

Report from a 3-Day Hike on the Ko'olau Summit Trail

by Eric VanderWerf¹

The Nature Conservancy's Hawaii Heritage Program was contracted by the U.S. Army to conduct a biological inventory of the Kawailoa Training Area in the northern Ko'olau Mountains of O'ahu. The inventory focused on rare plants, animals, and natural communities, and was funded by the Legacy Resource Management Program which was created in 1991 to enhance the management of natural and cultural resources on Department of Defense lands. Joby Rohrer and I were hired by The Nature Conservancy of Hawaii to assist in the animal inventory, specifically to conduct an avifaunal survey of the Ko'olau Summit Trail bordering the training area.

From 28-30 August, 1993, we made a three-day backpacking trip on the Ko'olau Summit Trail. We began 28 August at 0700 hours on Pa'ala'a Uka Pupukea Road (also known as Drum Road), proceeded southeast on the Summit Trail to Poamoho Trail, and arrived at the bottom of Poamoho Trail at 1630 hrs on 30 August. The weather was partly cloudy with light trade winds from 0-10 mph on all three days, so conditions were generally good for seeing and hearing birds. There were only three brief periods of rain, in the late morning and the evening of the first day, and in the morning of the third day.

A complete list of the numbers of each bird species we saw or heard on each day is shown in Table 1. Unfortunately, we failed to find any endangered forest birds. Also conspicuous in its absence was O'ahu 'Elepaio (*Chasiempis sandwichensis gayi*), which now seems to be found primarily in valleys at middle elevations.

Perhaps our most unexpected observation was the large number of Yellow-faced Grassquits (*Tiaris olivacea*). They were common along virtually the entire length of the Summit Trail, and we found all but a few birds in grassy areas on the crest itself. Thirty-eight of the 47 birds were males that we first detected by song, suggesting that females were more difficult to observe and that the

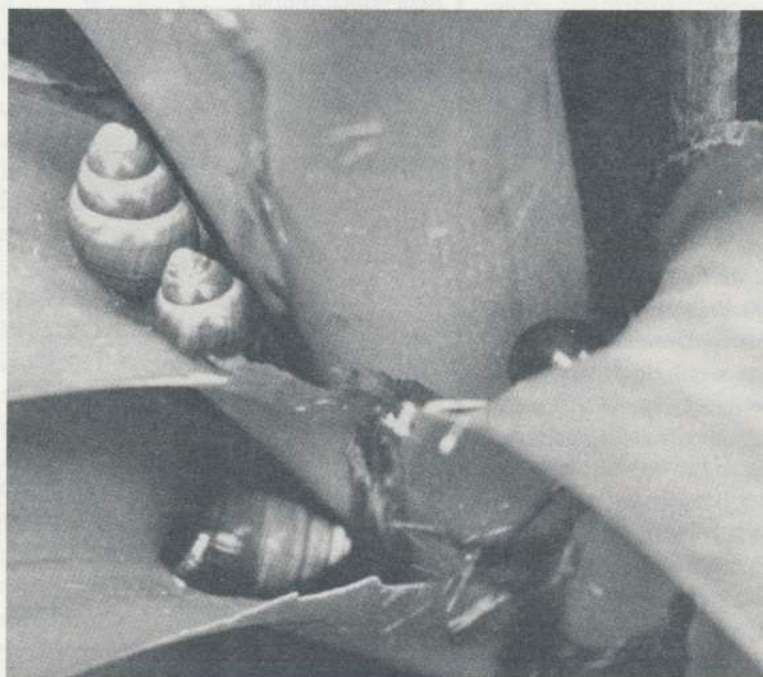


Fig. 1. Four of eight individuals of *Achatinella lila* found on a single 'ie 'ie plant near the Poamoho Trail junction. Photo by E. VanderWerf.

actual number of grassquits present was probably higher. We observed one male constructing a nest on the ground at the base of a small strawberry guava tree (*Psidium cattleianum*). It was located in a steeply sloping grassy gulch about 30 feet below the summit on the windward side one mile north of Pu'u Ka'inapua'a. The nest was made primarily of grass stems and was cup shaped, but it was not yet complete. The globular shape and side entrance typical for this species were not yet apparent (Stiles and Skutch 1989). The amount of singing behavior and the nest we observed suggest that the breeding season of Yellow-faced Grassquits in Hawaii continues into or possibly begins in late summer.

This species was found on several trails in the central Ko'olau Mountains by Shallenberger (1978), but was not found in the same areas covered in this survey by Shallenberger (1977). Grassquits thus appear to have undergone a range expansion in the northern Ko'olau Mountains. We also found large numbers of Common Waxbills (*Estrilda astrild*), indicating that the spread of this alien has progressed all the way to the crest of the



Fig. 2. Flower of *Clermontia persicifolia*. Photo by E. VanderWerf.

mountains. It seems possible that disturbed areas on the crest with introduced grasses have provided a corridor into native forests, facilitating the range expansion of these two granivorous species. The number of Hwamei, or Melodious Laughing-Thrush (*Garrulax canorus*), was also unusually large. We heard four of the five birds singing either very early in the morning or late in the evening, and four of the five were in the uppermost reaches of windward valleys. The low number of Japanese Bush-Warblers (*Cettia diphone*) was due to complete absence of singing behavior; we detected all birds by their scolding calls. It is noteworthy that nine of the 52 'Apapane (*Himatione sanguinea*) we observed were juveniles, indicating that this native species is reproducing.

Besides birds, we found 13 individuals of endemic Achatinella tree snails, possibly of two species (*A. sowerbyana* and *A. lila*), including eight on a single 'ie'ie plant (*Freycinetia arborea*, see Fig. 1). All were within 100m of each other near the Poamoho Trail junction. We searched on both nights for the Hawaiian Hoary Bat (*Lasiurus cinereus semotus*) by using a bat detector set at 30kHz to listen for their echolocation calls, but we did not find any. We saw a variety of native plants, including several uncommon forms such as *Lobelia gaudichaudii*, *Plantago pachyphylla* (*laukahi kuahiwai*), *Chamaesyce rockii* ('akoko), *Platydesma spathulata* (*pilo kea*), *Cyrtandra* sp., and *Labordia* sp. (*kamakahala*). A botanical survey was conducted for The Nature Conservancy by Joel Lau and Ken Wood.

Please note that to undertake this trip permits are required from the U.S. Army, Waialua Sugar Co., and Dole Pineapple Co. The first of these was obtained for us by Theresa Cabrera of The Nature Conservancy of Hawaii. Portions of the trail are unmarked, unmaintained, and heavily overgrown with strawberry guava, particularly between Pu'u Hina and Pu'u Ka'inapua'a. Damage to the trail by feral pigs was severe in many areas, creating extremely muddy conditions. The state-maintained Kahuku cabin was very dilapidated and unusable. We carefully cleaned our boots and clothing of alien seeds before the trip, and we packed in all of our supplies, including water, and packed out all of our trash as well as some left by others.

Literature Cited

Shallenberger, R.J. 1977. Bird and mammal survey of army lands in Hawaii. Ahuimanu Productions, Kailua, HI.

Table 1. Numbers of each bird species observed on the Ko'olau Summit Trail 28-30 August 1993. 28 Aug.= Pa'ala'a Uka Pupukea Road to Summit Trail one-half mile north of Pu'u Ka'inapua'a at 2230 feet elevation. 29 Aug.= Summit Trail from above site to one-quarter mile south of Castle Trail junction at 2830 feet elevation. 30 Aug.= Summit Trail from second site to Poamoho Trail junction, and Poamoho Trail.

Species	28 Aug.	29 Aug.	30 Aug.	total
Spotted Dove (<i>Streptopelia chinensis</i>)	3	0	0	3
Red-vented Bulbul (<i>Pycnonotus cafer</i>)	63	45	49	157
Japanese Bush-Warbler (<i>Cettia diphone</i>)	3	6	7	16
White-rumped Shama (<i>Copsychus malabaricus</i>)	3	3	6	12
Hwamei (<i>Garrulax canorus</i>)	3	2	0	5
Red-billed Leiothrix (<i>Leiothrix lutea</i>)	1	0	0	1
Japanese White-eye (<i>Zosterops japonicus</i>)	66	33	50	149
Red-crested Cardinal (<i>Paroaria coronata</i>)	1	0	0	1
Northern Cardinal (<i>Cardinalis cardinalis</i>)	1	0	0	1
Yellow-faced Grassquit (<i>Tiaris olivacea</i>)	7	21	19	47
House Finch (<i>Carpodacus mexicanus</i>)	14	3	2	19
Common 'Amakihi (<i>Hemignathus virens</i>)	2	2	3	7
'Apapane (<i>Himatione sanguinea</i>)	7	13	32	52
Common Waxbill (<i>Estrilda astrild</i>)	73	14	14	101
Nutmeg Mannikin (<i>Lonchura punctulata</i>)	4	0	0	4

Shallenberger, R.J. 1978. Avifaunal survey of the central Koolau Range, Oahu. Ahuimanu Productions, Kailua, HI.

Stiles, F.G., and A.F. Skutch. 1989. A guide to the birds of Costa Rica. Cornell University Press, Ithaca, NY.

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Moving?

Please allow four weeks for processing address changes. Because our records are kept in order by zip code, we need both old and new addresses.

1994 Elections

Enclosed with this issue of the 'Elepaio (for those eligible to vote) is the ballot for the election of officers and directors for 1994. All local members (except juniors and institutions) and all joint members with the National Audubon Society are eligible to vote. Family memberships who have paid regular family or senior citizen family joint dues to the National Audubon Society are entitled to two votes in the election.

The Candidates

SHANNON ATKINSON—Current HAS Board Member. Associate Researcher in reproductive biology at UH, specializing in marine mammals. Ph.D. in veterinary studies, with emphasis on breeding problems and reproductive physiology of wildlife species.

SHERILYN GARRETT—C.P.A., Manager of Investor Services, Outrigger Hotels. Master of Accountancy Degree, California State University-Sacramento, B. S. in Park and Recreation Resources-Environmental Interpretation, Michigan State University.

JOHN T. HARRISON—UH Environmental Coordinator and head of UH Environmental Center. Ph. D. in Zoology from UH. Has served on numerous boards including Hawaii Association of Environmental Professionals, Hawaii Stream Assessment Committee, and Governor's Task Force on Creation of Department of Environmental Protection.

LYNNE MATUSOW—Current HAS Treasurer and Managing Editor, 'Elepaio. Former Treasurer, New York City Audubon Society. Vice Chairman Downtown Neighborhood Board. Board member, League of Women Voters. Advertising Representative, Honolulu Symphony.

KENDALL McCREARY—Born and raised in Hawaii. After graduating from Connecticut College was office manager, Hawaii State Office of National Audubon. For two legislative sessions worked on environmental issues for State Reps. Kenneth Hiraki and Cynthia Thielen. Currently teaches life and environmental science to 7th graders.

LINDA M. PAUL—Current HAS 1st Vice President and Conservation Committee Member. Recipient of the George C. Munro Award for Environmental Law. Senior

Advisor to Ocean Policy Institute of CSIS/Pacific Forum and a researcher for Earthtrust International.

KEVIN SHANEY—Current HAS Board Member. V.P./General Counsel for Castle & Cooke Homes, Inc. Also serves on Board of Hawaii Public Radio, Advisory Board of East-West Center's Consortium for Teaching Asia and Pacific in the Schools, Member, Honolulu Committee on Foreign Relations.

JOYCE STANNEY—Current HAS Board Member. Tax Manager with Deloitte & Touche specializing in employee benefits, real estate and hospitality, and non-profit organizations.

Seabird Restoration Subject of Annual Meeting

At the Annual Meeting on Thursday, 16 December, Drs. Stephen W. Kress and Richard H. Podolsky will review the successful efforts of National Audubon Society's Seabird Restoration Program to develop colony creation techniques for Atlantic Puffins, Common Murres, Roseate Terns, and Leach's Storm-Petrels on the Maine coast and application of these techniques to help the endangered Dark-rumped Petrel of the Galapagos Islands.

These projects are based on the fact that most young seabirds eventually settle into their own natal colony or choose to nest among members of their own species. Kress and Podolsky have demonstrated that "social attraction" can work as a powerful aid to help seabirds recolonize areas where they were previously extirpated and to islands where they have a better chance of successful nesting. Using decoys, artificial eggs, and recorded colony sounds, they are pioneers of the promising field they call seabird restoration.

Kress and Podolsky will also unveil plans to launch a Laysan Albatross colonization project on Kaohikaipu Island (Black Rock) off the windward coast of O'ahu, near Makapu'u Point. This project is a cooperative effort of the Hawaii and National Audubon Societies, the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S.D.A. Animal Damage Control, Dr. Causey Whitlow of the University of Hawaii, the State Division of Forestry and Wildlife, and SeaLife Park. The project will use decoys and recordings to attract young albatross looking

Record 31 Teams in Paradise Pursuits

by Sheila A. Laffey

Seventeen new schools have thrown their hats into the Paradise Pursuits ring, bringing the total number of participating teams to 31. We welcome new teams from Sacred Hearts Academy, Leileihua, Kalaheo, Castle, and Kahuku on O'ahu as well as Baldwin High and Lahainaluna on Maui, and Konawaena, St. Joseph's, Pahoia, Hilo, Waiakea, Honoka'a, Ka'u, and Parker Schools on the Big Island. We also offer a special welcome to Kaua'i which did not participate last year because of Hurricane 'Iniki. Kaua'i's teams hail from Waimea and Kaua'i High Schools.

Preparation packets are bigger than ever due to the generous donation of materials. Teams receive copies of *Hawaii's Birds*, courtesy of Hawaii Audubon Society, Jan TenBruggencate's *Wildlife in Hawaii*, courtesy of *The Honolulu Advertiser*, Susan Scott's *Oceanwatcher*, courtesy Green Turtle Press, and *Fifty Simple Ways to Save Hawaii*, as well as many other materials provided by UH Sea Grant, Conservation Council of Hawaii, Zero Population Growth, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Environmental Protection Administration. An exciting new contribution is Beatrice Krauss' book on ethnobotany donated by Lyon Arboretum Associates. The Learning Center at Ka'ala's *Growing Taro in Schools and Backyards* will provide important hands on information.

New teams are busy learning about native species in order to choose their team mascots. Kaua'i's mascot is *mano pa'ele* (tiger shark), Konawaena's is *Na'ala'la* o Kona, and Pahoia's is the Earth team.

Preliminary competitions will be held on each island in March. The four top scoring teams will be flown to Honolulu in April for the taping of the semi-finals and finals by KHON-TV 2.

for a suitable nesting place. Drs. Kress and Podolsky will discuss how volunteers can take an active part in the project.

Also, election results will be announced at the meeting, which is open to the public. The meeting will take place at the Paki Conference Room, Bishop Museum, 7:30 p.m. Refreshments will be served.

Volunteer Corner

by Doug Lamerson

Some time ago, in what must now seem like a different life, it occurred to Maureen Casey that she was mildly misidentified and seriously misplaced. Marriage and the sort of playful quirkiness that often characterizes couples eventually resolved the identity dilemma. "Maureen is a beautiful name, but somehow I never quite left like a 'Maureen.' When I met my former husband, Ray Jarman, we took to calling each other by our last names, and I realized I felt more like a 'Casey,'" says the now reconstituted M. Casey Jarman, former HAS board member, president, and field activities chair.

For a self described "heat seeker," rearranging the physical reality of a childhood spent enduring the seemingly interminable winters of western New York State was perhaps more problematic and less readily resolved. Mercifully, while a junior in high school, her family moved to Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.

As it turns out, staying warm appears to be one of two principal personal dictums—"when all else fails go back to school" being the other—along with passions for reading and the outdoors, which seem to explain the arrival of Professor Casey Jarman at her present place in life through circumstances which might otherwise be regarded as unlikely or simply serendipitous. For example, when her family decided to return to New York a couple of years later she demurred. "I thought, this is a tropical climate down here and you want to go back to Buffalo? You've got to be crazy." Not surprisingly, Maureen Casey remained behind in Florida to attend college.

Invariably, the twists and turns of a life that appear as intriguing incongruity to the observer are less a source of amazement to the observed. So 20 years after rebuffing Buffalo, Casey Jarman arrived in Hawaii to teach environmental law and, by her own account, "found a home." When she reviews the route to that revelation it is without the obvious sense of wonder that another might reasonably express at discovering, for instance, that one of her first jobs out of college was at the Dade County (Fla.) Jail.

"Well, I graduated with a degree in English from Barry College where basically they let me read and write for four years. I was working in a personnel office when a friend told me about this new social work program at the jail. It sounded more interesting than

what I was doing, so I applied. I went from being a wide-eyed innocent from a small town in New York to handling a case load of violent criminals. It was one of the best things the cosmos ever threw at me. It was my first realization that there are ways of looking at the world other than through middle class, white eyes."

Jarman found this experience sufficiently engaging to invoke her second dictum and enrolled at Florida International University where she obtained a master's degree in counseling. Subsequent work in a psychiatric hospital proved equally instructive and "fascinating," at least in the short term. Over time, however, she found her view of the world becoming "skewed" and herself less happy. It was in New Orleans where her husband had taken a three year assignment that she decided a career change was indicated. But what to do? A love for hiking led to involvement with the Sierra Club, lobbying at the Louisiana legislature, an interest in environmental law, and failing any other more obvious inspiration, a return to the classroom. Of course.

After a year at Loyola Law School the desire to escape the dirt and decadence of New Orleans—"it was hard to maintain perspective here and it was becoming dangerous"—produced a transfer to the more rural environs of the University of Mississippi at Oxford where she took her Juris Doctor in 1981. At Ole Miss, Jarman developed a specialization in ocean and coastal law while working for the Sea Grant Legal Program, eventually rising to Program Director. And she might still be at Oxford had she not gotten the urge to teach. "I was very happy in northern Mississippi, but I got the idea that since I enjoyed going to school so much I would probably like teaching." Unfortunately, the selection committee at the University of Mississippi did not share her enthusiasm for that possibility, rejecting her "soundly" for a faculty vacancy. "Well, I was a graduate of their own program," she explains, referring to the "academic incest" taboo that pervades most faculty hiring.

The University of Hawaii's (U. H.) William S. Richardson School of Law, unfettered by such constraints, hired her in 1987 as its environmental law specialist. In 1988-'89, when she was chosen by faculty and students as the Outstanding Professor, their judgement appeared positively prescient.

Along with appearing to satisfy completely her sensibilities—being paid to read, write, and teach in a place she can be outdoors and warm all year, the position at U. H. has



produced many satisfying associations, like Professor Sheila Conant who "twisted my arm" and persuaded Jarman to become an HAS board member. "I had always been involved with Sierra Club and I wasn't really a bird person, but I was interested in species and habitat protection. I was ready to try something new, and I thought I would learn something in the process. Besides, the people at HAS were so nice I thought, 'why not?'" says Jarman now.

The position she truly coveted, however, was field activities coordinator. "My avocation is hiking and I thought, if I can be of service and get to go hiking too, what could be better?" But what HAS needed most immediately was a president. "I told them I didn't have the time or the inclination to be a traditional, high profile president, but if they needed someone who could run meetings I would do that until they found the person they needed." When Reginald David assumed the presidency, Jarman was free to head for the hills (or marshes) with field trippers in tow.

She has since conveyed those responsibilities into the capable hands of Lance Tanino, in preparation for a year-long sabbatical on the Mainland where she will teach and work on environmental justice issues. "Tickled pink" about this order of succession, she describes Tanino as a "quintessential field trip person" who is willing to get involved. (See *'Elepaio*, 1993:53:27).

Involvement, in fact, is the whole point for Jarman who, not surprisingly ("I am a lawyer after all") cites HAS' role in a lawsuit forcing the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service to carry out its recovery plan for the 'Alala (Hawaiian Crow) as the most satisfying of her experiences in three years with the Society. She says it demonstrated the need for the organization to "use all the tools" including litigation to fulfill its mandate. "It's important for HAS to work within the system," she explains, "but there are times when you have to be willing to go to court. In the case of the

(continued on page 83)

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

T-shirts bearing the Society's 'Elepaio logo are available in ash (gray) with a black design. We also have a few in aqua, navy, white, and beige. In addition, the "hot" Kolea (Pacific Golden Plover) T-shirts are also available. This T-shirt is white with a three-color design of the Kolea and native hibiscus. Proceeds from the Kolea T-shirt go to help HAS fund research on shorebirds in Hawai'i and elsewhere in the Pacific region.

T-shirts are \$12 each, plus \$2.00 per shirt for postage. They are available in medium, large, and extra large adult sizes only. When ordering T-shirts, be sure to list size and first, second, and third choice of color. To order T-shirts send your check, payable to the Hawaii Audubon Society, to Yvonne Izu, 2069 California Avenue, #20B, Wahiawa, HI 96786. Don't forget to add \$2.00 per shirt for postage. Insufficient postage will delay your order until the proper amount is remitted. T-shirts are not available at the HAS office.

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Seen Any Ae'o?

J. Michael Reed is doing research on the Ae'o, the endangered Hawaiian Stilt. For the last two years he has been banding birds throughout the state. The purpose of this research is to assess viability of Ae'o populations.

Anyone sighting banded birds is asked to inform him of the date the bird was seen, exact location, band combinations (top to bottom, left to right, or any partial identification), and sex (females are brownish on their backs, and males are black). He can be reached at Ecology, Evolution, and Conservation Biology Program, University of Nevada, 1000 Valley Road, Reno, NV 89512.

(Volunteer, continued from page 82)

'Alala, HAS had tried to work with state and federal agencies for many years without success. Finally, at some point in time you have to say 'no more.'" She believes the willingness to take that step also has a certain salutary effect for the future. "I think (HAS) will be more respected and have more successes because people realize you are serious and willing to take a stand. It's a tool Audubon should continue to use when the time is right," she adds.

When it comes to activism, Jarman's personal integration of praxis and theory defies the stereotype of ivory tower academics. Trained as a Sierra Club hike leader a couple of years ago, she was contemplating the most useful application of her skills. What she came up with—created—was hikes for the visually impaired. "I was just trying to think of some group that didn't have access to hiking and somehow the blind came to mind. I called the Rehabilitation for the Blind and told them I wanted to start this program and they seemed to think it was a good idea," she recalls. They weren't the only ones. Recently the program won the State's First Lady's Outstanding Volunteer Project Award. Jarman describes the monthly excursions as, "a real joy," and adds, "I probably have more fun hiking with the visually impaired than any other group.

Casey Jarman says that in her heart she feels Hawaii is where she should have grown up. Her active involvement in the community through volunteer and professional commitments is more than making up for lost time. It's clear that she's misplaced no longer.

Calendar of Events

First Monday of Every Month

Monthly meeting of the Conservation Committee, 6:30 p.m., at the HAS Office, 1088 Bishop Street, Suite 808. To join or for more information call David Hill, 988-7460 (H).

First Wednesday of Every Month

Monthly meeting of the Education Committee, 7:00 p.m., at the HAS Office, 1088 Bishop Street, Suite 808. To join or for more information call Emily Gardner, 734-3921 (H). The Committee is actively seeking new members. All are welcome.

Monday, December 13

Board meeting, 7:00 p. m., HAS office. Call Reggie David on Hawai'i, 329-9141 (W), for details.

Thursday, December 16

Annual Meeting, Paki Conference Room, Bishop Museum, 7:30 p.m. Election results. Restoring Endangered Seabirds—Lessons from Puffins, Terns, and Albatross. See story on page 81. Refreshments will be served.

Christmas Bird Counts

Saturday, December 18. North Kona. Call Reginald David, 329-9141 (W).

Sunday, December 19. Honolulu. Call Lance Tanino, 247-5965 (H), Monday and Wednesday nights.

Sunday, December 26. Volcano. Call Larry Katahira, 967-8226.

Sunday, December 26. Waipi'o. Call David Bremer, 623-7613 (H).

Wednesday, December 29. Kapa'a. Call Barbara Stuart, 826-9233 (H).

Sunday, January 2. Waimea. Call Mark Jeffers, 335-9975.

At press time dates had not been set for the following counts. Call the following for more information:

Kualapu'u. Nature Conservancy, 553-5236.

Lihu'e. Anyone with CBC experience interested in continuing this 20-year count contact Bob Pyle on O'ahu, 262-4046 (H) or Winona Sears on Kaua'i, 822-3045, before December 3.

Pu'u O Kaka'e. Fern Duvall, 572-1584 (H).

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Remember to Vote! Ballots due by December 16.

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