



sequoia needles

Bulletin of the

SEQUOIA AUDUBON SOCIETY

San Mateo County, Ca.

June, 1988

Vol. 36, #10

THIS MONTH'S PROGRAM

This month's program will feature Ray Peterson of Audubon Canyon Ranch. Ray is a master photographer, naturalist, engineer, raconteur and humorist. With all that talent, he can be forgiven for having a "thing" about creatures with more than four legs.

Ray's slides - particularly of the Ranch's lesser known inhabitants - are outstanding and illuminating even to those who know the Ranch well.

OFFICER NOMINEES

The Nominating Committee of Rick Baird, Nick Coiro and Janet Duerr have proposed the following names for officers for the 1987-1988 year. These names will be placed in nomination at the meeting. Nominations will be accepted from the floor provided that the nominee has given his or her permission to have their name placed before the membership.

For President	Cliff Richer
For Vice-president	Gail Smithson
For Secretary	Ed McElhany
For Treasurer	Colleen Horner
For the Board of Directors:	
Replacing Gail Smithson, for the term expiring June 1989:	Janet Duerr
New Directors for terms expiring in '91.	
Nick Coiro	Elgin Juri

POTLUCK TIME!

June brings our annual Potluck Dinner so dust off your favorite recipes. Please remember to bring your own utensils and plates and a bag in which to take them home. People whose last names begin with the letters *A through F* should bring a *SALAD*, those whose names begin with the letters *G through M*, a *DESSERT*, and *N through Z* should provide the *CASSEROLE* or other hot dish.

Bring enough to serve **FIVE** times the number in your party.

The meeting is at the San Mateo Garden Center on the Alameda at Parkside with the Potluck beginning at 6:30 PM, and the General Meeting immediately after.

OUR NEXT PROGRAM

September is our annual do-it-yourself program when our members show off the slides they took during the summer.

LION HUNT ON AGAIN!

BUT WITH A NEW TWIST

After holding hearings in Long Beach, (the heart of mountain lion country?), the Fish and Game Commission adopted, on the same day, the identical hunting season that was turned down by the courts last year. No additional evidence was presented, no additional testimony heard and no environmental impact statement made to support the season.

At first impression, this seemed like the ultimate in stupidity or arrogance or both. It was a virtual invitation for the hunt's opponents to counter with the same arguments they had used last year to obtain an injunction stopping the implementation of the hunting season.

However, in Sacramento, the Department of Fish and Game had its real weapon armed and ready. Simultaneously with the decision of the Commission, the Department filed a suit against the Mountain Lion Preservation Foundation.

In its suit the DFG asked for damages resulting from the loss of last year's hunting season, for court and legal expenses involved in defending last year's suit and for an injunction forbidding the Foundation from interfering with this year's hunt.

This surrealistic twist continues to lend credence to the contention that the Fish and Game Commission and its parent Resources Commission are completely under the control of a handful of powerful political contributors who represent no one but themselves and a very narrow range of agricultural interests.

The Mountain Lion Preservation Foundation remains undaunted. It is working with its attorneys to combat the suit and to require the DFG to comply with the law. At the same time, it is continuing its efforts with educational and research projects for the public and for the legislature.

You can also help. Write to the Governor and let him know he can no longer be insulated from the actions of his faceless commissioners. Let him know that his veto of legislation to protect the mountain lion is still remembered. The address is Governor George Deukmejian, State Capitol, Sacramento, CA 95814.

Write to Lieutenant Governor Mc Carthy, who is currently investigating other abuses in the DFG, some of which are rumored to be tied in to these same powerful and arrogant interests.

Write to your local newspapers, radio and television stations and let them know you are concerned about this issue since they will only run items in which they believe there is public interest.

And you can help the Foundation's legal, educational and research programs by sending a tax-deductible donation to:

THE MOUNTAIN LION PRESERVATION FOUNDATION
P.O. Box 1896, Sacramento, CA 95809

CALENDAR

June 1988

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

JUNE 2 SAS BOARD MEETING. 7:30 P.M., Meeting place is THURSDAY President Kypta's house. ALL MEMBERS ARE WELCOME, but advance notice is required as the meeting place is a private residence

JUNE 5 GAZOS CREEK AND BUTANO STATE PARK. The riparian SUNDAY corridor of Gazos Creek is one of the finest year-round birding areas of San Mateo County. From its mouth, where resting gulls and terns roost, to its origins in the redwoods the creek is a summer home to a large number of passerine species and a representative population of hawks and owls. For even more diversity, we will also bird Butano State Park and the grasslands between the two areas. We will meet at the intersection of Hwy. 1 and Gazos Creek Road, just south of the Pigeon Point Lighthouse at 9:00 A.M. The trip should break up at lunchtime. Our leader is our Christmas Count coordinator, the author of our "Birding" column and one of the best birders to be found anywhere.

LEADER: PETER METROPULOS 592-2417

JUNE 9 SAS GENERAL MEETING featuring the staff of Audubon THURSDAY Canyon Ranch in a special presentation. Meetings are at the San Mateo Garden Center on the Alameda at Parkside. Social Mixer at 7:30 P.M. General Meeting begins at 8:00.

JUNE 11 YUBA PASS - "THE CALL OF THE HIGH SIERRA" - This JUNE 12 trip affords a chance to see birds rarely seen on SATURDAY any of our other field trips. The trip features SUNDAY easy trail walking through lovely mountain and Sierra Valley habitats. On Saturday we will meet at 9 AM at Wild Plum Campground just out of Sierra City and bird the mountain areas for dipper, black-backed woodpecker, evening grosbeak summer warblers, flycatchers, etc. On Sunday we'll meet at the Summit Campground at 8 AM. From there we will caravan to Sierra Valley to see the birds of the Eastern Slope and Modoc Plateau. Arrangements have been made for us to use the facilities of the Sierra Nevada Field Campus of San Francisco State University. Camping in platform tents with mattresses and cots, hot showers and three meals a day are available for \$21 a day. Just bring your own bedding. See the article on Page Four for full details and other options. Reservations are required for this trip and for the accommodations at the Field Campus. Call the coordinator for details and to make reservations.

LEADER GIL WEST
COORDINATOR CLIFF RICHER 355-4058

SUMMER FIELD TRIPS

A pair of long-distance summer field trips are tentatively scheduled. The final decision on each trip will depend on the interest shown and the availability of the leaders. (Five experienced trip leaders have shown interest in these tours but have been unable to make firm time commitments.)

Call the office (593-7068) to show your interest. This is not a reservation and does not involve a firm commitment. More details should be available at the office by July 5.

SATURDAY, JULY 30 YOSEMITE PARK AND ENVIRONS SUNDAY, JULY 31

SATURDAY, SEPT. 3 SUNDAY, SEPT. 4 MONDAY, SEPT. 5
SOUTH STATE SAFARI: ANTELOPE VALLEY, BIG MORONGO, SALTON SEA

NEWS FROM THE RANCH

JEANNE PRICE

Eighty active Audubon Canyon Ranch docents have provided nature history field trips at the Bouverie Preserve for 1800 third to fifth graders this spring. Most of these are school children from Sonoma County.

Each class has one hour of orientation from a Bouverie docent at school prior to visiting the Preserve. The teacher is given a packet with suggestions for pre- and post-trip activities.

The meadow and forest wildflowers, Stuart Creek newts, raptors and snakes are representatives of the plant and animal communities at the Preserve. Groups of six children with one docent and one chaperon learn about adaptation, the water cycle, conservation and the food chain.

At the Bolinas Preserve there are always more classes wanting to come than can be accommodated. These will have first priority for the coming year. Funding for transportation is not available.

The Bolinas Preserve Volunteer Council will again conduct a training class for docents at that site beginning in September. The program offers a variety of classes in natural history. Its a wonderful way to get an environmental education and pass it along to the coming generation. Anyone wanting more information should call 868-9244.

The Bolinas Preserve will be open to July 10 this year. The public is welcome by appointment only Wednesday through Friday afternoons and on weekends and holidays from 10 AM to 4 PM.

I have seen many people drop bird study; they had seen "all that there was to be seen" in bird life and there was nothing more to be discovered. I think of them as "belonging" to those ancient "orchard sitters" to whom a "falling apple" was merely a knock on the head.--J.J. Hickey *A Guide to Bird Watching*, 1943

PMIA "SPLIT"
CLARIFIED

"We want to make sure that everyone understands that we haven't permanently dissolved our association with State Parks," stated P.M.I.A. President Rick Baird. "That would require a formal vote of the Board of Directors, and that hasn't happened yet."

He went on to point out that the present by-laws require an association with State Parks and that the PMIA does have a contract with the Department. Any decision by P.M.I.A. to suspend its relationship with State Parks would have to take these into consideration, and could only be done by formal action of the Board, which included several PMIA employees, as well as public members.

SUMMER TRIPS BY MARYANN DANIELSON

Maryann Danielson will be the leader and instructor on a Summer Field Trip Series being offered by Sunbeam Ecology Explorations. The flora, fauna and landscape of each area will be studied along with the birds. The series will include:

YOSEMITE JUNE 10, 11, 12
Includes Lee Vining Canyon and Mono Lake

TOMALES BAY STATE PARK JUNE 18
Featuring a search for spotted owls

BACKROADS OF THE SAN MATEO COAST JULY 9

WOODLAND SUGAR PONDS JULY 30
Migrating shorebirds and summer hawks

THE SAN MATEO COUNTY COAST AUGUST 6
Nesting birds and returning shorebirds

OUTER POINT REYES AUGUST 27
Vagrant land birds and shorebirds

Participants may sign up for the entire series or individual trips. Preferences will be given to those attending the entire series. The series fee is \$75. Individual trips are \$10, except for the Yosemite trip which is \$35. Trip details will be sent when you register. Call 325-9349 for more information.

ARIZONA BIRDING TRIP

Don Starks of San Jose and the San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory will be leading a birding tour of Arizona during the first week of August.

In contrast to the "bare bones" trips for which Don and SFBBO have been noted in the past this is a "first class" trip. The cost is \$985. (All expenses including air-fare from San Jose.)

The tour will visit the Santa Rita, Santa Catalina, Huachuca and Chiricahua Mountains and will bird the Sonoran Desert, Patagonia, Mt. Lemmon, Aravaipa Canyon, Madera Canyon and Ramsey Canyon (the hummingbird capitol of the U.S.)

The trip is sponsored by the San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory. To make your reservations call Don at (408) 371-9720 or write him - 2076 Foxworthy Ave., San Jose, CA 95124.

APOLOGIES

OR WHY DO I KEEP DOING THAT?

CLIFF RICHER

Bonnie McClellan called the office to point out that I had misspelled her name. She was, of course, much too polite to point out that this was not the first time.

My sincere apologies...again. But my nagrin was offset by hearing the good news that Bonnie is up on her feet again and feeling much improved.

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

STEVE SCHAFFER

(A moorhen by any other name would still be a gallinule...)

People have always had a desire to classify and categorize the world around them, and have given names to everything they can think of. Birds, of course, are no exception. Every species of bird in North America has a common name (such as American robin) and a scientific name (in the case of the robin, *Turdus migratorius*). This month's column will cover common names; a future column will be devoted to scientific names.

Birds have been named for everything imaginable; people (Thayer's gull), plants (sage thrasher), places (Bahama swallow), and even for weakness of character (yellow-bellied sapsucker). (Just kidding on that last one; it really does have a yellow belly.)

In addition to the 'official' common name, assigned by the American Ornithologists' Union, many birds have colloquial names. The name redbird has been applied to virtually every bird in North America that is predominately red (northern cardinal, scarlet tanager, etc.). One name that I have always thought particularly appropriate is Good-God, for the ivory-billed woodpecker. Although I have never personally seen one, I am certain that the name aptly describes the initial reaction of anyone fortunate enough to have done so.

Some common names are derived from scientific names. Hence, we have junco and vireo, neither of which have any meaning outside of their use as bird names. Phainopepla, which is also derived from the scientific name, is one that has never been very popular, probably because no one is really sure how to pronounce it. Elliot Coues, an army surgeon and ornithologist of the mid-nineteenth century, preferred shining fly-snapper. Coues also made an observant comment about the name oystercatcher: "Oyster opener would be a better name, as oysters do not run fast."

Alexander Wilson, one of the founding fathers of American ornithology, was fond of naming birds after the locales where the original specimens were collected. Thus we have Tennessee, Nashville, Cape May, Kentucky, and Connecticut warblers. Unfortunately, of these five species, only the Kentucky warbler spends a significant fraction of the year in the region for which it is named.

John James Audubon named several birds after his friends and associates, but not a single one for his wife Lucy, who supported him tirelessly throughout his career as an artist and ornithologist. Lucy Audubon did eventually receive indirect recognition, however. Lucy's warbler was named for Lucy Baird, daughter of Spencer Baird (of Baird's sparrow and Baird's sandpiper fame). Lucy Baird had been in turn named after Mrs. Audubon.

Many birds bear the first names of women; Virginia's and Grace's warbler and Anna's hummingbird are examples. But only one species' common name commemorates a woman's last name: Blackburnian warbler, named for Anna Blackburn, a benefactor of ornithology during the late 18th century.

The names of birds often have a fascinating story behind them. Most of the material for this column has been taken from *The Dictionary of American Bird Names* (revised edition), by Ernest A. Choate, and *The Audubon Society Encyclopedia of North American Birds*, by John K. Terres. Within these volumes there exists a tremendous wealth of information about the names of birds, of which the tidbits published here are but a tiny sample.

(Steve echoes the pleas of at least two preceding Field Trip Chairs in another article on Page 8. Don't forget we also need leaders for our regular trips as well. Come on and volunteer! We know you're out there! --- The Editor)

REPORT FROM THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

GAIL SMITHSON

The Education Committee is currently considering an expansion of its Campership Program into other areas of environmental education. A number of programs are being examined to supplement the Audubon Wilderness Camps. Among the many courses under consideration, two local offerings stand out as possible candidates.

The Sierra Nevada Field Campus of San Francisco State University offers "The Natural Sciences for Teachers", a week-long course which examines biological adaptations to the physical limits of the environment and studies basic principles of geology and astronomy in one of Nature's finest classrooms - the Yuba Pass area.

San Jose State University has a two-weekend course entitled "Environmental Education" scheduled for each fall and spring. This course -for educators- addresses the specifics of preparing environmental

teaching outlines and gathering of materials for their own teaching specialty.

Sequoia Audubon plans to publicize these programs and others through the San Mateo County school systems and offer sponsorship to deserving teachers for the course of their choice beginning in September. If you know any teachers who might be interested pass the word to them so they will be looking for our announcement. If you are a teacher and are interested, then contact the Education Committee members for more information.

The Education Committee is also looking for copies of the Arctic Wilderness poster that came with the May issue of Audubon magazine. We can use it for distribution to local schools. If you still have it, and can part with it, please bring it to the meeting, drop it off at the office or mail it to us at 720 El Camino Real, Belmont, CA 94002.

SEQUOIA AUDUBON SOCIETY PATCHES ---- \$4.00 BY MAIL
San Francisco Peninsula Birdwatching is Sequoia Audubon Society's guide to birding sites in San Francisco and San Mateo County. More than 30 different spots are described and accompanied by maps, directions and helpful notes about each spot. A species index directs you to habitats for the birds you want to see. Order one for yourself and several as gifts! Only \$6.00!
(Taxes, shipping and handling included).

Also available by mail - including postage and tax
National Geographic Field Guides-New Edition 16.00
Birding Northern California - Jean Richmond 12.00
Mono Lake Guidebooks 7.60
Pacific Coast Checklist-in pads of 25 2.50



BIRDING VIDEOTAPES AVAILABLE FOR RENTAL
TECHNIQUES OF BIRDING by Arnold Small - \$2/wk.
VIDEO GUIDE TO BIRDS OF NORTH AMERICA - \$5/wk.
Send checks to: Sequoia Audubon Society
Allow 14-18 days 720 El Camino Real #403
for delivery Belmont, Ca. 94002

San Francisco
Peninsula
Birdwatching

NAME
ADDRESS

CITY STATE ZIP
ALSO AVAILABLE AT MEETINGS AND SOME FIELD TRIPS

GARDEN WINGS

JUANITA HEINEMANN

HUMMINGBIRD PLANTS

Most hummingbird attracting flowers are bell or tubular shaped permitting easy access for feeding. Attracting colors are orange, red, blue and purple. The flower centers usually have broad openings and are not crowded with stamens or stigma.

Hummingbirds will visit and feed from flowers containing an abundance of nectar and/or insects on a regular basis. They will also explore many other plants of attracting colors, such as red roses, pelargoniums and pyracantha berries, which contain little or no nectar, possibly gleaning small insects.

Small flowered species and hybrid fuchsias are particularly attractive to hummingbirds. Single corollas make it easier for the birds to obtain nectar. Some of the fuchsias that hummingbirds are known to feed from are:

Species: Lycioides; Magellanica; Microphylla.

Hybrids: Abbe Farges; Blue Elf; Blulette; Buttercup; Chang and Baby Chang; Display; Hidcote Beauty; and Swanley Gem.

Other plants you might want to consider when choosing species to attract hummingbirds include:

Aloe; Agave; Citrus; Comfrey; Bottlebrush;

Heuchera (Coral Bells); Grevillea; Hibiscus; Impatiens;

Kniphofia; Lantana; Lotus berthelotii (Parrot's Beak);

Madrone; Momosa (Silk Tree); Salvia (Sages); Shrimp Plant; Trumpet Vine; Viburnum tinus; and Wisteria.

HUMMINGBIRD FEEDERS

Decorative hummingbird feeders of ceramic or other opaque materials may be pretty but are not recommended. It is difficult to know when they are empty. The materials may not be lead-free and it is difficult to tell if they have been thoroughly cleaned with all mold and fungus removed.

INSECTS AT THE HUMMINGBIRD FEEDER

ANTS: To discourage these pests, wipe or spray a light coat of vegetable oil across the tree branch and down the feeder hanger. If this does not work, remove the feeder and spray a light coat of an ant control on the branch. Replace the feeder only after the insecticide is thoroughly dry.

BEES: Bees sometimes invade hummingbird sugar feeders in mass for about a month during the late summer. There seems to be no safe way to discourage this invasion. Bees are beneficial insects to both man and nature, so be patient. They will move on. For the occasional bee, you can lightly coat the feeding orifice or bee guard with vegetable oil.

WARNING

There are many books and pamphlets available for planning a garden and feeding wild birds. On the whole they offer many good ideas but...

Some books may suggest using honey in hummingbird feeders. The latest information implicates honey as a causative agent in a fungus disease causing death to hummingbirds.

Some of the available literature has chapters concerning care and feeding of wild baby birds and injured adult birds. It has been my experience and that of other wildlife care personnel that diet, housing and care are not always adequately discussed for the person untrained in wildlife care techniques. For the sake of the bird or mammal, PLEASE surrender it to your local wildlife rehabilitation center.

(Extracted from *Wings Over Our Gardens* by Juanita Heinemann, publ. 1985, by California Garden Clubs, Inc.)

ALUMINUM CANS SET '87 RECYCLING RECORD

Americans recycled a record 365 billion aluminum beverage cans in 1987, earning a whopping \$400,000,000 from the effort according to the Can Manufacturers Institute (CMI).

Last year's record volume, which amounts to some 1.33 billion pounds of aluminum, topped the 1986 record by more than 3 billion cans, for a 10% increase in the recycling of these containers.

More than 50% of aluminum cans being produced are now recycled according to CMI and more than 3,000,000 Americans are responsible for that volume.

Which half are your cans in? Help America's environment and recycle. Remember that SAS will be glad to recycle for you so you get double the satisfaction. You'll help America and Sequoia Audubon.

NEW SAS MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Sequoia Audubon Society has a new membership application form designed by Steve Schafer.

The form which contains a short description of some of the activities of SAS and National Audubon is printed in an envelope format and illustrated with original drawings of the western tailed blue butterfly, a wood duck and a coast redwood (*Sequoia sempervirens*).

The application will be distributed to Audubon Canyon Ranch and to parks and refuges in or near the county.

GEESE WIN IN COURT

The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals has reversed a lower court ruling and has said that under the provisions of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act the Secretary of the Interior does not have any legal authority to condone any hunting during a closed season.

The suit was brought by the Alaska Outdoor Council in response to special regulations put forth by the Alaska Fish & Game Department and by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. Under these regulations it was legal for Alaska Natives, prospectors and hinterland travelers to "take" migratory birds for food purposes during the entire year. As a result most migratory species have suffered dramatic declines during the last ten years.

The decision is currently being studied by the US District Court in Anchorage to determine how it will affect the many laws, regulations and agreements which cover subsistence hunting by Aleuts, Eskimos and American Indians, some of whom rely heavily on waterfowl for the summer survival.

BIRDING SAN MATEO COUNTY

APRIL 1988

Peter Metropulos

Two **PINK-FOOTED SHEARWATERS** were "scoped" as they passed offshore at Pigeon Pt. on April 21 (PM,BS).

Appearing like "clock-work" each year in mid-April, migrant **GREEN-BACKED HERONS** showed up at Foster City on April 21 (RT), South of Half Moon Bay, and at Pescadero, both on April 23 (PM).

At least three pairs of "honking" **CANADA GEESE** nested on man-made bayland ponds at Redwood Shores, with chicks seen April 17 (PM,RT). Presumably this population of birds, now breeding in the South Bay, originated from individuals escaping from captivity at the Lake Merritt/Oakland Zoo several years ago.

Beautiful as well as uncommon, a pair of **WOOD DUCKS** was on lower Gazos Creek April 24 (RT). A few pairs nest on secluded forested streams in the Santa Cruz Mountains.

A drake **BLUE-WINGED TEAL**, very uncommon here, was at Redwood Shores on April 17 (RT,PM).

Rare but regular in the baylands during winter, a drake **EURASIAN WIGEON** was lingering at Redwood Shores throughout April (PM,RT).

Another uncommon duck, a **REDHEAD**, was also at Redwood Shores throughout April.

On the late side was a female **BARROW'S GOLDENEYE** at Redwood Shores on April 9 (RT).

Only reported so late in spring, an immature male **HOODED MERGANSER** was at Redwood Shores on April 17 (PM,RT).

OSPREYS pass through our area on the way to breeding areas in the mountains and north coast. A migrant was observed at Pescadero Marsh on April 21 (LK,PM,BS).

Rarely observed locally in spring, two **FERRUGINOUS HAWKS** were reported; one north of Año Nuevo Pt. on Apr.13 (BS) and another in Pacifica Apr.14 (SS).

Late **MERLINS** were terrorizing small songbirds at Pescadero Marsh on April 24 (RT) and in residential San Carlos April 27 (PM).

LESSER GOLDEN PLOVERS which breed in Siberia spend the winter in small numbers on our Pacific Coast. Two such birds were found among a flock of 110 black-bellied plovers in plowed fields south of Half Moon Bay on April 16 (RT).

SNOWY PLOVERS typically choose sandy beaches for nesting. This, unfortunately, is also a favored "roosting" habitat for humans during the warm months. The conflict for territory has resulted in the near-elimination of this species as a breeding bird on the San Mateo County coast. Sadly, the only nesting birds were found in a spot which is slated for development soon (Redwood Shores). PLEASE CONTINUE TO REPORT ALL SIGHTINGS OF SNOWY PLOVERS AND CHECK THE BIRDS' LEGS FOR COLORED BANDS.

"great white gull of the North", the **GLAUCOUS GULL**, was seen flying north with other gulls at Pigeon Point on April 24 (RT).

Usually arriving along our coast in late summer after nesting on islands off west Mexico, ten **ELEGANT TERNS** at Pacifica April 19 (SS) and one at Pillar Point April 23 (PM) were especially early.

An apparently territorial **NORTHERN PYGMY-OWL** was calling non-stop in Monterey Pines at El Granada through April (BS).

Often undetected during migration but probably fairly common, a **RUFIOUS HUMMINGBIRD** was at Half Moon Bay on April 23 (PM).

WESTERN KINGBIRDS prefer more arid inland regions for breeding but they pass through our area during migration. One was found at Redwood Shores on Apr. 9 (RT) and another at Edgewood County Park (BG).

Two **BANK SWALLOWS** were at Pescadero Marsh on April 16 (RT).

The first-arrival **SOLITARY VIREO** was at Pedro Valley Park on April 28 (JS).

A **BLACK-THROATED GRAY WARBLER** was bathing in a tiny stream in Woodside Hills on April 26 (PM).

The only **MACGILLIVRAY'S WARBLER** reported was singing in El Granada on April 15 (BS).

The first **WESTERN TAMAGER** was feeding in flowering eucalyptus in Belmont on April 26 (PM).

Always a treat, colorful **LAZULI BUNTINGS** were at El Granada on April 18 (BS) and in Pacifica on April 28 (PM,SS).

The **BIRD-OF-THE-MONTH AWARD** goes to Judy Spitler for enticing a handsome male adult **HARRIS' SPARROW** to linger at her Pacifica feeder from April 20-27. This bird is extremely rare in California during spring and has been recorded only thrice before in San Mateo County.

GRASSHOPPER SPARROWS are fairly common in certain grassy hillsides in our county during breeding season. Sharp-eared birders can recognize their buzzy insect-like song, but to actually see one is lucky indeed. This month they were found at Cloverdale Road and near Main Street in Pescadero (RF, mob) and Edgewood County Park Apr. 27 (BG).

Following an impressive winter invasion to coastal lowlands there were still **RED CROSSBILLS** throughout the county this month: 20 were in the Redwood City hills on April 28 (PM).

Left-overs from a modest winter influx, montane-nesting **EVENING GROSBEAKS** were at Canyon Road near Pescadero with a flock of 20 on April 16 (RF).

OBSERVERS:

Roland Franz (RF), Betty Groce (BG)
Linda Kypta (LK), Peter Metropulos (PM)
Barry Sauppe (BS), Scott Smithson (SS)
Judy Spitler (JS), Ron Thorn (RT)

PLEASE CALL PETER METROPULOS TO REPORT ANY RARE OR NOTEWORTHY SIGHTINGS. (415) 592-2417

HAVE YOU LOOKED AT YOUR OFFICIAL CALIFORNIA BALLOT AND NOTICED WHO'S FOR AND WHO'S AGAINST PROP. 70? FOR: SENATORS CRANSTON AND WILSON, A. G. VAN DE KAMP, LT.GOV. MC CARTHY, EX-PRESIDENT FORD AND THE CHAIRMAN OF THE L.A. COUNTY SUPERVISORS.

AGAINST: The Presidents of the Cattlemen's Assoc. and the Farm Bureau Federation, and three tame California State Legislators.

GIFTS AND BEQUESTS

Sequoia Audubon Society welcomes gifts in general or on behalf of, or in memory of relatives or friends. Such gifts may be designated for education, for conservation or for any other specific purpose. All others will be used for the advancement of the objectives of Sequoia Audubon Society at the discretion of the Board of Directors. All gifts are tax-deductible. Please send your gift in the form of a check to the Sequoia Audubon Society, Inc. All gifts, donations and bequests will be acknowledged in Sequoia Needles and personally on behalf of Sequoia Audubon Society.

FOR THE PESCADERO MARSH FUND

FROM

JANE PAYNE

FIELD TRIPS FOR 1988-89

STEVE SCHAFER

I am interested in hearing from anyone who has ideas or suggestions for field trips during the coming year. I would particularly like to arrange some trips involving activities other than birding ('Wildflowers of San Mateo County', 'Bay Area Butterflies', etc.), but I need to find people who are willing and reasonably qualified to lead such trips. If you know someone who might be amenable to leading such a trip, please let me know. And don't hesitate to volunteer yourself because you feel you don't know the subject well enough; you probably know it better than most of the rest of us. The field trip schedule will be set by the end of the summer, and I would appreciate getting information as soon as possible. Give me a call at 689-0788, or drop a note to the SAS office.

OFFICERS:	DIRECTORS:	STANDING COMMITTEES:
President: Linda Kypka 591-9053	Elected for Term Ending:	ACR Host: John Silliman 585-3232
Past Pres.: John Silliman 585-3232	June '88 Bonnie McClellan 344-3486	Bird Sightings Peter Metropulos
Vice-Pres.: Cliff Richer 355-4058	June '89 Rick Johnson 571-8533	& Christmas Count: 592-2417
Secretary: Ed Mc Elhany 343-3219	Gail Smithson 363-2725	Conservation: Rick Johnson 571-8533
Treasurer: Colleen Horner 366-4282	June '90 Rick Baird 574-1067	Mary Bresler 994-3587
	Steve Schafer 689-0788	Finance/Budget: Rick Baird 574-1067
STAFF: "Sonny" Green 593-7368		Membership: SEQUOIA AUDUBON SOCIETY OFFICE 593-7368
		Education/SNHS: Walter Smithey 591-2501
		Rare Bird Alert 528-0288
		Field Trips: Steve Schafer 689-0788
		Program: John Silliman 585-3232
		Hospitality: Jo McCartney 583-1308
		Publicity & NEEDLES Editor: Cliff Richer 355-4058

SEQUOIA NEEDLES IS PUBLISHED MONTHLY EXCEPT JULY AND AUGUST. DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF MATERIAL IS THE FIRST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH FOR INCLUSION IN THE FOLLOWING MONTH.

MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO SUBMIT MATERIAL TO BE PUBLISHED IN SEQUOIA NEEDLES. THESE MAY BE ORIGINAL ARTICLES, ORIGINAL ARTWORK OR CARTOONS, OR UNCOPYRIGHTED MATERIALS FROM OTHER SOURCES. ITEMS DEALING WITH CURRENT CONSERVATION ISSUES MUST BE SUBMITTED TO THE CONSERVATION COMMITTEE PRIOR TO PUBLICATION.

INFORMATION FOR ALL OFFICERS AND CHAIRPERSONS --- INCLUDING EXCHANGE BULLETINS --- SHOULD BE MAILED TO: 720 EL CAMINO REAL, SUITE 403, BELMONT, CALIFORNIA 94002.

SUBSCRIPTION TO NEEDLES SEPARATELY IS \$6.00 PER YEAR.

If you CHANGE YOUR NAME OR ADDRESS, send the label from a recent Audubon Magazine wrapper with your new name or address to: NATIONAL AUDUBON, MEMBERSHIP DATA CENTER, PO BOX 2066, Boulder, Co. 80322. Then, please notify the Sequoia Audubon office (593-7368) of the change. Be sure to give the name and address where Audubon Magazine is to be delivered. This avoids duplicate listings and incorrect expiration dates. Please send RENEWAL MEMBERSHIPS directly to National Audubon in the envelope accompanying your renewal notice. LATE RENEWALS should be sent through Sequoia to avoid a lapse in magazine or newsletter issues. The following application is for NEW MEMBERSHIPS only.

SEQUOIA AUDUBON SOCIETY
720 El Camino Real, #403
Belmont, Ca. 94002

NON-PROFIT ORG.
US POSTAGE PAID
San Mateo, Ca.
PERMIT NO. 293

NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION---SEQUOIA AUDUBON SOCIETY
Chapter C16 -- 7XCH

[] YES, enroll me as a member in the NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY and of my local chapter. Please send Audubon magazine and my membership card to the address below.

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY PREFERRED

- [] Individual/\$30 [] Family/\$38 [] Student/\$18 [] Sustaining/\$50
- [] Senior Citizen-Individual/\$21 [] Senior Citizen-Family/\$23 [] Supporting/\$100
- [] Contributing/\$250 [] Donor/\$500 [] Life/\$1500 [] Dual Life/\$2000

[] MY CHECK FOR \$ _____ IS ENCLOSED. [] PLEASE BILL ME.

Please make checks payable to the National Audubon Society and mail to:

SEQUOIA AUDUBON SOCIETY
720 EL CAMINO REAL, SUITE 403
BELMONT, CALIFORNIA 94002
(415) 593-7368

7XCH

TIME VALUED MATERIAL! PLEASE DO NOT DELA