



# sequoia needles

Bulletin of the  
October 1987

SEQUOIA AUDUBON SOCIETY

San Mateo County, Ca.  
Vol. 36, #2

## THIS MONTH'S PROGRAM

### PESCADERO MARSH

State Park Rangers Dave Augustine and Dave Horwitz have been heavily involved in the changes going on at Pescadero Marsh and will present a program on the natural values of the marsh and of wetlands in general.

In addition to a lap-dissolve slide show which they have developed, the two Daves will bring their own unique insights into the value of the marsh as a natural resource and an educational tool.

As an added attraction, the "marsh van", a portable exhibit on wetlands systems, will be parked outside the Garden Center for your examination and enjoyment. This van packs a tremendous amount of information into a small space and has proven highly popular with school and visitor groups. Any one who has not toured this mini-museum should attend the meeting for that reason alone.

Meetings are held at the San Mateo Garden Center on the Alameda at Parkside on the second Thursday of every month. The Social Mixer begins at 7:30 P.M. with the General Meeting and Program at 8:00. The public is invited.

## CHRISTMAS COUNTS SET

The dates for the 1987 Christmas Counts have been set and all of you counters should be marking your calendars for Saturday, December 19 and Saturday, December 26.

The Crystal Springs Count - usually producing one of the best species counts in the nation - fell to a tie for ninth place last year, while the Ano Nuevo count - once again plagued by bad weather - was 29th nationwide.

We have the capability to have the highest counts in the nation - provided we have luck, weather and enough observers.

Barry Sauppe and Peter Metropulos will continue as our compiler and coordinator and assumedly will have every rare bird in the count circles scouted and tied down by count day, so plan on joining up. Call the office (593-7368) or Peter Metropulos (591-2417) to sign up.

## WILD GOOSE CHASE '88

They're off and counting again! Once again a group of die-hard birders will assemble in the small hours of the morning to begin a full day of listening to and looking at large and small bundles of feathers.

Not all the details are fixed. In fact, as this is written, nothing is fixed except that Wild Goose Chase '88 will be held sometime late this month. There is even a possibility that we may have two competing teams.

What is certain is that the fund-raising aspect is more important than ever. With the uncertainty of future income from National Audubon our budget is tighter than ever and we are becoming more and more dependent upon the voluntary generosity of our members and friends to support our activities and those of like-minded organizations.

In addition to providing programs at our monthly meetings, funding the Christmas Counts and providing field trips, Sequoia Audubon Society has an active Conservation Committee that works with other local organizations and on its own to prevent further degradation of our natural heritage. We maintain an office which not only takes care of the business of being an Audubon Society chapter but also offers a clearing house for questions on bird feeding and identification, wildlife rescue and a whole variety of weird and wonderful inquiries. In the educational area we have provided speakers and programs for school and retirement groups, sponsored the Audubon Adventures program in our public schools, revived the Campership program in a new and vital form, and funded the creation of a docent training manual for Pescadero Marsh. The Pescadero Marsh Interpretive Association is very nearly a creation of Sequoia Audubon as we provided the "seed money" for incorporation, commit some of our office services to its ongoing operations and have made specific grants to encourage its activities. We have made specific grants to projects as diverse as the California Parks and Wildlife Initiative and the Marin County Breeding Bird Atlas. We have donated to scientific organizations (Point Reyes and San Francisco Bay Bird Observatories), preservationist groups (Committee for Green Foothills, Nature Conservancy, Peninsula Open Space Trust), legal action funds (Mono Lake Committee, Mono Lake Defense Fund) and such very special groups as Audubon Canyon Ranch.

All of these require money, money that does not come from our usual dues process. We think that this is a relatively painless form of fund-raising with an element of fun to it as well. You have many demands and requests for support but we feel that our requests are modest in comparison to the good that results. Remember that "giving at the office" does not provide funds for conservation issues. We ask you to look about you and see the wonders of the outdoors on our Peninsula, but to also look at the continuing encroachments on and the degradation of our natural environment. Won't you help us preserve and enjoy the wonder by filling out the form on Page Six and mailing it in with your check?

CALENDAR

October 1987

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	31

NEWS FROM THE RANCH

JEANNE PRICE

Audubon Canyon Ranch is repeating some of its more popular programs this fall as well as offering some outstanding ones. All you have to do is make reservation by calling the NEW TELEPHONE NUMBER (415) 868-9244.

OCT. 1 SAS BOARD MEETING. 7:30 PM at the Sears Savings THURSDAY Bank, Carlmont Shopping Center, at the intersection of Ralston Avenue and the Alameda de la Pulgas in Belmont. ALL MEMBERS ARE WELCOME.

OCT. 3 BAY AREA AUDUBON COUNCIL (BAAC) MEETING with John SATURDAY Borneman (NAS Western Regional Office), Hope Babcock (NAS), Lauri Wayburn (PRBO) and Col. Galen H. Yanagihara (US Army Corps of Engineers) at the C.T.A. Building, 4751 Central Way, Cordelia, Ca. Coffee & snacks at 9:30 AM. Meeting begins at 10:00, Ends at 3:00 PM.

OCT. 4 PELAGIC TRIP FROM PRINCETON HARBOR. Barry Sauppe SUNDAY and Peter Metropulos claim that pelagic birding is as good - or better - off the San Mateo coast as it is in Monterey Bay. To prove their point Barry has made arrangements for this special trip from Princeton Harbor. This is one of the best times of the year for off-shore birding and the combination of convenience and outstanding leadership should not be passed up. Details were not fully realized at press time, so call the office for information.

LEADERS BARRY SAUPPE and PETER METROPULOS

OCT. 8 SAS GENERAL MEETING. PESCADERO MARSH featuring THURSDAY the "MARSH VAN" and the "Rangers Dave" (Dave Augustine and Dave Horwitz of State Parks). At the San Mateo Garden Center on the Alameda at Parkside. Social Mixer at 7:30 PM, General Meeting begins at 8:00. See the article on Page One for further details.

OCT. 10 COASTAL CLEAN-UP DAY. Volunteers are needed to SATURDAY help clean up our beaches and coastline. Report to the south parking lot on Hwy. One at Pescadero Beach at 9:00 AM to help clean up both the beach and marsh.

COORDINATOR LINDA KYPTA 591-9053

OCT. 17 CASCADE RANCH FIELD TRIP. Gary Strachan, State SATURDAY Parks Ranger, Auduboner and extraordinary birder will lead us through one of State Parks' newest and least known acquisitions. As the resident ranger at Ano Nuevo State Reserve, Gary has had many opportunities to explore and enjoy this marvelous addition to the system and is eager to share it with us. The trip will begin at 9:00 AM at the parking lot of the Ano Nuevo State Reserve and end approximately at noon. For those who bring lunch, Cliff Richer will conduct an informal afternoon trek to Ano Nuevo Point for shorebird viewing. Take Hwy. 1 south from Half Moon Bay. In approx. 30 miles you will see the signs for the Ano Nuevo State Reserve. Turn right and follow the road to the parking lot. Identify yourself as a trip participant to the ranger at the entrance booth. Sturdy shoes or boots are recommended as there may be some rough footing.

LEADER GARY STRACHAN

NOV. 5 SAS BOARD MEETING. 7:30 PM at the Sears Savings THURSDAY Bank, Carlmont Shopping Center, Belmont.

NOV 7 FIELD TRIP TO THE PALO ALTO BAYLANDS. The Baylands SATURDAY is one of the few remaining and best preserved of the once numerous bay salt marshes. We will meet at the farther end of the duck pond at 9:00 AM. Take Hwy 101 south to the Embarcadero exit. Follow the Embarcadero east to its end and take a left. The duck pond is a short way up on the left opposite the Sea Scout and Yacht Club buildings.

LEADER JOHN SILLIMAN 585-3232

Something a little different for ACR are two Financial Planning Seminars to be held at the Marin Art and Garden Center in Ross on September 23 from from 2-4 P.M. and October 31 from 10 A.M. to noon. Paul Ruby, Robert Hamilton and other Bay Area financial experts will be on hand to answer the question, "What Will Tax Reform Mean to You?" There is no charge.

October 17/18 a program entitled Evolution Seminar for Life Science Teachers will be held in Volunteer Canyon at the Bolinas Lagoon Preserve. While it is for teachers and offers one unit of continuing education credit, parents will find it interesting in light of the current controversy over books and teachings on evolution. Ph.D. speakers include Matt James, Charles Sibley, Vincent Sarich, Devin Padias and William Bennetta.

October 24/25 is a Single Parent Family Halloween weekend at the Bolinas Lagoon Preserve. Make masks, bake treats, explore the mysteries of misunderstood animals and launch a Jack-O-Lantern on the lagoon.

October 24 at the Bouverie Audubon Preserve in Sonoma, Foley Benson will again hold his class on Native American Life Styles. Walk back in time and peek into the cave behind Stewart Falls. A chance to explore the heritage of the first Californians.

October 31 - Here's a free lunch for a day of accomplishment. It's the annual Fall Work Day at BLP. Help staff plant, water, till, label, cook and work in the library. It will be over in time to get home for trick or treaters.

November 7 - Bouverie Fall Color Hike. Experience the Valley of the Moon in Autumn. You'll learn about bird migration, native fruits, mammal tracks, earthstars and the unexpected.

November 14 - A special double-header hike to Cypress Grove and Tom's Point. It will cover some usually inaccessible points along Tomales Bay.

Because of the great popularity of the Bouverie Community Hikes last year there will be two instead of one for the months of October and November. So mark your calendar now for these Saturdays: October 17 and 31, November 14 and 28, and December 19. Each hike is limited to 35 people and begins at 9:30 a.m.

(Continued on Page Three)

**TRACKS IN THE SKY  
AN AUDUBON BENEFIT**

The Mono Lake Committee has joined all eight Bay Area Audubon Chapters and the Western Regional Office of the National Audubon Society as hosts of a very special wine and cheese reception, book-signing and special lecture/slide show celebrating the recent release of a new book and the opening of a related traveling exhibition. The event will be held Tuesday, October 13 from 7-9 P.M. at the California Academy of Sciences, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco.

TRACKS IN THE SKY, a Smithsonian Traveling Exhibition, chronicles the past and current status of the Pacific Flyway. Featuring Tupper Ansel Blake's spectacular photographs, the exhibit is supplemented by sounds and artifacts of the Flyway from Alaska to Mexico. Many of the photographs have been taken from a new book of the same name written by Peter Steinhart. Mr. Blake and Mr. Steinhart will be on hand to autograph books and talk about their experiences, while wine and hors d'oeuvres are served.

All proceeds from the reception will go towards efforts to save Mono Lake, a wetland integral to the Pacific Flyway. Palmer Madden, an attorney from the team that argued and won the 1983 landmark decision on the Public Trust Doctrine will introduce the authors and will speak briefly on the current status of Mono Lake. As a finale Mr. Steinhart and Mr. Blake will show slides and discuss the issues of wetlands and wildlife associated with the Flyway.

Tickets are \$25. per person and may be purchased by calling Lynn Tennefoss at 329-1811 or by sending a check made out to SCVAS-Tracks to the Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society at 415 Cambridge Ave., #21, Palo Alto, CA 94306. Copies of *Tracks in the Sky* are also available now at the pre-publication price of \$32. (tax included) and may be held for you at the opening, or sent to your home.

**NEWS FROM THE RANCH**

(Continued from Page Two)

To avoid disappointment, make your reservation right away by calling (707) 938-4554.

ACR Manager Skip Schwartz reports a generous donation from U.S. Leasing and a substantial contribution from Margaret Quigley, who gave Tom's Point to ACR in 1985. Her recent donation will be used in support of ACR's Tomales Bay Research and Education Program.

**1987-88 FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE**

The Field Trip Committee headed by Steve Schafer and hosted by Linda Kypta met on September 17 to plan the year's events. Also present were Rick Baird, Nick Coiro, Janet Duerr, Peter Metropulos, Cliff Richer, Scott Smithson and Gil West. Others participated by telephone. This resulting schedule will be adhered to as closely as possible, but may be subject to change on short notice. Additions or substitutions may be made during the year so please refer to each month's *NEEDLES* for confirmation.

DATE	FIELD TRIP	LEADER
Sat., Nov. 7	Palo Alto Baylands	John Silliman
Wed., Nov. 18	Palo Alto Baylands	Nick Coiro
Sat., Nov. 21	Gray Lodge and the Sacramento	Cliff Richer
Sun., Nov. 22	Wildlife Refuges	
Sat., Dec. 5	Foster City	Nick Coiro
Wed., Dec. 16	Foster City	Nick Coiro
Sat., Dec. 19	Crystal Springs Christmas Count	Barry Sauppe and
Sat., Dec. 26	Ano Nuevo Christmas Count	Peter Metropulos
Sat., Jan. 9	San Pedro County Park	Scott Smithson
Sun., Jan. 17	Princeton Harbor	Cliff Richer
Sat., Jan. 23	Los Banos-The Grasslands	John Silliman
Sun., Jan. 24	Refuges & Panoche Valley	and Gil West
Sun., Jan. 31	Pescadero Marsh & the Coast	Peter Metropulos
Sat., Feb. 13	The Northern Refuges - Tule	Steve Schafer
Sun., Feb. 14	Lake, Klamath Lake and Bear	Janet Duerr
Mon., Feb. 15	Valley for Eagles and Swans!	
Wed., Feb. 24	Golden Gate Park	Linda Kypta
Sun., Feb. 28	Stockton and the Delta	Gil West
Sun., Mar. 13	Mountainview Forebay	Linda Kypta
Sat., Mar. 26	Bodega Bay, Salt Point	Janet Duerr
Sun., Mar. 27	and other points.	Steve Schafer
Sat., Apr. 2	Foster City	Nick Coiro
Sun., Apr. 10	Waddell Creek	Gary Strachan
Sun., Apr. 17	Mines Road	Cliff Richer
Sun., May 1	Jasper Ridge	Louise Fletcher
Sun., May 15	Princeton Pelagic Trip	Barry Sauppe
Sat., May 21	San Pedro County Park	Scott Smithson
Fri., May 27	Memorial Day Weekend	Cliff Richer
through	Mountains and Deserts	
Mon., May 30	Tour.	
Sat., Jun. 5	Gazos Creek and Butano SP	Peter Metropulos
Sat., Jun. 18	Yuba Pass and	Gil West
Sun., Jun. 19	Sierra Valley	
Sat., Jul. 30	Yosemite Park and	Linda Kypta
Sun., Jul. 31	Environs	
Sat., Sep. 3	Southern California Excursion	TBA
through		
Mon., Sep. 5		

## THE DESERT CONSERVATION PLANS: POINT-COUNTERPOINT

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is defending its desert areas management and attacking Senator Cranston's Cal. Desert Protection Act (Bill S-7).

The BLM manages 25,000,000 acres, most of it grassland or desert. S-7 or its house counterpart (HR-371) would reduce this to 9,000,000.

It would do this by creating three new national parks from the Death Valley and Joshua Tree National Monuments and the East Mchave National Scenic Area and bringing them under the Park Service. 8,800,000 acres would be designated as wilderness areas and special protection would be given to specific sensitive areas.

Sequoia Audubon Society has joined the National Parks and Conservation Association, the Sierra Club, the Wilderness Society and other conservation organizations in supporting the legislation.

The three national organizations have published a 70 page booklet entitled "Desert Plan Not Enough". The BLM answered with a 50 Page single-spaced typewritten response. The Wilderness Society countered with 33 statements and the BLM came back with a further 15 pages.

Obviously we do not have room in this newsletter to repeat these 150+ pages of argument. However some points bear closer examination.

The proponents contend "enforcement is...extremely lax." The BLM answers "on the average, 1000 citations per year issued". Each enforcement officer issued less than one citation every eight days!

The BLM states that the proposed wilderness areas contain miles of "ways" maintained exclusively by vehicle use and that this should preclude their designation as wilderness. The reasoning here is obscure. Should we allow the environment to be abused because we have abused it in the past?

The BLM contends that "special resource values that support livestock grazing, mining and recreation opportunities would be lost". One purpose of the new law is to reduce the abuse of these "opportunities."

The Sierra Club says that tank tracks from World War II maneuvers can still be seen in the desert. The BLM concedes that some are still visible from the air but that many occurred much later - in 1964! This proves the point. The desert is a sensitive area and is slow to recover from misuse.

The BLM contends that less than 1000 acres of grazing land are in poor condition. Even the ranchers will have to wince at that statement.

The booklet states that there are numerous cases of vandalism to archeological sites. The BLM says that there is no statistical data available to support this statement. We have all seen the damage and do not need the numbers, but the lack of information is itself disturbing. Doesn't the BLM care enough to bother keeping statistics?

The BLM contends that ranchers will be severely impacted by the new designations under S-7. However despite frequent use of the word "many", the BLM only identifies 6000 head of cattle and three ranchers which would be seriously affected.

The BLM contends that "areas most cited as damaged

(by Off-Highway-Vehicle use) are the Antelope and Victor Valleys, which happen to be mostly private, not BLM public lands." These abuses have caused private owners to erect miles of new fencing and put up "no trespassing" notices. Almost unfenced land in these areas, regardless of ownership, shows vehicle damage and illegal dumping.

Indeed, the BLM's whole defense of its OHV policies is self-damning. They regard the off-roaders as their principal constituency and the major source of their political support. For example, they define "impacted area" as being limited only to the area directly under the wheels on relatively heavily traveled ways. They therefore regard only 60,000 acres as being heavily impacted. Conservationists think a figure of 1,000,000 acres is more realistic. Here are some direct quotes which reflect the BLM's bias:

"OHV's are a legitimate land use which will continue in the desert..."  
"Over 90% of recreation in the California Desert Conservation Area is vehicle related."  
"The Bureau is studying...to reduce the potential for trespass."  
"Certain (sensitive) areas are open to vehicular travel because routes of travel cannot be readily delineated."  
"Because of low use levels both of the (sensitive) dune areas are open to OHV use"  
"While this area (Jawbone Canyon) is severely impacted, most of the desert is not."  
"Compaction of soil is indeed a problem. (but)...only 8-14% of the heaviest use areas are severely compacted."  
"Although some soil loss has occurred, such loss has not been excessive in relation to the benefits from the permitted OHV use."  
"...OHV use does indeed impact wildlife in the immediate vicinity."  
"The 90% reduction (in small rodent population) was on the race course itself, which covered only...800 acres."  
"Ground nesters are...vulnerable to OHV impacts. However these species occur throughout the desert."  
"the loss of a few creosote bush plants is not worthy of the level of concern"

No law is perfect and no legislation satisfies everyone so it is likely that S-7 will be amended. The size of the area designated for wilderness treatment is apt to be reduced. National security considerations will have some impact on restrictions on mining and mineral exploration. Lobbying from hunters, fishermen, rockhounds and off-road vehicle enthusiasts will also exert influence. It is even possible that S-7 may not be passed in this session of Congress. What is certain is that the BLM must change its attitudes as respects grazing and OHV use or it will lose control over its empire. S-7 is only a first step. Even if it fails this year, it will be back in some form until it is passed or until the BLM develops a true "multiple-use" policy that preserves and uses rather than rapes and abuses.

We urge you to write Senator Wilson or your representative and express support for S-7 and H-371. If you need more information, a call to the BLM at (916) 978-4746 will produce a summary of the criticisms and responses. Contact the Sierra Club for the full text of the supporting data for S-





# BIRDING IN SAN MATEO COUNTY

Peter Metropulos

Observations are for the month of August 1987.  
Please call and report sightings of birds believed to be RARE, UNUSUAL or MYSTERIOUS. There are several hundred birdwatchers in San Mateo county - I'd sure like to hear from some of you! The number to report observations is: 592-2417

RED-FOOTED BOOBY: One of the rarest birds ever to be found locally was an immature of this tropical pelagic species, found on a whale-watching boat trip off Pacifica's Pedro Point, August 14. The bird was seen by droves of birders, some from as far away as West Virginia. It remained six days foraging on fishermen's left-overs. There were but two previous state records. San Mateo County gets the booby-Prize this year!

A BLACK-FOOTED ALBATROSS was seen following a freighter off Pigeon Point on August 3 (CR).

GREEN-BACKED HERONS, uncommon migrants in our area, were at the Redwood Shores sewage facility, August 17-19, Pescadero Marsh, August 25, (PM) and Ano Nuevo Point on August 16 (WB).

Two BRANT summered at Ano Nuevo Point (GS). They are considered rare in the state during summer, but we usually find a few non-breeding birds vacationing along our coast. WOOD DUCK: A group of seven young at Pescadero Marsh, August 25 (PM) indicate successful breeding locally. GREEN-WINGED TEAL, which do not nest in our county, returned to Pescadero Marsh on August 10 and AMERICAN WIGEON, returned on August 30 (PM).

An early COOPER'S HAWK migrant was at Pescadero Marsh on August 25 (PM). Always a treat, an immature PEREGRINE was terrorizing shore-birds (why don't they pick on starlings?), at Pescadero Marsh, Aug. 25-29 (PM). Quite rare anywhere coastally was a PRAIRIE FALCON winging south over El Granada August 26 (BS). The possibility of nesting GOLDEN EAGLES was intriguing with an adult pair being seen in July and again on August 3 on Stage Road between San Gregorio and Pescadero (CR) and an immature bird was seen regularly in the Redwood City area (MOB).

LESSER GOLDEN-PLOVER: One which arrived at Ano Nuevo Point on July 28, was present throughout August, roosting on the dunes with Black-bellied Plovers (GS). SNOWY PLOVER: Eight at Ano Nuevo Point on August 29 (PM) were the only ones reported this month. They are getting scarcer by the day! Please report any sightings of these birds.

LESSER YELLOWLEGS: 32 in Pescadero Marsh on August 30 (PM) was the highest count ever made in this county. A SOLITARY SANDPIPER, very rare in the state, was flushed from a brackish pond at Pescadero Marsh on August 29 (PM). RED KNOTS were reported from Ano Nuevo: 5 on August 30 (MM), 20+ on August 31 (CR), and Pescadero Marsh, August 25 (PM). SEMI-PALMATED SANDPIPERS: Very rare and hard to identify, but regular along our coast in the fall, singles were at Princeton Harbor Marsh, August 3 (CR) and August 29 (PM); and Pescadero Marsh on August 25 (PM). BAIRD'S SANDPIPERS: Another uncommon migrant, small numbers were found on coastal mudflats and marshes from Princeton (CR)(RT) to Ano Nuevo (MM). Three PECTORAL SANDPIPERS at Pescadero Marsh on August 23 were the only ones reported.

One of the rarest shorebirds to occur regularly in California is the BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER. On August 28, two of these handsome birds were photographed at Ano Nuevo Point (GS). They remained feasting on flies among the kelp for at least four days (CR) and were enjoyed by many.

MARbled MURRELETS were 65 in number at Ano Nuevo Point on August 27 (GS).

An immature WHITE-WINGED DOVE flushed from a bluff at Ano Nuevo Point on August 29 (PM) established only the second county record.

SPOTTED OWLS are extremely rare in the Santa Cruz Mountains. One was flushed during daylight along Corte Madera Creek in San Gregorio on August 31 (CR).

WILLOW FLYCATCHERS are quite rare in migration locally, so one at Ano Nuevo Point on August 29 (PM) was significant.

WESTERN KINGBIRDS were at Cloverdale Road near Pescadero August 15 and Ano Nuevo August 29 (PM).

PURPLE MARTINS returned to visit a Burlingame yard for the second consecutive year: an adult and two immatures were present August 10-13 (F&JA). Four first-year birds were at Pescadero Marsh on August 3 (CR) and another was at Ano Nuevo Point on August 11 (GS).

A RUBY CROWNED KINGLET at Ano Nuevo on August 23 (GS) was the earliest-ever arrival date for San Mateo County.

BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER: A migrant was at Pillar Point on August 29 (PM). CEDAR WAXWING: An early flock was in San Carlos on August 19 (PM). PHAINOPEPLA: One in Portola Valley from July 28 to August 2 (BJ) was noteworthy as there are only three previous county records.

The first migrant HERMIT WARBLER was at Moss Beach on August 13 (BS). TOWNSEND'S WARBLERS arrived simultaneously in Moss Beach (PM) and Menlo Park (WB) on August 29.

WESTERN Tanager: A "wave" of eight birds were at El Granada on August 28 (BS).

A GRASSHOPPER SPARROW at Ano Nuevo on August 23 (GS) may have nested nearby.

HOODED ORIOLES are being parasitized by Brown-headed Cowbirds! Baby cowbirds were begging for food from adult orioles in Foster City this month. This may be a new phenomenon --- keep an eye on those sneaky cowbirds.

OBSERVERS (Initials): Frank and Jean Allen (F&JA), William Bousman (WB), Barbara Johnson (BJ), Mike Mammoser (MM), many observers (MOB), Peter Metropulos (PM), Cliff Richer (CR), Barry Sauppe (BS), Gary Strachan (GS), and Ron Thorn (RT)

## CAL-TIP

The State Department of Fish and Game provides a toll-free line to report poaching incidents (and illegal gill-netting). Call (800) 952-5400 between the hours of 8 AM and 5 PM Monday through Friday.

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC  
FIELD GUIDES

THE POISON PATROL

We have a good supply of the new Second Edition of the *National Geographic Field Guide to the Birds of North America*.

This book is almost universally accepted as the finest American field guide available today and the second edition has corrected some earlier errors and added new information that was not available in 1983.

Under its charter the National Geographic Society only allows the sale and resale of its publications through non-profit organizations so this guide is not available in commercial book stores.

Anyone who is still relying on the obsolete Peterson and Golden guides or the embarassingly awful Audubon guide needs the NG manual - and every serious birder needs the new edition.

To order the *National Geographic Field Guide to the Birds of North America* call the SAS office (593-7368) or use the form on Page Five.

Defenders of Wildlife, in cooperation with the Environmental Protection Agency has created the Poison Patrol, an ad-hoc citizens' group whose primary mission is to report wildlife that may have been poisoned by pesticides.

This informal organization was kicked off in June with the distribution of hundreds of thousands of pamphlets. The flyers describe circumstances under which wildlife poisoning should be suspected and provide a toll-free number to report any such cases.

The calls will used to identify areas of the country where problems seem particularly severe and, it is hoped, will lead to retrieval and analysis of the dead animals and birds in order to determine which pesticides are killing wildlife and under what circumstances.

For more information and a Poison Patrol pamphlet, write to Defenders of Wildlife, 1244 Nineteenth St., NW, Washington, DC 20036.

<b>OFFICERS:</b>	<b>DIRECTORS:</b>	<b>STANDING COMMITTEES:</b>	<b>Wknd Field Trips:</b> Steve Schafer 689-0788
President: Linda Kypta 591-9053	Elected for Term Ending:	ACR Host: John Silliman 585-3232	Mid-week Trips: Nick Coiro 349-1834
Past Pres.: John Silliman 585-3232	June '88 Bonnie McClennan 344-3486	Bird Sightings Peter Metropulos	Program: John Silliman 585-3232
Vice-Pres.: Cliff Richer 355-4058	June '89 Rick Johnson 571-8533	& Christmas Count: 592-2417	Hospitality: Jo McCartney 583-1308
Secretary: Ed Mc Elhany 343-3219	Gail Smithson 363-2725	Conservation: Rick Johnson 571-8533	Publicity & NEEDLES Editor: Cliff Richer 355-4058
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	Steve Schafer 689-0788	Finance/Budget: Rick Baird 574-1067	Rare Bird Alert 528-0288
<b>STAFF:</b>		Education/SNHS: Walter Smithy 591-2501	

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.

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