

SAN FRANCISCO BAY BIRD OBSERVATORY NEWSLETTER



P.O. Box 247
Alviso, CA 95002
(408) 946-6548

NUMBER 6

DECEMBER 1984

WHAT'S THIS? ANOTHER NEWSLETTER SO SOON!

You've probably been wondering between newsletters whether the Bird Observatory was still in existence. Somehow our quarterly newsletters haven't been quite that. We've gotten so involved with our research projects that we haven't done our part at keeping you informed. So I'm very excited to announce that starting with this issue, the Bird Observatory newsletter will become a monthly publication. I've taken on the responsibility of editor and Dave Nauer has agreed to serve as assistant editor. We hope to keep you informed of all the current activities, project updates and volunteer opportunities.

We welcome material (written or drawn) from readers and will include it, space provided. A deadline of the first Monday of the month has been set to insure that the newsletter is received by the membership before the General Membership meetings. Send contributions to me at 16675 Buckskin Ct., Morgan Hill, Ca. 95037. If you are interested in working on the newsletter and have any experience at writing, editing or layout, your help would be greatly appreciated

Susie Formenti
Editor

CLAPPER RAIL STUDY

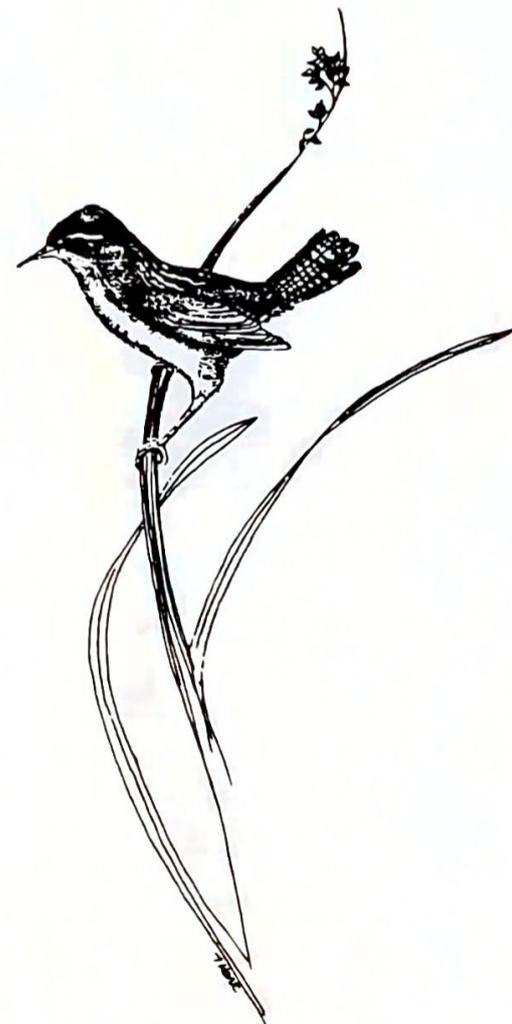
The second year of our California Clapper Rail Study is off and running. We will be spending less time banding rails this year and more time watching them. We are planning some high-tide marsh surveys and captures between December 6 and 11 and for the week starting December 17. Capture dates haven't been set yet because they depend on results of census work going on now. We will be expanding our rail work this year to include census work in some marshes of San Pablo & Suisun Bays. We hope to get data on population densities and habitat preferences of these North Bay birds.

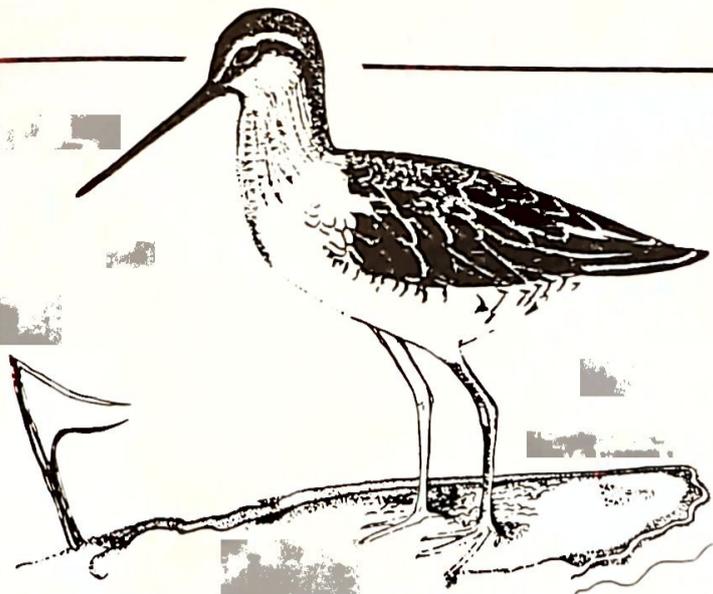
Most of our work will be conducted on weekdays. Times vary according to the tides. If you are interested in helping this winter or next spring, either in the South Bay or farther north, give us a call or write & tell us what days you are free. We'll get back to you before we go out in the field. We're looking forward to another exciting year out in the marshes.

Peter Perrine

XMAS BIRD COUNT

The annual Audubon Christmas Bird Count will be held on Sunday, December 16. The Bird Observatory will organize the Alviso section again this year. If you are new to Christmas counts, or a new birder, please don't let that stop you. Both novices and experienced birders are needed. We guarantee an exciting day. The final tally will be given at the dinner held immediately following the count. If you are interested in helping in the Alviso section, call the Bird Observatory office at (408) 946-6548 or Jean Dubois, section leader, at (408) 395-4264 for more details. It is important to have adequate coverage of all areas within the count in order to properly census both the abundant species as well as the uncommon to rare ones. So remember, we go out rain or shine and your help is needed to make the day a success.





7 Nov

THE ROOF LEAKS!

If you are an experienced roofer, or if you are willing to work as a crew member, your volunteer time is needed. There are several leaks in the roof which must be patched, a small section which requires new ceiling joists, and one section which needs to be closed in.

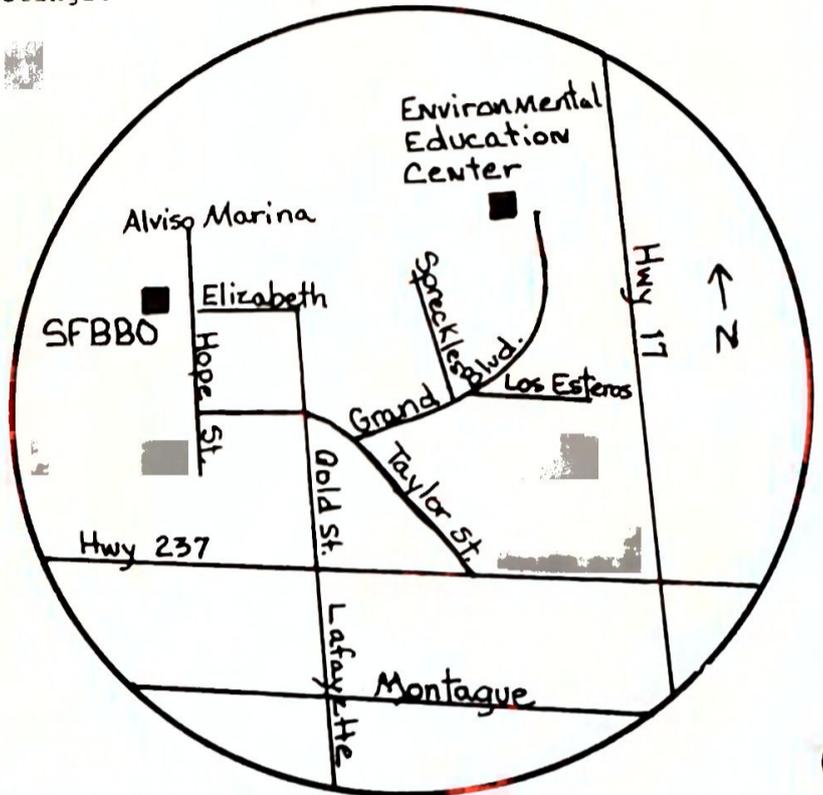
The materials to do the job are on hand. Now we need the workers to do the job. If you can spare a weekday or a weekend-day, please call the Observatory.

CAN YOU HELP?

We need to borrow a winch for use in cleaning the pond at the Observatory. If you have one to loan for a few days, call the Observatory or Ed Roberts (415) 793-5065.

The Bird Observatory office is located at 1290 Hope St. in Alviso. The office is open from 9 am to 5 pm weekdays and some weekends. But before stopping in, call (408) 946-6548 and check the schedule.

The General Membership meetings are held on the first Thursday of the month at 7:30 pm at the San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge Environmental Education Center in Alviso. (See map below). The Board meetings are held on the last Tuesday of the month at 7:30 pm at the Bird Observatory. Members are welcome to attend both meetings.



GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Thursday, December 6, 1984
 Environmental Education Center in Alviso
 7:30 pm



Let's get ready for the Christmas Bird Count Practice! Practice! Practice!



Counting Flocks of Birds with Allen Royer and
 Bird Identification with SFBBO Panel



SPOTLIGHT

Ginny Becchine reports on the Palo Alto Airport Study.



Dear Members:

Since its inception, the Bird Observatory has depended on our members' generous support for its various programs. Needless to say, it takes money to do good bird research, but "money" means more than just green cash. Below is the Observatory's partial Christmas Wish List... we could put these items to good use right now. How about a nice slide projector (at least 500 watts!), a large screen, or a scope. Perhaps you don't have 800 lbs. of bird seed lying around, but somebody might! In any case that's what the Observatory uses in one year. Look over the list and see if you can help!

With Warm Thanks and
Our Best Wishes for
the Holidays

Travel to Scientific Conferences	\$ 18,000
1-4 Compass Transect	\$ 75 each
New or Used 9 Passenger Vehicle	\$5,000 to \$12,000
1-2 Calipers	\$100 each
Lumber for Balcony	\$200
Plywood for Outside Office Wall	\$500
Rental of Heavy Machinery	\$500
Insulation for Outside Office Wall	\$200
Pilot Membership Campaign	\$2,000
Trailer for Field Station	\$10,000
Trailer for Caretaker	\$10,000
Gravel for Driveway	\$1,000
Vacuum Cleaner	\$150
Funds for Developing Education Curriculum	\$8,500
4,000 Color Bands	\$440
Shelves for Library	\$250



800 lbs. Bird Seed	\$250
Air Purifier for Office	\$300
30 Folding Chairs	\$9 each
LP Gas Heating System for Office	\$400
2 Slide Projectors with lap Dissolve Unit	\$1,200
70x70 Projection Screen	\$200
Banding Raptors on Bair Island	\$1,000
1-2 Scientific Desk top Computers	\$6,000 ea.
Computer Programming for Data Analysis	\$10,000



Boots and Waders	\$350
2,000 Stainless Steel Bands	\$220
Marine Band Radio (hand held)	\$300
Marine Band Radio (transceiver)	\$600
File Cabinets	\$150
4-6 Folding Tables	\$150 each
Architectural Design for Building Renovation	\$10,000
Wall Clocks	\$50 each
Field Assistant for Salt Marsh Study	\$3,500
Office Supplies	\$400
Triple-Beam Balance	\$200
Research Assistant for Literature Search	\$5,000
6 to 12 Binoculars	\$190 each

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ALVISO, CALIFORNIA 95002

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A GREAT, EASY GIFT IDEA

The Bird Observatory has a great gift idea and it's so easy! Send a gift membership or donation to your family and friends. Just fill out our gift membership form below and mail it with your check and we will do the rest. We'll send the recipient an attractive Christmas announcement acknowledging your generosity along with a Bird Observatory pocket appointment calendar.

Please put your name & address here:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

I would like to send a gift membership to:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Make checks payable to SFBBO.
Your gift membership is tax deductible.

Student/Senior	\$10 annually
Regular	\$15 annually
Family	\$20 annually
Associate	\$50 annually
Contributing	\$100 annually
Sustaining	\$200 annually
Life	\$400 *
Patron	\$2000 *
Corporate	\$500+annually

* Single payment becomes part of an endowment fund.