



The Sequoia



Volume 21, No. 1

September 1971

BULLETIN OF THE SEQUOIA AUDUBON SOCIETY

MEETINGS

- Sept. 2 BOARD MEETING at the home of President Charles Newman,
Thursday 25 Corte Alegre, Millbrae. All Board members and committee
8:00 PM chairmen are urged to attend this first meeting of the
new season. Other members are welcome.
- Sept. 9 REGULAR MEETING at Roosevelt School, Broadway and Vancouver,
Thursday Burlingame. Our annual "KALEIDOSCOPE" program of color slides
8:00 PM will be presented. This annual event offers an opportunity
for all members to show a few favorite slides of recent
activities. Don't be bashful! Call Alice Johnson (344-8317)
or Al Bergeron (349-2960) to make arrangements. Slides (10
or 20 per contributor) should be made available by September
3 or 4 so that material can be arranged and edited for an
effective program.

FIELD TRIPS

Chairman: Jean Jones 344-9339

- Sept. 4 PALO ALTO HARBOR AND MARSH
Saturday LEADER: Mark Zumsteg (591-4332)
8:00 AM MEETING PLACE: Meet at the duck pond by the Palo Alto Yacht
Club. Take Bayshore south to Embarcadero (Palo Alto) and turn
East. Follow signs to yacht harbor. Wear hiking shoes and
bring a lunch. The incoming tide at this early hour should
bring in migratory shorebirds and ducks for close viewing.
- Sept. 18 BOLINAS LAGOON AND POINT REYES BIRD OBSERVATORY AREA
Saturday LEADERS: Jean Jones (344-9339) and Florence Richardson
9:00 PM MEETING PLACE: Audubon Canyon Ranch, on Highway 1, about
three miles north of Stinson Beach, Marin County. Fall mig-
rating birds should be in abundance on the trails leading
to various bird habitats. Also, at PRBO it will be possible
to see an interesting bird banding demonstration. Bring a
lunch for this full day of birding.

NEW CHECKLIST FOR SAN MATEO COUNTY - Request for help

The following request was received from Mark Zumsteg:

In an effort to update and expand the present checklist of birds in our area, I am trying to accumulate relevant records. So far one interesting pattern has revealed itself - while there are many records and lists for migrations and winter populations, breeding birds have been sadly neglected. In order to rectify this situation I am appealing to Sequoia Audubon members for the use of their past records covering Spring and Summer. Dates of nesting activity (other than house finch and house sparrow) would be greatly appreciated.

If you have information that you think could be useful in this project please call me (Mark Zumsteg) at 591-4332.

Working together, I am sure that we can put together an accurate, comprehensive, and documented list that will be a real aid to birders in our area.

Mark Zumsteg

EAST AFRICA SAFARIS EMPHASIZING BIRDS AND ECOLOGY

Two special safaris to East Africa for July and August, 1972, are now being organized by Golden Gate Audubon Vice-president, George Peyton, with strong emphasis on birds and ecology, as well as the big mammals. Unusual features particularly appealing to Audubon members are being offered, including each safari being limited to 15 people for more personal attention, no more than 4 tour members riding in each vehicle for added comfort and good viewing, and an excellent local naturalist guide from Africa leading each safari.

Tour arrangements are being made in cooperation with Root and Leakey Photographic Safaris, Ltd., of Nairobi, Kenya, and Bud Simon. Alan Root is the leading African wildlife photographer and Richard Leakey is the son of the famed Leakey family and the director of the Kenya National Museum. The cost of the tour is being purposely made as reasonable as possible to bring an East African trip within the reach of many people who could not otherwise afford such a tour. Informal study sessions will be conducted by Mr. Peyton during the coming year for tour members to provide preparation in the basic ecology and natural history of East Africa. Anyone interested in further information should contact Mr. Peyton by phone (444-3131 or 531-5588) or letter (4304 Adelaide Street, Oakland, California 94619).

CONSERVATION NOTES

CITIZEN ACTION

Citizens concerned over environmental degradation have been actively engaged throughout the summer to counteract a three-pronged development plan in the south county. The three threats: (1) A new Dumbarton Bridge to accommodate 90,000 cars daily from East Bay housing tracts (recently built on choice agricultural land); (2) Construction of Willow "Expressway" to connect with Freeway 280 and on the State Division of Highways plan has the same specifications as a freeway; (3) Industrial overdevelopment of the foothills where the 90,000 from the East Bay communities would be employed.

Heroic efforts have been, and are being, made by a small group called CAWE (Citizens against Willow Expressway) in trying to thwart legislative approval for the bridge and in promoting public opposition to the "Expressway", which will be voted upon September 14 by Menlo Park residents. The new bridge received approval by the Assembly (AB 1625) August 3. Harriet Mundy of Santa Clara Audubon Society has suggested that Sequoia Audubon members should try to save the old bridge for cycling and bird-watching, since a new bridge would not provide even the scant bird-watching facility that the present bridge has.

Another valiant group is attempting to establish a Mid-Peninsula Regional Park District to save some of the foothill acreage from overdevelopment, under the same state legislation which authorized the East Bay Regional Park District. Attempts to gain the OK of the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors for a vote on this measure by the residents of the affected areas (generally, the areas from Woodside to Atherton south to Los Gatos from Skyline to the Bay) had not been successful as of this writing. A third meeting with the supervisors was scheduled for Aug. 24.

WILDLIFE REFUGE

Early in August, Rep. Don Edwards, San Jose, announced that chances were "very good" that House committee hearings on the proposed San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge would be held in September or October. But Edwards added, "It is my further belief that the most important ingredient for success will be local support to provide assurances that reasonable safeguards will be exercised in protecting the refuge once it is established. Local answers are needed with regard to questions on zoning and future environmental pollution problems." In that regard, a possible unfavorable zoning action by the San Jose City Council may jeopardize the Alviso unit of the refuge; the problem was to be discussed at the August 23 meeting of the council. Members of the Refuge Committee and others interested in the future of the refuge planned to attend.

Marian Lockwood
Conservation Committee Chairman

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: Charles H. Newman, 25 Corte Alegre, Millbrae	697-5601
VICE-PRES.: Al T. Bergeron, 251 Killdeer Ct., Foster City	349-2960
TREASURER: Clifford Daniels, 1009 Haddon Drive, San Mateo	341-5366
SECRETARY: Ed McElhany, 1009 Laguna Ave., Burlingame	343-3219

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COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

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FIELD TRIPS: Jean Jones, 1417 Sanchez Ave., Burlingame	344-9339
CHRISTMAS COUNT: Neil Dickinson, 554 Oak Park Way, Redwood City	366-7661
and Alice Steele Johnson, 1109 Chula Vista, Burlingame	344-8317
CONSERVATION: Marian Lockwood, 1043 Sonoma Ave., Menlo Park	325-0517
and Maryann Danielson, 848 Edgehill Rd., Burlingame	342-6919

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 welcome on field trips, bird walks, and monthly general meetings.

Non-Profit Organization
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