

BAY BIRD REVIEW

A QUARTERLY PUBLICATION ON THE SCIENCE AND CONSERVATION OF BIRDS AND THEIR HABITATS



SAN FRANCISCO BAY
BIRD OBSERVATORY

Director's Message

I would like to thank all of you that participated in our 2009 California Fall Challenge fundraiser and our Click Off photo competition. Aside from being a great fundraiser for the Bird Observatory, these events are an important way to build community around the Bird Observatory's mission. It was a pleasure for me to meet many of you, our members, during either a guided trip, our Annual Meeting, or even over the phone!

As I work in my new role as Executive Director, I find that to lead the organization into the future, I want to know as much about its past as possible. As the membership, many of you hold a piece of the Bird Observatory's history, and I thank you for sharing it with me.

And it is with our history in mind that I look forward to the future of the Bird Observatory. 2009 brought on many changes for the Bird Observatory, myself being one of them. This year also brought on one of the most severe economic recessions in recent history. Of course, the recession impacted the Bird Observatory, but in many ways it helped to strengthen our organization by ensuring that we focused our resources on the programs most effective in achieving our mission.

It is with this renewed focus on our mission that we are moving forward. 2010 promises to bring exciting new challenges, including new science initiatives to inform the conservation

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE *continued on page 2*



SNOWY PLOVER CHICKS in an oyster shell plot.

PHOTO BY CAITLIN ROBINSON-NILSEN

Waterbird Program Report

Western Snowy Plovers: Testing Habitat Enhancements and Determining Nest Predators

The Western Snowy Plover is a federally threatened species that nests in the San Francisco Bay. Currently, the San Francisco Bay is home to approximately 150 breeding Western Snowy Plovers, however, the recovery goals set for this species aim for 500 plovers breeding in the Bay. At the same time, Western Snowy Plover nest success has decreased in the South San Francisco Bay (South Bay) over the past 5 years. Therefore, in November 2008, San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory (SFBBO) and Don Edwards San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge (Refuge) began working with the California Department of Fish and Game (DFG) at their Eden Landing Ecological Reserve property to determine whether certain changes to the landscape, or habitat enhancements, increase Snowy Plover nest and fledging success. In addition to enhancing the habitat, we used remote cameras to determine the predators depredated Snowy Plover nests and chicks.

To enhance the habitat, SFBBO first teamed with the California Conserva-

tion Corps (CCC) to remove old posts and telephone poles from the salt ponds where plovers breed. These posts and poles serve as perches for plover nest and chick predators such as raptors and corvids and remained from the era when these ponds were used to harvest salt.

We also enhanced the habitat by spreading oyster shells on the dry pond bottom. We hypothesized that the shells would provide camouflage for plover eggs, chicks, and adults. During the fall and winter of 2008 and 2009, when plovers were no longer nesting on the salt ponds, SFBBO, with help from the CCC and SFBBO volunteers, spread oyster shells over 15 one hectare size plots. Drakes Bay Family Farm donated tons of shells to the project, and we spread shells at roughly 5–8 shells per square meter.

To test the success of the oyster shell enhancements, we compared the nest density (the number of nests per hectare) and nest success (the proportion

SNOWY PLOVERS *continued on page 2*

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE *from cover*

of the federally threatened Western Snowy Plover, the management of the increasing California Gull population, and the implementation of the South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project. Additionally, focused studies on bird communities within our urban landscape will help to answer questions about how to manage birds along with our growing human population. I hope these new initiatives continue to feed the passion of our membership and grow the Bird Observatory community. I look forward to sharing the results of these new studies with you in future issues of the *Bay Bird Review*.

.....
By Jill Bluso Demers,
Executive Director

Board Migrations



Welcome Edward Temple

Edward (Ed) Temple recently retired as an Environmental Engineer for Lockheed Martin, and joined the Bird Observatory Board of Directors in September 2009. Ed grew up on the edge of the Serengeti Plains and eventually settled in California. Ed spent 18 years in the Department of Forestry, served as Executive Director of the Industrial Emergency Council in San Mateo County, and then went on to spend 28 years in industry as an Environmental Engineer overseeing regulatory compliance. Ed brings a wide variety of skills to the Board, as well as a strong desire to help the Bird Observatory grow through development of a Corporate Giving Program. Welcome Ed!

Farewell Lisa Myers

Lisa Myers has been on the Board of Directors for five years, serving first as Secretary and most recently as Vice President. Lisa has been integral in many new Bird Observatory initiatives, and was particularly instrumental in growing the California Fall Challenge fundraiser. A gifted communicator and fundraiser, her contributions have been impressive. We wish Lisa the best of luck and thank her for her many years of dedicated service!



PHOTO BY PATTY MCGANN



A NORTHERN HARRIER filmed by a nest camera depredating a Snowy Plover nest.

SNOWY PLOVERS *continued from cover*

of nests where at least one egg hatched) in shell plots, to randomly placed plots without any shell enhancements (control plots). We found oyster shell habitat enhancements increased the nesting density of Snowy Plovers with more plovers nesting in shell plots (n=24) than control plots (n=0). In fact, we recorded the highest density of nesting Snowy Plovers in the San Francisco Bay with six active nests in a one-hectare shell plot during April 2009. We also found that oyster shell habitat enhancements increased plover nest success. We documented that 66% of nests in the shell plots hatched at least one egg, whereas only 50% of the nests outside of the shell plots hatched at least one egg. Addition-

ally, we determined that only 8% of nests in the shell plots were depredated compared to 44% of nests outside of the shell plots.

We also used remote camera systems placed at the plover nests to record predators depredating Snowy Plover nests and chicks (see summer 2009 Bay Bird Review Science Feature "Monitoring Snowy Plover Nests with Remote Cameras" by Scott Demers for more information on methods). We caught seven depredation events on film, and all of the predators were avian predators. We recorded two instances of Red-Tailed Hawks depredating nests, two instances of Northern Harriers depredating nests, one Common Raven depredating a nest and one California Gull depredating a nest. We also recorded one California Gull depredating newly hatched Snowy Plover chicks.

We continued the Snowy Plover chick banding program during the 2009 breeding season. We banded 113 chicks in 2009 and determined from daily resighting efforts that 28 chicks (24.8%) successfully fledged. This is slightly lower than the 2008 fledging rate of 28.9%. We also found that there was no difference in chick fledging success between chicks from nests in shell plots and those from nests outside of the shell

plots. We did discover that several of the chicks we banded in 2008 bred successfully this year. One male nested in a shell plot at Eden Landing Ecological Reserve and all three of his chicks were banded this July (that particular male and his chicks were featured on this year's California Fall Challenge t-shirt!). A female plover spent last winter on a beach in Santa Cruz, and bred this summer in Ventura County. She is now wintering on the same beach in Santa Cruz.

SFBBO will continue to monitor the South Bay Snowy Plovers during the 2010 breeding season. This fall, we continued to spread more shell plots within Eden Landing Ecological Reserve to in order to increase the number of study plots. We will also continue to use the nest cameras to determine nest predators, and band chicks to determine chick survival rates. These data collection efforts are important to help inform management of Western Snowy Plovers in the San Francisco Bay. We hope that with these habitat improvements and careful monitoring, Snowy Plovers will have a better chance of reaching the goal of 500 breeding plovers in the San Francisco Bay.

.....
By Caitlin Robinson-Nilsen, Waterbird
Program Supervisor

A Day at Sea in San Mateo County

The first pelagic California Fall Challenge trip, the "Pelagic Pirates" motored out Pillar Point Harbor in Half Moon Bay on October 11, 2009. With nearly 35 people on board, it was a great day of birding the relatively unexplored waters of San Mateo County.

A few miles offshore, the adventure began as we started seeing Common Murres and then Rhinoceros Auklets. The first Sooty and Pink-footed Shearwaters appeared around 10 miles out, as well as the first of many Northern Fulmars. We saw all variations of Northern Fulmars, from very dark sooty brown to grayish birds, to the gull-like pale morphs; the latter a distinct minority. At 16 miles out, saw our first Buller's Shearwater flying fast and furious away from the boat. Despite its brief appearance, many folks saw the smaller and fast-flapping Black-vented.

At about 20 miles out, we reached the edge of the continental shelf, a steep underwater drop-off that causes the upwelling of colder and nutrient-rich water to the surface, which concentrates food for pelagic birds. We were soon surrounded by Pink-footed Shearwaters and even more Northern Fulmars. We saw our first Black-footed Albatross. The very tough-to-identify Short-tailed Shearwater was spotted from the stern, and the bird made its way forward alongside the boat for great views.

As the water got deeper we found more Black-footed Albatrosses, and spotted a dragger fishing for flatfish. The bycatch discarded from a fishing boat like this creates food for birds like albatrosses, fulmars, and others. Near the dragger, we saw our first South Polar Skua, a molting individual with a lot of the white feather bases on the innerwing, not just on the primaries. As we looked through the albatrosses, I told the group to look out for the white-bodied Laysan Albatross and the even more exciting, but extremely rare, Short-tailed Albatross. It was minutes later that a Laysan Albatross



PHOTO BY VIVEK KHANZODE

THE SHORT-TAILED ALBATROSS seen during the CFC Pelagic Pirates trip.

landed at the stern of the boat. We were still focusing our binoculars on the Laysan when Linda Terrill ran screaming from the bow of the boat. She had spotted a Short-tailed Albatross! This fantastic bird landed just a few feet behind the boat, causing incredible excitement onboard. This Short-tailed Albatross stayed with us for nearly 30 minutes, providing ample opportunities for photographs and study. This individual was marked with a satellite transmitter.

Once perhaps the most common albatross in the north Pacific, the Short-tailed Albatross was hunted nearly to extinction for the millinery trade. In the latter half of the 1800's, it is estimated that 10 million Short-tailed Albatross were killed. By 1930, only a few birds remained, only nesting on Torishima Island in Japan. Hunting for the species was outlawed at the same time they stopped nesting on that island, around 1940. Fortunately, it takes many years for young albatrosses to mature to adulthood, and young Short-tailed Albatrosses were still out at sea. In 1954, those birds came back to lay the first wild eggs in over a decade. Since then, the Japanese have been actively managing the species, and numbers have

climbed to over 2,000 from the 25 that were left in 1954.

I got in touch with a researcher, Dr. Robert Suryan, who is involved in this project. He informed me that the Short-tailed Albatross we saw was a hatch-year bird tagged on Mukojima, Japan, in May 2009. It originally hatched on Torishima, but was translocated to Mukojima at 1 month old and hand-reared to fledging. This bird was one of the 14 translocated in 2009 in an attempt to re-establish this species in the Bonin Islands.

After the Short-tailed Albatross flew off, I was ready to leave when we had a nice visit by a molting Fork-tailed Storm-Petrel. Finally, we started going home, and we slowly left the pelagic birds behind.

It is clear that the San Mateo waters are very productive, and that they deem more attention. I have lived for 15 years on the coast, and this was my first local pelagic. Thanks to all of the trip participants for your great enthusiasm on the trip. Even without the good birds, it would have been good fun... but I will take the good birds anytime.

.....
By Alvaro Jaramillo, Biologist

CALIFORNIA FALL CHALLENGE 2009

The California Fall Challenge is the San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory's largest fundraiser and is a wonderful event in bringing members together to help raise funds for the organization. This four week event is held every fall and this year happened between Sept. 12 – Oct. 11. There are several ways to participate. One of the most popular ways to support the California Fall Challenge is to join many of the Guided Trips available during the event. This year volunteers led



SNOWY PLOVER Nest in a Footprint. Human Interaction Category Winner photo by Caitlin Robinson-Nilsen.

guided trips to Santa Clara, Alameda and Yolo Counties. Birding by kayak was also a great adventure and a pelagic trip off the San Mateo Coast allowed birders to see species only found miles off shore.

For those wishing to fundraise and compete for the Mewaldt Cup (name after Professor Richard Mewaldt, an important founder of the Bird Observatory), the California Fall Challenge is a Birdathon. Participants form a team and ask for sponsors to support their birding efforts. Each team selects a date and a county and tries to find as many species as possible. The Bird Observatory provides each team with a list of the normally occurring species, which is the "par" for that county. The team that finds the highest percentage of their chosen county's par wins.

This year, the Refugees won the Mewaldt Cup birding Merced County on Oct. 10. The Refugees includes Mike Rogers, Mike Mammoser, Francis Toldi and Richard Jeffers. The team saw or heard 144 species of a possible 213 for Merced County, which is 67.61% of par.

"We have birded Merced County for the past several years because we have a better chance to see a lot of species in this county compared to the total possible," said Mike Mammoser. "We started at midnight to get the nocturnal species and then we slept for a few hours before day break. At dawn we continued and birded throughout the day until nightfall." The Refugees broke their own record and saw 6 more species than in 2008.

To date, the California Fall Challenge raised just over \$25,000, and donations are still coming in. The San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory wishes to thank all the people that participated in this year's California Fall Challenge. This includes the fundraisers and their sponsors, the Guided Trip leaders and the gracious sponsors that donated marvelous prizes which were awarded to the top fundraisers during the Annual Meeting held on Oct. 25.

.....
By Lisa Myers, Former Board of Directors Vice-President

The 2009 Annual Membership Meeting

The 28th Annual Meeting, was held this year at the Environmental Education Center in Alviso. The Refuge gates opened at 9:00 AM and members were greeted with coffee and bagels, in addition to a beautiful morning amongst the thousands of shorebirds that thrive in these open spaces. Members also had the opportunity to view the incredible photographs submitted by participants of the First Annual Click Off photo competition. Members, staff and board had fun meeting each other, perusing the Silent Auction items, and voting for their favorite Click Off image.

Board President Pati Rouzer called the meeting to order, introduced new staff, conducted the voting for the new board nominees and explained a change to the Articles of Incorporation which allows the Bird Observatory exemption from some property tax items (allowed for nonprofits). Executive Director Jill Bluso Demers gave an outstanding program, outlining the status of the science programs and an overview of the financial standing, explaining where the funding comes from and which programs the funds support.

The highlight of the meeting, the announcement of the California Fall Challenge top fundraisers, was presided over by

Vice-President Lisa Myers. Thanks and recognition was given to the many members, staff and board who volunteered countless hours to this year's fundraising efforts, not forgetting to thank those who donated prizes, organized the food, auction, photo contest and the innumerable tasks that go into making a successful event.

This meeting was also a time to reflect on the past and look forward to the future. These past two years have been an intense period of reorganization, planning and development. We have initiated a Strategic Planning process to guide the vision of the Bird Observatory. We feel that we are well poised for growth, similar to a start-up, but with 28 years of experience. We are all very excited about the future of the Bird Observatory. To lead us into that future is Jill Bluso Demers. With a passion for research and endless energy, Jill comes to us from the USGS with extensive experience in avian conservation science. She hit the ground running as Science Director and has moved easily into the Executive Director position. Please join us in welcoming Executive Director Jill Demers.

.....
By Pati Rouzer, Board of Directors President

Inaugural 2009 Click Off Photo Contest

As a new part of this year's California Fall Challenge fundraiser, the San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory successfully launched the 2009 Click Off Photo Contest. With over 350 images submitted by over 80 entries, the photo contest not only helped raise over \$2000 of funds for the Bird Observatory, but it also helped to more closely tie the active Bay Area Bird photographic community to the Bird Observatory's science and outreach efforts.

Photographs were entered into six categories: Bird Portraits, Birds in their Habitat, Bird Behavior, Endangered Species, Human Interaction, and Birds of the World. One image in each category was awarded a Best in Category award, with one or more other standout images awarded Honorable Mentions. From these images, a final award, the Best in Show award was voted on by members attending the Annual Meeting. Edward Minh Nguyen's photo "My Tern to Dance" won the Best in Show award after winning the Bird Portraits category.

Winners of this year's Click Off will have their images on display at the Don Edwards Environmental Education Center and on the Bird Observatory's web site. Category Winners will also spend a weekend at Bruce Finocchio's Ramrod Ranch in Monterey County, which has been set up for Bird Blind Photography.



MY TERN TO DANCE, the winner of the 2009 Click Off Best in Show award, by Edward Minh Nguyen.

Images receiving Honorable Mention were awarded \$25 gift certificates to Borrow Lenses, and the Best in Show winner will attend an Advanced Hummingbird Workshop offered by Oliver Klink. The Bird Observatory sincerely thanks the generous Click Off prize donors.

The Bird Observatory congratulates the following category winners as well as all of those who submitted photographs to the competition. Look for category winner photographs throughout this issue of *Bay Bird Review*.

- *Bird Behavior*: "Mother's Arm" by **Ashutosh Sinha**
- *Human Interaction*: "Snowy Plover Nest in a Footprint" by **Caitlin Robinson-Nilsen**
- *Birds in their Habitat*: "King Penguin, Passing by Antarctic Sea Lion" by **Robert Heil**
- *Endangered Species*: "California Condor – Free in Big Sur" by **Marianne McKissock**
- *Birds of the World*: "Chinstrap Penguins" by **Robert Heil**
- *Bird Portraits*: "My Tern to Dance" by **Edward Minh Nguyen**

Congratulations to Honorable Mention winners Robert Fournier ("Robin Gulping Pyracantha Berry"), Amy Leist ("A Short-eared Owl Fluffs up after Preening"), Richard Pavek ("Gannet's Blessing"), Pati Rouzer ("Allen's Hummingbird"), Susan Teefy ("Injured Hawk Rescue by Livermore Police"), Bill Walker ("Acorn Woodpecker"), Pam and Richard Winegar ("Seagull Eating Pacific Starfish"), and Steve Zamek ("Hooded Merganser").

By Michael Kern, SFBBO Board of Directors



MOTHER'S ARM, Bird Behavior Category Winner, photographed by Ashutosh Sinha.

Thank you



to our 13th Annual California Fall Challenge Sponsors & Donors!

TOP 10 FUNDRAISERS

Alvaro Jaramillo, Lisa Myers, Mike Mammoser, Karen DeMello, Gail Richardson, Pati Rouzer, Tom Stewart, Jean Myers, Jill Demers

PEREGRINE LEVEL PRIZE SPONSORS

(\$500 AND UP)

Cheesemans' Ecology Safaris, Cotinga Tours, Art Gonzales, Helen Golden, Bruce Finocchio, Oliver Klink, REI Saratoga, Patricia Rouzer, David Presotto and Caryl Carr, Wild Bird Center of Los Gatos

OSPREY LEVEL PRIZE SPONSORS (\$100-\$499)

Leonie Batkin, Allison Conner, Mel Cotton's Sporting Goods, Jay House Vacation Rental, Julie Bryson, Eagle Optics, BorrowLenses.com, Mighty Jams, Ken Peterson, Annette Jung, Oceanic Society Expeditions, Sorensen's Resort

MERLIN LEVEL (\$25-\$99)

Barbara Banthien, Bay Nature Magazine, Dotty Calabrese, Casa Nuestra Winery & Vineyard, Martha Castillo, Camera Cinemas, Deborah LeFalle, Nora Mihelick, Lisa Myers, Troy and Corina Rahmig, University of California Press, Dale Wannan

FALL CHALLENGE GUIDED TRIP LEADERS:

Jill Demers, Karen DeMello, Matthew Dodder, Alvaro Jaramillo, Dave Johnston, Kathi Kendrick, Jean Myers, Lisa Myers, Kay Partelow, Ryan Phillips, Bob Power, Troy Rahmig, Pati Rouzer, Mike Rogers, Scott Terrill

CALIFORNIA FALL CHALLENGE DONORS

David Adams, Lisa Abrahamson, Norman and Melvia Akita Jr., Mary Ann Allan, Gwendolin Allison, Robert and Adina Austin, Bruno

Baglin, Barbara Banthien, Linda Barnard, Robert Barry, Leonie Batkin, Bonnie Bedford-White and Richard White, Barbara Bekins, Cynthia Berg, Jennifer Berry, Jeanette Bettge, William Bigler, Pat Bitton, William Black, Bonnie Bosworth, Bryan Bosza, Connie Bowencamp, Robert Briggs, Raymond Brulotte, Juliette Bryson, Joelle Buffa, Clarissa Bush, Dorothy Calabrese, Lance and Jo Campbell, June Cancell, Roy Carlson, Noelle Carroll, Justine Carson, Chih Tung Chen, Paul and Marijane Chestnut, Manfred Chiu, Connie Cloak and Chris Carrieri, Sue Ellen Coffman, Glenn Collins, Rita and Rob Colwell, Allison Connor, Gary Cooper, Susan and Robert Cossins, Charles and Joan Coston, Anne Creevy, Lori Cuesta, Terry Daubek, Chris and Teresa Day, Curtiss De Oliveira, Karen DeMello, Jill and Scott Demers, Ann Dewart, Leslie DeYoung, Joseph DiAndrea and Kathy Harris, Clyde and Barbara Dodder, Matthew Dodder, David and Eileen Dressler, Andy Drexler, Jean and Pat Dubois, Donald and Elaine Dvorak, Noney Eckert, Edwin and Mary Jane Ehmke, Alan Eisner, Gerry Ellis, Bob and Barbara Ells, Mary Facchetti, Janet Farmer, Arleen Feng, Bob Ferrario, Robert and Susan Fetters, Bruce Finocchio, Roberta Fischer, Mark and Sandra Fitzpatrick, Lillian Fujii and Steven Hayashi, Harold Fukuma, David Ganser, Frank Gelat, Neal Golub, Laurie Graham and Jeff Fairclough, Helen Green, Katherine Greene, Kenneth Greenwood and Sonia Jacob, Bridget Greuel, Lynne Grob, Tom Goodier, Jean Halford, Janet and Jay Hanson, Alex Hartman, Aiko and Kaz Hayashi, Michele Helms, Kathleen Henderson, Nick and Kathy Hendig, William and Anne Hepburn, Charlie and Judith Hibbard, Howard Higley, Jan Hintermeister, Sherry Hudson, Livia Imada, Kathy Jarrett, Richard Jeffers, Susan Jepsen, Pam Jones, Jane Jordan, Annette Jung, Kristine Karnos, Steve Kass, Larry and Eileen Kay, Kathi and Paul Kendrick, Roland Kenner and Patricia Kenny, Vivek Khanzode, Eduardo Kneler, Jennifer Krauel, Marion Krause, Susan Kritzik, Martha Kudlacik, Barbara Laidlaw, Thomas Lawrence, Aldora Lee, Diane Lee, Kathleen Lee, Deborah LeFalle, Rosalie Lefkowitz, Jason Lehrbaum, Scott Lehrbaum, Janet Leonard, Kay Loughman, Nelle Lyons, Christian and Jeff Machler, Nancy Maddoux, Pat Mahoney, Dennis Makovec, John Malek,

Joseph and Mari Mammoser, Michael Mammoser, Meredith Manning, Marshall Marlowe, Virginia Marshall, M. Kay Matthews, Robert McCord, Ronald and Barbara McDow, Patty McGann, Mitsue McKenna, John McLemore and Clysta Seney, Shannon McMahan, Andrew Melnick, Sonny Mencher, John and Maria Meyer, Nora Mihelick, Sandy and Steve Moore, Dolores Morrison, Lisa Myers, Jean Myers, Christian Nilsen, Paul and Madelyn Noble, Chris Okon, Kristen Olson, Trent W. Orr, Stephen and Laurie Pakula, Susan Patrick, Donald Pendleton, Rai-Fone Peng, Janet Perez, Kenneth Petersen, Bob Power, David Presotto and Caryl Carr, Kandy Quigg, Corina and Troy Rahmig, Mark Raven, Emily Renzel, David Rice, June Richard, Gail Richardson, Kenneth and Jeannetta Richardson, Rick and Laurie Roberts, John and Lucy Robinson, Cindy Roessler, Michael and Alma Kali Rogers, Renato Roscher and Lisa Hatamoto, Patricia Rouzer, D.C., Marguerite Ryan, Jennifer Rycenga and Peggy Macres, Byron and Elizabeth Ryono, Steven and Lori Saltz, M.D., Patricia Sandoval, Jeff Sardelli, Phyllis Sasaki, Carley Schacter, Ken Schneider, Lionel Schour, Joshua Scullen and Nellie Thorngate, James Scullen, Jessica Scullen, Thomas Scullen, Laurie Segal, Brenda Senturia, Michelle Setter, Mitchell Sewell, Anita and Richard Sheats, Kathryn Shepard, Paul and Kathleen Sidenblad, Martin and Barbara Sidor, Jody Signorelli, Nancy Silva, Ashutosh Sinha, Tate and Curtis Snyder, Elinor Spellman, Larry Spivak, Louisa Squires, Geetha Srikantan, Thomas Stewart and Martha Castillo, Jim and Lesley Stewart, Mark and Mary Stoering, David Stout, Richard and Sarajenny Stout, Emilie Strauss, Cheryl Strong, Mark and Leila Sutherland, Peter Swenson, Ed Temple, Scott Terrill, Ph.D., Jim Thomas, James and Sharon Thorp, Phil and Heather Thorp, Francis Toldi, Ruth and Gene Troetschler, Le Truong, William and Kimberly Umansky, M.D., Jullie Vasquez, Ann Verdi, Fran Viana, Julia Vindasius, Barbara Vosmik, Rita Vrhel, Bill Walker and Mary Wisnewski, Joanne Wallin, Yiwei Wang, Dale Wannan, Lisa Weber, Sherri Weeks, Traci Werner, Daniela Wersin, Janet Wessel, Mary Whittaker, Richard and Pam Winegar, Shirley Wodtke, Christine Yemoto, Lilly Yoshida and Louis Cogliani, Gerald Young, Lou and Jean Young, Anna Zara

Our thanks to these supporters of the San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory!



*Thank you new and returning members,
July – September 2009.*

SUSTAINER

Christina Garcia, Judy Klein

CONTRIBUTOR

Randy Arnold, Daniel Becker and Johanna van de Woestijne, Vern Bothwell, Bob and Barbara Brandriff, Sal Casente and Alison Spong, Ann Chiller, Gordon and Carolyn Davidson, Cliff Drowley, Donald and Elaine Dvorak, Frances Escherich, Harold Fukuma, Christopher Hamilton, Donna De Diemar, Dolores Hansen, Christie Hochschild, Kirsten Holmquist, Carol Jordan and Paul Dummel, Jane Jordan, Mark Landkamer, Charles and Deborah Metzger, Thomas and Lorraine Myers, Donna Nicoletti, Susan Patrick, Elizabeth Porter, Paul Saraceni and Wendy Beckman, Harry Savage, Brenda Senturia, Kristin and Mark Shields, Martin and Barbara Sidor, Sandra Skolnik, Monet Thomson, Bill Walker and Mary Wisnewski, Ed and Marilyn Wojcik, Debbie Wu and Jeff Krause

FRIEND

Nanci Adams, Sylvia Alderman, R. Jay Andree, William Bilobran, Joelle Buffa, John Corcoran, Ernest Eastman, Edwin and Mary Jane Ehmke, Hans and Diane Ernst, Helen Green, Denise and David Hamilton, Barbara Kendrick, Robert and Hannelore Lewis, David McIntyre, Kevin McKereghan, Robert Nass, Richard Page, Margaret and C.J. Panton, Jean Perata, Jerry and Jacquelyn Reimann, Rick and Laurie Roberts, Ann Ruffer, Tate and Curtis Snyder, Jan Talbert, Ed Temple, Joyce Tom, Debbie Wong and Tadd Ottman, Sophia Wong, Bob and Carol Yutzy

BASIC

Gerry Argenal, Gordon Barrett, Jean Barrett, Olive Bavins, Vikki Bay, Cynthia Berg, Pat Bitton, Barbara Borthwick, Elizabeth Boulton, Patty Boyle, June Cancell, Ted Chandik, Paul and Marijane Chestnut, Carol Chetkovich, Tim Cleere, Nancy Couperus, Jennifer Daggy, Anna DeVine, Marianne Dieckmann, Pamela Estalio, Jeff Feierfeil, Eugene and Anna Gaenslen, Pat Gannon, Wally and Lois Goldfrank, Phil and Pat Gordon, Peter Grunow, Edward Gustafson, Jean Halford, Mike Hancock, Grace Hattori, Nancy Hay, William Hull, Mary Kelly, M.D., Roland Kenner and Patricia Kenny, Kathryn Kersey, Theresa Keyes, David and Penny Kiehl, Abe Klein, Rebecca Koch, Laura Koehler, Thomas Konno, Marion Krause, Va Landschoot, Deborah LeFalle, Harold and Eleanor Lipton, Libby Lucas, Nelle Lyons, John and Betty MacDonald, M. Kay Matthews, Theresa McGovern, Peter Metropoulos, Donna Meyer, Lawrence and Nora Monette, Joseph Morlan and Robbie Fischer, Jennifer and Patricia Moylan, David and Cathy Nieto, Cassie Ohms, Peter and Rozell Overmire, Stephen and Laurie Pakula, Courtenay Peddle, Jacqueline

Pickett, John Pierce, M.D., Patricia Polentz, Joan Raiter, Robert Reiling, Gail Richardson and David Austin, Jean Rigden, John and Barbara Robeson, Elsa Rosenberg, Annemarie Rosengreen, Jessie Schilling, Robert Schultz, William Scoggins, Dan Singer, Pat Smith, Robin Winslow Smith, Eric Sorenson, Jean-Marie Spoelman, Nola Theobald, Dawn Vogelsong, Zona Walcott and Ron Goldthwait, Stephen Walker, Alan and Sandra Walther, Irene Watt, Peter White, Allan and Julia Wofchuck

We thank the following for their generous gifts, July – September 2009.

\$5,000 – \$9,999

Leonie Batkin

\$500 – \$999

Jan Hintermeister, Motorola Foundation

\$250 – \$499

Google Matching Gifts Program, John Johnson, David Presotto and Caryl Carr

\$100 – \$249

Noney Eckert, Reyla Graber, Juniper Networks, T. Charles and Meredith Moore, Thomas Olson, James and Andrea Sandstrom, Erika Wilson

\$60 – \$99

Michael Kern

\$40 – \$59

David Ainley, Chevron Humankind, Marianne Dieckmann, Gerry Ellis, Elan Hahn, Dean Manley, Ronald and Barbara McDow, George and Luisa Miller, David Quady

\$20 – \$39

Karen DeMello, William Kappler, Caroline Kim, Grace Sain, Mary Lynn Shimek



CALIFORNIA CONDOR – *Free In Big Sur.*
Endangered Species Category Winner photo by
Marianne McKissock.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Patricia Rouzer, *President*
Troy Rahmig, *Vice President*
Dale Wannan, *Treasurer*
Leonie Batkin
Michael Kern
Edward Temple

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Jill Bluso Demers

WATERBIRD PROGRAM SUPERVISOR

Caitlin Robinson-Nilsen

LANDBIRD PROGRAM SUPERVISOR

Alex Hartman, Ph.D.

BIOLOGISTS

Alvaro Jaramillo, Carley Schacter,
Josh Scullen

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Kathi Kendrick

FINANCE ASSISTANT

Gail Richardson

MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR

Sandy Moore (volunteer)

LIBRARIAN

Va Landschoot (volunteer)

The San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation dedicated to the conservation of birds and their habitat through science and outreach, and to contributing to informed resource management decisions in the Bay Area. Annual membership is \$40; donations are appreciated. Renewals and donations should be sent to the office.

BAY BIRD REVIEW is published quarterly by the San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory. Deadline for submissions is five weeks prior to the start of the quarter. Contact the editor at outreach@sfbbo.org for submission guidelines. Please send address changes to the office.

San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory
524 Valley Way
Milpitas, CA 95035

t 408.946.6548
f 408.946.9279
www.sfbbo.org

sfbbo@sfbbo.org

Design by Alterpop, San Francisco.

Layout by e.g. communications.

Printed on recycled paper by Alonzo Printing.

Copyright 2009

San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory



SAN FRANCISCO BAY
BIRD OBSERVATORY

524 Valley Way
Milpitas, CA 95035

www.sfbbo.org

Return service requested

NONPROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
ALVISO, CA
PERMIT #9



CHINSTRAP PENGUINS. *Birds of the World Category Winner photo by Robert Heil.*



KING PENGUIN, *Passing by Antarctic Fur Seal. Birds in their Habitat Category Winner photo by Robert Heil.*

Calendar

Sunday, January 10, 7:45 am – 11:00 am

RSVP

BIRDING ZEILE CREEK

SITE: GARIN/DRY CREEK PIONEER PARK (HAYWARD)

Located in the grassy hills of Hayward, Zeile Creek offers the chance to bird a variety of habitats with Bridget Greuel, an avid birder and bird bander at the Bird Observatory's Coyote Creek Field Station. The walk will be a mix of riparian, deciduous forest and oak savannah. We will be looking for the Varied Thrush, which frequent the creek. We can also find Western Meadowlarks, Say's Phoebes, Townsend's Warblers and a variety of raptors. Expect to walk 2 miles in moderately strenuous terrain.

Saturday, February 6, 8:30 am – 10:30 am

RSVP

A BIRD IN THE HAND

SITE: COYOTE CREEK FIELD STATION (MILPITAS)

Tour the Bird Observatory's banding station and meet the new Coyote Creek Field Station Manager, Josh Scullen. Learn about the Bird Observatory's bird banding research and see several different species up in the hand. We will tour mist nets, watch a bird banding demonstration, and explore a restored riparian habitat. Please join us and learn why bird banding is so important for protecting birds and their habitats. RSVP required. We will meet at the Borders bookstore parking lot in McCarthy Ranch, Milpitas. In the event of rain, the tour is cancelled.



WALK: RSVP to outreach@sfbbo.org or 408.946.6548. Space is limited to 20 people. Free for members; \$10 for non-members.



ACCESSIBLE: Please contact the Outreach Specialist so that we can coordinate with you.



SPECIAL
EVENT



VOLUNTEER
ACTIVITY