

## Oahu Bird Count 1990 Ho'omaluhia Park

The counters almost outnumbered the bird species in Honolulu's annual Windward Oahu bird count late in 1990. The party of 45 observers, scouring the vicinity of Ho'omaluhia Park at the foot of the Nuuanu Pali (21 degrees 22 minutes north, 157 degrees 47 minutes west), reported a total of 48 species.

The count was carried out on 16 December 1990, starting at 0645 and continuing until 1815. The day was virtually without wind, and the temperature ranged from 57 degrees at the start to a high of 80. The sky was clear all day long.

The group was divided into twenty-two parties for a total of 93.62 party-hours and 186.6 party-miles, consisting of 56.62 hours and 29.8 miles on foot, and 35 hours and 136.3 miles by car. They also covered 2.5 miles and 2 hours by boat.

Bruce D. Eilerts of Honolulu compiled the statistics of the bird count.

Participants in the count included: Matt Bauer, Glenn Bauer, Susan Blackshaw, David Bremer, Philip Bruner, Arleen Buchholz, Charles Burrows, George Campbell, David Cooper, Donna de Haan, John de Haan, Diane Drigot, Brenda Duhon, Bruce Eilerts, John Engbring, Joanne Farmer, Bill Gilmartin, Colin Huddleston, Don Huddleston, Doris Huddleston, Betty Hughes, Roy Hughes, Clyde Imada, Casey Jarman, Betty Johnson, Regina Kawamoto, Judy Kearney, Dana Kokubun, Marlene Lemke, Jeff Marks, Kendall McCreary, Carl McIntosh, Martha McDaniel, Leila Miyamoto, Mike Moser, John O'Brien, Michael Ord, Graig Rowland, Helen Sing, Tim Sutterfield, Lance Tanino, Ron Walker, David Woodside, Andy Yuen.

### Ho'omaluhia Park, Honolulu, and Vicinity 16 December 1990

Species sighted and Numbers: Laysan Albatross (*Diomedea immutabilis*) 7;

White-tailed Tropicbird (*Phaethon lepturus dorotheae*) 4; Brown Booby (*Sula leucogaster plotus*) 1; Red-footed Booby (*S. sula rubripes*) 363; Great Frigatebird (*Fregata minor palmerstoni*) 82; Cattle Egret (*Bubulcus ibis*) 378; Black-crowned Night-Heron (*Nycticorax nycticorax hoactli*) 96; Hawaiian Duck (*Anas wyvilliana*) 2; Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*) 61; Ring-necked Pheasant (*Phasianus colchicus*) 3; Common Moorhen (*Gallinula chloropus sandvicensis*) 8; American Coot (*Fulica americana alai*) 8; Lesser Golden-Plover (*Pluvialis fulva*) 1,594; Black-necked Stilt (*Himantopus mexicanus knudseni*) 143; Wandering Tattler (*Heteroscelus incanus*) 26; Ruddy Turnstone (*Arenaria interpres*) 314; Sanderling (*Calidris alba*) 5; White Tern (*Gygis alba rothschildi*) 5; Rose-ringed Parakeet (*Psittacula krameri*) 16; Rock Dove (*Columba livia*) 314; Spotted Dove (*Streptopelia chinensis*) 1,642; Zebra Dove (*Geopelia striata*) 4,179; Barn-Owl (*Tyto alba*) 1; Grey Swiftlet (*Aerodramus vanikorensis*) 8; Red-vented Bulbul (*Pycnonotus cafer*) 1,705; Red-whiskered Bulbul (*P. jocosus*) 267; Japanese Bush-Warbler (*Cettia diphone*) 57; Elepaio (*Chasiempus sandwichensis*) 7; White-rumped Shama (*Copsychus malabaricus*) 219; Hwamei (*Garrulax canorus*) 12; Northern Mockingbird (*Mimus polyglottus*) 9; Common Myna (*Acridotheres tristis*) 2,732; Japanese White-eye (*Zosterops japonicus*) 1,061; Northern Cardinal (*Cardinalis cardinalis*) 206; Red-crested Cardinal (*Paroaria coronata*) 301; Saffron Finch (*Sicalis flaveola*) 1; House Finch (*Carpodacus mexicanus*) 749; Yellow-fronted Canary (*Serinus mozambicus*) 35; Yellow-faced Grassquit (*Tiaris olivacea*) 2; Oahu Amakihi (*Hemignathus virens chloris*) 151; Apapane (*Himatione sanguinea*) 4; House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*) 849; Common Waxbill (*Estrilda astrild*) 31; Orange-cheeked Waxbill (*E. melopoda*) 16; Nutmeg Mannikin (*Lonchura punctulata*) 88; Chestnut Mannikin (*L. malacca*) 10; Java Sparrow (*Padda oryzivora*) 932; Falcon species 1. 🦅



David Woodside of Honolulu, a life member of the Hawaii Audubon Society, received a Teddy Roosevelt Award for his lifelong achievements in the protection of Hawaii's endangered species at a ceremony late last year in Washington, D.C. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Administrator William K. Reilly (right) made the presentation. Hawaii's former Congresswoman Pat Saiki was on hand to offer congratulations. Photo courtesy of Craig Harrison

## April Program The Natural History of Madagascar

Although known primarily for its endangered rain forests, which have become the focus of international conservation efforts, the island of Madagascar also harbors a wide variety of other plant and animal communities. Dan Polhemus, Bishop Museum entomologist and biogeographer, will present an overview of the island's natural history, taking us on a visual tour from the wet east to the dry west, and from the high mountains of the north to the spiny deserts of the south. Join us for a look at fascinating biota of this isolated micro-continent. The meeting starts at 7:30 pm on Monday, 15 April at the Bishop Museum Atherton Halau. Refreshments served. 🦅

# Hawaii Audubon Society

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Nearly a score of HAS activists attended the annual Hawaii Audubon Society Leadership Retreat on 26 January at Camp Timberline, atop a ridge overlooking the Ewa Plain west of Honolulu. The two-day schedule of meetings resulted in action plans for the coming year.

## Mahalo Donors!

The Hawaii Audubon Society thanks the following members and friends whose donations were received during Feb. 1991:

Daryl Arakaki	Marilyn Metz
Dr. W. E. Bennett	Edward Nishimura
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## Who's Batty Now?

One of those seemingly inevitable printing errors got into last month's report by Fern Duvall and Renate Gassmann-Duvall on Maui Sightings of the Hawaiian hoary bat.

In the equivalent of item 20 of the sighting list on page 2, dated "Sept. 1990," the previous item was repeated. It should have read:

01 Oct. Puu Piholo 7 630 eucalypt, F. Duvall, Flying  
1990 watertank pineapple R. Gassmann- 18:30  
Duvall

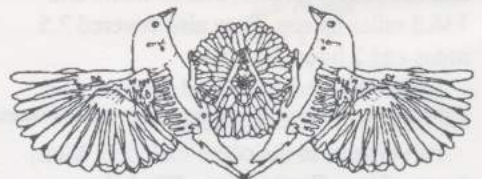
## Tee Shirts and Tank Tops

The Hawaii Audubon Society has a new stock of Tee-shirts and Tank-tops designed to spread the Audubon message. Not only are they attractive personal apparel, but they make excellent presents, as well.

Tee-shirts bearing the Society's Elepaio emblem are available in aqua, navy, and beige. Tank-tops with the same decoration come in aqua or black.

In addition, a supply of the Kolea (Golden Plover) pattern Tee-shirts and Tank-tops sold previously is on hand. They are in white only, with four-color Kolea design.

Both types of Tee-shirts are \$12 each. The tank-tops are \$10. Sizes on hand are adult medium, large and extra large. The Elepaio-design shirts are available at the regular meetings of the Hawaii Audubon Society in the Bishop Museum's Atherton Halau. The Kolea shirts are handled by: Andrea Bruner, Box 1775, BYU-H, Laie, HI 96762, to whom mail orders should be sent. Checks must include an extra \$2 for postage. Be sure to indicate style (Tee or Tank), design (HAS or Kolea), quantity, colors, and sizes. 🐦



## HAS Dues for 1991

All amounts in U.S. dollars  
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### Introductory dues for National and Hawaii Societies: \$20.00

(Includes delivery of 'Elepaio and Audubon Magazine as bulk or 2nd class mail to U.S. Zip codes. Renewal \$30 annually.)

## 'ELEPAIO

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## Rare Dark- Rumped Petrels Breed in Artificial Burrows

Attempts to assist the endangered Dark-rumped petrel *Pterodroma phaeopygia* met with a major success last year when four pairs of these rare seabirds nested in artificial burrows, reports the *Audubon Science Quarterly*. Dark-rumped petrels, distant relatives of the albatross, nest only in the Galapagos and Hawaiian islands, which has a subspecies *P.p. sandwichensis*.

For three years, National Audubon Society, the Galapagos National Park, and The Charles Darwin Research Station have joined forces to test a novel plan to help the Dark-rumped Petrels on Santa Cruz Island, Galapagos. This was the first year petrels produced chicks in the artificial burrows, 160 of which have been hand-dug in an extinct volcano on the island. Tape recordings of a bustling petrel colony were used to attract prospectors to the man-made nests.

On July 9, 1990, the first egg was discovered in burrow B-19. Petrels bred in three additional artificial burrows as well. However, all four chicks, one of them still hatching, were killed by rats.

Dark-rumped petrels have a long breeding cycle that brings them to land for eight to nine months each year. They have an incubation period of 52 days and take an additional 110 days to rear their single chick. This slow development is necessary for birds that feed far from islands. Because the petrel chicks are left untended for several days between feedings, they are vulnerable to exotic animals such as the black and Norway rats, which are now well-established on all of their known breeding islands. 🐭

## Hawaiian Wildlife Information

Do you need information regarding recent rare or unusual wildlife observations within the main Hawaiian Islands? Call Bruce Eilerts at 487-1806, in Honolulu. He will advise you on rare bird sightings and offer tips on where to best observe native flora and fauna. Please leave your questions and messages on his answering machine. Bruce will return your phone call or pick up the line if he is at home. 🐭

## Kaena Point Hike

More than a dozen members and friends of the Hawaii Audubon Society, twice the number expected, met at the end of the road at Mokuleia on Sunday, February 17, for a walk to Kaena Point, the western most point of Oahu island. The volcanic haze over the island, keeping out the sun's hot rays, and a gentle breeze, made the conditions ideal for the outing. The trip was about 3 miles each way. HAS Vice President Casey Jarman, who was to have led the group, was out with flu. Cynthia Vanderlip of the Waikiki Aquarium filled in and did a fine job.

We had barely set out on the rutted, rocky road when a whale was sighted off shore. It continued to entertain us with its spouting and head slapping for nearly the whole distance.

On the mauka side, cackling Francolins were frequently heard but the birds never did make an appearance. A single Brown Booby was spotted skimming over the ocean and an albatross nest and 6 albatross were seen by some of the group. A profusion of wild Ilima grows along the way, as do many other varieties of native and introduced flora.

At the Point, several more agile hikers climbed to the top of the light for a spectacular panoramic view. Others picnicked below, enjoying the scenery or inspecting the many tidepools.

The hikers straggled back to the parked cars at their own pace, inspecting the flora and watching for the elusive Francolins. It was a delightful experience, especially for the many first timers. 🐭 Barbara del Piano

## Come Bird with Us in Northern California, Costa Rica and Arizona

The Hawaii Audubon Society is sponsoring a September birding trip to Northern California. Among the places we will visit are Point Reyes National Seashore, Gray Lodge State Wildlife Refuge, Yosemite National Park, and Monterey.

Black-shouldered Kite, Black and Surf Scoter, Black Oystercatcher, Tricolored Blackbird, Wrentit, Townsend's Warbler, Osprey, Peregrine Falcon, White-fronted Goose, Wood Duck, American Bittern, Great-horned and Burrowing Owl, Prairie Falcon, Bald and Golden Eagle, Lewis' and Acorn Woodpecker, Varied Thrush, Western Bluebird, Phainopepla, and American Dipper are among the species we expect to see.

Also included is a day-long pelagic trip during which we should see Black-footed Albatross, Northern Fulmar, Pin-footed, Flesh-footed, Buller's, Sooty, Short-tailed, and Black-vented Shearwaters, Wilson's Fork-tailed, Leach's, Ashy, Black, and Least Storm-Petrels, Red-necked and Red Phalaropes, Pomarine, Parasitic, and Long-tailed Jaegers, South Polar Skua, Sabine's Gull, Arctic Tern, Marbled, Xantus' and Craveri's Murrelets, and Cassin's and Rhinoceros Auklets. And then there are the other sea creatures — California and Steller Sea Lion, Southern Sea Otter, Dall's Porpoise, Harbor Porpoise, Pacific White-

sided Dolphin, and Blue, Humpback and Minke Whales.

We also expect to see bear, deer, coyote, porcupine, and the Golden Marmot. The tentative dates for this tour, which is limited to 20 persons, are 20 to 29 September. The estimated cost from San Francisco is \$1,250 per person, double occupancy.

Also on the drawing boards is an 11-day tour to Costa Rica, scheduled for late February/early March 1992. This trip will traverse various ecological zones, including dry and cloud forests, lowlands, and marshlands. This trip is limited to 15 participants.

Finally, former Hawaii Audubon Society President and prize winning wildlife photographer Bruce Eilerts will lead an eight-day trip to Arizona, scheduled for 2 May 1992 to 9 May 1992. This tour is timed to see the southeastern Arizona specialty birds, resident desert birds, and Mexican species. Highlight of the trip is a two-day stay at Cave Creek Ranch, one of the hottest birding spots in the nation. The estimated cost of this trip is \$1,295 per person, double occupancy, round trip from Tuscon. For a complete itinerary on these trips write to Trips, Hawaii Audubon Society, 212 Merchant Street, Suite 320, Honolulu, HI, and specify which trip(s) interest you. 🐭 Lynne Matusow

# Calendar of Events

## April 15

Regular membership meeting. 7:30 p.m. at Bishop Museum Atherton Halau. See page one for details.

## April 21

All twenty-five slots for the tour of the Red-footed Booby colony at the Kaneohe Marine Corps Air Station on Mokapu Peninsula have been filled. If you want to be put on the waiting list, call Casey Jarman at 956-7489 or 949-1943.

## May 19

Kahana Valley State Park in the wettest valley on Oahu, is a 5,000-acre park. In addition to viewing the birds that inhabit the park, we will visit archeological and military sites. Residents of the park will be our guides. Bring swimming suits as we will picnic by a prime swimming hole. For those interested in stream fish, prawns and opai may be viewed by snorkel and mask or caught by dipnets. Meet at the state library on Punchbowl Street at 8 a.m. or at the office of Kahana Valley State Park at 9 a.m.

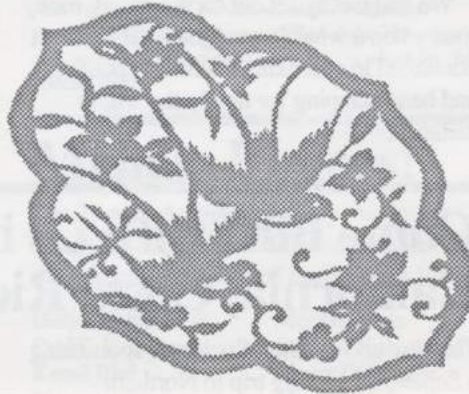
We should finish by 2 p.m. Call Casey Jarman at 956-7489 for more information and to sign up. Because we need to arrange for local guides, it is imperative that you sign up by April 14 if you plan to attend.

## June 15

Sinkholes at Campbell Industrial Park. See next month's issue for more details on this field trip.

### Please note:

Beginning with the April field trip, all participants will be asked for a \$2 donation.



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