



SONG SPARROW

Spring 2022 Vol. 52 No. 1
www.napasolanoaudubon.com

SPRING 2022 CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

- Mar. 10 Thu. Birding from Bodega
- Mar. 19 Sat. Beginning Bird Walk for Kids
- Mar. 19 Sat. Birding Petaluma Wetlands
- Apr. 14 Thu. Adélie Penguins
- Apr. 15 Fri. Milliken Reservoir
- Apr. 23 Sat. Earth Day Suisun Wildlife Center
- Apr. 23 Sat. Connolly Ranch, Earth Night Festival
- Apr. 24 Sun. NSAS Earth Day Cleanup
- May 07 Sat. NSAS Big Day Team Birding Event
- May 12 Thu. NSAS Spring Elections & Monthly Meeting
- May 12 Thu. Arizona Spring Birding
- May 14 Sat. Global Big Day Cornell Lab of Ornithology
- Jun. 26 Sun. UC Master Gardeners (Napa Valley) Open House

For more info, to sign up for email alerts, or to join our chapter, please go to:
<https://napasolanoaudubon.com>



Spring Walks & Activities

Watch your email inbox and our website for more walks and activities.

napasolanoaudubon.com



MARK STEPHENSON / LAZULI BUNTING, MARSHALL-PETALUMA RD.

Spring Migration: It's Just Around the Corner

By Mark Stephenson

As the ducks and geese begin to take flight to Northern breeding grounds, some of the first migrants will begin returning to our neighborhoods. Allen's Hummingbirds will begin setting up territories as early as mid February. They love blackberry thickets with riparian or water nearby. Tree and Violet-green Swallows are already beginning to arrive by late February floating over ponds and reservoirs. By early March, the Hooded Oriole will return to our neighborhoods. Listen for the male's call high in a palm tree signifying his return. Females will join a couple of weeks later and the males will sing early in the morning to try and attract one. Bullock's Orioles will follow in April looking for Oaks and adjacent grassy fields. By Late March and early April migration is heating up!

Shorebirds are moving out or passing through on the mudflats at American Canyon Wetlands and Huichica Marsh where Rails are beginning to call. Rufous Hummingbirds are passing through and if you have an active feeder you may be in luck!

MacGillivray's Warblers are singing along the coast in riparian areas and some are heading to the Sierra foothills. By mid April Hermit, Nashville and Black-throated Gray Warblers are singing from high in the conifers. Great places to view them are Ink Grade Rd in Angwin, Aetna Springs Road in Pope

Continued on page 7

President's Corner

By Mark Stephenson, NSAS President



This Spring, Napa Solano Audubon is celebrating a return to near normalcy!

Let's hope all of our vaccines continue to help the covid virus to subside! Our two Christmas Bird Counts were incredibly successful due to our amazing coordinators Robin Leong in Benicia & Murray Berner in Angwin. We have reinstated our popular School Programs that have been delivered to classrooms in Napa & Solano Counties. Tammy Saunders, our Education Coordinator, has been covering Napa Schools and Louisa Liu, our UC Davis College Intern, has begun covering schools in Solano County. They have been presenting our incredible programs featuring Bird Diversity, Adaptations, the Amazing Feather, Bird Song, Nesting, Bird Migration, and Human Impact & Action to Protect Birds and Habitat. We have teamed up with Napa Wildlife Rescue and brought hawks and mammals into the classrooms to help children experience first-hand birds and animals up close and personal. We are thrilled Tammy & Louisa have helped to bring these programs to hundreds of students in our area.

Our Speaker Series coordinated by Barbara Navolanic has had record numbers of viewers with such amazing topics as *The Mystery Owl of Mexico* with Nathan Pieplow, *The Incredible Hummingbird* with Monique Ligouri, *Sierra Nevada Birds* with Keith Hansen, *Birding for Conservation in Columbia* with Alvaro Jaramillo, *Tick Talk* with Lia Gaertner, and upcoming presentations on *Birding from Bodega to Oregon* with Harry Fuller, and *Antarctica Birding* with Annie Schmidt. All of these wonderful presentations were recorded and are archived on our website.

Andrew Ford's Weekly Bird Walks continue to explore birding hotspots throughout Napa & Solano Counties. We are fortunate to have such a talented leader! **Tammy Saunders** has held a number of local weekly Bird Walks for Children including a wonderful Christmas Bird Count in conjunction with Connolly Ranch. Our Monthly Field Trip Team of **Wendy Cole, Bruce Thomsen & Carol Boykin** have taken birders throughout California to the Yuba Pass, Martinez Shoreline, Monterey, Sacramento Valley, Merced NWR, and Yolo By Pass. Stay tuned for their next trip!

Our Earth Day Cleanup activities led by Betty Labastida will take place on **Sunday, April 24th**. Come join us for a fun day of helping our environment! We are looking forward to this year's **Spring Migration** and our **Big Day Bird-a-thon on Saturday, May 7th**. Don't forget to mark your calendars, and set out with a friend or a team to see how many species you can find in Napa & Solano Counties! We will hold a Zoom Celebration at 7:00 pm to share our findings!

I greatly appreciate all the help I have had from our wonderful officers and many volunteers! Stay active and join us for our many fun activities and events! ♦

Board of Directors

President Mark Stephenson (707) 246-2795	Field Trips Carol Boykin (707) 252-6194
Vice President Tom Slyker (707) 771-1918	Membership Patti Heidl (707) 552-4702
Secretary Helena Kassel (707) 812-4463	Programs Barbara Navolanic (707) 745-8454
Treasurer David Kassel (707) 812-4464	Director at Large Robin Leong (707) 643-1287
Conservation Nancy Piotrowski (415) 386-4923	Director at Large Mo Mosher (707) 567-6401

Board Meetings are open to members.

If you wish to attend, please call:
(707) 745-2362.

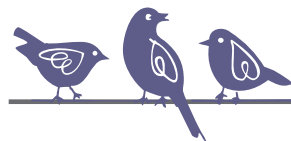
DONATIONS APPRECIATED!

Napa-Solano Audubon Society welcomes gifts of funds, stock, or property, and bequests in general, or in honor or memory of a loved one. Gifts may be directed to any NSAS project.

Unspecified gifts will go for Education, Conservation or other projects. Since NSAS is an all-volunteer organization, 100% of your donation goes to this chapter. **All gifts are tax-deductible.**



Meet new friends while making a difference.



Calling all Bird Heros

Join our efforts and make an impact today!

Contact Nancy:
napiotrowski at yahoo dot com.

May Spring Elections are Almost Here — Cast Your Vote!

Time for elections, time for change or keeping things as they are. Maybe you want to step out and try something new. Please see the back cover of this Newsletter for more information.

Calendar of Events

PROGRAMS

Note: Programs are held on the second Thursday of the month via Zoom. We encourage everyone to attend. You will be given the meeting connection details when you RSVP.

BIRDING FROM BODEGA TO OREGON, TO THE GREAT BASIN, AND BEYOND

Thursday, Mar. 10, 2022, 7:00 p.m.
Speaker: Harry Fuller



CHRIS WOOD / GREAT GRAY OWL

We'll take a virtual birding tour from the Sonoma Coast north to Oregon, with a final stop at a hot-spot in the Great Basin. Our trip will include wintering White Pelicans and nesting ones. Willets on the beach, and nesting in the sagebrush. For listers we'll talk of good places to see Great Gray Owls in May, White-headed Woodpeckers and dancing Western Grebes.

Harry Fuller has lived in Oregon since 2007. Before retirement he managed TV & Internet newsrooms in San Francisco and London. He has written three natural history books, including the "Great Gray Owl of California", Oregon and Washington" (EcowiseWordpress.com); "San Francisco's Natural History: Sand Dunes to Streetcars" (EcowiseWordpress.com); and "Freeway Birding" (FreewayBirding.com). Harry has been leading bird trips and teaching birding classes since the 1990s. Currently he leads trips for the Malheur Field Station and the Klamath Bird Observatory & provides private guiding service. **Harry's birding journal is online: [atowhee.blog](http://www.towhee.blog) and his website is: <http://www.towhee.net>.** His most revered birding mentor was Rich Stallcup.

THE COLDEST, DRIEST, AND WINDIEST: Studying Adélie Penguins on the Harshest Continent

Thursday, April 14th at 7:00 p.m.
Speaker: Point Blue's Annie Schmidt



CHRIS WOOD

An Introduction to the Adélie penguin, to the Ross Sea and its global importance, an overview of current research program and a highlight recent results. Annie Schmidt currently manages Point Blue's Adélie Penguin Ecology Research where we are addressing questions such as how penguin nesting habitat influences breeding success, how climate change may affect penguin nesting habitat, and how individuals vary in their response to these changes. Annie is lucky enough to spend a few months of the year at our field site on Ross Island, Cape Crozier, one of the largest Adélie penguin colonies in the world

Annie Schmidt is the Antarctica Program Director for Point Blue Conservation Science. She started at Point Blue in 2004 as an intern investigating Leach's Storm-Petrel demography on the Oregon Coast. The first time she held one of these tiny, incredibly tough, birds she was hooked and went on to study seabirds on the Farallon Islands. There is nothing like the bustling activity of a seabird metropolis to stimulate curiosity, wonder, and a desire to contribute towards a sustainable future. In 2013, she completed a PhD in Ecology at UC Davis and studied the changing influence of ocean conditions on seabird populations on the Farallones.

ARIZONA SPRING BIRDING

Thursday, May 12th at 7:00 p.m.
Speakers: Mark & Lucas Stephenson



MARK STEPHENSON / GILDED FLICKER

We will share our many adventures and Arizona's spectacular birding with you. We have explored canyons from the Grand Canyon in the North to Sabina, Madera, Carr, Ramsey, and Cave Creek Canyons in the South and West. We have transected mountains from the Kaibab Plateau to Santa Catalina's spectacular Mount Lemon, the slopes of Santa Rita's Mount Wrightson to the Huachucas Miller Peak, to the Chiricahuas Rustler Peak. We have explored numerous birding hotspots from Saguaro National Park, Mt Lemon, Madera Canyon, Tubac's Hawk Watch, to Patagonia Lakes, Lake Havasu to Cave Creek Canyon.

Mark began birding in the 4th grade and expanded his experiences when his family moved to Ithaca, NY and he birded regularly with experts from Cornell's Laboratory of Ornithology. After a career of more than 30 years in public education teaching and administrating in Benicia and Napa he is enjoying retirement and birding in Northern California.

PLEASE TAKE NOTE

When joining our walks or field trips, we are asking all who are eligible, **be vaccinated and sign a release of liability and Covid Waiver Form.** Please also **bring a mask** to wear when you are in close proximity to others or when carpooling.



MASKS REQUESTED. KEEP YOUR DISTANCE, STAY SAFE, HAVE FUN!

Calendar of Events *continued*

Lucas has been birding since he was 8 and got hooked when a Great Horned Owl called outside his tent and the next day he spotted a Varied Thrush. Now he surpasses his father in birding expertise.

FIELD TRIPS

BIRDING PETALUMA WETLANDS

Sat., Mar. 19, 8:30 a.m - 3:00 p.m.
Leader: Andrew Ford

Bring lunch, water, binoculars, hat, sunglasses and dress in layers for the weather.

MILLIKEN RESERVOIR

Fri., Apr. 15, 8:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Leader: Murray Berner
Info: Wendy Cole

Bring snacks, water, binoculars, sunglasses. Carpool at 7:30 a.m., Silverado Shopping Center.

WEEKLY WALKS

Andrew Ford leads our Weekly Bird Walks throughout Napa and Solano Counties on Saturdays beginning at 8:00 a.m. and are usually finished around Noon. Signing up in advance is not required.

Please Note: Because the destination may change depending on recent bird sightings, and on occasion Andrew's job calls him out of town at the last minute on the weekends, we are not posting an extended schedule. When Andrew is not available we try to have another leader step in whenever possible. All members and friends interested in Weekly Field Trips should sign up to be on the Field Trip Email List. You can subscribe to this eBlast and other NSAS announcements here: <http://www.napasolanoaudubon.com/Main/RequestForm>

EVENTS

Connolly Ranch Earth Night Festival

Sat., April 23, 5:30 p.m - 8:30 p.m.

Suisun Wildlife Center Earth Day Celebration

Sat., April 23, Noon - 3:00 p.m.

Enjoy snacks, snakes, birds of prey, with nature jewelry & books on sale! Activities for kids too!

NSAS Earth Day Cleanup

Sun., April 24, 9:00 a.m - 11:00 a.m.
Coordinator: Betty LaBastida

Napa Solano Big Day Team Birding Event

Saturday, May 7th

Join us for an all day event and a Zoom celebration at 7:00 p.m.

NSAS Monthly Meeting and Spring Elections

Thurs., May 12, 7:00 p.m.
Online Balloting

Cornell's Laboratory of Ornithology Global Big Day

Saturday, May 14

UC Master Gardeners of Napa Valley Open House: Las Flores Community Center

Sun., June 26, 11:00 a.m - 2:00 p.m.



May Walks & Activities

Watch your email and our website for upcoming May FUN!

napasolanoaudubon.com

STEVE BERARDI



BEGINNING BIRD WALK

FOR KIDS: Trancas Crossing Park

Sat., March 19, 9:30 a.m.
Leader: Tammy Saunders

Napa Solano Audubon Field Trips

by Carol Boykin

Las Gallinas is a lovely place to bird. Several ponds are a result of a water treatment facility but you would hardly know it. Off Hwy 101 in San Rafael, Smith Ranch Road brings you to several big ponds surrounded by grass lands. We usually just walk around the first pond as it provides ample entertainment. Listeners might venture out further.

A variety of vegetation, reedy marsh, cat tails, surround the pond providing cover for Green Herons, Egrets,



Gallinule, Virginia Rail, Sora, and oodles of Marsh Wrens.

If you venture out further to the brackish marshes of Rail Corner you

often get to observe Ridgeway's Rails. The ponds are deep enough for dabblers and divers.

With the abundance of shore and water birds don't forget to look to the grasslands which has lots of Hawks, Common Yellowthroats and plenty of what you would hope to see.

And to top it off, there are several picnic benches and the all-important porta potty! ♦

Conservation Advocacy

Nancy A. Piotrowski, Ph.D.,
NSAS Conservation Chair

Audubon California will have its annual advocacy day for the general membership sometime during the week of August 2022. This is a change from its usually being held in May or June. Instead, this year, the late spring meetings will be for some young adults and fellows who are in a special program who will learn a bit about advocacy. We expect, however, to see some of the same goals from last year advanced – continued attention to climate change, working with large land owners and managers to preserve land for birds, and also supporting greater access to nature for people from all walks of life. One new area, however, that you will notice more talk about over time is attention to the night sky. Audubon California let us know at the most recent board meeting in February that looking at ways to better address light pollution will be a special item we will address.

If these topics are of interest to you and you might like to attend a Bay Area Audubon Council meeting as a guest or learn about getting involved in advocacy, please just let me know. To join our advocacy action list, or to submit feedback, email [napiotrowski at yahoo dot com](mailto:napiotrowski@yahoo.com). ♦

NSAS Conservation Report

by Robin Leong

There was a Virtual Public Meeting on February 2, on State Route 37 Sears Point to Mare Island Improvement Project.

There have been many National doings on reversing the executive orders that former President Trump issued. Some of the key ones were to drop the threat of punishment to oil and gas companies, construction crews and other organizations that kill birds “incidentally,” arguing that businesses that accidentally kill birds ought to be able to operate without fear of prosecution in violation to the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918 Former President Trump shrank Bears Ears 85% and Grand Staircase Escalante 50%. He also removed restrictions on commercial fishing within the Northeast Canyons and Seamounts Marine National Monument. President Biden restored the boundaries and protection levels of these national monuments.

In California, Governor Newsome has a “30-x30” Plan to protecting State Habitat. Read about it on Audubon California’s web page www.caudubon.org Work is ongoing to improve eel grass habitat as well as habitat for tricolor blackbirds.

There is plenty of talk on the National State and some Cities on Climate Change. Hopefully we need to stop talking and start doing some of the ideas that many groups propose but have not been acted upon. ♦

Napa Solano Audubon Big Day of Birding 2022



MARK STEPHENSON

Many Audubon Chapters have begun a Big Day of Birding fashioned after Cornell’s Global Big Day. We would like to start our very own Napa-Solano Audubon Big Day birding event this Spring on Saturday, May 7th. The number one goal is to have our birding members and friends go out on this Saturday and have FUN birding as an individual, small group, or team. You may bird in Napa County or Solano County or both! We anticipate setting up a competition between the 2 counties as well as acknowledging the team that observes the most species seen in Napa and Solano counties and in both! We will have all individuals and teams register by sending an email to NapaBirder@gmail.com. If you are looking for a team to join, we will do our best to connect you with other birders. We will also place a form on our website closer to the date to expedite this process. Let’s celebrate with a Fun Day of Birding!

Many chapters use the Big Day as a fundraising adventure. If you are so inclined you can help our Napa-Solano Audubon Chapter raise funds during this event by getting friends to sponsor your team. They can donate a flat fee such as \$25 or \$100 or give you any amount for each bird that your team finds — for example \$1.00 per bird. Don’t forget to remind them if your team locates 100 species they will owe \$100. As a challenge to our members and friends we will break down their gifts by designating a specific giving category amount as many other Audubon Chapters do!

- **Golden Eagle Donation:** \$5,000+
- **Bald Eagle Donation:** \$1,000+
- **Goshawk Donation:** \$500+
- **Broad-winged Hawk:** \$250+
- **Rough-legged Hawk Donation:** \$100+
- **Red-tailed Hawk Donation:** \$50+
- **American Kestrel Donation:** \$25+

Come join in on the fun and bird with us on Saturday, May 7th! Donations will be included in a future Newsletter and on our website. We will also hold a Celebration Zoom Meeting on Saturday, May 7th at 7:00 pm. ♦

Napa Solano Audubon's Christmas Bird Counts 2021-22

ALAN D. WILSON / COSTA'S HUMMINGBIRD



The 74th Benicia CBC / Dec 20, 2021 by Robin Leong

There were 3 bird feeder watchers, and 72 counters for a total of 75 participants. We saw 84,225 birds with 164 species. Data shows 136.6 hours by foot, 44.5 hours by car, 8 hours by boat, 5 hours by golf carts, traveling 95.85 miles on foot, 190.2 miles by car and 31.5 miles by boat. It was a cold day. Our total numbers of birds were low, as well as participants, the mileage and hours. I would say one of best bird was a Lewis' Woodpecker seen by Karen Sheldon's group in Green Valley. Another was Brown Pelican seen by 2 groups. It had not been seen since 2014.

There were Benicia CBC highs for Cackling goose, Mute Swans and Bald Eagle. But many species had low numbers and the number of species was the lowest since 2015.

Usually there are about 23 more counters, and our average number of species are around 170. The total number of birds is usually 100,000. Can we blame the results on CoVid-19 like everything else these days?

I would like to thank all the counters that help to make the Benicia CBC the best it could be. I hope you all had fun in spite of the cold weather and other challenges you might have had. Also would like to thank the owners of properties for allowing us to count birds on their property. One of the biggest applauses is to Valero Refining Company — California, for their donation to fund this count. Thank you one and all!

Hope to see all of you on Dec 19, 2022! Perhaps we can have our normal dinner and after count discussion. Do volunteer to help to be assistant compilers. Stay safe and healthy to make that happen. Enjoy the year of the Tiger!

Angwin CBC 1-1-22 / by Murray Berner

The weather was fine, mild with little wind. The rains had filled the small valley reservoirs and greened up the countryside, good things. All areas were covered; by fewer birders than the ideal perhaps, but with most everyone experienced in their respective area. The final tally was 127 species. Our last dip below 130 species was 2011, the year of snow and freezing fog.

Many ducks were scarce. Only the larger divers tallied in normal numbers. I'm still not counting the single Mute Swan seen in two areas. Other aquatic species showed decline from average, specifically grebes, gulls and coots. There were no gulls going to roost at sunset on Hennessey, a first. In the 1980s, thousands of Short-billed (Mew) Gulls roosted there. The coot number was ridiculously low. We never miss Common Loon, until now. Green Heron is not a gimme, but Area 2 came up with a couple. The sort of marshy area south of the St Helena wastewater ponds revealed the two secretive rails.

Except for a dip in Red-shouldered Hawk numbers, and now missing Golden Eagle in consecutive years, diurnal raptors were average. I am pleased to see American Kestrel maintaining its presence. We usually don't find lots of owls. Our effort to do so could be greater. However, owls are likely truly scarce across the vast burn scars. The outright and complete demise of oaks will be a long time in recovery, and so too will the return of owls and other species to those forests.

Songbirds were up and down. Lots of phoebes, for example. Few Thrushes. Only bluebirds approached the average. Robins and Starlings are elsewhere this winter. Most of the Pipits were at the Angwin Airport; most of the waxwings were in Napa Valley. Irruptive species such as Red-breasted Nuthatch and Pine Siskin were absent or nearly so, respectively. Scarce the past three years, we missed American Goldfinch for the first time ever. I'm expecting someone to realize that they failed to enter that species. Reports of Lesser Goldfinch were half the recent average. An optimist might conclude that yellow star-thistle is in decline, dispersing the goldfinches.

The Pope Valley Loggerhead Shrike was the first since 2014. Common Gallinule, Violet-green Swallow, and Phainopepla are not found every year. Neither are Orange-crowned Warbler or Common Yellowthroat; we had two of each. Lastly, the Stephensons went back to the corner of Walnut and Zygmunt in St Helena to discover the returning Costa's Hummingbird, a first count day record. As of a few days ago, the bird is still being seen.

My thanks to the respective area leaders and their teams. Although the dinner didn't happen, we appreciate Helen's getting a start on it. Thanks to several landowners for access to their properties. Napa-Solano Audubon sponsors the count. The chapter deserves your support. ♦

Spring Migration

(Continued from page 1)



MARK STEPHENSON

Black-throated Gray Warbler, Timberhill Lane

Valley, Mt. St. Helena, Gates and Mix Canyons rising above Pleasants Valley Rd. in Solano, or Putah Creek near Davis.

Wilson's and Yellow Warblers are singing along thicket covered riparian areas like the Napa River and Putah Creek's Lake Solano.

Pacific-slope and Olive-sided Flycatchers along with Western Wood-Pewees, Warbling and Cassin's Vireos, and Black-headed Grosbeaks can be found in moist mixed forest slopes. White Sulphur Springs Road in St. Helena, Napa's Timberhill Lane, Pope Valley's Aetna Springs Rd., Solano's Mix & Gate's Canyons are a few of our favorite locations to hear them.

Head to drier brushy areas with Oaks and open grasslands to hear Ash-throated Flycatchers and Lazuli

Buntings. A great place to find them is Mount Diablo's Mitchell Canyon, Sonoma's Pine Flat Road, Napa's Partrick Rd and Solano's Lagoon Valley Park.

Grasshopper Sparrows begin their insect-like, buzzing song by mid-April along Marin's Marshall - Petaluma Road and at Point Reyes National Seashore along the Estero and Abbott's Lagoon Trails. With Luck you can even find them at the top of Timberhill Lane or Partrick Road in Napa.

By mid-May Swainson's Thrushes replace our overwintering Hermit Thrushes. Marin County and other coastal and riparian areas are filled with their rising, spiraling song.

We hope that everyone will have plenty of time to get outdoors this spring, hiking in our wonderful open spaces and enjoy the amazing songfest that are our passerine birds' gifts! ♦



MARK STEPHENSON

Ash-throated Flycatcher, Marshall Petaluma Road

Merced National Wildlife Refuge Field Trip

by Wendy Cole

The morning of January 23 found 15 NSAS members driving through dense fog to find the Merced NWR. We arrived at the meeting spot and heard lots of bird activity but there was not much to be seen. The fog gradually lifted as we walked the trail with our local leader, Ralph Baker and the day became sunny with blue skies. During the day we saw 9 Great Horned Owls sitting in trees and the usual geese and ducks, including Blue-winged Teal. Our leader pointed out a few Blue-

morphs of the Snow Goose. Highlights were seeing Lesser Yellowlegs, and a vagrant female Vermillion Flycatcher! We watched her for a long time as she was flycatching and returning to the same tree. Her pinkish-orange belly was so pretty! On our drive out of the refuge we were lucky enough to see two Burrowing Owls! It turned out to be one of those magical winter days in the Central Valley, seeing and hearing thousands of geese flying across the sky in all directions. ♦



MARK STEPHENSON

Vermillion Flycatcher

Napa-Solano Audubon Society
P.O. Box 10006
Napa, CA 94581
napasolanoaudubon.com



Spring Election Time is Here!

The annual election of officers is coming up in May.

The four positions that need to be elected/reelected are **President, Vice President, Secretary** and **Treasurer**. Following is a brief summary of the duties of each as stated in our By-Laws:

- **President:** President of NSAS, Chairman of the Board, and an ex-officio member of all committees,
- **Vice President:** Assist the President in the performance of duties, and in the absence of the President, the Vice President shall preside at any meetings,
- **Secretary:** Keep a record of all proceedings of the Board and of NSAS, and shall conduct such correspondence of NSAS as the President or Board may direct,
- **Treasurer:** Shall have custody of all of NSAS's funds and shall disburse these funds as may be ordered by the Board. The Treasurer shall provide financial statement to the Board at their regular meeting or as requested.

Officially, all elective positions are open for your consideration. *If you've been considering running for President, Vice-President, Secretary or Treasurer, please let us know so we can put your name on the ballot!*

We also have non-elective positions we need to fill:

- **Membership Chair:** This position maintains our membership database and updates it with new and returning members annually.
- **Education Chair:** This position helps us to organize our Education activities in the Schools and Community.
- **Communications Chair:** This position entails writing short articles for our Newsletter and promoting our activities to local news organizations.
- **Director:** If you or a friend are interested in just getting your feet wet, consider becoming a new Board Member as one of our Directors! Please let us know if you have the time and energy to join our Board and we will submit your name for our May Ballot.

Any NSAS member interested in running for one of these positions should **contact Betty Mosher by April 15th:**
mosher.b@comcast.net

Don't be shy, take the plunge! ♦