

# THE GULL



GOLDEN GATE AUDUBON SOCIETY NEWSLETTER VOL. 89 NO. 7 SEPTEMBER 2004

FOUNDED 1917

## Family Programs Make a Difference

This year's Family Programs, part of Golden Gate Audubon's Martin Luther King, Jr. Environmental Education Program, were a great success. A total of 412 family members from fourteen classes and six schools participated in our field trips to the ocean, joining us on day-long excursions to the Fitzgerald Marine Reserve in San Mateo or to Muir Beach in Marin. In addition, 300 family members took part in our after-school programs in the heart of East Oakland. The programs are offered in Spanish and English by dedicated volunteers, three youth interns who grew up in the East Oakland community, and the MLK Education Coordinator. The Family Programs, now in their second year, complement our ongoing programs for elementary and middle school students in East Oakland schools.

To measure the impact of our programs, we surveyed the family members. We developed a combination raffle/evaluation form that would help ensure maximum participation. By entering the raffle, family members simultaneously completed an evaluation form. A total of 481 individuals, representing 68 percent of the participants, completed an evaluation. Forty percent of the evaluations were filled out in Spanish. Here is some of the feedback we received:

- 68 percent of the respondents indicated that our trip was the first time they had ever visited the Pacific Ocean.
- 86 percent of the respondents on the ocean field trips said that the trip definitely inspired a greater appreciation for the ocean and strengthened their desire to help protect it.
- More than half of the participants indicated that they would like to help Golden Gate Audubon restore wetlands or help teach children about the environment.



Children picking up trash at Muir Beach.

Francis Abbattantuano

FAMILY PROGRAMS, continued on page 4

## Gateway Valley Is Saved

Sixteen years ago, a group of angry Orinda residents approached Russ Wilson, Golden Gate Audubon Conservation Committee member, and asked for our help in defending Orinda's Gateway Valley from destruction. Their message about the value of the valley was clear.

The thousand-acre Gateway Valley, located south of Highway 24 on the east side of the Caldecott tunnel, is bordered to the west by Sibley Volcanic and Huckleberry Botanic Regional Preserves. It is designated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as an Aquatic Resource of National Importance. More than seven miles of perennial streams, a rarity in the East Bay, pour down from the valley's hillsides to feed the larger Brookside and Moraga Creeks, which flow, respectively, into San Pablo and San Leandro Reservoirs. Both creeks are home to steelhead and other fish species. More than eight acres of equally rare wetlands and seeps are found throughout the valley. The valley is a vital link in the Caldecott Corridor, the only land bridge for wildlife between north and south Contra Costa County, which is otherwise separated by the six-lane Highway 24 barrier.

Furthermore, Gateway Valley is the last, crucial link in a continuous wildlife corridor of public open space stretching more than 20 miles from Castro Valley in Alameda County to San Pablo in Contra Costa County. The area is home

GATEWAY, continued on page 10

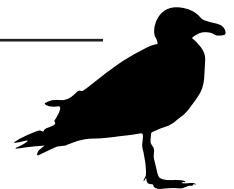
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## ROSTER

### ELECTED DIRECTORS

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Al Peters ('07)	<b>Treasurer</b>
(Open)	<b>Secretary</b>

John Luther ('05)	<b>Education</b>
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Marjorie Blackwell ('07)	<b>Membership</b>
Autumn Garrett ('07)	

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Pat Eckhardt	<b>East Bay Conservation</b>
Leora Feeney	<b>FAWR</b>
Susan Groves	<b>Field Trips</b>
Bob Risebrough	<b>Latin America</b>
Nancy Smith	<b>Nominating</b>
Sylvia Stone	

**NORTHERN CALIFORNIA BIRD BOX**  
415.681.7422

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The Golden Gate Audubon Society was founded January 15, 1917, and became a chapter of National Audubon in 1948. Golden Gate Audubon Society membership is \$25 per year. Renewals should be sent to the Golden Gate Audubon office. Monthly meeting: second Friday in the West Bay; third Thursday in the East Bay, 7 p.m.

*The Gull* is published each month except July and August by the Golden Gate Audubon Society. Special third-class postage paid in Oakland, CA. Send address changes to office promptly. The Post Office does not forward *The Gull*.

The *Gull* deadline for submissions is five weeks prior to the month of publication.

*The Gull* – ISSN 0164-971X

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Office Hours: Tuesday – Friday 9–12, 1–4 (call first)

Design and layout  
e.g. communications

# Deepening Our Mission

*Golden Gate Audubon is dedicated to protecting Bay Area birds, other wildlife, and their natural habitats. We conserve and restore wildlife habitat, connect people of all ages and backgrounds with the natural world, and educate and engage Bay Area residents in the protection of our shared, local environment.*

New Mission Statement, Adopted May 2004



his fall brings renewed commitments and exciting direction at Golden Gate Audubon. During the past six months, the Board and staff have gone through a rigorous process of strategic planning, centered around a Board retreat held in April. In July, the Board adopted a three-year strategic plan that sets ambitious goals for Golden Gate Audubon in the areas of conservation, education, and organizational growth.

Most of the goals in the plan do not represent major changes for Golden Gate Audubon. Instead, they express a deeper, more focused commitment to our core mission of protecting Bay Area birds, other wildlife, and their habitats. It is our hope that this enhanced focus will help us be more effective in pursuing that mission—enabling us to strengthen our conservation, education, and volunteer-based programs.

Several key themes run through the strategic plan and are articulated in its goals. The first is an effort to bring tighter focus to our ambitious conservation programs. One of the greatest challenges we face as a wildlife conservation organization in the populated—and ever-growing—Bay Area is the tremendous number of threats to wildlife and their habitats. There is no shortage of projects that call us to action. But in order to be effective, we must balance urgent needs with our limited resources. We cannot spread ourselves too thin.

In an effort to achieve this balance, Golden Gate Audubon's staff and conservation leadership are working to align our work with three program areas: Making the City Safe for Wildlife, Saving Our Last Wild Habitats, and Birds at Risk. By identifying key projects that we will pursue in each program area, we can more effectively allocate our resources—whether financial, staff time, or precious volunteer talents—to critical conservation initiatives.

Another key theme revolves around education. Golden Gate Audubon will continue to strengthen its innovative and very successful Martin Luther King, Jr. Environmental Education Program—and to build its programs in Alameda. In addition to these school-based programs, we will continue to build our adult and community-based offerings—increasing our field trips, birding classes, and member programs; engaging more people in these programs as leaders and as participants; and offering more opportunities for our community to enjoy—and protect—birds.

Finally, the plan articulates a strong commitment to people. Golden Gate Audubon has always been a grassroots, volunteer organization. The successes we've shared—from winning conservation victories to awakening wonder in young students—have all come through the time and talents of people like you. Our plan affirms volunteers as central to our success: we want to find ways to engage more people in our work and help build them into leaders of this critical conservation movement. Bird monitors and census takers, Armchair Activists, committee members, Supporting Members—all play a critical role in making our voices heard for Bay Area wildlife.

Now, we have a lot of work to do. But with the dedication of our staff, Board, and volunteers, it will be a joy to strive for these goals. We are also pleased to have two new Board members: Patricia Eckhardt, a long-time committee member, is now chairing the East Bay Conservation Committee; and Sylvia Stone, a talented conservationist and program manager with Wildlife Conservation Society, is a new Director from San Francisco.

As always, we invite you to be a part of our efforts. Together, we are making a difference for Bay Area birds and wildlife.

by Elizabeth Murdock, Executive Director  
& Miles McKey, President

# Student Inspired by Intern Experience

After working with Golden Gate Audubon's Family Programs as an intern, Aida Villa has joined the staff as the part-time Youth Coordinator. Aida was introduced to Golden Gate Audubon at Castlemont High School through the school's mentor program. Aida's skills and enthusiasm are welcome additions to the education program. She is excited about her involvement, which she describes below.



orking with the Family Programs has been a wonderful and inspiring experience. When I started my internship in March 2004, I wasn't sure what to expect, but I have enjoyed every bit of the experience. What we do is teach students and families in the East Oakland community about their environment and why it is crucial for them to conserve it. One of my main jobs is to translate everything—curriculum, flyers, evaluation forms, and driving directions—from English to Spanish. I wouldn't normally see this as such a big deal, but being in this program, I

**STUDENT.** continued on page 4



Amiko Mayeno

Aida Villa (center) with Cassandra Casco (left) and Jesus Acosta.

## Second Annual Quail Restore-A-Thon

We need your help to save local California Quail. You can sponsor a Golden Gate Audubon volunteer who will spend three hours on Saturday, November 13, working to restore quail habitat in San Francisco's Harding Park and Presidio. Or you can assist us in restoring habitat yourself and get friends and family to sponsor you.

For this second annual Quail Restore-A-Thon, we will plant more than 1,000 quail habitat plants in both locations. Doing this takes time, effort, and money. GGA can provide the time and effort, but we need

you to help raise the funds. If you sponsor a quail volunteer at \$5 an hour, the Quail Campaign will earn \$15; at \$10 an hour, you will be donating \$30 to the campaign. All funds raised are fully tax-deductible.

California's State Bird and San Francisco's City Bird, the California Quail is on the verge of local extinction in San Francisco due to loss of habitat in city parks and the Presidio. Quail once numbered in the thousands, but have been reduced to barely thirty. GGA has dedicated itself to restoring healthy quail numbers, and we are succeeding. Last

year we planted more than 500 quail habitat plants at the Harding Park Golf Course and many more at the Presidio's Quail Commons, in conjunction with the Presidio Trust. About 80 percent of the Harding Park plants have survived, and many are already nearly waist high. Quail Commons is looking great, and the few quail left seem to have had a successful breeding season.

We are making progress, but we have a long way to go. This November 13, please join us in person or support us with your donation.

### Save the Quail Restore-A-Thon

**Saturday, November 13, 2004 • 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.**

- Yes!** I will help save San Francisco's quail by participating in the Restore-A-Thon.
  - I will sponsor the Golden Gate Audubon volunteer team at \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per hour of work for 3 hours  
(Suggested minimum pledge rate: \$5–10 per hour)
  - I will sponsor myself at \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per hour
- I would like to join a work party at:  Harding Park  The Presidio  Please choose a site for me
- Please send me a pledge form so I may raise additional pledges from friends and family
- I can't participate in the Restore-A-Thon but want to help! Enclosed is a check to **Golden Gate Audubon Society** for \$ \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to:  
**Golden Gate Audubon Society**  
**2530 San Pablo Avenue, Suite G**  
**Berkeley, CA 94702**

Please return by November 10  
 or call Golden Gate Audubon at  
 510.843.2222

FAMILY PROGRAMS, continued from page 1

- 80 percent of the respondents attending one of the family programs said they would like to attend similar programs at least once a month.
- 78 percent of the participants attending the after-school programs said they had definitely learned something and that they planned to do something to help protect the environment.

If they answered affirmatively, participants were asked to describe what they had learned and what they would do. Here are some of their comments.

parent "Plant more trees, recycle, and not throw garbage."

child "[Remember] that we can't throw oil out because it sticks on the birds' feathers and they die."

child "Warn people not to change oil in the streets."

child "I learned not to throw trash anywhere because it goes to the ocean and animals eat it."

parent "I didn't know that birds can't see glass."

parent "Care for the rivers, the ocean, by not throwing garbage in order to preserve the birds, and have more healthy water."

parent "How it's important to protect our bugs, our ocean, and how nature is very important to our health."

child "I learned that it's good to save the world."

All of us—staff, volunteers, and interns—were overwhelmed by the responses from all the participants. They have inspired us to work hard to double Golden Gate Audubon's Family Programs in the coming year.

by Amiko Mayeno, MLK Program Coordinator

STUDENT, continued from page 3

realize how I can really help Spanish-speaking people. It's sad for me, coming from a Hispanic community, when I see people not participating because of language barriers. I feel good about being able to help people understand things in their own language.

I remember as a little girl having speakers come to my class and talk about the importance of my environment. This opened my eyes to a world that a lot of people don't even know exists. I want to be able to make a difference in these kids' lives. Small things like picking up trash can make a huge difference to our natural environment.

It is very important that the community have programs like this one, not only because they provide a learning experience but also because they help families interact with their children and become involved in their children's academic activities. It's very fulfilling to know that I actually taught something new and useful to someone.

by Aida Villa, Youth Coordinator/Family Program

## Donations

Thank you for your generous donations to support our many conservation, education and member activities!

### Golden Eagle (\$1000 or more)

Allan Ridley & Helen McKenna-Ridley

### Peregrine Falcon (\$500 to \$999)

Jean Conner, Mrs. Afton E. Crooks, Diane Ichiyasu, Mr. & Mrs. Boyard & Anne Rowe (*Stock*)

### Least Tern (\$200 to \$499)

Mary Betlach, Frank & Janice Delfino, Suzanne Jones & Rob Elia (*with matching gift from Nuveen Investments*), Pat Gannon (*Education-MLK & FAWR*), John Kenny, Juliet Lamont & Phil Price, Jay & Lisa Pierrepont, Mary E. Schaefer, Susanne K. Shields & Ralph E. Hunter, Jacqui Smalley (*Garden Conservancy Open Garden Event*)

### Clapper Rail (\$100 to \$199)

Kay Andersen, George & Virginia Bing, Robert & Barbara Brandriff, Ellen & Russell Breslauer, Terry & Zeo Coddington, Kim & Kazumi Cranney, Barry & Barbara Deutsch, Patricia Eckhardt, James Finch, Dorothy D. Gregor, Winifred Hess, Mr. & Mrs. Harlan J. Heydon, Keelung Hong, Blair & Cathy Jarrett, N. Del Kimball, Mike & Jane Larkin, David A. Loeb, Jill Moak, Mr. & Mrs. Robert L. Oswald, Edmund W. Ow (*with matching PG&E donation*), Richard W. Ross, Jan Smith, Mrs. Ursula R. Tocher, Anna Wilcox, David N. Young

### Gifts (to \$99)

Christine Wilder Abrams, Grace Adams, Marianne Adkins, Susan L. Agnew, Ralph & Susan Alcorn, Vernon & Gloria Alexander, George B. Almeida,

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### In Memory of

Jeanette Huddleston: *Susan Cross*  
B. K. Haugner: *A. K. & Lavinia Oppenheim*  
Mary Louise Rosegay: *Mr. Harold Rosegay*  
Robert P. Multhauf: *Jane E. Hayes, Mary Tigh, Pat Gannon*

### In Honor of Two Avid and Skilled Birders:

Professor Morgan Harris' & Mrs. Todd Smith's 85+ birthdays: *Ed & Mildred Bennett*

### In-Kind

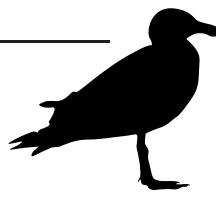
Helen Fisher: *Field Guide to Bird Songs CD's*  
Anonymous: *Binoculars for Latin America Committee*  
Mrs. Winifred L. Hess: *Birding Books from Around the World*

### Grants

Mary A. Crocker Trust: *MLK, Jr. Education Program*  
The Dean Witter Foundation: *MLK, Jr. Education Program*

## PROGRAMS

Anne McTavish



Programs begin at 7:30 p.m. We meet socially at 7 p.m. For more information about upcoming events, detailed directions or updates, please see our web page.

[www.goldengateaudubon.org/Chapter/programs2003-2004.htm](http://www.goldengateaudubon.org/Chapter/programs2003-2004.htm)

### Corcovado National Park, Costa Rica

San Francisco

Berkeley

Friday, September 10

Thursday, September 16

This month, for both the San Francisco and the Berkeley programs, Marshall Hasbrouck, a member of *Golden Gate Audubon's* Latin America Committee, will give a slide-talk about Corcovado National Park, a preserve of more than 54,000 acres known as the Amazon of Costa Rica. Habitats range from cloud forest to year-round wetlands and mangrove swamps. The nearly 400 birds that have been observed in the park include 20 endemics and the largest population of Scarlet Macaws in Costa Rica. Other notable species are King Vultures, White Hawks, Bronze-tailed Sicklebills, and Short-billed Pigeons.

The San Francisco meeting is in the County Fair building at the newly renamed San Francisco Botanical Garden at Strybing Arboretum in Golden Gate Park, Ninth Avenue at Lincoln Way. The Berkeley meeting is at the Northbrae Community Church, 941 The Alameda.

## Fall Birding Classes in San Francisco

Evening classes taught by Joe Morlan and endorsed by Golden Gate Audubon will start September 14, 15, and 16, 2004. All classes meet from 7 to 9:15 p.m. in room 307, Marina Middle School, 3500 Fillmore at Bay Street, in San Francisco (free parking is provided in the school lot off Bay Street on the east side of the building). The instructor may arrange optional field trips on weekends.

Bring binoculars and field guides to class if you have them. Slides illustrate all lectures, and the text for all classes is *A Field Guide to Birds of North America*, fourth edition, by the National Geographic Society. *The Sibley Guide to Birds* is recommended as an adjunct text for Ornithology II and III.

Fees are \$115 for each 7-week course; \$100 for EA115 and EA120, which are 6 weeks; and \$90 for EA125, which is 5 weeks. Preregistration is strongly advised. For further information call 415-561-1860 or visit the instructor's web site: <http://fog.ccsf.edu/~jmorlan/fall04.htm>.

**Field Ornithology I.** Introduction to birds and birding, combining basic field skills with the study of bird ecology, biology, evolution, and behavior. Tuesdays.

Part A (EA101): Sept. 14 – Oct. 26; Part B (EA105): Nov. 2 – Dec. 14

**Field Ornithology II.** In-depth study of the identification and status of North American land birds, including sparrows, juncos, longspurs, buntings and cardinals. Wednesdays.

Part A (EA110): Sept. 15 – Oct. 27; Part B (EA115): Nov. 3 – Dec. 15

**Field Ornithology III.** A continuing study of North American waterbirds including snipe, phalaropes, skuas, jaegers, and gulls. Thursdays.

Part A (EA120): Sept. 16 – Oct. 27; Part B (EA125): Nov. 4 – Dec. 16

*Joe Morlan is coauthor of Birds of San Francisco and the Bay Area and Birds of Northern California. He is also coordinator of the recorded Northern California Birdbox sponsored by Golden Gate Audubon.*

## Thank You to Mal Warwick & Associates

Golden Gate Audubon extends its deepest gratitude to fundraising and marketing experts Mal Warwick & Associates. Mal Warwick is a nationally known, Berkeley-based company that specializes in helping nonprofits raise funds to pursue their work. Several Mal Warwick employees, including president Stephen Hitchcock, senior consultant Susie Fought, and founder Mal Warwick himself, have graciously shared their expertise with our Development Committee and have helped us develop shape our membership program in ways that will minimize our overhead and allow us to focus even more of our efforts on our core conservation and education work. We are deeply indebted to Mal Warwick & Associates and thank them heartily.

## Office Manager Needed for Golden Gate Audubon Office

We are looking for an office manager to work in our Berkeley office for 24 hours a week. Responsibilities include:

- answering phones
- word processing
- managing our nature store
- processing mail
- ordering supplies
- other general office duties

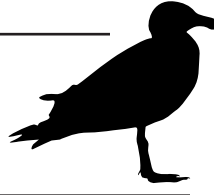
If you would like to apply for this position, please send a resumé and cover letter to the office:

**Golden Gate Audubon Society  
2530 San Pablo Avenue, Suite G  
Berkeley, CA 94702**

Or email:  
[ggas@goldengateaudubon.org](mailto:ggas@goldengateaudubon.org)

# FIELD TRIPS

Susan Groves



## Coyote Hills Regional Park

Fremont

Sunday, September 12

Co-leaders: Michael Butler, 510.684.3375, mjbkl@earthlink.net; Pamela Llewellyn, 925.413.8329, pllewellyn@kleinfelder.com

Meet at 8:30 a.m. at the visitor center parking lot for this half-day trip. We will bird the varied habitats of this jewel of a park, looking for newly arrived waterfowl, waders, and songbirds. We should also have a nice assortment of raptors. Bring liquids and sunscreen. Beginners welcome.

From the East Bay take I-880 south to Hwy. 84/ Dumbarton Bridge exit. Turn right and continue west. Exit on Paseo Padre Pkwy. Turn right and continue north 1 mile, then turn left on Patterson Ranch Rd. to Coyote Hills.



## Año Nuevo State Reserve

San Mateo Coast

Sunday, September 12

Leader: Bruce Mast, 510.271.4785, 510.435.1371(cell), Bmast@alumni.rice.edu

Meet at 9 a.m. in front of the visitor center. We will look for fall migrants on land and sea; elephant seals are a possibility. Expect 4 to 5 miles of mostly flat, easy walking. This trip covers a variety of habitats: riparian, coastal scrub, sandy beach, and rocky coast. Bring lunch.

Año Nuevo State Reserve is on Hwy 1 in San Mateo County. From bayside locations, take Hwy. 92 from San Mateo west to Half Moon Bay. Turn south (left) on Hwy. 1 and travel approximately 27 miles. The park entrance is 12 miles south of Pescadero Rd., 3 miles south of Rossi Rd., and just north of the San Mateo/Santa Cruz County border. Turn right (west) into the reserve, pay at the entrance station, and then park in the parking lot.



## Tilden Regional Park

Berkeley

Saturday, September 4

Co-leaders: Rusty Scalf, 510.666.9936, Rscalf@jps.net and Bob Lewis

Meet at 8 a.m. at the Nature Center parking lot for this half-day trip. We will explore Jewel Lake and other areas. We hope to see migrant warblers, vireos, flycatchers, and resident birds. Beginners welcome.

Enter the park from either Canyon Dr. (where Spruce meets Wildcat Canyon Rd.) or Shasta Rd., off Grizzly Peak Blvd.

East Bay drivers/riders meet at 7:30 a.m. at North Berkeley BART.

## Strybing Arboretum

San Francisco

Sundays, September 5 and October 3

Co-leaders: Allan Ridley, Helen McKenna, 415.566.3241

For this regular first Sunday of the month half-day trip, meet at 8 a.m. at the front gate of the Arboretum (9th Ave. and Lincoln Way). Strybing Arboretum is a delightful section of Golden Gate Park, with several "micro-habitats" that attract a varied array of resident, migrant, and vagrant birds. Beginners and all others welcome.

## Hayward Regional Shoreline

Alameda County

Saturday, September 11

Leader: Bob Lewis  
510.845.5001, Rlewis0727@aol.com

Meet at 8:30 a.m. at the Hayward Regional Shoreline visitor's center for this half-day trip focusing on shorebirds. Beginners welcome. Take I-880 south to Hwy. 92. Go west on Hwy. 92 toward the San Mateo Bridge. Take the last off-ramp before the bridge, called Clawiter. At the base of the offramp, cross Clawiter, then bear left onto Breakwater. Go to the end of Breakwater. Park next to the visitor's center.



## Coastal San Francisco

Saturday, September 11

Leader: Dan Murphy  
415.564.0074, murphsf@comcast.net

Meet at 8 a.m. We will bird in Golden Gate Park, at Lake Merced, and in Golden Gate National Recreation Area in search of migrating flycatchers, warblers, sparrows, and other vagrants. Bring lunch and be prepared for cold weather near the coast. Beginners welcome. Meet in the parking lot between South and Middle Lakes (Chain of Lakes) near the 41st Ave. and Lincoln Way entrance to Golden Gate Park.

## Presidio Quail Habitat Work Party

San Francisco

Saturday September 11

Leader: Alan Hopkins, 415.664.0983

We will meet at the Natural Resource Office in the Presidio at 9 a.m. for the work party, which lasts until noon. Meet at the office at 8 a.m. for a one-hour pre-work party bird walk. The work party will continue creating habitat for the Presidio's California Quail. We will be expanding our plantings as well as maintaining the habitat at Quail Commons. Heavy rain cancels.

To find the Natural Resource Office enter the Presidio at 25th Ave. at El Camino Del Mar. Turn right (north) onto Lincoln Blvd. Follow Lincoln for .5 mile and turn right onto Pershing Dr. After .25 mile (where the road curves to the left) turn right on Road 1535-1543. The office is located in Building 1539.



Contact Susan Groves, Field Trips Committee Chair, at 510.654.5954 or susangroves@att.net:

- if you can share a ride or if you need a ride,
- if you have difficulty reaching a leader and need information,
- if you have suggestions for trips, or
- if you are interested in leading a trip.

## key

Carpool

[\$] Entrance fee required

Biking trip

## Wednesday at Arrowhead Marsh

Alameda County

Wednesday, September 15

Leader: Courtenay Peddle, 510.532.8911  
(no calls before 9 am), capeddle@there.net

Meet at the Arrowhead Marsh parking lot at 9:30 a.m. to study and enjoy wintering birds. There can be up to 14 species of ducks and there is always the possibility of seeing Clapper Rails. Bring a scope if you have one. All levels of birders welcome.

Take I-880 south to Hegenberger and then go west on Hegenberger to Doolittle Dr. Turn right on Doolittle, then right onto Swan Way. Turn left into MLK Regional Shoreline. Drive to the end of the road for Arrowhead Marsh parking lot.

## Lincoln Park Bird Walk

San Francisco

Sunday September 19

Leader: David Armstrong  
415.305.7681, darmstrong99@yahoo.com

For this walking tour of some of San Francisco's finest fall birding locations, we will be covering about 3 miles of mostly flat terrain (with a few short climbs/stairs) in search of migrants and vagrants. Meet at 8 a.m. on Merrie Way (the parking lot up the hill from the Cliff House). Trip finishes around 11 a.m. Wear good walking shoes and carry plenty of water. Trip limited to 15 people. Call or email to reserve.

## Aquatic Park

San Francisco

Sunday, September 19

Leader: SF Maritime National Historical Park Ranger Carol Kiser  
415.561.7100 or 561.7104

Meet at 9:30 a.m. at the foot of the Hyde Street Pier (Hyde and Jefferson) for this beginners bird walk. Discover birds next door to the urban environment. Approximately 2-hour walk. Dress in layers. Trip is wheelchair accessible.

## Hawk Hill

Marin County

Saturday, September 25

Leader: Bob Power  
510.482.9601, rcpower@sbcglobal.net

Meet at 10 a.m. Experience the West Coast's finest raptor migration location during the peak season. In addition, participants can enjoy the Golden Gate Raptor Observatory's "Hawk Talk" at noon and a banding demonstration at 1 p.m. Often we have a recently banded raptor that is released during the "banding demo."

Directions from San Francisco: Cross Golden Gate Bridge and take the second exit, Alexander Ave. Get in left lane following signs "101 San Francisco." Turn left at stop sign and cross under freeway. Turn right onto Conzelman Rd. and drive 1.8 mi. to Hawk Hill. Park and walk up hill past the locked gate. Meet at

summit at the cement platform that shows wing-spans of raptors.

Directions from the north: Take the last Sausalito exit to the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. Turn left at the stop sign. Go up the hill onto Conzelman Rd. Stay on Conzelman for 1.8 mi. Follow directions above.



## Bay Trail Bicycle Trip

Hayward Shoreline

Saturday, October 2

Leader: Kathy Jarrett, 510.547.1233  
(no calls after 9pm), call for cell number,  
kathy\_jarrett@yahoo.com

Meet at 8 a.m. at San Leandro BART or 8:30 a.m. at San Leandro Marina Park, first parking lot. Note that this is different from previous trips. Expect to see birds on the bay, in the marsh, in the fields, and aloft. We will bicycle along the Bay Trail to Hayward Shoreline Regional Park, making a 14-mile round-trip excursion (20 miles if using BART). Adjacent to San Francisco Bay, the first portion of the trail is paved; the remaining part easily negotiable. Bicycle helmet required. Dress in layers, and bring lunch and liquids. All levels of birders welcome.

Directions by car: From I-880 in San Leandro, take the Marina Blvd. exit (west) and in 1.4 mi. turn left onto Monarch Bay Dr. In .4 mi., just past Fairway Dr. on the left, turn right into the first parking lot at San Leandro Marina Park. We will assemble at the far end of the parking lot.

Directions by BART: Allow time to get your ticket processed and your bicycle to the platform. Leader departs Rockridge BART 7:30 a.m., transferring to Fremont line at MacArthur BART at 7:34 a.m. and arriving San Leandro BART at 7:55 a.m. We will ride 3 miles to San Leandro Marina Park using the bicycle path on Williams St., just south of the station. View BART schedules online at [www.transitinfo.org](http://www.transitinfo.org). Remember to check Saturday schedules.



## Birding in New York City

May 2005

Golden Gate Audubon and Classic Escapes Nature and Cultural Journeys are planning a six-day trip to New York for May 2005. The metropolitan area boasts a bird list of more than 400 species including more than 175 breeding species. See a full description in May 2004 *Gull*. For more information, call Alan Hopkins at 415.664.0983.

## FAWR Announcements

Mark your calendar for the following special events sponsored by the Friends of the Alameda Wildlife Refuge.

**October 10, 2004**

Fall Harvest Work Party/Birding Event

**October 14, 2004**

Join our Alameda Chevy's Fundraiser.

Check the *Golden Gate Audubon* (FAWR) website for information or call 510.522.8525.

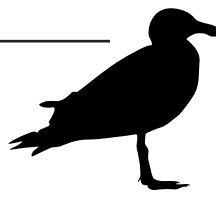
## Bird Seed Sale Update

Due to steady and increasing bird seed sales throughout the year, we have decided not to hold a fall seed sale this year. Members who would like to pre-order seed may still do so. We can also arrange a convenient time for you to pick up the seed during our regular office hours, Tuesday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Give us a call at 415.843.2222.

A big thanks to volunteers Eric Anderson, Karen Klempka, Roger James, and Carlos Rendon, who have helped organize our past seed sales.

# OBSERVATIONS

May 1- July 31, 2004  
Bruce Mast



May through July are marked by significant bird movements, including the tail end of spring migration for passerines and the beginning of fall migration for shorebirds. These movements produce a bounty of rare and unusual bird sightings and this year has been no exception. Outside the Bay Area, the most remarkable Northern California sighting was from Crescent City, DN, which hosted a Common Eider from July 5 to 12. Within the Bay Area, space permits discussion of just a sample of the wonderful variety.

## Loons to Ducks

A Northern Fulmar was spotted off Bodega Head, SON, on July 27 (JR). A jogger described a Little Blue Heron near the Sunnyvale WPCP (SCL) on June 21. The bird was refound on July 1 (anon., reported by LC; RK, DMa, DWe). Two White-faced Ibis in breeding plumage turned up at MLK Jr. Shoreline, ALA, on May 1-4 (DH; CP, JHH, JS, PR). On the 31<sup>st</sup> a single Ibis was observed in Adobe Cr across from Charleston Slough, SCL (anon; reported by BB). Ibises were also sighted in SON on the 7<sup>th</sup> at Bodega Bay (AW) and then on the 9<sup>th</sup>, flying over Infineon Raceway (GM).

On May 28, a probable Tundra Swan flew over Interstate 80 near Emeryville, ALA (MWE). On June 1, Las Positas Cr in Livermore, ALA, yielded a Blue-winged Teal (KH). An airborne Harlequin Duck drake headed north over Merrie Way, SF on May 7 (BF). The Coyote Pt Harlequin resurfaced on June 27 and July 23. It has been present at Coyote Pt. since August 2001 (RST, AE).

On Jul 7-29, a Long-tailed Duck plied the waters near the north jetty at Bodega Bay, SON (AW; BEM, BoB, DF, RS). June 3, the lagoon at the end of Cutter Lane in Foster City yielded a Common Goldeneye and a first-year male Hooded Merganser. There is only one other summering record of a Hooded Merganser in SM County,

recorded at Pescadero Marsh June 30-July 21, 2001 (RST).

## Raptors to Alcids

On May 19, a Pacific Golden-Plover, probably a spring transient, was an unusual visitor to the agricultural fields near Pigeon Pt Rd on Highway 1, SM (RST). On July 31, a Solitary Sandpiper off of Highway



Common Eiders

121/12, SON (DVP) was probably already southbound for the winter. On July 6, a **Bar-tailed Godwit** (*Limosa lapponica*) joined a large flock of Marbled Godwits at the end of Smith Brothers Rd at Bodega Bay, SON (RT). Semipalmated Sandpipers arrived in the area on July 17, turning up at the CCFS, SCL (MM), and at Pescadero Marsh, SM (ADM; DVP, RST), where both adults and juveniles remained through month's end. Baird's Sandpipers also arrived the last half of July at Hayward Shoreline, ALA (BR; RSc); Crown Beach on Alameda Island, ALA (ADM); Bodega Bay, SON (RS); and at the New Chicago Marsh, near Alviso, SCL (ST; mob). Also at New Chicago Marsh, a Ruff returned on July 11. Careful observers were able to distinguish three different birds throughout the remainder of the month (AE; mob).

Gull watchers at Pescadero Bridge (SM)

on June 10 picked out a sub-adult Laughing Gull and a Franklin's Gull (AW; JRB). On May 19, a first summer Franklin's Gull joined a feeding frenzy just beyond the surf line at Pigeon Pt. (RST). Beginning June 5, a Franklin's Gull spent a week at Campbell Cove at Bodega Bay, SON (RS; RL, JR, LH, WW). The best gull of the season was undoubtedly the **Little Gull** (*Larus minutus*), discovered on June 8 at Pescadero Cr. It lingered almost a month, picking morsels from the mud (RST; mob). Also of note, 12 Sabine's Gulls and a Black-legged Kittiwake passed Pigeon Pt, SM, on May 10 (RST) and a lone Sabine's made it inland to Hayward RS, ALA, on July 30 (MF). On July 17 a Black Tern joined the Forster's Tern flock foraging over the Sunnyvale WPCP (MM; MRo). A single Black Skimmer cruised Bodega Bay, SON, on July 30 (DVP, RT). Two **Long-billed Murrelets** (*Brachyramphus perdix*) were seen from a boat outside of Bodega Bay, SON, on July 7 (RT).

## Doves to Thrashers

May produced two White-winged Dove sightings at PRNS, MRN; on the 19<sup>th</sup> at Five Brooks Trailhead (anon, reported by JC) and on the 28<sup>th</sup> near the turn-off to Drake's Beach (EP). On May 20 several birders made the trek out to the Byron Sewage Ponds in eastern CC to observe the fluttery evening flight of the Lesser Nighthawk (PG, DB, PB). On May 31, a SCVAS field trip to Skyline Ridge witnessed the aerial acrobatics of three Black Swifts (RK, mob).

On July 23<sup>rd</sup>, an unfamiliar sound drew a birder's attention to a female **Broad-billed Hummingbird** (*Cynanthus latirostris*) near the GG Bridge Plaza, SF (NW). MRN was the source of two Costa's Hummingbird sightings: on June 23 near the RCA Station at PRNS (RS) and on July 6 in Novato (ML). On May 25, an **Eastern Wood-Pewee** (*Contopus virens*) wandered out to the Mendoza Ranch, PRNS, MRN (RS). A second individual spent a couple days in eastern SOL, starting June 26 (AEn; SHa). Among the Empids, several Hammond's, Gray, and Dusky Flycatchers passed through SF in May (BF, KMK, CDL, MWE) and a Dusky got tangled in the mist nets at CCFS, SCL, on May 1 (reported by MRo).

A **White-eyed Vireo** (*Vireo griseus*) lingered at Tassajara Cr Park, ALA, May 20-23 (SH; mob). Meanwhile, a **Yellow-throated Vireo** (*Vireo flavifrons*) made a brief appearance at the Mendoza Ranch, PRNS (MRN), on May 27 (KK). Two days later, a Red-eyed Vireo showed up at Rodeo Lagoon, MRN (WL). Five more Red-eyed Vireos were sighted through the end of June at the GGP Archery Range in SF (ES); at Phipps Ranch, SM (AE); along Gazos Cr Rd, SM (LG, MS); at Mt Davidson, SF (DA); and near the Fish Docks, PRNS, MRN (RS). Gray Catbirds found their way to Drake's Beach, PRNS, MRN, on May 18 (RS) and to Pescadero Cr, SM, on July 21 (GH). On May 10, a Sage Thrasher was found in Alviso at the Don Edwards NWR (DWe; mob).

## Wood Warblers to Finches

A Phainopepla joined Cedar Waxwings at Coyote Pt, SM on May 18 (RST). A male and female were seen sporadically throughout the month of June at Alum Rock Park, SCL (DMa; mob). Late May and June saw an influx of East Coast vagrants, including 10 warbler species. Most reports were concentrated in the coastal counties of SM, SF, and MRN, with scattered reports from the East Bay. Northern Parulas and Hooded Warblers seemed to be a dime a dozen. Three Hooded Warblers spent much of June along Gazos Cr, SM, prompting speculation of possible breeding activity. **Yellow-throated Warbler** (*Dendroica dominica*) was reported twice this year. On May 19, an out-of-town birder IDed a Yellow-throated in the trees near Crissy Field, SF (JH). Three days later, birders at PRNS, MRN, turned up another Yellow-throated in the pines and cypresses at Drake's Beach (MWE, ASH).

On June 11, a singing male **Scarlet Tanager** (*Piranga olivacea*) graced the willows and elderberries at San Bruno Mountain State & County Park (HB; JM, CDL). This appears to be the first record for SM. On May 29, a Green-tailed Towhee scaled the summit at Mt Diablo SP, CC (ScH). A Brewer's Sparrow was part of the migrant influx at Mt. Davidson, SF, on May 28 (PS, BF). On May

## Wood Warbler Sightings

<b>Nashville Warbler</b>			May 22	Drake's Beach, PRNS, MRN	MWE, ASH
May 5	Coyote Pt, SM	RST			
<b>Northern Parula</b>			May 22	Fish Docks, PRNS, MRN	MWE, ASH
May 7-9	Glen Cyn Park, SF	SB; mob	Jul. 2	San Bruno Mountain State & County Park, SM	HB
May 22-27	Fish Docks, PRNS, MRN	MWE, ASH; RS, CK	Jun. 17	Glen Cyn Park, SF	PMC, RCa
May 28	GGP, SF	BF; ES	<b>American Redstart</b>		
May 30	Olema, MRN	KH	May 21	St Mary's College, Moraga, CC	JON
May 30	San Gregorio, SM	GD	May 22	Fish Docks, PRNS, MRN	MWE
Jun. 6	Gazos Cr Rd, SM	DSi; AJ, RF	Jun. 4	Bear Valley Rd, PRNS, MRN	RS
Jun. 6, 1	Pescadero Cr, SM	DSi; RST	Jun. 9-15	Gazos Cr Rd, SM	RH; DSi; LG, MS
Jun. 12-17	Bear Valley Rd, PRNS, MRN	JR; JW	<b>Ovenbird</b>		
Jun. 16	Earthquake Trail, PRNS, MRN	RS	May 28	GGP, SF	BF; CDL
Jun. 16	Berkeley, ALA	GC	Jun. 16	CCFS, SCL	Banding boards (MM)
<b>Chestnut-sided Warbler</b>			<b>Northern Waterthrush</b>		
May 28, 29	GGP, SF	BF; ES	Jun. 16	Phipps Ranch, SM	JB, LB
Jun. 20, 21	GGP, SF	ASH; PMC, MB, AC	<b>Hooded Warbler</b>		
<b>Magnolia Warbler</b>			May 25	Lincoln Park, SF	HC
Jun. 18	Nunes Ranch, PRNS, MRN	SHo, EP	May 31	Nunes Ranch, PRNS, MRN	RS
<b>Black-throated Green Warbler</b>			Jun. 1, 18	Mt Davidson, SF	DA
May 27	Fish Docks, PRNS, MRN	KK	Jun. 6-27	Gazos Cr Rd, SM	DSi; mob
Jun. 20	Phipp's Ranch, SM	RST	Jun. 20	Tunitas Cr Rd, SM	AE
<b>Hermit Warbler</b>			Jul. 6	Jewel L, Tilden RP, CC	DVP
May 2	San Bruno Mountain State & County Park, SM	RST	Jul. 14	Mountain View, SCL	KrH
May 8	Sam McDonald Park, SM	GH	<b>Yellow-breasted Chat</b>		
May 9	Mount Davidson, SF	DB, PB	May 2, 5	Llagas Cr, SCL	MM, MRo; JMy
May 10	Charcoal Rd, SCL	RK	May 8	Liberty Island Rd, SCL	RM
May 14	Robert Lewis	DQ, BL	May 14	Pope Cyn Rd, L Beryessa, SOL	DQ, BL
Jul. 23	Stevenson SP, SON	BF			
<b>Yellow-throated Warbler</b>					
May 19	Crissy Field, SF	JH			

**Abbreviations for Observers:** DA, David Armstrong; BB, Bill Bousman; BBr, Bob Brandriff; BoB, Bob Battagin DB, Dennis Braddy; HB, Herb Brant; JB, Jonathan Batkin; JRB, J.R. Blair; KB, Ken Burton; LB, Leonie Batkin; MB, Marianne Blair; PB, Patricia Braddy; SB, Steve Bauer; AC, Alfredo Contreras; GC, Graham Chisholm; HC, Hugh Cotter; JC, Josiah Clark; LC, Les Chibana; NC, Norene Clare; RC, Rich Cimino; RCa, Roy Carlson; ADM, Al DeMartini; GD, Gary Deghi; JD, Jim Danzenbaker; AE, Al Eisner; AEn, Andy Engilis; MWE, Mark Eaton; BF, Brian Fitch; DF, Deborah Fitzpatrick; MF, Mike Feighner; RF, Rich Ferrick; RFI, RF; BG, Bingham Gibbs; LG, Lois Goldfrank; PG, Phil Gordon; SG, Steve Glover; ASH, Alan Hopkins; DH, Derek Heins; GH, Garth Harwood; JH, Judith Huf; JHH, John Harris; KH, Keith Hansen; KHi, Kevin Hints; KrH, Kristi Hein; LH, Lisa Hug; RH, Roger Harshaw; SH, Steve Huckabone; SHa, Steve Hampton; ScH, Scott Hein; SHo, Steve Howell; AJ, Alvaro Jaramillo; CK, Christine Koundakjian; KK, Kim Kreitinger; PK, Pat Kenny; RK, Roland Kenner; BL, Bob Lewis; CL, Cindy Lieurance; CDL, Calvin Lou; DL, Don Lewis; JL, John Luther; LL, Les Lieurance; ML, Margareta Luff; RL, Robin Leong; RLe, Rick Lebaudour; WL, William Legge; BEM, Bruce Mast; DM, Dan Murphy; DMa, Dean Manley; GM, Gerry Mugele; JM, Joe Morlan; JMy, Jean Myers; KMK, Kevin McKereghan; MM, Mike Mammoser; MMi, Mark Miller; PM, Peter Metropulos; PMC, Pat McCulloch; RM, Roger Muskat; JON, John O'Neil; KO, Kris Olson; BP, Bob Power; CP, Courtenay Peddle; EP, Eric Preston; JP, John Poole; PP, Peter Pyle; RP, Rich Page; DQ, Dave Quady; BR, Bob Richmond; Bre, BR; JR, Jean Richmond; MR, Mark Rauzon; MRo, Mike Rogers; PR, Phila Rogers; DS, David Suddjian; DSi, Dan Singer; ES, Emilie Strauss; ESe, Emily Serkin; JS, Judi Sierra; MS, Michelle Scott; PS, Paul Saraceni; RS, Rich Stallcup; RSc, Rusty Scafe; RT, Ryan Terrill; RST, Ron Thorn; ST, Scott Terrill; MU, Myra Ulvang; DVP, David Vander Pluym; FV, Frank Vanslager; AW, Alan Wight; AWi, Adam Winer; DW, Denise Wight; DWe, Dave Weber; DWi, Dave Wimpfheimer; JW, John Westlake; LW, Laverne Williams; NW, Nathaniel Wander; WW, Will Wilson; JY, James Yurchenco; MZ, Matt Zlatunich;

*Semicolons separate original observer(s) from subsequent observer(s). Abbreviation "mob" = many observers; "oob" = other observers. Information is compiled from BirdBox transcripts and regional listservs; the author apologizes for any errors or omissions.*

**Abbreviations for Counties and Others:** ALA, Alameda; BBA, Breeding Bird Atlas; CBC, Christmas Bird Count; CC, Contra Costa; CCFS, Coyote Creek Field Station; Cr, Creek; Cyn, Canyon; GGP, Golden Gate Park; L, Lake; MRN, Marin; MTY, Monterey; N., N; NAP, Napa; NWR, National Wildlife Refuge; Pt, Point; PRNS, Pt Reyes National Seashore; ; RP, Regional Park; Rd, Road; Res, Reservoir; RS, Regional Shoreline; SB, State Beach; SCL, Santa Clara; SF, San Francisco; SM, San Mateo; SOL, Solano; SON, Sonoma; SP, State Park; SR, State Reserve; WPCP, Water Pollution Control Plant

OBSERVATIONS, continued on page 12

to the California Red-legged Frog and Alameda Whipsnake, both federally listed as threatened. With more than 100 bird species, thousands of oak and bay trees, and spectacular wildflowers, Gateway Valley is about as close to paradise as one gets in the Bay Area. And it was planned for development.

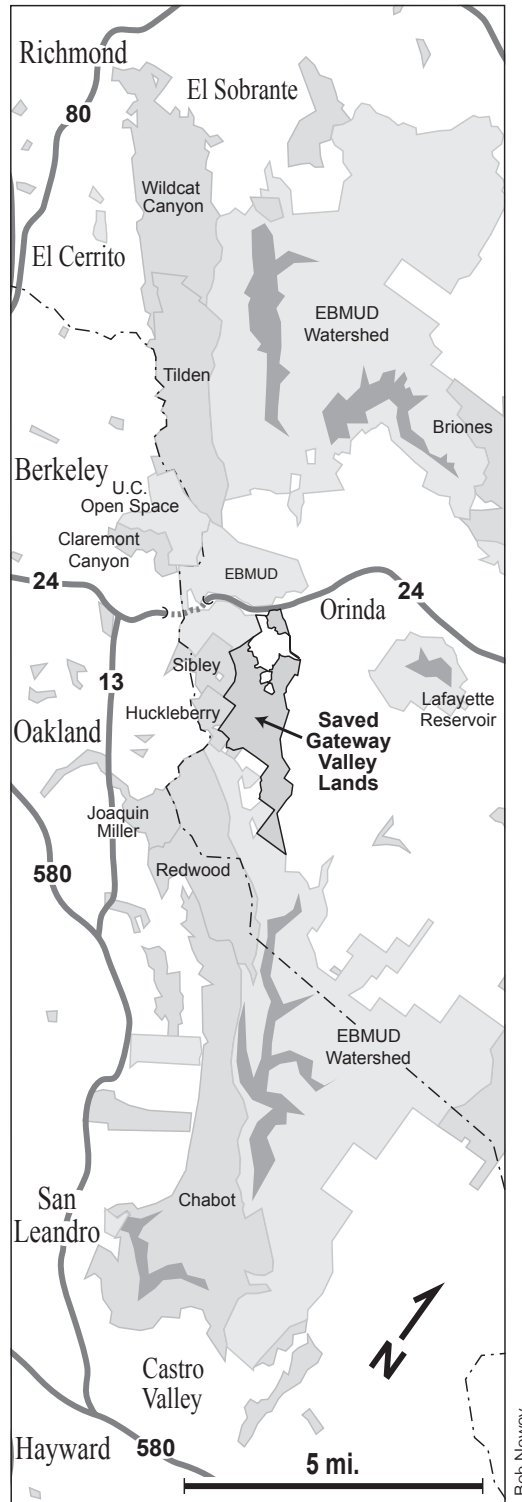
Those Orinda residents had organized into Save Open Space—Gateway Valley (SOS). The development proposal for Gateway Valley was so large and destructive that a referendum launched by SOS and supported by Golden Gate Audubon was successful. The project was stopped.

But development projects almost never die. Over the next few years, there were new owners, a lawsuit, and eventually a new project, called the Montanera Project. This one was smaller but still devastating, with many homes and a golf course. The latter would require leveling the valley and destroying the many streams, wetlands, and seeps, and, ultimately, the wildlife.

Several years of intense opposition followed. Golden Gate Audubon launched letter-writing campaigns. Hundreds of members attended a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers public hearing and expressed our opposition to the project (the Army Corps must approve projects that destroy wetlands).

Golden Gate Audubon hired a lawyer, Tom Lippe, and economic consultants who demonstrated that the project was financially viable without a golf course. We also hired technical consultants who demonstrated that the project's impacts to endangered species and water quality would be devastating. Tom put all of this together in a submittal to the Army Corps.

But the project had momentum. Typically, once a development project reaches the stage where it has been approved by the local city or township and has an approved Environmental Impact Report, there are two possible outcomes. The more usual is that the project is approved despite environmental con-



*Saving Gateway Valley preserves and enlarges a 20-mile corridor of critical wildlife habitat that includes several East Bay Regional Parks and East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD) watersheds.*

cerns. Mitigations are required for impacts to wetlands, streams, and wildlife, but they are usually inadequate. Much more rarely, a project is denied by permitting agencies

such as the Army Corps (due to wetland impacts) or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (because of endangered species impacts). When this happens, the applicant has to start all over again. The project, however, almost never dies.

By July 2002, a new developer had taken over the Montanera Project, and we were advised to talk to him as he appeared to be a very reasonable person. After some serious soul searching, we decided to try a new approach to resolving this conservation struggle. We would offer the developer the opportunity to negotiate a solution that would be acceptable to both sides. We contacted the developer, Steve Heath, and he agreed to meet. At this meeting, I proposed that Orinda Gateway LLC, his company, give up 80 percent of the project in exchange for ceasing our opposition. I expected to be asked to leave his office; instead, he agreed to continue a dialogue.

Two years later—after hundreds of hours of highly technical negotiations and many tense moments when we feared the discussions might fall apart—on July 13, 2004, we signed a Settlement Agreement that finally concluded the 16-year struggle to save Gateway Valley. The developer did, indeed, give up 80 percent of the land.

The agreement is a major conservation success: As a result of the settlement, the proposed golf course is eliminated; the footprint of the development is consolidated, and the amount of grading is significantly reduced. Wetland destruction will be avoided; riparian corridors, protected by wide buffers, will be preserved; and direct impacts to all perennial streams will be avoided.

Most importantly, the settlement preserves as open space 1,354 acres of land in the two valleys, totaling more than two square miles, places them under Conservation Easements and preserves the Caldecott Corridor and completes the 20-mile corridor of wildlife habitat from Alameda to Contra Costa Counties.

A majority of the lands will be owned

by the East Bay Regional Park District and EBMUD (East Bay Municipal Utility District). Orinda Gateway will also provide up to \$500,000 as an endowment for management of these lands. At the same time, Orinda Gateway, LLC achieves its goal of developing the Montanera housing project of 245 units on 215 acres of Gateway Valley. The settlement also provides for \$1 million that can be used by the environmental groups to purchase and/or restore other habitat areas, if there is no future litigation against the Montanera project.

We are proud of a Settlement Agreement that saves, in perpetuity, more than two square miles of important wildlife habitat, wetlands, and streams and potentially provides a \$1 million fund for acquisition and/or restoration.

Participants in the negotiations, in addition to my representing Golden Gate Audubon, were Pete and Amelia Wilson and Bill Hudson of SOS; our lawyer, Tom Lippe; and for specific legal advice on real estate and conservation easement issues, Barry Epstein. Appearing when we needed them were the Sierra Club's Norman LaForce and Mike Daley. Jim Levine, hired by the developer, Steve Heath, to act as a mediator was present from my very first visit to Steve's office to the last day of the negotiations. He played a vital role in finding the solutions to seemingly intractable problems. Steve Heath and Michael Olson took part when necessary for Orinda Gateway LLC, and attorney Tony Ratner was brought in by Steve to provide technical expertise in drafting the document.

We extend our thanks to everyone who took part in these negotiations, particularly Steve Heath, who was willing to take a different path. We also thank all of you who helped during this arduous journey by writing letters, attending hearings, and providing Golden Gate Audubon with financial support. The process was long and difficult, but everyone had the goodwill and determination to see it through to its successful conclusion.

We have set a positive precedent for future East Bay projects. We hope our efforts will encourage other development projects to find innovative ways to preserve our local wildlife and open spaces.

by Arthur Feinstein  
Conservation Director

## Are You a Supporting Member of Golden Gate Audubon?

Did you know Golden Gate Audubon, a chapter of National Audubon Society (NAS), is an independent organization with its own separate budget? We receive less than \$3 of your \$20-plus NAS membership—which does not begin to cover the cost of producing the GULL, managing our extensive conservation and environmental education programs in San Francisco and the East Bay, and offering field trips, classes, and monthly slide-lectures. If you join GGA *directly* you will have the satisfaction of knowing that 100 percent of your GGA membership helps to support our *local* programs.

PLEASE BECOME A GOLDEN GATE AUDUBON SUPPORTING MEMBER TODAY!

Individual	Family	Student	Other (1-year)
<input type="checkbox"/> 1 year \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 year \$40	<input type="checkbox"/> 1 year \$20	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Clapper Rail</b> \$100–199
<input type="checkbox"/> 2 years \$45	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 years \$75	<input type="checkbox"/> 2 years \$35	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Least Tern</b> \$200–499
<input type="checkbox"/> 3 years \$65	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 years \$110	<input type="checkbox"/> 3 years \$50	<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Peregrine Falcon</b> \$500–999
			<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Golden Eagle</b> \$1,000 or more

Membership: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  My check, payable to **Golden Gate Audubon Society**, is enclosed

Additional Donation: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  Please charge my credit card:  VISA  MasterCard

Total enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. \_\_\_\_\_ (mm/yy)

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (h) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (w) \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_

Please do not share my name with another organization.

OBSERVATIONS, continued from page 9

24, a Lark Bunting was photographed at the PRNS Lighthouse, MRN (LW).

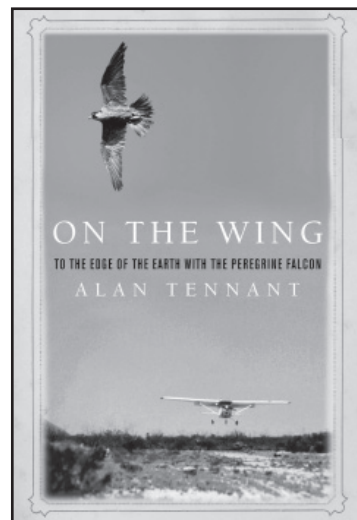
From mid-May to mid-July, nine Rose-breasted Grosbeaks were reported from MRN; SF and SM contributed five sightings each; and single birds were sighted in SCL, ALA, CC, and SON (mob). Blue Grosbeaks remained on territory along Paterson Pass Rd, ALA (MMi; RC, SH); Liberty Island Rd, SCL (RM); near Bethel Island, CC (DH); and in Ed Levin Park, SCL (MM). On June 6, a female Indigo Bunting was found foraging in the company of finches and juncos along Summit Rd, SCL (DS). On July 9, a singing male turned up in the Tennessee Valley, MRN (JC). A flock of Yellow-headed Blackbirds frequented Disk Drive, SCL, the first week of May (AE; mob). On May 27, a first summer male Orchard Oriole stopped in at Coyote Pt Museum, SM (RST). On May 8-9 and again on the 20<sup>th</sup>, a male Baltimore Oriole was singing in the upper part of Glen Cyn Park (MWE; mob).

## On the Wing with Alan Tennant

Author Alan Tennant will appear at the Mechanics' Institute Library in San Francisco on Tuesday, September 21, 12:30 p.m., to talk about his new book, *On the Wing: To the Edge of the Earth with the Peregrine Falcon*. Two decades ago, Tennant set out in a battered Cessna piloted by a septunagarian stunt-pilot to radio-track the transcontinental migration of the Peregrine Falcon, a journey that took them from the Arctic to the Caribbean. *On the Wing* chronicles this fascinating journey in their quest to be the first to follow a falcon for the entirety of its global trek.

Tennant, an authority on raptors, reptiles, and the ecology of deserts and coral reefs, has won awards for his books. Active in wildlife conservation and rehabilitation, he has worked for the Raptor Preservation Fund, and Bat Conservation International. He also served as a member of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Arctic Peregrine Falcon Expedition.

Co-sponsored by the Golden Gate Audubon Society, the talk will be held at the Mechanics' Institute Library, 57 Post Street (the library is a half block from the Montgomery BART/MUNI station). The event is free to GGA and library members; the nonmember fee is \$5. For reservations and information, call 415-393-0100. Reservations may also be made by email: [rsvp@milibrary.org](mailto:rsvp@milibrary.org).



### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

*The GULL* is the official newsletter of Golden Gate Audubon Society. As a Supporting Member of Golden Gate Audubon, you receive a subscription to *The GULL*, a 10 percent discount on all items purchased at our nature store, and the satisfaction of supporting local conservation efforts. Local members of the National Audubon Society are encouraged to join Golden Gate Audubon directly. Contact our office at 510.843.2222 for details.

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