnyvale Baylands Park

Half Day. Leader: Pete Dunten (650) 210-6764. **Directions:** From Hwy 237 take the Lawrence Expwy/Caribbean Dr. exit toward Caribbean Dr. Turn right into the park at the first stoplight north of the freeway and meet in the first parking lot to the left of the entrance kiosk. **Notes:** a parking fee may be required. **RC**

## Wednesday Oct. 1, 12:00 PM

### City of Sunnyvale Landfill

One hour. Leaders: Freddy Howell and Allen Royer. Contact organizer Silviana Ruiz (408) 730-7545 to attend. See additional details from Sept 3rd.

## Saturday Oct. 4, 8:00 AM

### Oka Ponds

Half day: Leader: Bob Reiling (408) 253-7527. **Directions:** From Hwy 17 in Los Gatos take Lark Ave. exit west. Turn right on Oka Rd., left on Mozart Ave. and an immediate right on Oka Ln. Meet at gate. **RC.**

## Sunday Oct. 5, 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 pass the Vista Point exit and then exit at Alexander, turn left and cross under Hwy 101, then 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 (arrive/depart the hill at any time). **Highlights:** Migrating raptors including the possibility of seeing a rare Broadwing Hawk. **Notes:** Weather conditions can be highly variable so dress in layers; bring lunch and liquids. 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.

## Wednesday Oct. 8, 8:30 AM

### Lake Cunningham County Park

Half day Leader: Janna Pauser 408-569-9264. **Directions:** From Hwy 101 in San Jose, exit Tully Rd. Go east on Tully to entrance, .3 miles past Capitol Expwy. Turn

## Field Trips *continued*

left into park and left again at kiosk. Park in the marina parking lot. **Notes:** Possible entrance fee. **LO, RC**

### Saturday Oct. 11, 8:00 AM

#### Moss Landing & vicinity

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

### Sunday Oct. 12, 8:00 AM

#### Ogier Ponds

Half day. Leader: Jim Johnson (408) 996-3506. For directions see the write-up for Sept 7. **RC**

### Saturday Oct. 18, 7:30 AM

#### Local Hot Spots

Half day. Leader: Bob Reiling (408) 253-7527. We'll meet at the Alviso Marina. **Directions:** 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. **Highlights:** A chance to visit some of the local hot spots you hear about and, we hope, to see some "good" birds.

### Sunday Oct. 19, 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. **Highlights:** This is a great place to study ducks. **Difficulty Level:** Trip is fairly easy but a long walk is possible. **Notes:** Scopes are highly recommended. **RC**

### Saturday Oct. 25, 9:00 AM

#### Charleston Slough

Half day. Leader: Allen Royer (408) 288-7768. For directions see the write-up for Sept 20<sup>th</sup>.

### Sunday Oct. 26, 8:00 AM

#### Windy Hills OSP

Half day. Leader: Kirsten Holmquist (408) 747-0988. Meet in the parking lot at Sausal Pond edge of the preserve. **Directions:** 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 the parking lot on the left side of the road just past the entrance to The Sequoias. **RC**

### Saturday Nov. 1, 8:00 AM

#### Moss Landing & vicinity

Half day. Leader: Norm Kikuchi (831) 459-9424. For directions see the write-up for Oct 11<sup>th</sup>.

### Sunday Nov. 2, 8:30 AM

#### Grant Ranch County Park

Half day. Leader: Rich Page (408) 377-1092. **Directions:** From I-680 take Alum Rock Ave. northeast, turn right on Hamilton Rd. and go approximately 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). **Highlights:** Fresh water ducks, oak woodland birds and possible Golden Eagle. **Notes:** A Park entrance fee will be required for the last half of the trip. Daylight Savings Time change, fall back or be an hour early for this trip. **Difficulty Level:** This will be a moderate 2 mile walk. **LO, RC.**



## End of Summer Clearance

All used books must go!

Priced to sell

Cheep!



## SCVAS Events Calendar:

### Wed. 9/3 & 10/1, 7:30-9PM

**Bay Area Bird Photographers Meeting**  
*Lucy Evans Interpretive Cntr, Palo Alto*  
Topic 9/3: Annual "Bring Your Own Photos" program  
Topic 10/1: "Bay Area Birds" with Davor Desancic  
Go to [www.scvas.org/babp](http://www.scvas.org/babp) for details

### Tues. 9/9 & 10/14, 10:00AM

**Eve Case Bird Discussion Group**  
*Meets at the home of Pat Dubois - 17150 Buena Vista Ave., Los Gatos*  
(408) 395-4264  
Topic 9/9: Penguins  
Topic 10/14: Local Gulls

### Wed. 9/10 & 10/15; 3-4:30PM

**Nature Journaling with John Muir Laws**  
*Location TBD: Check the SCVAS website after September 1st for details.*  
Free workshops for all ages! No RSVP required, but please be on time.

### Thurs. 9/11, 7-9PM

**Cavity Nesters Recovery Program (CNRP) End-of-Season Meeting**  
*McClellan Ranch Preserve, Cupertino*  
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 2014 nest box season. Please remember to submit your data online before the 11th! *See details on page 10.*

### Sat. 9/27; 7AM-4PM

#### Stevens Creek 50K/SCVAS Benefit Run

Runners and Volunteers are needed to participate in this fun event through the Santa Cruz Mountains. Runners are asked to donate a small registration fee, the proceeds of which go to benefit SCVAS' education and conservation programs. Go to the event website - [stevenscreekstriders.com/scsraces](http://stevenscreekstriders.com/scsraces) - for more details about the race, how to register as a runner, or how to help as an event volunteer.

### Sat. 10/18, 10AM-3PM

#### Wildlife Education Day

*Blackberry Farm, Cupertino*

A fun event for the whole family!  
*See page 9 for details*



---

---

# Conservation Corner

By Shani Kleinhaus, Environmental Advocate

## Owls and Egrets Galore!

This spring and summer, we celebrated the birds of our long-term advocacy efforts. At the San Jose Regional Wastewater Facility, more than 20 burrowing owls chicks fledged from 7 nests. The City of San Jose proudly created a web page (San José gives a 'hoot'! [www.sanjoseca.gov/index.aspx?nid=4384](http://www.sanjoseca.gov/index.aspx?nid=4384)) and posts photograph and videos on a Flickr photostream ([www.flickr.com/photos/123882326@N04/](http://www.flickr.com/photos/123882326@N04/))

Meanwhile, the egret rookery of Shorebird Way is winding down after a long season where dozens of great egrets and snowy egrets raised their young in a noisy cacophony, attracting birders, photographers, and media attention ([www.mercurynews.com/ci\\_26089661/effort-under-way-protect-egrets-at-google](http://www.mercurynews.com/ci_26089661/effort-under-way-protect-egrets-at-google)).

During the July 4<sup>th</sup> celebrations, SCVAS staff and volunteers protected burrowing owls at Shoreline Park and monitored egrets at both Almaden Lake and Shorebird Way during the fireworks displays.

## Bird Friendly Building Design Advances in San Jose

The Rules and Open Government Committee voted unanimously to direct the City Manager to study the issue of bird safe building design, then come back to the Transportation and Environment Committee by September with recommendations on bird safety, and whether to proceed with Guidelines (recommendations) or with an Ordinance (law) for the City of San Jose. This is a large step forward in promoting the safety of birds in this city of a million people. We have been advocating for Bird Safe Design in cities along the Peninsula (Sunnyvale adopted guidelines earlier this year), and we are happy that the largest

City in our region is looking at bird safety as an important issue.

We thank Council Members Sam Liccardo and Kansen Chu for their leadership, Council member Rocha and Kalra for their support, and the members of the committee - Mayor Reed, Vice Mayor Nguyen, and council members Pete Constant and Pierluigi Oliverio - for moving towards a bird-friendly city. We also thank the dozens of San Jose residents who participated in public meetings, wrote to Council members and Committees, or advocated with neighbors and friends. And finally, we thank the San Jose Mercury News for publishing our advocate's opinion ([www.mercurynews.com/opinion/ci\\_26075983/birds-and-glass-san-jose-can-prevent-needless](http://www.mercurynews.com/opinion/ci_26075983/birds-and-glass-san-jose-can-prevent-needless)).

## Parks Are for the Birds

Our advocates are currently engaged with Park Master Plans in Palo Alto (all parks; Byxbee park), San Jose (Shady Oaks) and the Water District Water Resources (and Creeks) Master Plans.

## But All Is Not Rosy and Chirpy...

We continue to engage in Environmental Review processes for several projects in San Jose. The most significant is the planned development of **Communication Hill** - a project that proposes to flatten the hills and fill in wetlands, creeks and springs.

We also continue following the advance of the **Panoche Valley** solar project through a long permitting process. We fought hard for Panoche Valley. With the Sierra Club, we litigated over the approval of inadequate environmental review, and lost. We advocated with utilities, and hope our efforts may have helped PG&E make its wise decision to refused a Power Purchase Agreement with the Panoche Valley Project. Unfortunately, South CA Edison signed a Power Purchase Agreement with the project proponents, and the solar project continues to move forward. But our effort to save the valley is not over yet.

---

---

# Volunteer Ventures

by Toby Goldberg, Programs Coordinator

As the days start to get shorter, and the weather starts to cool off (we hope), thoughts around the SCVAS office are turning to the new school year and the fall festival season. Which, of course, is where all our wonderful volunteers come in! If you enjoy working with children, or talking to people about what makes our chapter special, then we definitely have an activity for you! Consider some of these opportunities:

**Wetlands Discovery Program Docents** - One of our most visible, vital and volunteer-intensive activities, but one that is so worth it! This program shares the wonder and importance of wetland habitats with 3rd-6th graders throughout Santa Clara County. Volunteers guide students in exploring wetland wildlife and habitat both in the classroom and out in the field. This program is rewarding both for our volunteers and for the hundreds of South Bay children who participate (almost 1500 this past year!). **No experience is necessary** (though familiarity with local birds is definitely a plus), 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.

**Community Outreach Volunteers** - Each year, especially in the Spring and Fall, SCVAS is invited to participate in numerous community festivals and fairs. These fun events are a great chance for us to recruit new members, let people know about *our* upcoming events, and just share what it is we love about Audubon with those around us. Interested volunteers should be comfortable talking to people in an informal setting about SCVAS' programs.

**Wildlife Education Day Support** - As our largest annual event, Wildlife Education Day has an abundance of opportunities to help out. With wonderful interactive booths, environmental organizations, educational presentations, live animals, an art contest, 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 18 (see page 9 - or [www.scvas.org/WildlifeFestival](http://www.scvas.org/WildlifeFestival) - for more details). Here's how YOU can help:

- |                            |                          |                    |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Prior to the Event:</b> | <b>Day of the Event:</b> | • Nest Box         |
| • Publicity                | • Set Up                 | • Building Station |
| • Mailing Support/         | • Registration           | • Event            |
| Handout Prep               | • Nature Arts &          | • Photographer     |
|                            | Crafts                   | • Parking          |
|                            | • High School            | • Clean Up         |
|                            | Volunteer                | • And so much      |
|                            | Coordinator              | more!              |

---

---

# SCVAS Classes and Field Seminars with Bob Power - 2014/2015

The SCVAS Staff and Board are always dreaming up, planning, and coordinating outdoor educational adventures that we think will captivate the birder in anyone. We are very excited, therefore, to be able to present our roster of Field Seminars for the coming year - we hope that you'll join us for one (or more) of these adventures! Additional information is also available online at [www.scvas.org](http://www.scvas.org) - click on "Calendar." Call the SCVAS office at 408-252-3747 to register.

## “Raptors in Flight”

Raptors hold everyone's attention. Their grace as they dominate the airways and their confidence as they survey the landscape are mesmerizing. The beauty and majesty of a raptor when they choose to allow us a prolonged look on a distant perch always makes a lasting impression. Identification challenges in the field are what we'll focus on in three field trips to some of the bay area's most productive raptor resource areas. Through observation and discussion Bob will help you improve your raptor identification skills while observing these thrilling birds in the wild. **Note:** We will not be studying owls in this class, and we will not be traveling to the Pinnacles to study Condors.

### Dates, Times and Locations:

Sun, 10/19 - Hawk Hill, Marin Headlands; 9:00AM-2:00PM

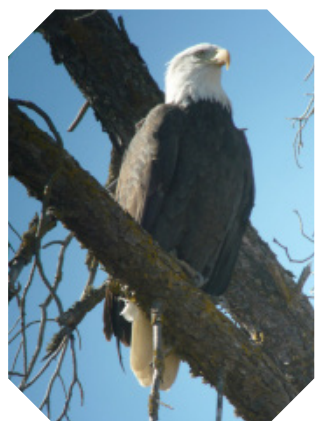
Sun, 10/26 - Wavecrest Road, Half Moon Bay; 9:00AM-2:00PM;

Sun, 11/02 - San Benito County; 8:00AM-4:00PM



Cooper's Hawk in Flight: Photo courtesy of Ashok Khosla - [seeing-birds.com](http://seeing-birds.com)

Fee: \$90 members; \$125 non-members.



Bald Eagle  
Photo © Bob Power

---

## Lower Klamath / Tule Lake Eagles Thursday – Monday, Feb. 5th – 9th, 2015

The lower Klamath Basin is a magnet for Rough-legged Hawks, Ferruginous Hawks, Prairie Falcons, Golden Eagles, and of course, Bald Eagles in abundance. While we attempt to identify all birds seen on this trip, the focus is raptors. We see geese in phenomenal numbers, multiple duck species, and often see the first few north-bound Sandhill Cranes.

Verna's Winema Lodge won't last forever. Come experience a northern California classic. Participants make their own reservations. There are other accommodations in the area, but I'm not sure you'll be able to beat the convenience, dining, price combo. The Winema Lodge is ideally situated and puts on a great dinner and breakfast.

Participants must be prepared to either drive or ride in a carpool on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. We will have a maximum of 3 vehicles, 4 guests per vehicle, as we wander around the backroads of the Lower Klamath and Tule Lake National Wildlife Refuges.

Fee: \$175 members; \$210 non-members. Trip limited to 11 participants.

---

## Looking Ahead: Spring and Summer 2015

### Cave Creek Canyon and The Chiricahua Mountains May 19th – 26th

Cave Creek Canyon and the Chiricahua Mountains are famed for the presence of Elegant Trogon, Red-faced Warbler, Painted Redstart, Mexican Chickadee and the beauty of the sky islands of southeastern Arizona. From our base at the charming Cave Creek Ranch, we'll explore the varied habitats surrounded by this enchanting mountain range. Join Bob to seek all of the area's specialty birds at one of North America's premier birding destinations. For an itinerary, e-mail [bob@scvas.org](mailto:bob@scvas.org).

Fees: \$1795/person, double-occupancy. \$450 single supplement. Deposit: \$300 due at registration.

### The Breeding Birds of Yuba Pass, Sierra Valley, and the Gold Lakes Region

Session 1: June 7th – 10th; Session 2: June 12th – 15th

The northern Sierra offers a spectacular array of nesting birds, from Black-backed Woodpeckers and Hermit Warblers to Yellow-headed Blackbirds and Vesper Sparrows. We typically see 100+ species of birds during this workshop, few are species available to study in the south bay, and all are stunning. With a 4-day trip, we're able to explore these unique habitats at leisure.

We organize carpools each morning and will have a maximum of 3 vehicles; **please do not sign up for this workshop if you're not prepared to carpool** around the Yuba Pass / Sierra Valley region. Carpooling expenses are shared by the participants (typically \$5/person/day). Transportation to Yuba Pass, lodging and meals are the responsibility of each participant. Detailed itinerary will be forwarded upon registration. **Trip size is limited to 11.**

Fee: \$175 members; \$210 non-members

(more trips in 2015: continued on page 8)

# Field Notes

(June-July 2014)

by Bill Bousman

## Geese through Shorebirds

The **Greater White-fronted Goose** mentioned in the last report was seen again on 7 Jun (MMR) and 19 Jun (MDo) and is likely overwintering. Another summering (or permanent) white-front was seen in the Morgan Hill Community Park on 21 June (SCR, JD). The only summer report of **Blue-winged Teal** was a pair in the Lockheed Martin channel on 24 Jun (BM). A pair of **Redhead** was found on 8 Jun (MJM) in Pond A16 and remained there at least through 5 Jul (AME). The female-plumaged **White-winged Scoter** on closed refuge ponds was encountered again during surveys 29 Jun to 27 Jul (MMR, MJM, RGJ, JStP). The only **White-faced Ibis** for the period was one at the south end of Calaveras Reservoir on 21 Jun (SCR, JD). The nesting pair of **Swainson's Hawks** in Coyote Valley hatched one young and it fledged about 9 Jul (CL, RPh, v.ob.). A different pair of dark-morph Swainson's were seen in the valley through 7 Jun (SCR). A second-year light-morph Swainson's was seen along Coyote Creek below Crittenden Lane on 7 Jun (MMR), the first record for the Palo Alto SBC. One or more **Black Rails** were heard along Alviso Slough during the period (v.ob.). Two were calling along Alviso Slough near Pond A12 on 2 Jul (WGB) and two were heard in the old marina on 8 Jul (PDu). **Snowy Plovers** appear to have had a successful breeding season in dried-out Crittenden Marsh and the unnamed panne to the north. Good numbers were seen throughout the period with 12 adults and 14 chicks in six broods tallied on 27 Jul (MJM, RGJ). Thirteen birds were counted on Pond A9 in Alviso on 29 Jun (MMR, MJM, RGJ) but were flooded out in July. Up to four birds have been seen in Pond A13 (v.ob.) and have been trying to nest. An adult **Wandering Tattler** in Pond A11 on 20 Jul (CJo, LAv) was a surprise, our first July record and only the second for the summer period. It has been another poor summer for **Lesser Yellowlegs**,

with only one bird seen in New Chicago Marsh on 23 and 28 Jul (RWR, FV, WGB). An alternate **Ruddy Turnstone** was found on Pond A16 on 21 Jul and remained there two days (WGB, v.ob.). The first fall **Red Knots** showed up on 22 Jul (BM) with 10 on Pond A9 and at least four have been found there through the end of the period (v.ob.). Extraordinary numbers of adult **Pectoral Sandpipers** have shown up along the coast this summer, our token bird was seen in the New Chicago Marsh on 28 Jul (WGB). The passage of **Wilson's Phalaropes** has been typical this summer

*Breeding Swainson's  
Hawks and Phainopepla  
Were the High Points  
of the Nesting Season.  
Other Rarities Included a  
Wandering Tattler and an  
Indigo Bunting.*

with a peak count of 2700+ birds in New Chicago Marsh on 16 Jul (WGB). Although **Red-necked Phalarope** will not peak until August or September, the high summer count was at least 500 birds in Pond A12 on 23 Jul (WGB).

## Terns through Falcons

The first of the fall-staging **Least Tern** were three on Pond A2E on 4 Jul (WGB). Sixteen the next day (MJM) was the high count for the period and they have remained there through the end of the period (v.ob.). **Black Skimmers** nested on closed refuge

ponds this summer with both a fledgling and a precocious young seen on 29 Jun (MMR, MJM, RGJ). A single **Greater Roadrunner** was reported from the edge of Coyote Reservoir during June (v.ob.), sometimes calling. **Vaux's Swifts** again nested in a chimney near the McAbee entrance to Almaden Quicksilver CP, nestlings were heard on 21 Jun (JPa). Summer resident Vaux's were recorded from the Almaden Valley along the front of the Santa Cruz Mountains into southern San Mateo County. The high count of the period was 12 birds over Paso Los Cerritos near Meridian on 24 Jul (JPa). **Black-chinned Hummingbirds** have continued to be found along the Los Gatos Creek Trail in Willow Glen, at nearby feeders, and along the Alamos Creek Trail in the Almaden Valley (m.ob.). A fledgling was seen along the Alamos Creek Trail near Graystone Lane on 4 Jul (LBa, RSTh) and a female on a nest was found nearby the next day (JPa). A fall passage adult male **Rufous Hummingbird** was a surprise at a Morgan Hill feeder 24 Jun to 6 Jul (SCR). Four **Lewis's Woodpeckers** were seen in the San Antonio Valley where they are resident on 5 Jun (WGB). Two nestling **Pileated Woodpeckers** in the nest cavity in Sanborn-Skyline CP mentioned in the previous period fledged about 12 Jun (JJo). One or two fledgling **Peregrine Falcons** were observed in Larios Canyon on 1 Jun and two young fledged from a nest on a wind tunnel at Moffett Field on 11 Jun (both MMR).

## Flycatchers through Swallows

Late spring migrant **Willow Flycatchers** were both singing, one in an Almaden Valley yard on 9 Jun (JPa) and one at the edge of the South County Regional WasteWater Authority treatment ponds in Gilroy on 13 Jun (MMR). **Say's Phoebes** in the valley have continued to surprise this year. One was seen in Coyote Lake CP on 1 Jun (MMR) where they have nested in the past. A nest was found on a wind tunnel at Moffett Field on 7 Jun and fledged two young on 13 Jun (MMR). Birds were found in the vicinity of Moffett Field on 19 and 22 Jul (MMR, BM). A juvenile at the Sunnyvale Baylands Park on 29 Jul (WGB) may be one of these fledged young or from a different



Wandering Tattler  
Photo courtesy of Tom Grey



## Field Notes *cont'd*

nest. **Cassin's Kingbirds** continued to be seen along San Felipe Road in June (MMR, WGB) and a nest with young was observed 22 Jun (SCR, JD). The Breeding Bird Atlas shows only two breeding locations northwest of urban areas in the county for **Western Kingbird**, but this year, birds were found more widely. On 7 Jun (GZ et al.), three were seen near the Stanford Dish where they have nested in past years. On the same day, single birds were also seen south of Foothill Boulevard and El Monte (CJC et al.), at Monte Bello OSP (ViT et al.), at the northeast edge of Moffett Field (MMR), and at the southern edge of closed refuge ponds (MJM). The next day a single bird was found at the Arastradero Preserve (MDo). The single bird at the northeast corner of Moffett Field on 7 Jun appeared territorial. Two birds were seen there on 27 Jul (MJM, RGJ) and three were there on 30 Jul (PDu). It is likely (but unproven) that they nested nearby. A single bird was seen again at the same location in closed refuge ponds on 29 Jun (MMR, MJM, RGJ) and six birds were there on 27 Jul (MJM, RGJ). On the latter date, it was determined that one of the six was an adult and two were recently fledged young, thereby confirming nesting. Two kingbirds were encountered on a visit to Arastradero Preserve on 27 Jun (WGB). Both birds were foraging in a wet area near Arastradero Road and then flying to the northeast, one carrying food, thus the second confirmation for the summer. **Purple Martins** continued in the area of Summit Ridge near Loma Prieta during the period.

### Nuthatches through Goldfinches

Summer records or **Red-breasted Nuthatch** of the flatlands are sporadic so one-to-two birds in Mountain View on 29-

30 Jul (GZ et al.) was interesting. A **Canyon Wren** was singing in Larios Canyon on 1 Jun (MMR), the only bird found this year. Three **Golden-crowned Kinglets** were found in the forest along Wrights Station and Morrill roads on 21 Jun (SCR, JD). At least three **Cedar Waxwings** were seen along the Alamos Creek Trail on 12 Jul (JPa), a few birds are found irregularly during the summer. A pair of **Phainopepla** were seen in San Antonio Valley on 10 Jun (LRO, GHa), the female on a nest. A single bird was seen once again in Santa Teresa CP on 2-3 Jul (CEd). A **Yellow-breasted Chat** was singing at the upstream end of Coyote Reservoir on 22 Jun (SCR, JD). **Chipping Sparrows** have nested again in the Santa Cruz Mountains at the county border, their last holdout on the west side of the valley. An adult and three fledglings were seen on 21 Jun (SCR, JD) and an adult and two fledglings were there on 28 Jun (RGJ et al.). A white-bellied male **Indigo Bunting** at the Gate 5 pond in Monte Bello on 31 Jul (GHa) showed some possible hybrid characters. A sizeable colony of up to 350 pairs of **Tricolored Blackbirds** nested in the southeast corner of Calero Reservoir 7 to 24 Jun (SCR, v.ob.) with some fledged young. Breeding **Great-tailed Grackles** were successful at Lake Cunningham with at least 12 fledglings seen on 13 Jul (JPa). Small numbers of **Lawrence's Goldfinches** were found in three locations in the Diablo Range (v.ob.) with a high count of six birds at Isabel Creek on 10 Jun (LRO, GHa). One to four birds continued in the flatlands along San Felipe Road 1-21 Jun (MMR, SCR, JD). Santa Cruz Mountain birds included at least two in Foothills Park on 7 Jun (JRy, DPo), more were found that day in San Mateo County. A pair was at Monte Bello on 9 Jul (GHa).



*Phainopepla*  
Photo courtesy of Tom Grey

Observers: Lisa Avila (LAv), Leonie Batkin (LBa), Bill Bousman (WGB), Charles Coston (CJC), Matthew Dodder (MDo), Jon Dunn (JD), Pete Dunten (PDu), Craig Edgerton (CEd), Al Eisner (AME), Garth Harwood (GHa), Richard Jeffers (RGJ), Chris Johnson (CJo), Jim Johnson (JJo), Caroline Lambert (CL), Mike Mammoser (MJM), Brooke Miller (BM), Janna Pauser (JPa), Ryan Phillips (RPh), Donna Pomeroy (DPo), Bob Reiling (RWR), Alex Rinkert (AMR), Mike Rogers (MMR), Logan Rosenberg (LRO), Steve Rottenborn (SCR), Jennifer Rycenga (JRy), Jason St. Pierre (JStP), Ron Thorn (RSTh), Vivek Tiwari (ViT), Frank Vanslager (FV), and Gena Zolotar (GZ).

**RARITIES:** Please drop me a note:  
Bill Bousman, 321 Arlington Way,  
Menlo Park, CA 94025,  
or: barlowi@earthlink.net

## A Heartfelt Thanks to the Farallon Islands Foundation

The Farallon Islands Foundation was incorporated in 1999 by Richard Spight of Point Richmond. It is a private foundation dedicated to conservation of life on islands. The Foundation's focus is the removal of invasive species from islands, education of island inhabitants regarding conservation issues, support of island habitats and research related to these habitats, and conservation of native island species.

The Foundation recently made a generous donation to Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society in honor of our current President, and 12 year member of the SCVAS Board of Directors, Bob Hirt. Aside from Bob's active role with SCVAS, he is the former Treasurer and former member of the Board of Directors for the Farallon Islands Foundation.

We thank Bob Hirt for his passion and commitment to SCVAS' mission, and to the Farallon Islands Foundation for their donation and recognition of this truly remarkable individual.

Learn more about the Farallon Islands Foundation: <http://farallonislandsfoundation.org>

---

---

# Fun in the Summer Camp Sun...

*cont'd from page 1*

Open Space Preserve where our campers spent the day hiking and exploring.

Led by volunteer docents from Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District, our campers were able to experience the beautiful scenery and wildlife found in our wonderful open spaces.

It was a privilege to be a part of Summer Nature Days and we want to express tremendous thanks to all those who made it such a huge success! This year campers had the opportunity to learn from local organizations that generously offered their time and expertise: Rolling Hills 4-H treated us to an in-depth look into the world of bees where we learned about the process of making and extracting honey; the City of Cupertino's Junior Nature Museum provided an up close look at some of the insects, reptiles and amphibians found in many of our local open spaces; and thanks to Los Gatos Birdwatcher, our campers took steps to becoming master trackers by learning to identify tracks and signs of local wildlife. We would also like to thank our primary sponsor, Google, for the financial support that allowed us to hire wonderful counselors, provide scholarships to camp participants and much more.

We are looking forward to seeing both familiar and new faces at another exciting and educational camp next summer!



*Rolling Hills 4-H Beekeepers Dazzled the Group with their Bee Buzz  
Photo by Jerry Kaminski*

---

---

## SCVAS Classes and Field Seminars in 2015 *cont'd from page 5*

### **Mono Basin and the Eastern Sierra**

**Tuesday – Sunday, June 23rd – 28th**

The east slope of the Sierra offers a spectacular array of breeding, post-breeding and migratory birds, from Williamson's Sapsuckers and Clark's Nutcrackers to Osprey and Green-tailed Towhees. With a six-day trip, we're able to explore a number of unique habitats including the alpine zone surrounding Saddlebag Lake, the high desert sage grasslands of the historic ghost town of Bodie, the extraordinary tufa formations of Mono Lake and the basalt columns of Devils Postpile National Monument. We paddle with Phalaropes on Mono Lake and hang out with Rosy-finches at Virginia Lakes. This is the quintessential east-side birding adventure.

**Class size is limited to 11.** We organize carpools each morning on location and will have a maximum of 3 vehicles for our field trips. Please do not sign up for this workshop if you're not

prepared to carpool each day. Carpooling expenses are shared by the participants and are not part of the base fee; typically \$5/person/day.

**Fee:** \$275 members; \$310 non-members. Fee covers: Kayaking, Bodie Entrance, Devil's Postpile Entrance, and Saddlebag Ferry.

#### **Important Notes:**

**Altitude:** Lee Vining is our daily departure point at 7,000 ft in elevation. We venture off one day to Saddlebag Lake, at 10,000 ft. and above. It is not unusual for participants to feel the effects of the altitude and to need a couple of days to acclimate.

**Physical Activity:** Each day involves some hiking at altitude. While at a birder's pace, it is still hiking at altitude. One morning is spent kayaking along the south shore of Mono Lake. Participants on this trip should be in reasonably good physical condition and should consult their doctor if altitude is a concern.

*Bob Power has been teaching raptor identification in the classroom and in the field, as well as leading birding adventures in California, Alaska, Arizona, and the neotropics, for 10 years - introducing birders to extraordinary places and wonderful birds. He has also been a day leader for a Golden Gate Raptor Observatory Hawkwatch team for the past 11 years.*

### **“Birds in Big Cities”** with Stephanie Ellis, SCVAS Executive Director

**November 13th; 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM**

**Peninsula Humane Society, 1450 Rollins Rd., Burlingame, CA**

#### **The Western Burrowing Owl - Reversing the Downward Trend**

Learn about this pint-sized owl in peril. Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society has monitored and enhanced owl habitat on a designated Burrowing Owl preserve in San Jose, where we are finally beginning to see a reverse in the trend of their declining local populations. Learn the natural history of these beautiful owls of San Francisco Bay.

#### **Bird-Safe Building Design – Safe Birds in Big Cities**

It is estimated that hundreds of thousands, if not millions, of birds are killed annually in the United States due to collisions with reflective windows on buildings. Learn how Santa Clara Valley Audubon has been working with major cities and large corporations in the San Francisco Bay Area to encourage them to adopt bird-safe building alternatives. We're working to ensure that a safe path is paved for birds in big cities with some impressive outcomes! Email Stephanie at [executivedirector@scvas.org](mailto:executivedirector@scvas.org) for further details.



Birdhouse Building!



Join the  
**Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society**  
and local Nature and Environmental Organizations  
for a **FREE** event:

Nature Arts and  
Crafts!



# the 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Wildlife Education Day!

**Saturday, October 18, 2014**  
**10am-3pm**

**Blackberry Farm\* in Cupertino**



Environmental  
Games, Demos and  
Info for all ages!



Live Animals - Birds of  
Prey, Snakes, Insects -  
even a Big Cat (and maybe  
a Shark, too)!

Hands-on Activities  
and LOTS of Fun!



Tasty organic  
lunch for sale  
from Munch  
India

“Early Bird” Shorebird Walk

8:00 am @ Charleston Slough in  
Mountain View

RSVP Required for walk *only*

1st Annual Wildlife  
Logo Contest

Help us create great event  
artwork!

Submission deadline 9/5

For more details or to make reservations for the Bird Walk, call (408) 252-3740,  
or visit [www.scvas.org/WildlifeFestival](http://www.scvas.org/WildlifeFestival)

*\*Located at 21979 San Fernando Ave, Cupertino. Plenty of free parking!*

---

---

# Here's Your Chance to Preserve Our Natural Heritage

By Stephanie Ellis, SCVAS Executive Director

The Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority (OSA) has an upcoming funding measure placed on the November ballot which SCVAS is excited to support. This measure would allocate a \$24 per parcel tax for the next 15 years to fund OSA's vision of preserving our region's natural heritage. Through widespread protection of our scenic hillsides, open spaces, redwood forests, agricultural land, and reduction of pollution and toxins to our water supply through creek and stream preservation, this measure would ensure that lands we love in Santa Clara Valley are available for generations to come.

Preservation of our lands equals conservation of the wildlife that utilize them. Not only will this measure provide additional resources for our wild neighbors, it will also provide greater resources for environmental education programs – the gateway to our next leaders of environmental advocacy and conservation.

Many of the goals of the OSA measure are in alignment with SCVAS' mission, and the funds raised by the measure are sorely needed. SCVAS has endorsed this measure, and we hope to help it pass the two-thirds vote threshold in November.

Read more: <http://www.openspaceauthority.org/about/openspacefunding.html>



## SCVAS Education Intern Needed:

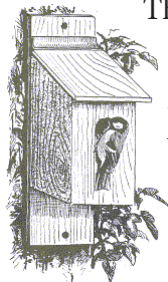
*~ Paid Internship Available ~*

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 an intern available weekdays (with occasional weekends) for about 10-15 hours per week. The exact schedule will be flexible, but **Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday mornings** and some weekend availability will be required. **Saturday, October 18<sup>th</sup>** is also required. Some experience with environmental science, biology, education, or working with children is desirable, but we will train the right candidate. Bilingual candidates encouraged.

More information is available online at [www.scvas.org](http://www.scvas.org) - click on "About Us" or contact the Programs Coordinator, Toby, at 408-252-3740 or [programs@scvas.org](mailto:programs@scvas.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 11th at 7PM (see calendar for details), depends on having information to share, so please don't procrastinate!

Your data is one of the main reasons for this program - this information helps us to plan future conservation programs, and make decisions about the Cavity Nesters Recovery program as a whole. Please help us continue this valuable conservation and research tool by submitting your data soon!



The online database is the preferred method for receiving year-end data – go to [www.cbrp.org](http://www.cbrp.org) OR go to the SCVAS website ([www.scvas.org/cnrp](http://www.scvas.org/cnrp)).

Contact Toby, the SCVAS Programs Coordinator, at [programs@scvas.org](mailto:programs@scvas.org) with any questions.

# 2014 Friends of SCVAS

*Gifts received between June 1st, 2014 and July 31st, 2014*

## \$10,000

Charlene and Dirk Kabcenell

## \$1,000-\$1500

Tiffany Choy and David Speer  
Mr. and Mrs. Geoff Fox  
Robert Lewis; Farallon Islands Foundation

## \$500-\$999

Ken Schneider  
Michael and Leslie Schroeder

## \$250-\$499

Hugh and Debbie McDevitt  
Melanie Sloane

## \$100-249

Donna Aronson  
Barbara Aulicino  
Sigma Xi Society  
Diane Baldwin  
Sarah Bates  
Bonnie Bedford-White  
Dick and Sharon Blaine  
Arthur Bryson  
Lisa Buckley  
Jeff and Betty Chase  
John Colwell  
David Cook and Barbara Hutchings  
Jennifer Couperus  
Peter and Arline Dehlinger  
Mark Delaurentis and Jackie Turner  
Richard and Diane Diane Horn  
Ericsson Inc. Matching Gifts  
Cheryl Foden  
Linda Gagliani  
Eric Goodill  
Philip and Susan Hammer  
Caroline Houston  
Elizabeth Karren  
Francis and Jeane Lewis  
Los Gatos Birdwatcher  
Mary Louise Moses  
Bob and Debbie Nansen

Don and Cathy Priest  
Laurose and Burton Richter  
David Sacarelos  
Kay Schroer  
Kendric and Marion Smith  
Catherine Trejo and Marti Wright  
Andrew West  
Joan Zuckerman

## \$60-\$99

Donald and Jean Arndt  
Bill and Marilyn Bauriedel  
Paul and Maureen Draper  
William and Diane Finke  
Chetan Gomatam  
Herbert Grench  
Beverly Hesse  
Robnett Hill  
Jerry and Ginny Kaminski  
Joanne Lazar  
James Lyang  
Peter and Christina Maltback  
Steve McHenry and Carolyn Straub  
Margaret Parkes  
John and Margaret Poole Poole  
Jan Raissle and Susanne Mulcahy  
Richard and Roberta Rhudy  
Michelle and Robert Geyer  
Christine Robson  
Eugene and Nancy Sharp  
Jeff and Ruthe Smith  
Terry and Patricia Trumbull  
Wim Van Schooten  
Marina Zucca

## Up to \$59

Barbara Allen  
Margaret Anderson  
Jane Ardley  
Joanne Artis  
Roberta Baker and Katelyn Daley  
Ray and Catherine Beam  
Laurie Bechtler  
Walter Beck  
Douglas Bell and Jaqueline Bogard

Ralph and Marion Bridge  
Byron and Kay Brown  
Juliette Bryson  
Lloyd Butcher  
Margaret Capriles  
Sally Cedarblade  
Eda Coburn  
Suzanne Conens  
Lea Crisp  
James and Marilyn Donahue  
Melissa Donegan  
Susan Ellis  
Natalee Ernstrom  
Michael and Lynne Fitzjarrell  
John Fowler  
Carolyn Genirberg  
Morey Goldstein  
Mrs. Gordon Poole  
Rose Green  
Nancy Hall  
Donald Harbaugh  
Joann Harrington  
Walter and Kay Hays  
Deborah Hill  
Patty Hopkinson  
Al Huber  
Sue Hunt  
Constance Hunter  
Alan Johnson  
Mary Jourdan  
Jaynie Kind  
Lynn Klees  
David Koffman  
Rebecca Kohn  
Lena Kolesnikova  
Cara Kuhn  
Douglas Larson  
Mary Lee Mueller  
Rosalie Lefkowitz  
Robert and Hanno Lewis  
Joan and Gregory Loney  
Pam Loughheed  
Betty MacDonald  
Louisa Mak  
May Manabe

Rose Mary Wright  
Jeanine Mattson  
Garnet McClure  
Richard McElroy  
Joann Milburn  
Caroline Nabeta  
Martha O'Neal  
Sarguna Packiaraj  
Janice Pang and Scott Mackey  
Ken Phenicie Jr.  
Robert Reiling  
Emily Renzel  
Laurel Rezeau  
Ralph Riddle  
Margaret Rosenbloom  
Anemarie Rosengreen  
Dorothy Sager  
Paul Seaver  
Laverne Shaffer  
Gertrude Shearer  
Marjorie Smith  
Mary Smith  
Jodie Sonntag  
Susan Steinbrecher  
David Struthers  
Linda Sullivan  
Ed and Martha Sutton  
Stephen and Katherine Terry  
Laura Thompson  
Melanie and Tom O'Brien  
Janet Vassar  
Diane Vedder  
Srimathi Venkataraman  
Cynthia Von Ofenheim  
Sophie Wang  
Margo Watson  
Vicki Wilhite  
Bruce and Elinor Wilner  
Charles Wilson  
Betty Wyatt  
Gretchen Zane  
Douglas Zody



## Go Paperless!

Sign up to receive your newsletter via email and enjoy these benefits:



- Save resources - eNewsletters save trees, postage, fuel (and more)!
- View the photographs in full color!
- No waiting for the mail - get your newsletter up to 2 weeks sooner!

Contact the SCVAS office at [scvas@scvas.org](mailto:scvas@scvas.org) to start your paper-free membership today!

## Support Environmental Advocacy at SCVAS

Our Environmental Advocacy annual fundraiser is currently taking place. If you care about the advocacy program, and wish to help us continue to protect birds and their habitats, please consider sending us a tax-deductible donation and mark your check clearly: "Advocacy campaign".

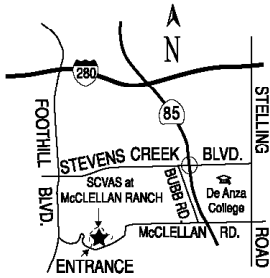
We appreciate your support.



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

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



We were saddened to hear of the passing of Gilroy resident, **Susan Kruse**. Until illness grounded her, she was an avid birdwatcher at the Uvas Creek Parkway, and her family has asked that donations be made in her name to SCVAS and the Friends of Gilroy Library.



Our thoughts go out to her family.

**OFFICERS**

**President**

Bob Hirt

**Vice President**

Diane Hart

**Treasurer**

Peter LaTourrette

**Secretary**

Joan Leighton

**DIRECTORS**

Melanie O'Brien

Morteza Danesh

Peter Hart

Tom Grey

Vivek Khanzode

'13-'16

'14-'17

'12-'15

'12-'15

'14-'17

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS** meetings are open to all members. Call the office at (408) 252-3747 for times and directions.

**STAFF**

**Executive Director**

408/252-3748

Stephanie Ellis [executivedirector@scvas.org](mailto:executivedirector@scvas.org)

**Office Manager**

408/252-3747

Susan Bell [scvas@scvas.org](mailto:scvas@scvas.org)

**Programs Coordinator**

408/252-3740

Toby Goldberg [programs@scvas.org](mailto:programs@scvas.org)

**Environmental Advocate**

650/868-2114

Shani Kleinhaus [shani@scvas.org](mailto:shani@scvas.org)

**Programs Assistant**

408/252-3740

Andrew Bradshaw [outreach@scvas.org](mailto:outreach@scvas.org)

**Burrowing Owl Projects**

408/252/3747

Joshua McCluskey [owls@scvas.org](mailto:owls@scvas.org)

**Office Fax** 408/252-2850

**Office E-mail** [scvas@scvas.org](mailto:scvas@scvas.org)

**Website** [www.scvas.org](http://www.scvas.org)

**OFFICE HOURS**

**Monday - Friday**

**10 AM - 5 PM**

**Saturday**

**10 AM - 2 PM**

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

**RARE BIRD ALERT: (415) 681-7422**

SCVAS is a private, non-profit corporation affiliated with the National Audubon Society

**Avocet Editors:** Toby Goldberg and Cara Kuhn

**2014 Volume 61, 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).*

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