The SKIMMER

Volume 27, Number 1—January 2000

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Monthly Meeting

Thursday, January 20, at 7:00 p.m. For this month only, we will be meeting at a different location: Room 2 at the Tierrasanta Recreation Center, located at 11220 Clairemont Mesa Boulevard, San Diego.

Directions: From the north on I-15 or from the south on I-15 or Highway 163, exit at Claremont Mesa Blvd. Head east on Claremont Mesa Blvd. past the Von's Shopping Center and Portola Middle School on the left side of the road to the Recreation Center. The Recreation Center is the red building behind the trees on the left side of the road next to the school. Turn left at the sign for the Recreation Center. The sign is on the left side of the road.

From the north or south on I-5 or I-805, exit to Highway 52 going east. Take Highway 52 east to the Santo Road exit. Go south on Santo road to the Von's shopping center and turn left onto Claremont Mesa Blvd. Head east on Claremont Mesa Blvd. past Portola Middle School on the left side of the road to the Recreation Center. The Recreation Center is the red building behind the trees on the left side of the road next to the school. Turn left at the sign for the Recreation Center. The sign is on the left side of the road.

Program: Don Adams will lead a discussion on identification of female ducks.

Next month's meeting: Thursday, February 17, at 7:00 p.m., at the Tecolote Canyon Nature Center, at the east end of Tecolote Road, off I-5. Mary Beth Stowe will talk about identification of sparrows.

Birding Festivals

San Diego Bay Bird Festival 2000, January 27-30, at the Chula Vista Nature Center. Call (619) 282-8687 or see **www.flite-tours.com/program.htm** for details.

Salton Sea International Bird Festival, February 18-21. Call (760) 344-5FLY or see **www.imperialcounty.com/birdfest** for details.

SAN DIEGO AREA BIRD SIGHTINGS, DECEMBER 1999

compiled by Mike Evans

COMMON NAME	NO	PLUM	OBS DATE	LOCATION	REPORTER	NOTE
Pink-footed Shearwater	1		12/26/99	Off Torrey Pines State Reserve	Patten, Robert	Rcho Sta Fe CBC
Short-tailed Shearwater	1		12/18/99	Off Border Field Park	Edwards, C. (CBC)	
Black-vented Shearwater	1		12/26/99	Off Torrey Pines State Reserve	Patten, Robert	Rcho Sta Fe CBC
Fork-tailed Storm Petrel	2		12/26/99	Off Torrey Pines State Reserve	Patten, Robert	Rcho Sta Fe CBC
American White Pelican	2		12/11/99	Dairy Mart Pond, W-pond	Edwards, C.	
American White Pelican	3		12/15/99	Dairy Mart Rd., W-pond	?Wresler, Keith	
Reddish Egret	1		12/2/99	Famosa Slough	Sams, Jim	
Reddish Egret	1	Imm	12/7/99	San Dieguito Slough, betw Hwy 101 & RR tracks	Jerry Golub	
Reddish Egret	1	Juv	12/11/99	San Dieguito Slough, betw Hwy 101 & RR tracks	Williams, Rich	
Reddish Egret	1	Juv	12/12/99	San Dieguito Slough, betw Hwy 101 & RR tracks	Williams, Rich	
Reddish Egret	1		12/22/99	San Dieguito Slough, betw Hwy 101 & RR tracks	Baumgartel, Mona	
Reddish Egret	1	Imm	12/26/99	San Dieguito Slough, betw Hwy 101 & RR tracks	Patten, Robert	Rcho Sta Fe CBC
Reddish Egret	1		12/30/99	Tijuana Estuary, central area	Norton, R. J.	
Tricolored Heron	1		12/2/99	Famosa Slough	Sams, Jim	
Tricolored Heron	1		12/4/99	Famosa Slough	Ginsburg, P.	
Tricolored Heron	1		12/5/99	Tijuana Estuary	Yukagaya, Yaz	
Tricolored Heron	1		12/8/99	Famosa Slough	Mulrooney, B.	
Tricolored Heron	1		12/9/99	Famosa Slough	Sams, Jim	
Tricolored Heron	1		12/18/99	Silver Strand, Biology Study Area	Edwards, C. (CBC)	
Tricolored Heron	1		12/27/99	Tijuana River Estuary, near reserve	Billings, Mark	
Little Blue Heron	1		12/8/99	Famosa Slough	Mulrooney, B.	
Little Blue Heron	1		12/8/99	San Diego R. Flood Channel, near Sea World	Evans, M.	
Little Blue Heron	1		12/27/99	Tijuana River Estuary, near reserve	Billings, Mark	
American Bittern	1		12/27/99	Tijuana River Estuary, near reserve	Billings, Mark	
White-faced Ibis	1		12/22/99	Tijuana R. channel, Dairy Mart Bridge	Wallace, Ed	
Swan (sp?)	1		12/28/99	Agua Hedionda, W-I-5, flew west	Radswick, Florence	
Greater White-fronted Goose	1		12/18/99	Sweetwater Reservoir	Edwards, C. (CBC)	184 sp
Snow Goose	2		12/24/99	San Elijo Lagoon, Encinitas	Ingersoll, Hank	
Ross' Goose	1		12/18/99	Bay Blvd, S of J-St. Crossing, W-of I-5, CV	Edwards, C. (CBC)	470 Bay Blvd, wet field
Ross' Goose	1		12/22/99	Pond across from Community Health Group, 740 Bay Blvd., CV	Smith, Gary	
Wood Duck	1	F	12/7/99	Little Tecolote Cr., 0.5 mi above visitor center, in small pond	Worley, Joe	
Eurasian Wigeon	1	M	12/5/99	Chula Vista Muni Golf Course, duck pond, near Bonita Rd. & Otay Lakes Rd.	Edwards, C.	
Eurasian Wigeon	1		12/9/99	Chula Vista Muni Golf Course, duck pond, near Bonita Rd. & Otay Lakes Rd.	Orduvan, Frank	
Eurasian Wigeon	2		12/13/99	San Diego R. flood control chan., S-side, near Sea World	Spain, John	
Eurasian Wigeon	1		12/18/99	Chula Vista Muni Golf Course, duck pond, near Bonita Rd. & Otay Lakes Rd.	Edwards, C. (CBC)	
Eurasian Wigeon	2		12/26/99	Questhaven and Rcho Sta Fe Rd. industrial park	Patten, Robert	Rcho Sta Fe CBC
Eurasian Wigeon	1	M	12/31/99	Dairy Mart Pond (W)	Mulrooney, B.	

More December Birds

COMMON NAME	NO	PLUM	OBS DATE	LOCATION	REPORTER	NOTE
Eurasian Wigeon	1	M	12/31/99	Dairy Mart Pond (W)	Mulrooney, B.	
Harlequin Duck	1		12/18/99	Imperial Beach Pier, Imperial Beach	Edwards, C. (CBC)	
Harlequin Duck	1	M	12/21/99	Imperial Beach Pier, Imperial Beach	Post, Ed	
Harlequin Duck	1		12/26/99	Peñasquitos Lagoon mouth, flying by	Patten, Robert	Rcho Sta Fe CBC
Hooded Merganser	2		12/18/99	Dairy Mart Pond	Edwards, C. (CBC)	
Hooded Merganser	2	M+F	12/25/99	San Diego R. Flood Channel, betw I-5 & Mission Bay Dr.	Meyers, Sara	Mesa Boulevard in Tierrasanta (this is directly east of I-15)
Common Merganser	1		12/10/99	Borrego Valley Roadrunner Club pond	Gabel, Mel	
Common Merganser	1		12/13/99	Borrego Valley Roadrunner Club pond	Jorgensen, P.	
Harris' Hawk	1		12/6/99	Borrego Valley, ABDSP HQ	Potts, Susan	
Harris' Hawk	1		12/9/99	Borrego Valley, W Star Rd & Tilting T Dr	Jorgensen, P.	
Harris' Hawk	2		12/19/99	Borrego Springs, Country Club Rd & El Tejon (SE)	Theriault, B.	
Zone-tailed Hawk	1		12/11/99	Oak Hill Cemetery, E-Escondido, NE corner, perched in bare tree, N, E of main cemetery	Sankpill, Conrad	E SR 78, N on Citrus Ave, E on Glen Ridge Rd, TB 1130-F1
Zone-tailed Hawk	1		12/12/99	Oak Hill Cemetery, E-Escondido, perched in bare tree, N, E of main cemetery	Williams, Rich	
Zone-tailed Hawk	1		12/20/99	Oak Hill Cemetery, E-Escondido, NE corner	Greaves, Ed.	
Red-tailed Hawk (Harlan's)	1		12/26/99	Questhaven /Elfin Forest area	Patten, Robert	Rcho Sta Fe CBC
Merlin	1		12/29/99	Tierra Santa, near Appletree, off Antigua, S-Clairemeont Mesa Blvd.	Stowe, Mary Beth	
Sandhill Crane	1	Imm	12/4/99	San Diego Bay, Delta Beach, S-Coronado [park @ Fiddler's Cove, walk-N]	Parker, D.	
Wandering Tattler	1		12/28/99	Camp Pendleton	Ginsburg, P.	crideout@home.com
Pacific Golden Plover	1		12/18/99	Tijuana R. Mouth, sand dunes	Spain, John	
Pacific Golden Plover	1		12/30/99	Imperial Beach Naval Landing Field, S-5th St. & Iris Ave.	Norton, R. J.	
Pomarine Jaeger	1	±	12/26/99	Off Torrey Pines State Reserve	Patten, Robert	Rcho Sta Fe CBC
Parasitic Jaeger	1		12/18/99	off North Island	Edwards, C. (CBC)	
Parasitic Jaeger	1	±	12/26/99	Off Torrey Pines State Reserve	Patten, Robert	Rcho Sta Fe CBC
Lesser Black-backed Gull?	1	2nd yr	12/26/99	Peñasquitos Lagoon mouth, high tide, mid-day	Patten, Robert	Rcho Sta Fe CBC
Elegant Tern	2		12/18/99	off North Island	Edwards, C. (CBC)	
Short-eared Owl	1		12/12/99	Chula Vista Nature Center, W-end E St.	Christie, Ross	
Short-eared Owl	2		12/18/99	S. San Diego Bay, near Gunpowder Pt. & Western Salt	Edwards, C. (CBC)	
Short-eared Owl	1		12/27/99	Tijuana River Estuary, near reserve	Billings, Mark	
Rufous Hummingbird	1	M	12/19/99	Borrego Springs, De Anza Country Club, 196 Montezuma Rd.	Theriault, B.	
Lewis' Woodpecker	1		12/6/99	On road to Camp Morena, 1.0 mi S., Buckman Springs Rd. Junction.	Smith, Susan E.	Saw a LEWO in square J-20
Lewis' Woodpecker	2		12/7/99	Cuyamaca Rcho S. P., @ Minshall Trail, starting S of L. Cuyamaca, in irrigated riparian area.	Stowe, Mary Beth	
Lewis' Woodpecker	1		12/20/99	SR 78 and Orchard Lane, Julian area	Leipzig, Vic	via SDBirds list
Lewis' Woodpecker	1		12/20/99	SR 78, @Rockin', Bed n' Breakfast, betw Julian & Sta Ysabel	Leipzig, Vic	via SDBirds list
Red-naped Sapsucker	1		12/20/99	SR 78, @ Rockin', Bed n' Breakfast, betw Julian & Sta Ysabel	Leipzig, Vic	via SDBirds list
Northern Flicker (Guilded?/hybrid?)	1		12/5/99	Upper Otay Lake	Buchanan, Sean	golden shafted wing linings, red moustachial stripe; no good looks.
Least Flycatcher	1		12/18/99	E side Dairy Mart Rd., near Servando	Edwards, C. (CBC)	
Pacific Slope Flycatcher	1		12/15/99	Pt. Loma Nazarene Univ., near Admissions Office, E-fence line	Johnson, Ginger	

More December Birds

COMMON NAME	NO	PLUM	OBS DATE	LOCATION	REPORTER	NOTE
Pacific Slope Flycatcher	1		12/22/99	Pt. Loma Nazarene Univ., gardener's shed	Worley, Joe	
Eastern Phoebe	1		12/1/99	Ft Rosecrans N. C., E-Dr., Sec A-F	Worley, Joe	
Eastern Phoebe	1		12/2/99	Ft Rosecrans N. C., E-Dr., Sec A-F	Foster, Brian	
Eastern Phoebe	1		12/4/99	Ft Rosecrans N. C., E-Dr., N-Sec A-F	Ginsburg, P.	
Eastern Phoebe	1		12/6/99	Ft Rosecrans N. C., E-Dr., N-Sec A-F	Mulrooney, B.	
Eastern Phoebe	1		12/13/99	Ft Rosecrans N. C., E-Dr., Sec A-F?	Worley, Joe	
Eastern Phoebe	1		12/15/99	Ft Rosecrans N. C., W-Dr., Sec A-B	Ginsburg, P.	
Eastern Phoebe	1		12/18/99	Ft Rosecrans N. C., E-Dr.	Edwards, C. (CBC)	
Western Kingbird	1		12/26/99	San Elijo Lagoon, SE-end, from Sta Carina and Sta Helena Rds	Patten, Robert	Rcho Sta Fe CBC
Plumbeous Vireo	1		12/18/99	Dairy Mart, Servando Rd, E of Dairy Mart	Edwards, C. (CBC)	
Gray Catbird	1		12/5/99	Cabrillo N. M., Myoporum Grove	Conway, V.	
Gray Catbird	1		12/7/99	Cabrillo N. M., in Toyon, S- of Myoporum Grove	Mulrooney, B.	
Gray Catbird	1		12/18/99	Cabrillo N. M., in Toyon, S- of Myoporum Grove	Edwards, C. (CBC)	
Sage Thrasher	1		12/28/99	Blakenship Ranch, private property	Wysong, Carolyn	crideout@home.com
California Gnatcatcher	2		12/24/99	Canyon, E- of I-15, S- of Clairemont Mesa Blvd.	Stowe, Mary Beth	
Mountain Chickadee	1		12/28/99	Guajome Rancho	Edwards, C.	crideout@home.com
Golden-crowned Kinglet	1		12/26/99	Rancho Santa Fe	Patten, Robert	Rcho Sta Fe CBC
American/Sprague's Pipit?	1		12/5/99	Abby Glenn Cemetery, lower N grassy area, along road, near tree line	Denton, Bill	2 obv. Field marks were pink legs & pale orange lower mandible; obs w/4-5 Amer. Pipits
*Scaly-breasted Munia	1	±	12/18/99	Dairy Mart Pond (W), NW-corner	McCaskie, G.	
*Scaly-breasted Munia	6	(2M)	12/30/99	Dairy Mart Pond (W), NW-corner	McCaskie, G.	
White-throated Sparrow	1		12/13/99	Ft Rosecrans N. C., E-Dr., Sec A-F?	Worley, Joe	
Large-billed Savannah Sparrow	1		12/12/99	Silver Strand, on SR 75, N-Coronado Cays, near public viewing platform?	Edwards, C.	
American Tree Sparrow	1		12/25/99	Lopez Canyon, 0.75 mi from W-end Peñasquitos Cyn, parking area, along trail (SE from parking lot), old Lopez Rd	Patten, Robert	Rcho Sta Fe CBC
Green-tailed Towhee	1		12/28/99	Grandview Terrace	Grain, Shirley	crideout@home.com
Nashville Warbler	1		12/18/99	E-Tijuana River Valley	Edwards, C. (CBC)	
Yellow Warbler	1		12/18/99	E-Tijuana River Valley	Edwards, C. (CBC)	
Myrtle Warbler	1		12/28/99	Guajome Rancho	Edwards, C.	crideout@home.com
Black-throated Gray Warbler	1		12/22/99	Dairy Mart Rd., SE, I-5, near Servando	Wallace, Ed	
Townsend's Warbler	1		12/22/99	Dairy Mart Rd., SE, I-5, near Servando	Wallace, Ed	
Black-throated Green Warbler	1		12/2/99	Guajome Regional Park, Nature Trail post #4	Mulrooney, B.	
Black-throated Green Warbler	1		12/18/99	D. Aguillard's yard, National City	Edwards, C. (CBC)	
Black-throated Green Warbler	1		12/18/99	Otay River, near Byer Blvd.	Edwards, C. (CBC)	
Black-throated Green Warbler	1		12/28/99	Guajome Regional Park	Ginsburg, P.	crideout@home.com
Black-and-white Warbler	1		12/18/99	E side Dairy Mart Rd., near Servando	Edwards, C. (CBC)	
Black-and-white Warbler	1	F	12/29/99	Dairy Mart Rd, @ S-bound on-ramp to I-5	Reiser, C.	
American Redstart?	1		12/11/99	E-Dairy Mart Rd, near I-5	Edwards, C.	calling
American Redstart	1		12/28/99	Guajome Regional Park	Ginsburg, P.	crideout@home.com
American Redstart	1	F	12/31/99	Dairy Mart Rd, @ S-bound on-ramp to I-5	Mulrooney, B.	
Northern Waterthrush	1		12/11/99	Dairy Mart Pond, W-pond, S-side, along shoreline	Edwards, C.	chink! Call
Northern Waterthrush	1		12/12/99	Tijuana R. Vly, ca 500 yd west of end Sunset Ave., in riparian, S of trail to W	Edwards, C.	
Northern Waterthrush	1		12/18/99	Dairy Mart Pond	Edwards, C. (CBC)	
Northern Waterthrush	1		12/18/99	W-end of Sunset St.	Edwards, C. (CBC)	

More December Birds

COMMON NAME	NO	PLUM	OBS DATE	LOCATION	REPORTER	NOTE
Wilson's Warbler	1		12/18/99	E side Dairy Mart Rd., near Servando	Edwards, C. (CBC)	
Wilson's Warbler	2		12/22/99	Dairy Mart Rd., SE, I-5, near Servando	Wallace, Ed	
Summer Tanager	1	?	12/18/99	Colina Del Sol Park, near Chollas Lake	Stowe, Mary Beth	
Summer Tanager	1		12/28/99	Lake San Marcos, private property	Hall, Ed.	crideout@home.com
Western Tanager	1	F	12/22/99	Pt. Loma Nazarene Univ., in olive trees near entrance	Worley, Joe	
Western Tanager	1		12/24/99	Canyon, E of I-15, S- of Clairemont Mesa Blvd.	Stowe, Mary Beth	west side of the canyon that shoots south from Clairemont
Western Tanager	1		12/29/99	Tierra Santa, near Appletree, off, Antigua, S-Clairemont Mesa Blvd.	Stowe, Mary Beth	
*White-collared Seedeater	1	M	12/18/99	Dairy Mart Pond (W), NW-corner	McCaskie, G.	
*White-collared Seedeater	2	M	12/30/99	Dairy Mart Pond (W), NW-corner	McCaskie, G.	
*Northern Cardinal	1		12/11/99	Tijuana R. Valley, Smuggler's Gulch	Edwards, C.	
*Northern Cardinal	1	F	12/30/99	Dairy Mart Pond (W), NW-corner	Aguillard, D.	
*Painted Bunting	2	M+F	12/30/99	Dairy Mart Pond (W), NW-corner	McCaskie, G.	
?Baltimore Oriole (=Scott's?)	2		12/21/99	Rancho Cuca, near Palomar Mtn.	Berg, Sue	"Familiar from back east; M w/black head; knows SCOR, BHGR, SPTO; site w/oaks and cactus; M also seen 10/24/99"
Scott's Oriole?	1		12/29/99	N-side Lake Hodges, on trail W-I-15 TB H-4, p 1149	Baumgartel, Mona	

WEB SITE OFFERS HELP ON HUTTON'S VIREO/RUBY-CROWNED KINGLET ID

Don Roberson, a well-known birder in the Monterey area, sent the following message to the CALBIRD newsgroup recently:

Fooling around with learning PhotoShop, I've put up a new "virtual field guide" identification page on Hutton's Vireo vs. Ruby-crowned Kinglet. This problem will be "old hat" to the Frontiers chat group, but at least it's not gulls, and I'm interested in comments on either the substance or the format in which the info is presented. I'm trying to find a happy medium between Mac and PC layout so it doesn't look so different one from another .... For MBBers and Calbirders, maybe there will even be something of interest. Who knows? [Amazingly, we still get summer claims of the kinglet in Monterey whose details show a lack of understanding the concepts.] So try **http://montereybay.com/creagrus/HUVI-v-RCKI.html**

Additional family pages have been added to the "Bird Families of the World" project and you can always see what's available at **http://montereybay.com/creagrus/list.html** or find a list of the newest additions to anything on the site at **http://montereybay.com/creagrus/new.html**

SAN DIEGO FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS

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Your contributions to *The Skimmer* are appreciated. Submit articles and notices by the first of the month of publication by mail to John Walters, 5552 Horse Ridge Way, Bonita, CA 91902, or by e-mail to lizandjohn@earthlink.net

JOIN SDFO

Dues for Calendar year: $10.00, including all renewals. Add $5.00 for each additional member in same household. **MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO SDFO** and mail or give check to membership chair: Mary Beth Stowe 5465 Repecho Dr. J-201, San Diego, CA 92124

For membership information, call Mary Beth at 279-5636.

Rare Bird Hotline
(619) 688-2473
[NUT-BIRD]