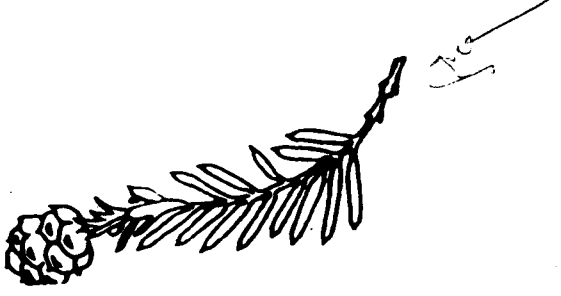




The Sequoia



Volume 21, No. 7

March, 1972

BULLETIN OF SEQUOIA AUDUBON SOCIETY---A BRANCH OF NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY

President: Charles H. Newman, 25 Corte Alegre, Millbrae, California 94030
Phone: 697-5601

MEETINGS

- March 2
Thursday
8:00 PM
- BOARD MEETING at the home of President Charles Newman. Board members and committee chairmen should attend. Other members are welcome.
- March 9
Thursday
8:00 PM
- MONTHLY MEETING at Roosevelt School, Broadway and Vancouver, in Burlingame. Bill Anderson has recently returned from an extensive visit to Australia and Southeast Asia. He will tell us of the birds, wild life and botanical features he observed and will illustrate his talk with some of the many slides he took. Bill retired a few years ago as a biologist with the California Department of Fish and Game. His nature lore and photographic artistry are well known to his many friends. Bill's keen sense of humor shows through frequently and adds a touch of entertainment to his always educational and instructive presentation.

FIELD TRIPS

Chairman: Jean Jones, Phone: 344-9339

- March 4
Saturday
8:30 AM
- McLAREN PARK, SAN FRANCISCO
LEADER: Byron Davies (334-2851)
MEETING PLACE: Meet in the 600 block on Cambridge Street which runs from Silver Avenue to the Park. Park by the greenhouses and prepare for muddy, hilly walking. Rain or shine, this will be a morning trip to handy McLaren Park. Expect no rarities but you may be surprised.
- March 7
Tuesday
9:30 AM
- FOR NEW BIRDWATCHERS: PALO ALTO YACHT HARBOR
LEADERS: Frances Nelson (593-7941) and Florence Richardson (345-4443).
MEETING PLACE: Palo Alto Yacht Harbor duck pond, at the east end of Embarcadero Road, Palo Alto. A morning bird walk for a small group of beginners who wish to learn water birds.
- March 18
Saturday
8:00 AM
- JAMES V. FITZGERALD MARINE RESERVE
LEADER: Bob Breen
MEETING PLACE: Just north of Half Moon Bay turn left on California Street and on to the Reserve. Wear wading boots and warm clothing for this tidepool exploration. Bring hand lenses. Lunch optional.
- March 25
Saturday
8:30 AM
- COYOTE HILLS REGIONAL PARK
LEADER: Norman Kidder (221-8188)
MEETING PLACE: Meet in parking lot at the corner of Jarvis

FIELD TRIPS COYOTE HILLS REGIONAL PARK Continued from Page 1

and Newark. Across Dumbarton bridge turn left on Jarvis. This Park has a variety of habitats for birds, mammals and sea life. Bring lunch and wear hiking shoes.

REPORT ON FIELD TRIP TO ALUM ROCK PARK ON JANUARY 29th.

Following several cold, gloomy days with occasional rain, this day was one of clear blue skies and sunshine. The highlight was the sight of two Golden Eagles soaring overhead, with an attack by a Red-tailed Hawk on one of them affording a dramatic comparison of relative size.

Another unexpected sight was that of a flock of White-throated Swifts circling about. A few saw a Water Ouzel and a Canyon Wren. The Nuttall's Woodpecker and Red-breasted Sapsucker were well observed. Picnic lunch was enjoyed together beside the creek. The Mt. Hamilton road was closed because of snow at the higher elevation.

A. E. Montgomery, Leader.

UNUSUAL SIGHTINGS

White Crested Laughing Thrush -- Native of Southeast Asia. Two birds observed in San Francisco by Charles Newman, Bonnie and Jed McClellan.

Mandarin Duck - Native of China, Japan. Observed by Bonnie and Jed McClellan and Leroy Nelson in Foster City.

Barrow's Goldeneye - Rare visitor this far south. Three birds observed by Bonnie and Jed McClellan in Foster City.

Eagles -- An immature Bald Eagle was observed at Foster City and at Pulgas Temple by Al Bergeron and Leroy Nelson. An immature Golden Eagle was seen at Pescadero Marsh by the same observers.

CONSERVATION NOTES

SEQUOIA REPRESENTED ON EQCC: Dr. Ruth Smith has accepted the appointment of the Sequoia Audubon board to represent us on San Mateo County's Environmental Quality Coordinating Council. The Council, formed in 1971 to act as an advisory group to the County Board of Supervisors, is headed by Claire Dedrick, an influential and dedicated conservationist who was a key figure in the successful effort to create the Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC). One of the first matters of EQCC attention will be San Bruno Mountain.

U.S. CORPS OF ENGINEERS' EXTENDED JURISDICTION: A recent announcement by the U.S. Corps of Engineers is very encouraging in providing strengthened protection of Baylands. Its jurisdiction has been extended to include dikes, sloughs and salt ponds; previously the Corp only exercised control over navigable waters. This means that any filling of diked areas will require a permit from the Corps and the 1969 National Environmental Policy Act requires the Corps to prepare environmental impact statements before granting those permits. Additionally, the 1958 Fish and Wildlife

Coordination Act requires that the Corps consult with the U.S. Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife before issuing permits thus adding further environmental controls over Corps-regulated projects. (However, the new control regulation is not retroactive and will not affect land fills and diked areas already created in the bay.) This announcement has been hailed as a landmark decision by conservationists.

NATURAL ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES - U.C. EXTENSION: The University of California Extension offers many enticing short courses in Bay area flora and fauna in its Spring, 1972 issue of "Natural Environmental Studies" catalog. Among them: (1) San Bruno Mountain, weekend of April 7 - 9, timed to the wildflower display; (2) April 7 - 9, Asilomar, "Heroes in the Seaweed - Seashore Biology"; (3) April 29-30, "Native Flowering Plants and Conifers of the Bay Area", in cooperation with the California Native Plant Society at Botanical Garden, Berkeley campus.

To receive a catalog, address: Lifelong Learning, University Extension, University of California, Berkeley, Ca., 94720.

Marian Lockwood, Co-chairman
Conservation Committee.

AUDUBON SAFARI CAMP -- EAST AFRICA: Two trips -- July 3rd to 24th; \$1950 and July 31st to August 21st; \$1750. Send inquiry to Cahill--Laughlin Tours, Inc., 655 Madison Avenue, New York, N.Y., 10021.

LAKE TAHOE

The U.S. Forest Service is conducting a series of "Public Listening Sessions" to determine the future management of National Forest Lands in the Lake Tahoe Basin. Written statements are invited and may be directed to:

U.S. Forest Service, Lake Tahoe Basin Planning Team
Box 8465
South Lake Tahoe, Ca., 95705

Statements must be received before March 13, 1972.

PESCADERO MARSH

On invitation from the State Park people, a committee from Sequoia Audubon visited Pescadero Marsh on Sunday, February 6th, and staked out an access trail. The trail route will provide adequate access with minimum disturbance and will help in visitor control. Al Bergeron will recruit some work parties soon for actual trail construction.

The Pescadero Marsh has been a "project" of Sequoia Audubon for several years. Members who have not yet visited the area should plan to do so. Drive to Half Moon Bay, then south on the Coast Highway to the mouth of Pescadero Creek. Come home via Pescadero, Memorial Park, La Honda, Skylonda Thence north on Skyline or drop down into Woodside for a very pleasant Spring ride.

AUDUBON CANYON RANCH

The Ranch, two or three miles north of Stinson Beach, is sponsored by Golden Gate, Marin and Sequoia Audubon Societies. In the past eleven years the property has grown to include four canyons fronting on Bolinas Lagoon plus some recently-acquired holdings on Tomales Bay. The center of interest is the original canyon where extensive visitor facilities have been established including a trail system, heronry overlook, book store, picnic tables and natural history museum. The public is invited on Saturday and Sunday during the months of March through the first weekend in July. Common Egrets and Great Blue Herons may be observed nesting in the tops of redwood trees.

Sequoia Audubon Society will provide "Hosts" for the month of June and volunteers will soon be asked to sign up.

NEW MEMBERS

A great many new members have joined Sequoia Audubon in the past few weeks. We extend to each of them a cordial welcome and hope they will join us at our meetings and on field trips.

PERSONAL

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Morrill will leave the area soon to establish a new residence in Oregon. Jack was editor of the "Sequoia" for eight years and has also served as president. In addition he has made numerous contributions to the Audubon cause through many committee assignments. Very best wishes for happiness to the Morrills in their new home!

Amy and Ed McElhany,
Co-Editors

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