



Sequoia Audubon Society is a branch of National Audubon Society. Its purpose is to enjoy and safeguard the wildlife of the Bay Area. All interested persons are welcomed at field trips, bird walks and monthly general meetings. President, Mr. A. E. Montgomery, 2270 Summit Dr., Hillsborough, 344-4249.

MEETINGS

Dec. 2 BOARD MEETING at the home of President A. E. Montgomery
Thurs. 2270 Summit Drive, Hillsborough. All board members and
8:00 pm committee chairmen are to attend, if possible. Other mem-
bers are welcome to attend if they wish.

Dec. 9 POTLUCK SUPPER - in the Washington School Cafeteria,
Thurs. 801 Howard Avenue, Burlingame. Members and guests are
6:30 pm invited to participate. Please call Ruth Canoles (343-8053)
or Laverne Goodwin (342-0414) to let them know what you
will bring - salad, main dish, or dessert.

PLEASE NOTE: It is important that you call in as requested
above. At the October dinner, 25 people attended, but only
TEN called in to say what they were bringing. As a result,
there were hot dishes, 12 desserts, and 8 salads. Thus, an
unbalanced menu resulted.

Dec. 9 REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING at the Washington School
Thurs. Auditorium, in Burlingame. The evenings entertainment
8:00 pm will consist of a showing of ISLANDS OF GREEN, a new
film hit. This beautiful and outstanding color film depicts
vividly the story of the preservation and wide use of the
large "islands of green" which are our national forests, and
the necessity now of saving small "islands of green" in and
around our cities. The picture, produced jointly by the
National Audubon Society and U. S. Forest Service is a plea
for the establishment of community nature education centers
all over America.
This should be an outstanding and very interesting film.
Please invite friends, members of park, recreation and
sportsmen's groups, garden club members, scouts, teachers,
and all conservationists.

FIELD TRIPS

(Chairman: Nick Kroll OX 7-2051)

Dec. 11 SAWYER CAMP ROAD
Sat. Leader: Jed McClellan (Di 4-3486)
9:00 am Meeting Place: Meet at the parking area on Skyline just
north of the dam, near the head of Crystal Springs Road.
This will be a half-day trip, so it will not be necessary to
bring a lunch, unless you want to continue longer on your
own. A good variety of both land and water birds can be
seen along this road. Wood Ducks and Canada Geese have
been observed recently.

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

Date: Sunday, January 2, 1966
Coordinator: Neil Dickinson (366-7661)
Meeting Place: Pulgas Water Temple, on La Canada Road
Meeting Time: 8:00 am

The area to be covered will be divided into five sections,
each with its leader. The sections and leaders are as
follows:

Alice Steele (344-8317) Airport to San Carlos
(Bay, salt marshes and salt ponds)
Monty Montgomery (344-4249) Crystal Springs Lakes
(Lake and hill area)
Jed McClellan (344-3486) Pillar Point
(Ocean-side region)
Les Sleeper (323-9370) Tunitas Canyon and Skyline
(Hill and canyon areas)
Aveline Butler (593-4489) Home and Garden Areas
(Residential areas)

This is one of our major activities of the year, and is a part
of the nation-wide effort by the National Audubon Society.
Everyone who can possibly help should contact Neil, so he
can organize the program. Those not able to go out on the
field coverage are requested to count the birds around their
homes, and advise Neil or Avelina Butler of their count, for
inclusion in the tally.

FIELD TRIP REPORT

PORTOLA PARK - On Saturday, November 13, despite the rain, ten of
us went into Portola Park as planned, and had a delightful walk. There
were picnic tables under a roof; and we took advantage of the roof (no
side walls) to escape the rain while we ate our lunch.

After lunch most of us went to the Pescadero Marsh and then to
Pescadero Beach.

We saw interesting birds, including, at the Park, Chickadees,
Brown Creeper, Black Phoebe, Steller's Jay, Winter Wren, Robin,
Brown Towhee, Varied Thrush, and Water Ouzel; at the Marsh,
White-tailed Kite, Marsh Hawk, Bonaparte Gull, and Audubon Warbler;
and at the beach, Willet, Cormorant, Western Grebe, Surf Scoter,
Heermann's Gull, and Glaucous-winged Gull.

Highlights of the day were the bright green mosses and ferns,
and a very speical performance by the one Water Ouzel which we saw.
The Water Ouzel came into sight flying very rapidly up the creek, a
yard or two above the water; and when he came opposite us he suddenly
and without any perceptible slowing down turned straight down and dove
into the water. Then, in a second or two, he calmly walked out of the
stream on the far bank, coming up from the bottom as though the creek
were dry.

I have seen Water Ouzels dive from objects about a foot above
the water, before, but I never before saw one dive from the air while
in flight - and never even heard of such a performance.

Jed McClellan

CONSERVATION NOTES

I recently came across this statement in Against the American Grain by literary critic, Dwight MacDonald: "We Americans are hunters rather than artists, a practical race . . . men of action rather than of thought or feeling . . . our homes, our cities, our landscapes are designed for profit or practicality but not generally for beauty. . . Children are told: 'You may look but you mustn't touch, 'that is 'You mustn't change what you look at.' This would be good discipline for Americans, just to look at things once in a while without touching them, using them, converting them into means to achieve power, profit, or some other practical end."

In a very real sense this above-stated ingrained idea, this "American Ethic" if you will, that everything must be changed, channeled and put to some practical use is embraced by the mass of Americans and constitutes one of the bigger psychological barriers we conservationists have to overcome if we are to win more of our countrymen over to our point of view.

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A National Redwood Road running through coastal and redwood country from Oregon to Carmel is now being studied by a committee Governor Brown appointed. The committee consists of three representatives from each of the ten northern counties. The co-chairman of this committee recently stated that this proposed road would NOT take the place of a Redwood National Park, as feared, but would enhance it. Skyline Boulevard would be part of this system.

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Speaking of roads and redwoods we vigorously applaud the decision of the State Highway Commission to back away completely from plans to build a freeway through Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park.

We do NOT applaud, however, the 3-2 vote by Marin Supervisors that permits the development of Marinello on the Golden Gate headlands. Marin Conservationists are still fighting and referendums may be in the offing . . . one win, one loss.

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Of national importance is the battle over the future of the San Geronio Wilderness Area near Los Angeles. There is a bill before Congress to permit skiing and resort development in a large part of this wilderness. If passed it would certainly set a bad precedent for other areas.

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Locally, the various sub-committees of the San Mateo County Regional Planning Committee are winding up their work. We expect strong recommendations for preservation of open space, scenic highways and recreational areas to be forthcoming.

Also of local interest: The Bay Conservation and Development Commission will meet Dec. 2nd and 17th at 2:00 pm in the State Building, San Francisco.

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Return to Sequoia Audubon Society Bulletin
c/o John L. Morrill
505 Costa Rica Ave.
San Mateo, Calif.
(Form 3457 Requested)

Conservation Reading (not guaranteed to cheer you on rainy winter nights):

The Destruction of California by Raymond Dasman
Holiday magazine's article on Tahoe (and what's happening to it).

Eleanor McCurley-Conservation Chairman

ACTIVITIES OF OUR NEIGHBORS

MARIN AUDUBON SOCIETY

Audubon Canyon Ranch directors have entered into negotiations for the purchase of a 90 acre parcel of land adjoining the Ranch on the northwest.

The addition will extend the Ranch holdings about 700 feet along the lagoon and along the road at the top of Bolins Ridge. The purchase was motivated by four main factors:

- 1) Eliminate the present easement through Garden Club Canyon.
- 2) Fully protect the watershed from which the Ranch water is derived.
- 3) Double the trail network by adding another road between the lagoon and ridge road.
- 4) Protect the northwest slope of Garden Club Canyon from development and buildings, which would overlook it.

SANTA CLARA AUDUBON SOCIETY

A screen tour showing of the film, "Inherit the Wind" will be given at 8:00 pm on November 29 (Monday), at the San Jose State College, Morris Daily Auditorium.

This is a fascinating collection of studies of natural wildlife. Included are rare and near-rare creatures as the Whooping Crane, Manatee, Everglade Kite, and Ross' Goose.

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

The National Audubon Society is planning a major drive next spring to increase the membership of our Society, so that more important programs can be undertaken, and with the thought that the Society should have a larger percentage of the population enrolled.

There has been a great deal of emphasis upon Conservation and maintenance of our Country's beauty in recent months, with full support from President and Mrs. Johnson. This has brought about an increased concern in such matters by the public, and affords groups such as ours an ideal opportunity to expand our coverage.

The actual recruiting must be done at the local level. We have a committee appointed by our President Montgomery to coordinate our efforts, and we will be making a strong effort soon after the first of the year. However, we ask each member to start now, talking up Sequoia Audubon to your friends and associates. Bring them to our meetings-tell them what we are doing in the line of Conservation in our own area-and above all get them to join in our work. We need all the help we can get.

John L. Morrill - Chairman
Membership Promotion Sub-committee

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