



LEAVES

Madrone Audubon Society, Inc., Post Office Box 1911, Santa Rosa, California 95402

VOLUME 53 September 2019 Number 1

Our Support for New Bird Rescue Center

Most local bird and wildlife advocates have been following the painful story of Bird Rescue Center of Sonoma County's (BRC's) loss of its four-decade home and rehabilitation center for sick, injured, and orphaned birds, as Sonoma County moves ahead to sell the larger Chanate Road property for housing. BRC cares for over 3000 birds a year from Sonoma, Lake, Mendocino, and Marin Counties. The Center's survival supports and affects a wide geographic ecosystem.

The prospect of finding a conveniently situated replacement site of at least two acres at a bargain price in Sonoma County seemed virtually impossible in an area where real estate is literally and figuratively on fire. After several years of desperately searching, BRC has finally been offered a 34-year lease at \$10/year on two acres off West Sierra in Cotati. The larger 18-acre property (former Washoe Golf Course) was recently purchased as an equestrian center by Heidi and David Jacquin, who also, serendipitously, are philanthropic bird lovers. This bargain lease is an exciting development. Although the move will be a major challenge in many ways, the Chanate facility...a cold, leaky WWII Quonset hut... is, in BRC's estimation, antiquated and barely adequate for the work

they are committed to. This is a great opportunity to finally create the modern facility that has been needed for years.

The new site will necessitate a ground-up buildout, involving several phases, the first of which requires \$650,000 to be raised by year-end 2019 for permits, prep, foundations, and the building shell. Another \$250,000 will be required to complete the basic



Western Screech Owl about to be released. Courtesy of Bird Rescue

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GENERAL MEETING

First United Methodist Church • 1551 Montgomery Drive, Santa Rosa
Monday, September 16, 2019, 7:00 PM

“Liberating Form and Function: Rehabilitation of a Coastal Dune Ecosystem”

Can modest attempts to promote recovery of ecological form and function at a limited scale, miniscule amidst the pandemic global environmental crisis, be meaningful and helpful? Does the near-term renaissance of native plant populations and wildlife habitat provide a harbinger of a dune ecosystem's long-term ecological resiliency and integrity? Join us for botanist Peter Warner's presentation and his response: "Conscientious attempts to address past environmental mismanagement – at any scale – are essential to our humanity." Peter will discuss a project designed to promote ecological recovery of a coastal dune ecosystem at the Ten Mile Dunes and Inglenook Fen Nature Preserve, part of MacKerricher State Park, north of Fort Bragg. We will learn about both project objectives and the approach to requisite mitigation measures, as well as long-term goals, which include resurrection of ecologically important physical, chemical and biological processes such as those expressed through dune formation, surface hydrology, and biotic diversity.



Erysimum menziesii (Menzies wallflower)
Ten Mile Dunes
Courtesy of Peter Warner

Peter Warner is an independent consulting botanist, plant ecologist and educator, and ecological interpreter. He has been involved in the study of plants and ecology for about 40 years, coinciding with his westward migration from East Coast roots. Peter holds B.A. and M.A. degrees in Biology (Ecology) from Sonoma State University. For the past 25 years, he's taught botanically oriented classes and workshops and organized hundreds of trips throughout California to explore biodiversity. His experience also includes 10 years of working in environmental science with California State Parks and Golden Gate Parks Conservancy. Some of Peter's current work includes post-fire floristic studies for Sonoma Land Trust and Pepperwood Preserve, leading interpretive walks in botany and fire ecology. Being out in nature is part of Peter's daily life... "nature provides more than ample material from which to harvest enlightenment."



NEW BIRD RESCUE CENTER

Continued from page 1

bird rehabilitation facility. A future third phase (\$700,000) will include an education, training, and meeting center.

Raising money in the post-fire environment may be challenging, but the financial target is relatively modest in the larger picture of capital campaigns. BRC is a much loved and respected institution, is getting positive news coverage, and has already been offered pro bono design, consulting, and other services for the project.

Not surprising, there is a long relationship between Madrone Audubon and BRC, with many Madrone members serving as volunteers and board members of BRC over the years. Martha Bentley, one of Madrone's original members,



Martha Bentley at the Bird Rescue Center
Courtesy of Janet Bosshard

was also a co-founder of the Bird Rescue Center. She specialized in raising hummingbirds, taking her basket of charges with her to meetings and hearings since they needed frequent feeding. Diane Hichwa still rescues birds from the coast and spent years doing education for BRC. Janet Bosshard has worked the front desk, receiving

birds from the public, and is now on the BRC Board. Madrone Audubon and BRC have collaborated March-August each year, for many years, to support safe and efficient rescue of fallen egret and heron nestlings from the W. 9th Street, Santa Rosa, rookery trees. BRC is the avian rehabilitation center in the County accepting all native birds, including raptors. Native Songbird Care and Conservation (NSCC) in Sebastopol, founded and directed by Veronica Bowers, former Madrone Audubon President, conservationist and passerine expert, is established in Sonoma County to accept, rehabilitate and release our native songbirds. These organizations provide collaborative outreach and public education on bird conservation. With BRC long headquartered in Santa Rosa, relocating to Cotati will be a new home. The new location is still central in our county and collaboration with NSCC and others will be able to continue normally.

In recognition of our crucial and long-standing working partnership with the Bird Rescue Center, Madrone Audubon has put together a CHALLENGE GRANT to help BRC raise the \$650,000 for its Phase I capital campaign.

To date, a small group of Madrone members has pledged \$13,000 in matching funds, which we are calling *Madrone Friends of BRC*. We would like to ask you, if you can, to consider joining this effort in any amount that is comfortable for you.

To be part of the Madrone-sponsored effort, you can simply send your donation directly to: Bird Rescue Center, 3430 Chanate Road, Santa Rosa, CA 95404, noting in the memo line you are MFoBRC. It would also be helpful if you could email Nancy Hair, doghairnancy@yahoo.com, so we can keep track of the MFoBRC total. We believe

In Memory of Ted Eliot

Ted Eliot, our dear friend and Madrone Audubon member, recently passed away. Most Sonoma County citizens knew Ted as an experienced diplomat and a prominent environmentalist in the Sonoma Valley, with his beloved partner, the late Pat Eliot. As a member of our Audubon Chapter for many years, each year, Ted dedicated himself to volunteering for the Christmas Bird Count and Ken Wilson's and Ian Morrison's Bird-a-thon team. He was always available for a conversation with potential guidance on conservation issues impacting our birds and wildlife, and Ted recruited many local members for our Chapter. Ted Eliot was a leader in the County campaign to approve renewal of our open space 1/4 cent sales tax and, also, the Sonoma County committee to advocate for the AA parcel tax to benefit our 9 Bay Area counties for San Francisco Bay Estuary restoration and well-being. Ted was a true action-oriented conservationist whose diplomacy was foremost in his interactions and approach to important issues. We extend our heartfelt sympathy to Wendy, Ted's daughter, and his family and loved ones. He will be missed.

donors appreciate seeing meaningful collaboration and support between organizations.

And, we thank you, our members, for your support of this big challenge and encourage everyone to help spread the word. *Every donation* counts to support the Bird Rescue Center in relocation success, for our birds, wildlife and greater community!



An Active Summer and Looking Forward

An update since last September 2018 Leaves, when we highlighted conservation issues to follow and support. The 1/8th cent sales tax ballot measure, Measure M - *Sonoma County Parks Improvement, Water Quality and Fire Safety Measure*, passed and Sonoma County Regional Parks and cities in the county will benefit from our collective positive decision.

We also highlighted two Urban Open Space Preserves which we felt were beneficial for natural resource conservation and our health and well-being in Santa Rosa: *The Paulin Creek* and *Roseland Creek Preserves*. In NE Santa Rosa, Friends of Paulin Creek successfully engaged to assure Parcel J, the natural meadow part of the Paulin Creek Preserve and open space area, would be protected with a conservation easement in the Chanate property sale when it occurred. The County is currently considering new bids for the property sale for housing, and we recommend continued attention to this process, to ensure Parcel J remains undeveloped with an easement for conservation that sufficiently protects the special natural resources there.

The Roseland Creek Preserve is now described by the City of Santa Rosa as the Roseland Creek Community Park. Additional public outreach and an apparent continuation of a plan that includes sports fields and other active recreational activity

In Memory of Sandy Sharp

Sandy Sharp of Bodega, West Sonoma County environmentalist and beloved community member, recently passed away. A long-time leader in West Sonoma County conservation, Sandy was a member of the Bodega Land Trust Board of Directors and newsletter editor. Sandy's spirit and strength as a conservationist will be missed. He helped shape the Bodega Land Trust as a significant contributor to Sonoma County's western open space, agricultural and conservation landscapes. We extend our heartfelt sympathy to Sandy's family and the West Sonoma County community he loved and served.

could still be in process. This property is exceptional as a 20-acre Urban Nature Preserve in southwest Santa Rosa across the street from the new Roseland Creek Elementary School. When we visited there, an active Red-tailed hawk nest was visible from Burbank Avenue, in one of the very tall trees on-site. A Barn Owl flew overhead as we walked on the property with a conservationist who knows the property and its resources well, and a black-tailed jack rabbit scurried in front of us on a path. This last remaining open space parcel in the Roseland area, long advocated for, beginning with open space acquisition via the Matching Grant Program in 2012, appears to need more support and expanded thinking. The potential for restoration of Roseland Creek that meanders through the property, the grassland and trees, and a possible location for a low-impact, productive community garden, with environmental education and passive recreational trails will support this 20-acre Preserve as Santa Rosa's best "jewel of open space" in the Roseland community. We encourage our members to go by the Roseland Creek property (1370 Burbank Avenue is a central address, a remaining building designated as a "Nature Center" in the City's park plan), and to reach out to City of Santa Rosa elected officials to emphasize the importance of this property as an Urban Nature Preserve. Also proposed as an amenity of community peace and respite is a Veterans' Healing and Peace Garden, which would be an appropriate and relevant component of the Preserve. We've been waiting to see an updated environmental review document for this property for several months and hope to be able to review that soon. The many schools in the community, the residents and visitors would be able to connect to this special open space land and enjoy environmental education, passive recreation and help with restoration to support the special birds and wildlife who reside there and also need access to Roseland Creek. The project design, volunteer and education programs of the West Petaluma urban open space preserve, *Paula Lane Nature Preserve*, may be a good reference



Roseland Creek Preserve

Courtesy of Susan Kirks



ACTIVE SUMMER

Continued from page 3

for Santa Rosa planners. The Petaluma preserve design and management balance public access, education and volunteering with protection of sensitive habitat and natural resources, surely an optimal outcome for our open space sales tax investment(s).

And Looking Back to 2017

This September is our second year from the wildfires. We are a community in recovery, which will continue for many years to come. To our Audubon Chapter members and community members directly impacted by the 2017 wildfires, please know we continue to express our support and understanding, inching forward together.

Summer 2019

This recent Summer was an active one for our Chapter. In early June, two different Cliff Swallow active-nest-destruction incidents occurred. Both were heartbreaking. In Sebastopol, Veronica Bowers of Native Songbird Care and Conservation immediately responded and led a request for accountability and provided educational support. A City of Sebastopol employee scraped off and removed 300+ active nests from the youth annex of the Community and Cultural Center – basically the entire colony. *Sonoma West Times*, *Press Democrat* and *Sonoma Index Tribune* published the story about this tragedy. Speaking at a City Council meeting, sending a letter to the Sebastopol City Council, asking for accountability and assurance of this never occurring again, and interacting with the CA Department of Fish and Wildlife Warden, were our actions. We acknowledge Councilmember Sarah Glade Gurney for donating her 2019 individual councilmember project fund of \$500 to Native Songbird Care and Conservation in Sebastopol for future care of Cliff Swallows. Will the Cliff Swallows return and nest next year? We will all be wondering and hoping. In this same time period, a maintenance employee of Alta Mira Middle School in Sonoma power-washed off active Cliff Swallow nests from an established nesting site on school campus buildings, and then continued to power-wash as the Cliff Swallows, intent as Cliff Swallows are, continued to try and bring mud to rebuild their nests. Horrified by this news, we also directly reached out to the CA Department of Fish and Wildlife Warden, the School Superintendent for Alta Mira Middle School, and our local media, all of whom responded to ensure this action stopped, did not occur again, and assured education would be given to all employees of the school district.

On the coast this summer, our Stewardship Task Force, led by Diane and Bryant Hichwa, manage Oystercatcher Surveys as part of a long-term Audubon California project, and are conducting drone tests for active nest and species

counts of seabirds on the Northern Sonoma coast at Sea Ranch. (See Diane’s Coastal Column on page 7).

Inland, the summer months equate to active nesting season for the W. 9th St., Santa Rosa, herons and egrets. March-August is our project time period, when we install and maintain the nesting support project of fencing and rice straw underneath the main median street trees, and the Bird Rescue Center of Sonoma County monitors 24/7 to retrieve fallen nestlings and stabilize as many as possible to transport to International Bird Rescue Center in Fairfield. Audubon Canyon Ranch (ACR) conducts nest counts as part of the North Bay Heron and Egret Project. This year’s ACR nest counts total 358.

Species	2019	2018	2017
Great Egret	69	82*	79
Snowy Egret	52	74	59
Cattle Egret	25	37	34
Black-crowned Night Heron	212	195	185
Total nests	358	388	357

(Data from ACR provided by David Lumpkin.) *81 peak occupied

Total number of nestlings and adults rescued by Bird Rescue Center of Sonoma County in 2019 was 245.

Madrone Audubon thanks the W. 9th Street community for eyes-on this nesting season to share information about downed nestlings from nearby trees that are not part of the median street tree nesting site.

We’re also grateful to *Need A Hand Movers* of Santa Rosa for removing straw at end of season and helping us clean the area, and to *Larsen’s Feed Store* in Cotati for our straw bales, along with the City of Santa Rosa for the annual encroachment permit for this project.

Farallon Islands Anticoagulant Poison Drop Proposal

In July in San Luis Obispo, the California Coastal Commission reviewed a US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) proposal to drop 1.5 tons of anticoagulant rat poison over the Farallon Islands, in an attempt to kill a large mouse population present on the islands for many years. About 6 Burrowing Owls were included in the proposal’s review as potentially hunting Ashy Storm Petrels and their chicks and eggs when prey wasn’t readily available for the owls. About half of the world’s population of the Ashy Storm Petrel resides on the Farallon Islands. There is broad agreement among all that protection of this seabird is critically important. However, the poison-drop proposal, the risk of poison entering the food chain, and the associated deaths of other seabirds and species were of severe concern to many citizens and organizations, including our Madrone Audubon

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All walks and membership meetings are open to the public. Bird walks are recreational and educational in purpose, and all levels of expertise are welcome. Bring field equipment and wear comfortable shoes and layered clothing for variable weather conditions. Please carpool whenever possible. Forecasted heavy rain cancels. There is no charge for activities unless otherwise specified, but some parks have day-use fees.

September 2019 Calendar

Wednesday, September 4, 7:00 PM

BOARD MEETING. Sonoma County Environmental Center, 55A Ridgway Avenue, Santa Rosa. For agenda information, contact Susan Kirks at susankirks@sbcglobal.net.

Saturday, September 7, 8:30 AM to Noon

ELLIS CREEK WATER RECYCLING FACILITY. Meet at the Ellis Creek Water Treatment Facility in the parking lot, near the bathroom. From Highway 101 in Petaluma, go East on 116 (Lakeville Highway), turn right (south) on South McDowell, turn right on Cypress Drive. Go to the end of the road and through the gates. Parking is to the left. Leader: Gordon Beebe, 583-3115 call or text msg.

Monday, September 16, 7:00 PM

GENERAL MEETING. First United Methodist Church, 1551 Montgomery Drive, Santa Rosa. "Liberating Form and Function: Rehabilitation of a Coastal Dune Ecosystem." This is a free event and all are welcome.

Thursday, September 19, 8:30-10:30 AM

CRANE CREEK REGIONAL PARK. Take Petaluma Hill Road to Pressley Road, Rohnert Park. Use your park pass or buy a daily pass there. Mostly level to easy rolling paths, to see the county's birds. Bring water and a hat, if fall temperatures are warm. Leader: Janet Bosshard, 526-5883.

Saturday, September 21, 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM

POINT REYES NATIONAL SEASHORE. Our annual trip to the Point to search for fall migrants. A wind from the southwest, plus overcast skies the night before are the best for rare migrants, but we'll go, wind or no. Meet at the Whitehouse Pool parking lot (see online map link) just east of the intersection of Sir Francis Drake Boulevard and Bear Valley Road, at 8:00 AM. Bring lunch, liquids and layers of clothing. We will drive out to the Lighthouse, Chimney Rock, and other locations. Leader: Gordon Beebe, 583-3115 call or text msg.

Saturday, October 5, 8:30 AM to Noon

RAGLE RANCH REGIONAL PARK, on Ragle Ranch Road, in Sebastopol. Join us to look for fall migrants, as well as a wide variety of our familiar county birds. Meet in the parking area near the dog park and Peace Garden (from entry kiosk, the road slowly veers left - continue to the parking lot). Parking fee (\$7) for non-permit holders. We will be walking the Blackberry Trail, about 1.5 miles long. Leader: Gordon Beebe, 583-3115 call or text msg.

Phenology Project Volunteers

Citizen science at the *Paula Lane Nature Preserve* sponsored by Madrone Audubon.

Accepting new volunteers for long-term, climate change impact project.

Visit 1 hour monthly, observe for 9 avian, 2 mammal & 4 plant species.

Enter observations in Nature's Notebook/National Phenology Project.

To volunteer, contact:

Susan Kirks, Madrone Audubon President.
707-241-5548, susankirks@sbcglobal.net

(Beginning birders/naturalists welcomed)



Allen's Hummingbird

Courtesy of Dennis Luz

Attention eBirders!

Madrone is working on a checklist of the birds at Taylor Mountain Regional Park, in conjunction with Sonoma County Regional Parks. Post your sightings to eBird and help us build our database.



OUT & ABOUT

Farrallon Islands Boat Trip

Saturday, September 7, 7:30 AM to 4:00 PM

Clipper Yacht Harbor, Sausalito

Join Marin Audubon for a day of seabird and marine mammal watching, led by naturalist David Wimpfheimer. Last year's sightings included both Humpback whales, Laysan and Black-footed Albatross, Tufted Puffin, Pink-footed Sooty, and Buller's Shearwaters, Pomarine and Parasite Jaegers, Rhinoceros and Cassin's Auklets, and more. Cost: \$130 for Marine Audubon members, \$165 for others. Online registration is at www.marinaudubon.org.

Nature & Optics Festival

Saturday, September 14, 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Sonoma Plaza, Sonoma, CA

The 9th Annual Wine Country Nature Optics and Nature Festival returns to the Sonoma Plaza! Fifty nature organizations and artist will be featured. Twelve major optics companies will be on hand to demo and sell the latest optics gear including binoculars and spotting scopes. The birding and nature community from Northern California will be well represented at the day-long event. Madrone Audubon, Redwood Regional Ornithological Society and Paula Lane Action Network (Save the Badgers) will share a booth at the festival. A range of new nature artists, live education raptors, and family activities will be offered at this free public event located at the Sonoma Barracks, 20 East Spain Street, Sonoma, CA 95476. Invite your friends and family! The event is sponsored by Sonoma Nature - www.sonomanature.org, in partnership with California State Parks. More info: Contact Tom Rusert for additional information at 415-302-5601. Stop by and say hello!

National Estuaries Week

September 19 – 26, 2019

National Estuaries Week is a nationwide celebration of our bays and estuaries and the many benefits they provide to local communities. We encourage everyone to participate – join a community event or organize one, share your projects on social media, and talk with your local representatives about the importance of healthy estuaries. Events where you can lend a hand include:

California Coastal Clean-up Day

Saturday, September 19

Help is needed at many sites in the Bay Area. For a location map and sign up information, go to www.coastal.ca.gov/publiced/ccd/ccd.html

Find many more opportunities to show your love and do something for the SF Bay-Delta Estuary at the [Your Wetlands](#) project website.

A note to all Madrone members...

Do you have bird observations or nature experiences to share? Please send a brief description (and a photo if you have one), and *Leaves* will include as many of these contributions as we can in the Members' Column in upcoming issues.

Donating via PayPal?

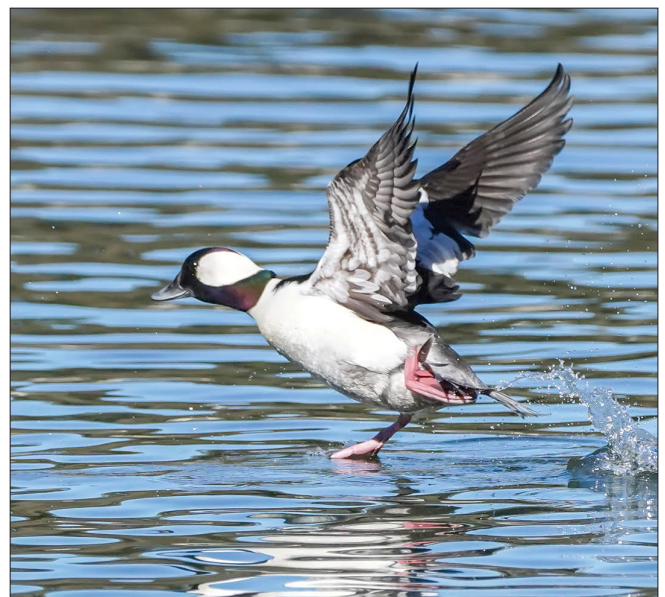
Madrone Audubon accepts PayPal donations via our website, www.madroneaudubon.org.

If you access PayPal, please include in the note:

Mailing address & how you're donating:

For a new membership, membership renewal or a donation to the Chapter.

Thank you!



Bufflehead takes flight

Courtesy of Dennis Luz



MEMBERS' COLUMN

by Moss Henry

The Bearded Bellbird is one of four species of Bellbirds, three found in South America and one in Central America. It is frugivorous and occupies a territory year-round. Males spend up to 87% of their time on their territory, taking breaks only to feed. If a female shows up, the display, which I did not see, involves jumping between two branches, exposing the wattles at their throats, preening and more.



Bearded Bellbird Courtesy of Moss Henry

Males spend much of their time during breeding season calling, but can be hard to locate. This male was calling from a perch about 60 feet up in a tree along a popular walking trail at the Asa Wright Nature Center on the island of Trinidad. Guides pointed out the area where this resident bird lived and I was rewarded with great views and lots of calling by staying after the group left. Bellbirds make one of the loudest and strangest of bird calls, rather metallic-like a clapper striking a bell. I googled it and found some great examples on YouTube from the Asa Wright Center if you would like to see and hear it as well.

Coastal Column

by Diane Hichwa

The times they are a-changin'.... In 2007 we began surveying seabirds nesting on the largest island of our coast, Gualala Point Island (GPI). These surveys were prompted by the likelihood of local fireworks creating a disturbance to nesting. We counted birds and nests from shore, and we had a pilot volunteer to fly over the island in order to see the 86 nests in the colony of Brandt's cormorants on the outer NW corner of the island. While a narrow V window let us see 10 nests from shore, there were 76 more out of view! Closer to shore on the island's flat top and spilling down the sides the Western Gulls, Black Oystercatchers, Pelagic Cormorants and Pigeon Guillemots staked out spots. In that year 2007 we did verify that 20 nests failed after the fireworks and it anchored our study, continuing to this day.



Core of the Brandt's colony Courtesy of Craig Tooley

We expect that other changing conditions – ocean currents, warming, climate changes, predators, other species – have and will affect the nesting. One change came in 2012 when we confirmed that the Common Murres, a penguin-like bird species, had begun to nest amidst the Brandt's. The murres were seen on Fish Rocks to our north in our photos of late 2007 but NONE showed up in our photos on GPI until 2010, when we counted 32.



Murres fill the space Courtesy of Craig Tooley

This year we saw zero murres on May 8 and a small colony start of 15 or so Brandt's Cormorant nests. On June 3 we were surprised to find Brandt's cormorants moving to the nearshore side to nest; 73 nests in our view, stretching from the flat SE corner all along the island's length! While we do not know exactly when the Common Murres arrived, by June 3 there were 955 and on July 15 there were 1974 murres diligently counted by our student intern. Most of the murres stand shoulder to shoulder in the midst of the Brandt's Cormorant colony.

Murres had also begun nesting at a second location in Sonoma County, simultaneously with GPI. In 2012 murres also nested on Gull Rock just south of Jenner. My colleague there reported that in 2017 the murres had totally pushed the Brandt's Cormorants off Gull Rock! Since then we have been wondering if or when that might happen here. We may be seeing that push underway as the nesting Brandt's moved totally within our view.

Within these first 10 days of August the Common Murres will leave the island, en masse. Flightless chicks will jump into the sea followed diligently by their fathers. (The females have ended their job and left early for a much needed rest.)

To be continued next May — as the nesting cycle begins again.



Welcome, New Board Members

We're pleased to welcome Suzanne Reta as our new Treasurer and Larry Broderick as Ex Officio Board Member and Co-Chair, Renewable Energy Subcommittee of Conservation.

Suzanne and Larry will bring valued experience in birding, wildlife appreciation and protection, and conservation to our Board. Look for more information about Suzanne and Larry, their backgrounds and contributions, in the October-November *Leaves*.

Madrone Audubon is grateful to Christy Holmes, our Board Treasurer 2017-2019, for her exceptional service. We wish Christy and her

family well in their new home in Placer County.

If you've thought about serving the Chapter and helping our members, now would be a good time to move to action. We're seeking a Recording Secretary, Corresponding Secretary and Newsletter Editor. If you have questions or would like more information, please contact Susan Kirks at susankirks@sbcglobal.net or 707-241-5548. Our Board's focus is to serve our members and the Sonoma County community – especially our birds and wildlife! Consider giving your time and service for a year or two to help us.

ACTIVE SUMMER

Continued from page 4

Chapter. We joined a coalition of Sonoma County coastal organizations to express opposition to the proposal and raise questions about alternative approaches. USFWS withdrew this latest proposal prior to the Coastal Commission offering a recommendation. As a federal agency, the USFWS is not required to obtain California's Coastal regulatory body's approval, but wisely presented the proposal for feedback at the early July hearing. We will continue to monitor this important environmental issue.

Pt. Reyes National Seashore Proposed Management Plan

The Environmental Impact Statement and proposed management plan for the Pt. Reyes National Seashore (PRNS) have been released for review. Our Sonoma County coastal community and Madrone members have a special relationship with PRNS. So many of us visit to birdwatch, enjoy respite, and

support environmental protection of this national treasure. We are now reviewing recommendations of great concern in the proposed Management Plan, which include culling the Tule Elk population in favor of expanded and long-term agricultural and ranching uses at PRNS. While a balance of activities is necessary, shooting or killing part of the native Tule Elk herd is not advised nor should it be tolerated. We will continue to review these documents and provide a comment during the official comment period which closes September 23, 2019. To review the General Plan amendment of the EIS (and for directions on providing comments), visit: www.parkplanning.nps.gov/document.cfm?parkID=333&projectID=74313&documentID=97154.

Aswego to press for our September 2019 Leaves, we're learning of California and national tragedies, contributing to an extremely disturbing and turbulent time in our country.

Welcome, New Members

Cazadero

Dennis Beall

Costa Mesa

Rita Phillips

Glen Ellen

Kira Tiedgens

Santa Rosa

Hally Decarion

Sue Hoey

The Sea Ranch

Tad Simons

Appreciated Donation

In Honor of

Tom McCuller

by Norm Ortman

Simple acts of nurturing, caring for others and for our birds and wildlife, and community-based action may help ground us and sustain us. Speaking up and taking action are also ways to channel productive energy. The opportunity to be in Nature, to experience our connection to birds, to wildlife and our coastal and inland habitats, to provide support and comfort to each other, and to give a voice to the voiceless where we can, seem more important now than ever. Let's be together, in Nature. Enjoy the fresh air and mist of the ocean on a foggy morning. Quietly walk through grassland or a carpeted-leaf forest floor, listen to the sounds of Nature, renew, continue.



Madrone Audubon Society Funds Statement
July 2018 through June 2019

	Operating	Conservation & Education	Subtotal	Stewardship Task Force	TOTAL
Balance as of June 30, 2018	128,487.89	29,347.18	157,835.07	9,054.52	166,889.59
Income					
Friends' Dues	11,330.00	0.00	11,330.00	0.00	11,330.00
Donations	9,571.31	0.00	9,571.31	0.00	9,571.31
Donations-CBC	0.00	215.00	215.00	0.00	215.00
Donations-E Smith Trust	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
In Kind Donations	750.00	0.00	750.00	0.00	750.00
Bird-A-Thon	6,208.20	0.00	6,208.20	0.00	6,208.20
NAS Sharing	5,460.75	0.00	5,460.75	0.00	5,460.75
Investment Income	485.73	0.00	485.73	11.48	497.21
Miscellaneous Income	220.23	0.00	220.23	0.00	220.23
Total Income	34,026.22	215.00	34,241.22	11.48	34,252.70
Expense					
ADMINISTRATIVE	8,506.99	352.75	8,859.74	0.00	8,859.74
CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT	0.00	3,094.00	3,094.00	0.00	3,094.00
CONSERVATION	600.00	8,140.67	8,740.67	0.00	8,740.67
EDUCATION	579.00	4,473.32	5,052.32	0.00	5,052.32
LEAVES	13,722.44	0.00	13,722.44	0.00	13,722.44
MEMBERSHIP EXPENSES	1,987.82	0.00	1,987.82	0.00	1,987.82
OUTREACH	72.00	41.00	113.00	0.00	113.00
JUNIOR AUDUBON	0.00	20.00	20.00	0.00	20.00
GENERAL MEETINGS	2,776.43	10.00	2,786.43	0.00	2,786.43
FUNDRAISING	1,664.53	0.00	1,664.53	0.00	1,664.53
STEWARDSHIP TASK FORCE	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,500.00	2,500.00
BREEDING BIRD ATLAS	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
INVESTING	-231.18	0.00	-231.18	0.00	-231.18
Total Expense	29,678.03	16,131.74	45,809.77	2,500.00	48,309.77
Net Income	4,348.19	-15,916.74	-11,568.55	-2,488.52	-14,057.07
Balance at end of period	132,836.08 *	13,430.44	146,266.52	6,566.00	152,832.52

*E.I. Smith Bequest: \$100,698.54 balance, June 2019/Operations Fund Balance = \$32,137.54



Madrone Audubon Society

Post Office Box 1911
Santa Rosa, California 95402

September 2019

Madrone *Leaves* is published bimonthly from October through May, plus one issue each in June and September.



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MADRONE LEAVES



Madrone Audubon Society meets on the third Monday of each month, except in June, July, August, and December. Meetings start at 7:00 PM at First United Methodist Church, 1551 Montgomery Dr., Santa Rosa. All membership meetings and walks are open to the public. Information: e-mail - info@madroneaudubon.org.

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Vice President: Position open
Recording Secretary: Position open
Corresponding Secretary: Position open
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Membership: Questions to Susan Kirks (Position open) - susankirks@sbcglobal.net
Conservation: Diane Hichwa - dhichwa@earthlink.net 785-1922
Renewable Energy Subcommittee: Susan Kirks & Larry Broderick, Co-Chairs.... 241-5548
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Please complete this form if you wish to join Madrone Audubon or renew your Madrone membership

Please note: We are a chapter of National Audubon, but membership in and donations to Madrone Audubon are separate and support our local chapter. Membership and donations are tax deductible.

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