



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

Jan. 6 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 requested to attend, if possible.
Other members are welcome to attend.

Jan. 13 Our regular monthly meeting will be held at the Washington
Thurs. School Auditorium, 801 Howard Avenue, Burlingame.
8:00 pm The program following the regular business meeting will be
presented by our own Mark Zumsteg and his family, entitled
"CAMPING THROUGH EUROPE BY VOLKSWAGON BUS".
Those who have seen these colored slides report that they
are very excellent, and most enjoyable. For a very pleasant
evening, we suggest that you be sure to come.
Light refreshments will be served at the end of the meeting
by our Social Chairmen, Ruth Canoles and Laverne Goodwin.

FIELD TRIPS

(Chairman: Nick Kroll Ox7-2051)

Jan. 8 GOLDEN GATE PARK
Sat. Leader: Nick Kroll (Ox7-2051)
8:30 am Meeting Place: Meet at the parking area inside the park,
near the entrance at 41st and Lincoln Way. Lunch is optional,
for those who wish to stay most of the day.
The varied habitat of this Park makes for a great diversity
of bird life, and a day here is always very rewarding.

Jan. 22 COYOTE POINT and FOSTER BAYSHORE
Sat. Leader: Florence Richardson (345-4443)
7:50 am Meeting Place: Safeway parking lot on Norfolk St., near
East Third Avenue, in San Mateo. We must meet early to
take advantage of the tide.
Shore birds, ducks, and other water birds should be present
in abundance and variety, including Snowy Plovers, Semi-
palmated Plovers, and Whimbrels. This trip will end at noon.
Those wishing to continue longer, or to visit the Junior
Museum at Coyote Point will find good picnic areas at the
Point. Waterproof footwear and warm clothing are recom-
mended.

NOTE: The following unusual sightings were
made at Coyote Point by several of our mem-
bers on the Shore Survey:

Nov. 29 - A Common Murre about 50 feet
offshore.

Dec. 13 - A female Old Squaw Duck, 100-
200 feet offshore.

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

A final reminder - on January 2 (Sunday) we are scheduled to do our
part by making our bird census as part of the National Audubon Society's
count. Details are given in the December "SEQUOIA" Bulletin.

If you plan to participate, call one of the following leaders:

Neil Dickinson (366-7661)	Coordinator
Alice Steele (344-8317)	Bayshore Area
Monty Montgomery (344-4249)	Crystal Springs Lakes
Jed McClellan (344-3486)	Pillar Point
Les Sleeper (323-9370)	Tunitas & Skyline
Aveline Butler (593-4489)	Residential areas

MORNING BIRD WALK - FOR BEGINNERS

Jan. 15 Gene Hebborn will resume her very helpful bird walks for
Sat. beginners at this time. For details as to meeting place and
time, call Gene at 343-0415.
Novices at the identification of our more common will find
these walks very helpful in learning what characteristics to
to look for, where the various birds are normally found, and
how best to observe birds for maximum enjoyment.

FIELD TRIP REPORTS

PILLAR POINT - On Saturday, November 27, 1965, eight people went
out to Pillar Point in two Jeeps (parking the Jeeps near the pond and
walking the rest of the way). The morning was bright but windy and
cold.

Birding was good. We saw forty-two species, including Western and
Eared Grebes, Red-throated and Common Loons, Surf and Common
Scoters, Brown Pelican, Black Brant, California Murre, Pelagic and
Double-crested Cormorants, four kinds of Hawks and seven kinds of
Gulls.

Someone had been shooting birds and we saw both dead and crippled
birds of several species.

Before going to the Point we huddled and reviewed the geology of the area,
as planned.

When we all became hungry we were quite happy to go to the McClellan
cottage at Moss Beach and eat our picnic lunches in warm comfort, still
watching birds (and the ocean) through the picture windows.

Jed McClellan

SAWYER CAMP ROAD - Saturday, December 11, started out clear and
beautiful, but soon settled down to steady rain.

Despite the rain, the hardy Auduboners had a good time, and got fifty
species of birds on the Leader's list. Some of the party may have seen
species not listed by the leader.

We missed the Wood Ducks seen on the lakes a few days before; but our
list at the end of the six mile trip from the dam at San Mateo Creek to
the dam at Millbrae included such prizes as Common Loon, Canvas-back
Duck, Golden-eye Duck, Gadwall, Ring-necked Duck, Red-breasted
Merganser, Hooded Merganser, Canada Goose, Band-tailed Pigeon,
Varied Thrush, and Spotted Sandpiper.

Jed McClellan

CONSERVATION NOTES

Conservation work today is rather akin to the everwidening circles created by a pebble thrown in water. A person might begin conservation work by being interested in saving a grove of trees or a rare bird and pretty soon he's concerned with the overall quality of his environment, and conservation becomes a problem of aesthetics as well as the wise use of natural resources. All of us will admit that we will not be able to save every remaining tree and open hillside in California, for obviously there is going to be increasing development. The problem is to insist that development not destroy the natural characteristics of the land and that it be done aesthetically, that is in good taste. For instance the Tahoe area could have been developed in a rustic spirit in keeping with its natural beauty, rather like the towns in the Swiss Alps. It need not have turned into the Miami Beach of the Sierra. Our own El Camino Real could have had business along it, but if there had been strong ordinances, trees left in place and some architectural control it would still have been attractive. The neon signs, the gas station and hamburger stand architecture, the sheer vulgarity of our development must be controlled if we are to save California from looking like one gigantic amusement park.

Hearings are being held in Washington concerning the plans for a National Redwood Park. As you know there has been strong opposition from the lumber industry and there has also been a great speed-up in cutting of virgin stands. Time is running out for the redwoods. The Sierra Club in a full page announcement in the "Chronicle" urged letters to the Governor and the President. Why not take ten minutes of your time and write these letters to help save trees that have been growing for centuries?

After hearing STRONG opposition from property owners against the planned scenic parkway along Skyline the San Mateo County Planning Commission turned down both plans offered by the Staff. They then appointed a citizens' committee (made up primarily of property owners) to study the area involved and offer their own plan for Skyline. Interim zoning ends January 20th and it is believed the Commission will ask to have it extended again.

San Bruno Mountain still stands . . . but just barely. The big black cloud of development and excavation for bayfill still looms over its head. The City of South San Francisco has finally taken the lead to help preserve it by sending a recommendation to San Mateo Supervisors urging San Bruno Mountain be kept as a regional park. This recommendation has been passed on to the Regional Planning Committee and the Park and Recreation Department. It should certainly be considered seriously as this mountain represents the only open space remaining in heavily populated Northern San Mateo County.

The California Tomorrow group is now publishing an excellent (judging by the first issue) quarterly which will concern itself with environmental problems in California. For information write: California Tomorrow, Forum Building, Sacramento.

Perhaps some of you are familiar with the recent joke fad of thinking up the world's shortest books. Here are a few more:

"The Concept of Cluster Development" by Henry Doelger
"On the Value of Free Flowing Streams" by the Army Corps of Engineers.

"In Praise of the AEC" by the Woodside City Council

"Let's Save Our Waterfowl" by the Bureau of Reclamation

Eleanor McCurley - Chairman
Conservation Committee

SHORE SURVEY

The long program we have been conducting for the Department of Fish and Game will come to an end with our counts at the end of the year. All those who have taken part have received letters of appreciation from the Sacramento offices of the department. Certainly we have all appreciated the opportunity to help in this important program, whose principal aim is to obtain accurate data to be used in preserving the most important areas from developments which might threaten or destroy the wild life, and especially the bird life. A word of thanks is due to Maryann Danielson for her good work in coordinating the studies, and for Earl Lauppe, of F & G for keeping us posted on the progress, and for handling all the permits, as well as interpreting the data. His successor, Bill Anderson, has also been most helpful in the final stages.

PESCADERO CREEK MARSH AREA

As reported in the November "SEQUOIA", a committee was appointed to study the developments planned by the State for the marsh area around the mouth of Pescadero Creek. This committee has held several meetings some at the marsh, to study the plans, and is now in the process of writing to the Division of Beaches and Parks responsible for the program to make our recommendations. Although the desires of the Division are commendable, it is our feeling that their plans will not accomplish what they want, and we are making counter suggestions. At present it is not feasible to present these here, but as future developments occur, we will keep our membership advised through the Bulletin.

Jack Morrill - Chairman
Pescadero Marsh Sub-committee

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(Form 3457 Requested)

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