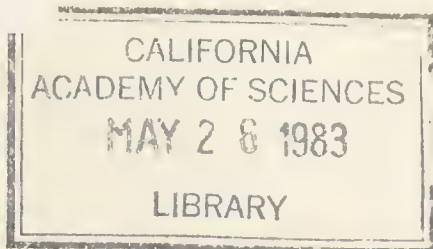


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# the gull

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## GGAS Dinner - A Potluck

This year's annual dinner will be on Friday, June 17, at the Sailboat Clubhouse at 586 Bellevue Avenue in Oakland's Lakeside Park. To get to Bellevue Avenue turn off Grand Avenue near Children's Fairyland.

Food assignments are: A-D hors d'oeuvres, E-L main course, M-T salads and U-Z desserts. GGAS will provide punch, wine, tea, coffee, plates and utensils.

Plan to arrive at 6 p.m. for the happy hour. Dinner will be at 7 p.m. After dinner there will be an illustrated program on Audubon Canyon Ranch by the Ranch's manager, Skip Schwartz. Skip will tell us about the ecology of the ranch, ranch activities and how the ranch was started through the efforts of Bay Area Audubon members.

—PROGRAM COMMITTEE

## Field Trips Calendar

See the May *Gull* for the following trip:

**Friday-Sunday, June 3-5—Birding by Ear in Yosemite.**

**Wednesday, June 8—Mini-trip to Redwood Regional Park.** Meet at the park at **9:30 a.m.** Take the Warren Freeway, turn left onto Redwood Rd. and proceed about three miles to Redwood Gate, southern entrance to the park. Leave cars at the small parking lot just inside park on left. Bring lunch. We should see Black-headed Grosbeak, Swainson's Thrush, Northern Oriole, Solitary, Hutton's and Warbling Vireos. Leaders: Delpha de Timofeev and Ruth Voss (525-8032).

**Saturday/Sunday, June 11/12—Mono Basin.** Meet at **8 a.m.** at Mono County Park five miles north of Lee Vining and just east of Hwy.

395. To get to Mono Basin take Hwy. 120 over Tioga Pass to the town of Lee Vining and proceed north to the meeting place. An alternate route is around Lake Tahoe to Hwy. 395 and then south to Mono County Park. We will spend Saturday birding the north side of the lake looking for common residents in the cottonwoods around the park and the juniper/sage habitat north and east of the lake as well as the lake edge itself.

On **Sunday** we will meet at South Tufa at **8 a.m.** Take Hwy. 395 south from Lee Vining to Hwy. 120, turn east and proceed to the entrance of South Tufa State Reserve. We will meet in the parking lot. We will bird this area and the Jeffrey pine forest south and east of here looking for Gray Flycatchers, Gnatcatchers and other Mono Basin specialties.

Be prepared for hot bright sun and/or cold wind and rain. The elevation of the basin is 6500 feet and the temperature may drop at night. Bring lunches for both days and be prepared to hike. It would be advisable to bring an extra pair of boots for Saturday when we hike through the "Mono muck."

Forest Service campgrounds are available southwest of Lee Vining in Lee Vining Canyon and north of town up Lindy Canyon. Motels in Lee Vining include: Best Western Lake View Motel (714-647-6543), Gateway Motel (714-647-6467) and Murphey's Motel (714-647-6316). Leaders: Helen and Paul Green (526-5943). (✓)

**Saturday/Sunday, June 25/26—Yuba Pass and Vicinity.** On **Saturday** meet at **9 a.m.** at Wild Plum Campground. We will caravan to Sierra Valley and see many of the birds of the eastern Sierra including Yellow-headed Blackbird. On **Sunday** meet at **8 a.m.** at the Yuba Pass summit. We will bird the mountain areas for summer residents including flycatchers, warblers and Calliope Hummingbirds.

Take I-80 to Truckee, go north on Hwy. 89 to Sierraville and take Hwy. 49 west to Wild Plum Campground, about one-half mile from Sierra City. Or take Hwy. 49 northeast from Auburn. Camping is available at the Wild Plum and Chapman campgrounds on Hwy. 49 (U.S. Forest Service). Lodging is available at Sierra City: Sierra Chalet (916-862-1110), Buttes Motel (916-862-1170), Herrington's Sierra Pines (916-862-1151), Basset Station Motel (916-862-1297), Sierra Buttes Inn Motel (916-862-1191) and Yuba River Inn (916-862-1122). Leader: Peter Allen (981-7199). (✓)

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**Saturday, July 2—San Mateo County Coast.** Meet at Pescadero Beach parking lot at the intersection of Hwy. 1 and Pescadero Rd. at **8 a.m.** Please carpool to this point if possible as parking is limited. Bring lunch and a jacket; the weather can be cool along the coast. Brown Pelicans, Heermann's Gull and Black Oystercatchers are probable. We may also see Harlequin Ducks, Black Swifts and Bank Swallows at Año Nuevo. (There is an entrance fee at Año Nuevo.) Leader: Jon Zablackis (527-2083). (✓)

**Sunday, July 10—Chimney Rock, Point Reyes.** Join us for our annual trip to see nesting Black Oystercatchers and Western Gulls. Meet at **9 a.m.** at the Point Reyes National Seashore headquarters near Olema. We will caravan to the coast. Bring lunch, liquids and a spotting scope if you have one. Leader: Betty Short (921-3020 weekdays). (✓)

**Note from the Field Trips Committee—**Beginners are always welcome on GGAS field trips. Leaders and participants are eager to introduce people to this activity which we all enjoy. From time to time the committee will plan trips especially for beginners. These trips will generally go to nearby areas to see resident species.

**Saturday, July 9—Beginners' Trip to Rodeo Lagoon.** Meet at **8:30 a.m.** at the Marin Headlands Ranger Station. Take Hwy. 101 north across the Golden Gate Bridge, take the Sausalito exit and turn left through the tunnel to Marin Headlands. Follow the road to the ranger station at the beach. Bring liquids. We will walk about one mile on level ground around the lagoon. We will be looking for gulls, egrets, bitterns and night herons. The trip will end around noon. Leader: Jerry Scott (752-5835). (✓)

Details for these and additional summer trips will be in the July/August *Gull*.

**Friday/Sunday, July 15-17—Lassen Volcanic National Park.** Leader: Dan Murphy (564-0074).

**Saturday/Sunday, July 23/24—Lee Vining Canyon, Mono Lake and Tioga Pass.** Leader: Jon Zablackis (527-2083).

There will be a **backpacking trip to Lassen Volcanic National Park in late August.** Details will be available in the July/August *Gull*.

**Carpooling** arrangements can be made for trips marked (✓). Call Kate Partridge at 236-9053 and leave a message. She will contact you.

**Problems:** If for any reason you have difficulty getting in touch with a field trip leader or need information regarding a trip, call Shirley Kelly (387-8290) or the GGAS office (843-2222).

—FIELD TRIPS COMMITTEE



## April Observations — through April 27

Once again, April proved to be our poorest month for rare birds; winter rarities mostly depart by early April and spring vagrants generally arrive between mid-May and early July. However, birders can enjoy the return of many migrants, both summer residents and pure transients. Their arrival dates, generally remarkably predictable, sometimes produce surprises.

After the March deluge, the first half of April was dry before showers returned.

### EARLY RETURNS

SE Farallon Island experienced two waves of migrating landbirds, April 5-6 and April 16 (PRBO). On the 16th there were about 385 present, of which 225 were Ruby-crowned Kinglets. Many species represented in small numbers were early according to past Island observations, but were on time for the Bay Area. Gray Flycatcher was the only species there that was notably early for the region, with three on April 18 and another April 20.

At Lincoln Park in San Francisco, a Gray Flycatcher was slightly earlier, on April 16 (AH). Two Western Wood Pewees in Tilden Park April 16 were also early (SFB, et al.). A Swainson's Thrush was already calling at Bodega Bay April 8, but it did not remain (NC). According to the expected arrival times of Costa's Hummingbird in central California the male back in lower Del Puerto Canyon April 3 (AE) was not early, but my recollection from past years is that at this northernmost outpost of the species it has not been found until later in the season (?).

Opposite to these landbird observations, the seabird nesting season on SE Farallon remains unprecedentedly late; there were still no Cassin's Auklet eggs as of April 23 (PRBO).

### RARE

The two Cattle Egrets were still at Mendoza Schoolhouse April 12 (DW). A Ross' Goose that appeared at Safford Lake near Novato in mid-March lingered at least to April 24 (GM, CF). A Lesser Golden Plover just commencing prenuptial molt was carefully studied and compared with Black-bellied Plovers on Bay Farm Island April 24 (LF, et al.). Five Surfbirds on SE Farallon April 17 (PRBO) were rare off the mainland. The adult **Common Black-headed Gull** at Stockton Sewage Ponds was seen again April 2 (DJ) and April 10 (EG). Most exciting was the sighting there of several adult **Little Gulls**. After several years of one wintering individual, we were startled last spring by the presence of **two** April 30-May 9. This month **two** were spotted April 22 (EH) and **three** April 26-27 (DY, JML)!

Two White-throated Swifts April 6 were very rare on SE Farallon (PRBO). A Cassin's Kingbird was in Corral Hollow, San Joaquin County, April 3 (AE). Two Pygmy Nuthatches were again found at Skyline and Ascot in Oakland April 13 (MG). The male Black-and-white Warbler that wintered at Stinson Beach State Park was singing April 8 (MLR, AF, fide **Independent Gazette!**). The Harris' Sparrow at Stockton Sewage Ponds was last seen April 2 (DJ). Two Yellow-headed Blackbirds were found coastally, a female at the Lake Merced Boathouse April 6-15 (DM, PU) and an individual at Embarcadero and Denison in Oakland April 20 (JC). San Francisco's pair of **Great-tailed Grackles** was constructing this year's nest (mob).

**Observers:** Stephen F. Bailey, Joel Childers, Nancy Conzett, Art Edwards, Carter Faust, Leora Feeney, Ann Follis, Brad Goodheart, Ed Greaves, Michael Green, Ed Harper, Alan Hopkins, Dick Johnson, Jeri M. Langham, many observers (mob), Gloria Markowitz, Dan Murphy, Harold Newman, Point Reyes Bird Observatory (PRBO) (Farallon report thanks to Teya McElroy), Mary Louise Rosegay, Clarence Smith, Marie Stiles, Phil Unitt, David Windfimer, David Yee.

—STEPHEN F. BAILEY, *Observations Editor*  
Museum of Vertebrate Zoology,  
University of California, Berkeley, CA 94720  
(phone 548-9507 or Joseph Morlan at 524-7421)

## Board Adopts Guidelines for Sanctuaries Fund

Golden Gate Audubon Society established a Sanctuaries Fund in 1981 as a result of a substantial bequest from the estate of Rachel Makower. It is intended that this become a permanent fund supported by fund-raising efforts and additional bequests. In approving the following guidelines for use of the fund, the GGAS Board of Directors recognizes it is unlikely, at least in the foreseeable future, for GGAS to be able to maintain and manage a wildlife sanctuary by itself without working with one or more other agencies.

The Sanctuaries Fund may be used:

1. To purchase property or contribute toward the purchase of property to protect habitat for wildlife, particularly birds.
2. To improve habitat for wildlife, particularly birds.
3. To improve access for observing wildlife, particularly birds.

Presented and approved at Board meeting of April 25.

## GGAS Fall Festival of Wildlife Art

In the fall of 1983 GGAS will sponsor a wildlife art benefit drawing to raise revenue for general operating expenses and sanctuary funds. The show will feature the work of prominent wildlife artists from throughout the U.S. Prints have already been donated by Roger Tory Peterson, Robert Bateman and John Ruthven and other well known nature artists. Some of the art will become part of a traveling exhibit displayed by local businesses and the remainder will go on display in the GGAS office this fall. (Except information about the show and drawing in the September issue.)

This is an exciting undertaking that requires the efforts of many dedicated volunteers who share an enthusiasm for wildlife art and the desire to help Golden Gate Audubon. Can you lend a hand to GGAS? Volunteer for the Art Show Committee. Meetings will be minimal and most work can be completed as each volunteer's schedule permits. People are needed to help with:

### Publicity

Framing—this will include actual framing and obtaining donated framing materials

Ticket sales for the drawing

Saturday Open House

Clerical tasks and much, much more!

This is a very positive event for GGAS and one in which volunteers should be proud to participate. Call Hillary at the GGAS office and volunteer today. We need you.

**WILDLIFE ARTISTS**—Do you have wildlife nature art (any media) that you would like to donate to this fundraising effort? The show will feature a wide variety of work to please all art inclinations and will offer good visibility for your work as well as the opportunity to support Audubon. If you would like to contribute please call or stop by the GGAS office.

**BAY AREA BUSINESSMEN AND WOMEN**—Would you like to host a portion of the show in your lobby, gallery, office or ? Hosts need not be involved in ticket selling. The popularity of wildlife art knows no socioeconomic, geographic or age barrier. The wildlife art show will benefit your business in addition to helping the Audubon cause. If you would like to host the show during the months of September, October or November please phone the GGAS office at 843-2222.

—HILLARY HULEN



## The Back Yard Birder

This is the one time of year when I feel sorry for the Scrub Jays. They spent a quiet April (ah, peace, at last!), keeping the locations of their nests a secret. While the female incubates the four to six eggs, the male feeds her. After 16 days, the babies "pip" the eggs with their egg teeth. The newly-hatched are altricial, meaning they are helpless, almost naked, their eyes are closed and they are totally dependent upon their parents. Both parents feed the young who become more and more demanding. After 18 days these youngsters appear to be even larger than the adults who have been run ragged searching for goodies to keep the children quiet. By now the youngsters are ready to leave the nest but they continue to follow the adults about, squawking and "whining" continually. They feign dependence, pitifully flapping their wings and crying for food. Only a parent could love them! By now the adults look exhausted. Upon being ignored, the young are quite capable of finding food: acorns, insects, worms, fruit, seed from the feeder or even dried cat and dog food. Being omniverous they will also eat lizards, young birds and eggs, which has earned them a nasty reputation. However, it must be said that they eat far more plant and insect life than animal food.

Jays are members of the crow family and as such are among the more intelligent birds. They share the American Crow's habit of hoarding bright, shiny objects. They also store food in crevices. One band of jays in my yard buried bits of bread in a dirt bank and when invaded by another clan they promptly dug up the cache, proving they *do* have a memory, at least a short one.

Aside from the raucous voice we all find so grating, jays have a sweet, soft "whisper" song which I have heard. Our semi-tame resident, Olivia Newton Jay, utters these musical sounds as she draws near for snacks. The Steller's Jay has a distinctive harsh cry and can mimic the call of a Red-tailed Hawk. With their alarm calls, jays could be termed the early-warning system of their neighborhoods, cautioning other birds and animals of intruders.

The Scrub Jay is found in dense shrubbery, from willow-lined streams to dry, wooded and chaparral-covered slopes. The Steller's Jay seems to prefer coniferous forests, creekside area and is well-known around picnic grounds and campsites. Both of these species live in the Bay Area. The Gray Jay resides in the northern U.S., the Blue Jay lives in the eastern U.S., the Green Jay and the Mexican Jay prefer the southwest and the Pinyon Jay frequents the Rocky Mountains, the Cascades and the Sierra. This large family also includes the American Crow and the Common Raven, the Black-billed and the Yellow-billed Magpie, all California

residents, and the Clark's Nutcracker of the Pacific Northwest. Wherever you go you can find a noisy reminder of home.

If necessary, jays will lay several clutches during the breeding season. Having seen the labors involved, I pity the birds who raise more than one very demanding family a year!

—MEG PAULETICH

## Correction: "How to Care for Young Birds"

Contrary to information published in the May *GULL*, young hummingbirds should not ever be given honey.

Young hummingbirds should be fed a syrup of four parts water that has been boiled and then cooled and one part sugar. After ten days, mix finely sifted dry dog food with the syrup for protein. Feed with an eyedropper.

In your outdoor feeder the same recipe is recommended. If all of the solution is not used within five days it should be discarded and replaced with fresh solution.

The relationship between honey, tongue fungus disease and hummingbirds has been researched and well documented by Brazilian naturalist Dr. Augusto Ruschi, an authority on hummingbirds. Feeding a water-honey solution is dangerous to hummingbirds as it is a proven carrier of deadly tongue-mouth fungus.

## For Mono Lake, Spend a Glorious Fourth on the Bay

The beautiful 75-foot luxury sports yacht *Argo* will leave the St. Francis Yacht Club in San Francisco at 3:30 p.m. to cruise the Bay amidst other yachts and sailboats out in all their color to see the Bay from the Bay. A geographer/historian and a naturalist will be on board to tell us about the wonders of the Bay and its environs. About 6:30 p.m. a sumptuous roast beef buffet supper will be served and by 8:30 we'll see the lights coming on around the Bay as we get into position to watch fireworks light up the sky. Docking time will be about 10:30 p.m. after the party and fireworks display are over.

The fee for the cruise is \$47 for reservations received before June 26 and \$50 after that date (or \$47 each for parties of three or more after June 26). The limit for this event is 60 persons. Photographers take note: this could be a great day for you! Proceeds will benefit the Mono Lake Committee.

Mail your check payable to Mono Lake Committee with a self-addressed, stamped envelope to M. Bennett, 2719 Marin Ave., Berkeley, CA 94708. If you have questions, please call 526-1260.



## Summer Bird Classes and Trips

Dr. Stephen F. Bailey will teach two courses at Albany Adult School under GGAS sponsorship. Two weekend field trips for intensive bird study will also be offered personally by Steve.

**Small Flycatcher Identification** is an intensive course thoroughly covering the identification of *Empidonax* and *Contopus* flycatchers using songs, calls, color patterns, shapes, behaviors and habitats. Sound tapes will include both songs and calls. Slides are of live birds, both hand-held and in natural, unrestrained postures. Slide/tape lectures will meet from 7 to 9:30 p.m. on Tuesdays, June 21 and 28. For students closer to Walnut Creek Steve plans to teach this course concurrently for Mount Diablo Audubon Society. Call Steve at 548-9507 for details.

Participation in either class constitutes eligibility to register for a limited-enrollment weekend field trip to observe all of the California breeding species within a few hours of each other. We will bird Yosemite and Mono Lake July 2-4, seeing many other birds and sights besides flycatchers.

**Summer Coastal Birds** introduces the midsummer waterbirds of our coast, including esteros and lagoons. Nearly half the course will be devoted to the plumages of shorebirds returning during July. Slide lectures will meet 7-9 p.m. Thursdays, July 7-28 at Albany Adult School. Two seven-hour field trips are included: Point Reyes on July 9 and Año Nuevo July 30.

**Condors and Shorebirds Weekend** August 13 and 14 will devote Saturday to California Condor watching at the lookout where there were daily sightings of up to 15 Condors at once in mid-August last year (75% of the known wild population!). Sunday we will study shorebirds and terns at the Santa Clara River mouth near Ventura. This is one of the best times and places for both common and rare migrants on the Pacific Coast. Semipalmated Sandpiper and Royal Tern are good possibilities and most common seasonal species are expected. At that time last year both Mongolian Plover and Rufous-necked Stint appeared!

Call Steve (548-9507) for information on any course or trip. To register for either Albany course call 526-6811 or attend the first meeting of the class (111 Albany High School).

## Change of Address

National Audubon asks that in notifying them of an address change you include the most recent *Audubon* magazine mailing label. It includes the information needed to make the change efficiently. The address is NAS Membership Data Center, P.O. Box 2666, Boulder, CO 80322.

## See Great Whales and Seabirds off San Francisco

The Whale Center offers two all-day trips each month, May through October, to the Gulf of the Farallones, which is frequented by many species of whales. Previous Whale Center trips have seen blues, humpbacks, minke, sei, grays, killers, dolphins and porpoises. Experienced naturalists will answer questions about the summering gray whales and the returning humpback whales that make the Gulf of the Farallones their temporary home this time of year.

Our search for whales will probably take us to the Farallon Islands that are 20 miles west of San Francisco. Located within the Point Reyes-Farallon Islands National Marine Sanctuary, this unique group of islands offers the chance to observe nesting seabirds including tufted puffins and grebes, as well as sea lions and elephant seals.

Comfortable, Coast Guard-certified boats will leave Marina Green in San Francisco at 9 a.m. All trips are scheduled on Saturdays and Sundays. Free optional orientation meetings will be held at the Whale Center before the trips. For information and ticket purchases call or stop in at the Whale Center, 3929 Piedmont Ave., Oakland, CA 94611 (415-654-6621).

### Pelagic Trips

Debra Love Shearwater runs a series of regular pelagic trips out of Monterey and Morro Bay. The following is a list of the scheduled trips from Monterey Bay:

- July 30 — Monterey Seavalley \$35
- August 13 — Monterey Seavalley \$35
- August 20 — Cordell Banks and Beyond \$35
- August 27 — Monterey Bay \$25

Reservations are made by sending a check payable to Debra with a self-addressed, stamped envelope to Debra Love Shearwater, 362 Lee St., Santa Cruz, CA 95060. A detailed brochure is available which describes these pelagic trips. Write or call Debra for further information at 408-425-8111.

### Rare Bird Alert

For those who travel in California the following Rare Bird Alert numbers may be of interest:

- Los Angeles 213-874-1318
- Monterey 408-899-3030
- San Bernardino 714-793-5599
- San Diego 619-435-6761
- Santa Barbara 805-964-8248

It is likely that our readers are familiar with our own Bay Area Rare Bird Alert, but if you haven't listened, try it at 415-843-2211. It will help in planning outings and keep you in touch with what to expect.

## Eating Crow?

We recently received a copy of the California Hunting Regulations for resident game birds of 1982-3. We discovered that the State Fish and Game Commission has now opened up a hunting season on the "common crow." Egads, what next? I've spent a great deal of my life, almost half of it, caring for wildlife in one form or another. And during this time, I've treated dozens of crows with various injuries and in different stages of infancy.

I've found these birds to be quick, intelligent, funny and capricious in nature. I have a lot of respect for their ability to survive and brave all elements. It came somewhat as a shock to find that they can be legally hunted. It means SPCAs and wildlife centers everywhere, including ours, will be treating an increasing number of crows with gunshot wounds.

And here all this time I was thinking that people had enough things to shoot at for the sake of "game management." After all, the hunting seasons include deer, pig, quail, pheasant, doves, pigeons, ducks, etc., etc. I guess you could go on forever naming animals on a hunting list, but who is into "eating crow"?

—PAT QUINN, Director  
Wildlife Rehabilitation Center  
Monterey County SPCA

(From the MCSPCA newsletter 12/'82)

## Marsh Hawk Information Wanted

The Marsh Hawk (Northern Harrier) is a "species of special concern" for the state of California. Unfortunately, funds are not available for studies by the California Department of Fish and Game at this time. As a result, the Santa Cruz Predatory Bird Research Group is attempting to establish baseline data on this species to provide government agencies who have management responsibilities for birds of prey or habitat protection.

Information from all sources regarding Marsh Hawk natural history observation is welcomed. Of special importance are observations of current or historic breeding attempts, both successful and unsuccessful. Send responses to: Santa Cruz Predatory Bird Research Group, Room 231, Clark Kerr Hall, University of California, Santa Cruz, CA 95064. Phone: 408-429-2466.

## 1982 Christmas Bird Count Addendum

We hasten to add the real best birds of the 1982 Christmas Bird Count. Tied for top honors were the single King Eider at the Emeryville Marina and the single Goshawk at Redwood Regional Park. Both are first count records. We have checked our records and our report to *American Birds* included both species.



## GGAS Board Notes

The GGAS Board of Directors met on April 25. Some highlights of the meeting are discussed below:

A committee has been set up to evaluate the possibility of a personal computer for the office. (With 6000 members, birding and field trip lists, as well as the *Gull* to publish each month, we really need one!) Shirley Kelly is chairing the committee.

The Board approved the concept of having an Art Show as a fundraiser in the fall. The money raised would be used for the Sanctuaries Fund and for the general purposes of the Society. Although Hillary Hulen will mastermind the effort, a lot of volunteer help will be needed.

Guidelines for use of the Sanctuaries Fund were approved. See separate article.

Two proposals from the Finance Committee for using some of the Sanctuaries Fund were discussed. One is to construct a bird-watching trail along the shore of Lake Merced, which would be a first step in protecting the area. The other proposal is to fence in one of the Sendecich Lagoons in Briones Regional Park to encourage the growth of good waterfowl habitat. Both proposals were approved, in concept, by the Board. The Finance Committee will continue its investigations of both proposals.

—TRUDI JACKSON

## Adopt a Beach

Twenty reliable volunteers are needed to monitor San Mateo beaches for the effects of gill net fishing on marine life. No experience is necessary and training will be provided. Volunteers will be assigned in pairs to cover a one- or two-mile stretch of beach twice a month gathering data on beached birds and marine mammals.

The collected data will be used to determine whether the problem warrants a seasonal ban on gill net fishing. Last year the data collected was vital to the subsequent ban imposed. This year more gill net boats will be operating. The need is to be more accurate, cover more beaches and get results more quickly.

If you've always wanted to learn the various seabirds and marine mammals of the California coast, gill net season is the easiest time. Enjoy San Mateo beaches and help protect our marine life at the same time. For more information please call Wendy Lieber at 415-726-9278.

## From the President

On April 16, I led a walk along the beach at Fort Funston in San Francisco. Only six days earlier my Congressman, Phil Burton, died unexpectedly. I reminded my friends that it was he who was primarily responsible for setting this and the rest of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area aside for all of us. It seemed rather dismal as we walked along the beach and saw the devastation of winter. Sand bluffs, which had remained unchanged for a lifetime, were eroded back several feet. The old Bank Swallow colony was reduced to fewer than 20 burrows. But even as we watched, numerous swallows began building a new colony and the wind blew loose sand from the cliff face.

The thought occurred to me the same was true with Phil. We lost an advocate for conservation, a true civil libertarian and a politician with integrity. He represented more than his constituents. In fact, he represented Americans for generations to come. Like the cliff face at Fort Funston, Phil is gone. But he left us the raw material of a system of urban national parks and recreation areas, remote wilderness areas across our land, funding to rebuild our deteriorating city parks and so many social programs that each of us will benefit from at one time or another. Phil wasn't an outdoorsman, but he was among America's most effective conservationists. He was a friend we will miss. I don't think we should remember Phil Burton with sadness but with gratitude for what he left us and with a resolve to protect and improve his legacy.

—DAN MURPHY

## Acid Rain Films at Tiburon

Two Canadian films about acid rain which have been branded "political propaganda" by the U.S. Department of Justice will be shown at the Richardson Bay Audubon Center on Saturday, June 4, at 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. The films, "Acid from Heaven" and "Acid Rain: Requiem or Recovery," portray the damage this form of pollution can cause and point out that about half of Canada's acid rain is caused by emissions from smokestacks in the U.S. These films address an environmental issue that has reached global proportions. The price of admission is \$1 at the door at Richardson Bay Audubon Center, 376 Greenwood Beach Rd., Tiburon, CA (388-2524).

## From the Ranch

On April 14, Audubon Canyon Ranch dedicated its restored Exhibit Hall, book store and workshops. The occasion honored the persons who made the reconstruction financially possible—Mrs. Phyllis Wattis and Martin Paley of the San Francisco Foundation.

In 1968, following the completed purchases of the main canyon on the Bolinas Lagoon, work started on the existing dairy buildings to convert them to a nature education center. Architect Jack Herman was directed to change the original milking room into an exhibit hall, the milk storage room into a book store and office and other rooms into workshops. Many of the original farm features, such as milking stalls, farm equipment, etc., were left in place as reminders of the building's past use. The then ranch naturalist, Clerin Zumwalt, directed the installation of the exhibits, supplying the beautiful photographs that remain as the greatest attraction of the exhibits, Allan Galloway assisted in the geology display. Later, the Ranch Associates assembled the Miwok Indian Exhibit.

In 1982, this complex of buildings was found dangerously infested with powderpost beetles and plans were made to reconstruct the buildings. Plans were prepared by Architect Clifford Conly and work was performed under the direction of Ranch Manager Skip Schwartz, first removing the original work and then carefully restoring it to its original appearance.

The Ranch continues to be open to the public on weekends and holidays. GGAS provided the hosts for the month of May.

—CLIFFORD CONLY

## GGAS Library Is Alive

New additions to our library include:

*Hawaii's Birds*, a gift of Design Enterprises

*A Field Guide to the Birds of East Africa*

*A Guide to Birds of the Galapagos*

*A Guide to Seabirds on the Ocean Routes*

*A Guide to the Birds of Panama*

Also the following titles in the Lane Birder's Guide Series: *Florida*, *The Texas Coast*, *Southeastern Arizona*, *Rio Grande Valley* and *Churchill* (his latest—1983).

The library is for the use of all GGAS members. Books may be checked out for four weeks. If you are planning a birding vacation or would like to include some birding on a trip, check the library for field guides and information. Is there a book you would like to see added to the library? Just send a request card to the office, listing author and title. The GGAS also welcomes gifts of conservation books, particularly bird books.



## Volunteers Extraordinaire

In every successful nonprofit organization there are individuals whose volunteer efforts are invaluable yet are often unknown to the members of that organization. Golden Gate Audubon has been blessed with two such people: Maybelle Groshong and Minnie Groshong.

1983 marks their tenth year of volunteer service for GGAS. As membership chairman and corresponding secretary of the largest chapter of Audubon in the U.S., their tasks are far from easy. Their dedication and the many hours of work that they complete each month help the entire GGAS operation run smoothly.

And if their volunteer work for Audubon weren't enough, the two former U.S. Forest Service workers also have time for other volunteer work and folkdancing, folkdancing and more folkdancing.

### GIFTS AND BEQUESTS

#### FOR GGAS

#### Gift of

Darryl Raszl  
Janet Schultz Lotko  
Dorothy Pettes  
Margaret Sheinfeld

#### In honor of the retirement of

Peggy Klenz

Joyce Davis

#### In memory of

C. Russ Epley  
Worth A. Summers

Ivan and Bess Girgich  
Staff of Kalakian Insurance Agency

#### FOR AUDUBON CANYON RANCH

Jane and Fred Willsea

#### In memory of

William Murphy

Katherine and Hubertus vonMarsehall  
Miriam Barnes

The Society welcomes gifts in general or gifts in honor or in memory of relatives and friends. Such gifts will be used as specified by the donor or, if unspecified, at the discretion of the GGAS Board of Directors. This includes their use for general GGAS activities or for special programs of the Society including Audubon Canyon Ranch of which GGAS is a sponsor. Please send your gift in the form of a check made out to the Golden Gate Audubon Society, Inc. to Minnie Groshong, Corresponding Secretary, Golden Gate Audubon Society, 2718 Telegraph Ave., #206, Berkeley, CA 94705-1179. All gifts are tax deductible. The Society is also appreciative of any bequests. Such bequests should specify as recipient the Golden Gate Audubon Society, Inc. All gifts, donations and bequests will be acknowledged in *The Gull* as well as personally on behalf of the Society by the Corresponding Secretary.



Golden Gate Audubon Society, Inc.

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## THE GULL

June 1983

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NORTHERN CALIFORNIA RARE BIRD ALERT (recorded) 843-2211

Mail for all individuals listed above should be sent to the GGAS office.

Send address changes to office promptly; Post Office does not forward *THE GULL*. Monthly meetings: second Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Joint membership — local and national \$25 per year (individual); \$32 (family); includes *AUDUBON* Magazine and *THE GULL*; to join, make checks payable to National Audubon Society and send to GGAS office to avoid delay in receiving *THE GULL*. Membership renewals should be sent directly to the National Audubon office. Subscriptions to *THE GULL* separately \$6 per year; single issues \$1. High school and college student membership \$15 per year. Senior citizen individual \$17, senior citizen family \$19. Associate Membership in Golden Gate Audubon Society, \$10 per year.

The Golden Gate Audubon Society, Inc. was established January 25, 1917, and became a chapter of National Audubon in 1948.

***The Gull* deadline is the first of the month for the following month.**