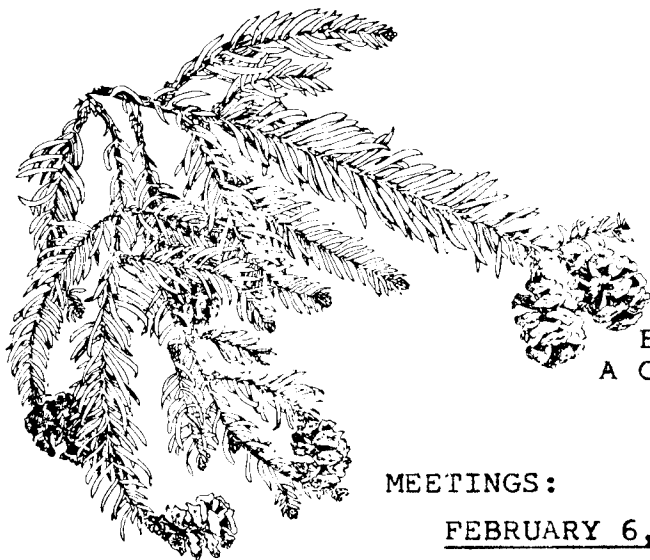




The Sequoia

Volume 24 No. 6

February, 1975

BULLETIN OF SEQUOIA AUDUBON SOCIETY
A CHAPTER OF NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY
SAN MATEO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

MEETINGS:

FEBRUARY 6, THURSDAY, 7:30 PM BOARD MEETING at the home of Norman and Eila Fox, 51 West Bellevue, in San Mateo. Board members and committee chairmen should attend. Other members are welcome.

FEBRUARY 13, THURSDAY, 6:30 PM POTLUCK DINNER at Roosevelt School, Broadway and Vancouver Avenue in Burlingame. Please bring your own table settings. Phone Mrs. Eila Fox at 343-1406 and tell her what dish you plan to bring. Guests are welcome.

FEBRUARY 13, THURSDAY, 8:00 PM REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING at Roosevelt School following the Potluck Dinner. Our feature speaker will be Al Wool, prominent naturalist, La Honda rancher and National Audubon Society lecturer. We well remember one of the outstanding Audubon film in the Sequoia 1968 series produced and narrated by Mr. Wool. Sequoia has had many field trips to the Wool Ranch near La Honda and another is scheduled for this spring. This will be an exceptional program. Don't miss it! Jed McClellan reports the lily family brings the Plant of the Month for February, the Trillium. We have two species in San Mateo County: Trillium chloropetalum (sessile Trillium) and Trillium ovatum (Coast Trillium) and they begin to bloom in February. Both species are sometimes called wakerobin. Charles Newman will present his tape-recorded Birdcall of the Month.

FIELD TRIPS: Fran Nelson, Chairman Phone: 593-7941

February 8 and 9 - Los Banos, San Luis and Merced Wildlife Areas

On February 8 we will meet in the parking lot at the Los Banos State Refuge, 3 miles north of Los Banos on Henry Miller Road at 9:00 AM.

On February 9 a ranger will meet us at 8:30 AM at the entrance of San Luis National Wildlife Refuge at the end of Wolfson Road.

There are a number of motels at Los Banos. Among them are the Islander, 1021 E. Pacheco Blvd. (209-826-3045), La Casa Motel, 528 Pacheco Blvd. (209-826-0682) and Canal Farm Inn (209-826-5121). It is advisable to make reservations as soon as possible.

Allow approximately 2½ hours driving time (125 miles). For further information call Fran Nelson.

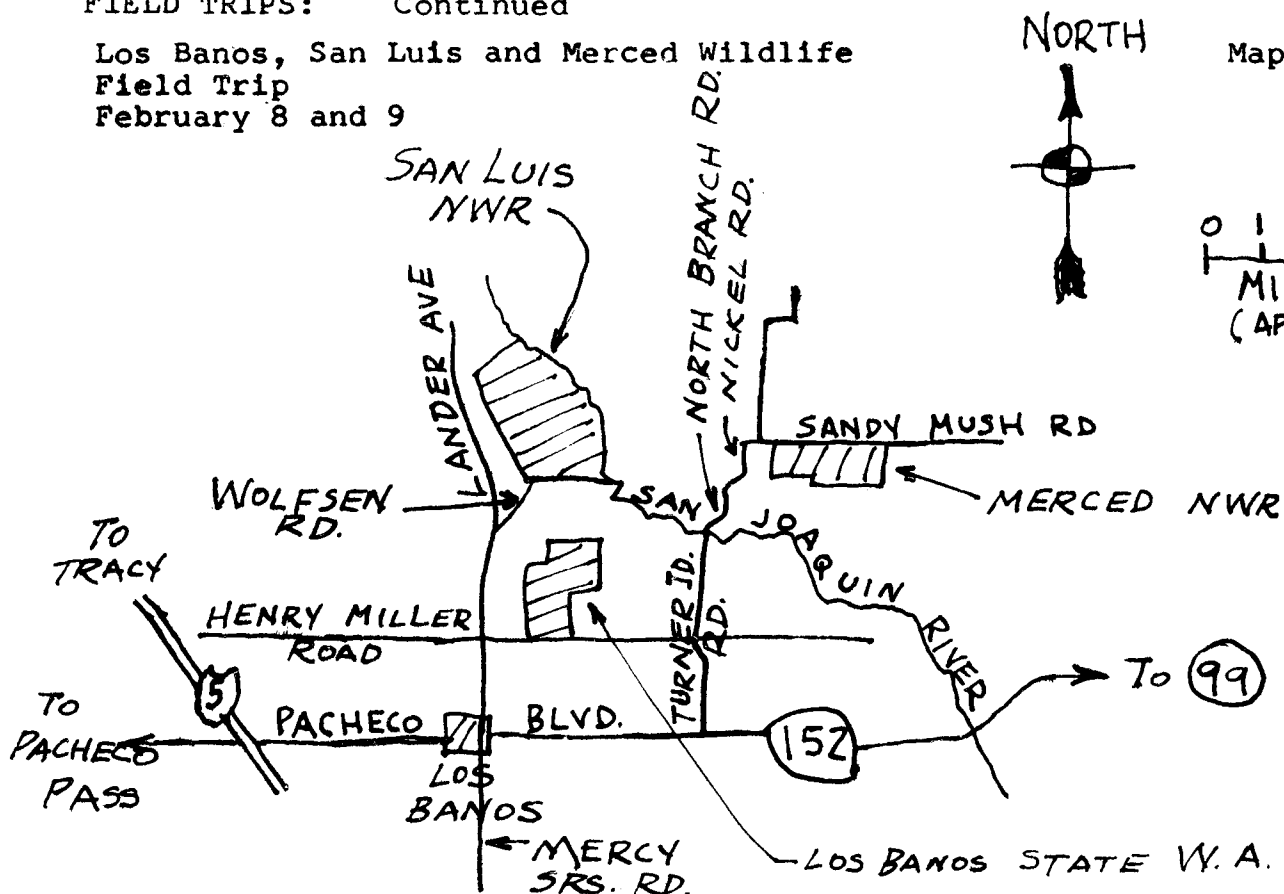
(Please see map on Page 2)

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San Francisco, CA 94134
Phone: 334-2851

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1009 Laguna Avenue
Burlingame, CA 94010
Phone: 343-3219

FIELD TRIPS: Continued

Los Banos, San Luis and Merced Wildlife
Field Trip
February 8 and 9



February 22 - Palo Alto Yatch Harbor

Meet at the Duck Pond at Palo Alto Yacht Harbor at 9:00 AM. There are many species of ducks and shorebirds to be seen in this area. Your leaders will be Jean Jones (344-9339) and Andy Kratter (343-2391).

FORTHCOMING FIELD TRIPS

Mendocino Coast, tentatively scheduled for April 12 and 13

Pinnacles National Monument - A bus will leave early on April 26 for Pinnacles National Monument. The fare will be \$6.50 per person (based on 34 persons) including park entrance fee. Reservations will be limited to 34. Sequoia members will be given preference on a first-come basis through March. Send your check for your reservation to Frances L. Nelson, 1035 Lassen Drive, Belmont 94002.

Further details on these two trips will be announced later.

FIELD TRIP REPORTS:

Pillar Point - December 7 - Byron Davies, Leader

birded

Twenty eight participants, including several new members and visitors/ from 8 AM until 2 PM under mostly clear skies turning to a light haze with breezes increasing to strong as the day wore on. Sixty six species were observed: Red-throated Loon; Horned, Western and Pied-billed Grebes; Lesser Scaup; Common Goldeneye; Surf Scoter; Ruddy Duck; Red-breasted Merganser; Turkey Vulture; Red-tailed, Red-shouldered, Rough-legged Hawks; Golden Eagle; Sparrow Hawk; California Quail; Virginia Rail; American Coot; Snowy Plover; Killdeer; Black-bellied Plover; Black Turnstone; Willet; Marbled Godwit; Sanderling; Western, Herring, California, Bonaparte's and Heermann's Gulls; Rock Dove; Anna's Hummingbird; Belted Kingfisher; Red-shafted Flicker; Black and Say's Phoebe; Steller's and Scrub

FIELD TRIP REPORTS Continued

Jay; Common Raven; Chestnut-backed Chickadee; Common Bushtit; Wrentit; Long-billed Marsh Wren; Robin; Ruby-crowned Kinglet; Water Pipit; Loggerhead Shrike; Starling; Hutton's Vireo; Audubon's Warbler; Townsend's Warbler; Yellowthroat; House Sparrow; Western Meadowlark; Redwinged Blackbird; Brewer's Blackbird; Purple Finch and House Finch; American and Lesser Goldfinch; Brown Towhee; Oregon Junco; White-crowned, Golden-crowned, Lincoln's and Song Sparrows.

JANUARY MEETING -- By Nancy Bentz

Plant of the Month: Jed McClellan presented a winter blooming plant, the Chuparosa, found in the Colorado Desert, the Imperial Valley, and in Arizona. Its name means "hummingbird" and is appropriate because the hummingbirds love its pretty red flowers.

Bird Call of the Month: Charley Newman brought us three unusual bird calls from his recent bird trip to Mexico: The Laughing Falcon, a large forest falcon of Mexico, which eats mainly snakes and whose eerie call is heard in early morning or late afternoon; a duet song of the Mottled Wood Owl with its strange dog-like call; and the Brown-backed Solitaire, one of the world's greatest songsters, with its beautiful jingling, crystal-like sound.

The evening's guest speaker was Mr. David Roderick, professor at Foothill College and Director of Nature Expeditions International. N.E.I. is a national corporation founded by a group of natural history educators who tired of the "humdrum" classroom situation and began leading small field trips which have expanded into larger expeditions focusing on anthropology, natural history and natural photography. Mr. Roderick presented a slide talk on an N.E.I. ocean-cruise nature expedition to the Pacific Offshore Islands and Lagoons of Baja, California.

Mr. Roderick's superb slides provided us an exciting glimpse of a most unusual and teeming outdoor laboratory. First stop was Guadalupe Island, Mexico's western-most possession, and a true oceanic volcanic island. A whaling station during the 1800's, Guadalupe Island is the home of the rare Guadalupe Fur Seal, once harvested almost to extinction, as well as the largest group of Elephant Seals in the world. Next stop was the San Benitos Islands, where lobster and abalone abound off their shores, and the California Sea Lion and Elephant Seals are seen. Marine birds include Heerman and Western Gulls, Ospreys, Cormorants, American and Black Oystercatchers. Interesting plants abound, like the yellow-blossomed Pin Cushion Cactus, Cholla Cactus, and numerous succulents.

Cedros Island is the only offshore island with a permanent water source. It was named mistakenly after the cedars which were thought to be growing on the island. They were later found to be junipers. Cedros Island is a perfect example of desert island vegetation ending with a rare variety of Bishop Pine in the "fog drip" forest which hugs the top of the island. Cedros Island also contains a wealth of vertebrate and invertebrate fossils, as well as thriving Brown Pelican rookeries.

The mainland lagoons feature marshes and mangrove swamps, beautiful beaches with shells galore, sand dunes, bird life like terns, gulls, brown pelicans and plovers, and perhaps the most exciting highlight of the expedition--the Gray Whales which migrate from the Bering Straits to mate and bear their young in the lagoon waters. There are as many as 2,000 to 3,000 whales seen wintering in these waters during a typical mating season.

CONSERVATION NEWS - FEBRUARY, 1975

As of mid-January our new Governor had made a very auspicious beginning, most notably for conservations in his appointment of San Mateo County's own Claire Dedrick as Secretary of Resources. It would be hard to find a better-qualified person for the post than this extremely capable and devoted conservationist, who resigned her position as a national vice president of the Sierra Club to accept the position. At the time of her appointment no chief had been appointed to the Fish and Game Department, but since this agency, along with state parks, comes under Mrs. Dedrick's jurisdiction, Audubon members can rest pretty well assured that it will be as well run as money appropriated for it will allow. With Administration backing this will hopefully be increased to needed levels.

The outlook is not so happy for wildlife on the national scene, where National Audubon reports that the National Wool Growers Association has launched another effort to overturn the Executive Order banning predator poisons on public lands and is asking for reinstatement of "toxicants," including strychnine and Compound 1080. Letters are urgently needed to President Ford and Secretary of the Interior Rogers C. B. Morton (Washington, D.C. 20240) asking that the Administration stand firm on the predator poison ban.

Another problem desperately still needing help is that of the proposed Warm Springs Dam in Sonoma County which was mentioned in the October, 1974 SEQUOIA. In the November election a poor turnout of Sonoma County voters by a small majority voted for the dam, after a campaign of confusion similar to the state campaign against the Stanislaus River Dam. This leaves the whole burden of preventing the possible horrendous consequences of building the dam on the suit against it now under appeal in the Federal District Court. Whatever the result here, an appeal to the Supreme Court will probably be made and will mean a decision of national importance.

It will resolve the question of whether adequacy of an Environmental Impact Statement should be reviewed by the Council on Environmental Quality, as was its intended function, or by the naturally biased agency originating the project. A further important question to be settled will be whether federal courts have the right to review and overturn an agency's decision to proceed with a project in spite of very serious environmental effects. Expenses of the plaintiffs, (who are all "little people" like the League of Women Voters and the Dry Creek Band of Pomo Indians) are now some \$80,000 and may rise to \$100,000 in spite of donation of full-time legal services by two dedicated lawyers. Donations in any amount are urgently needed (and are tax-deductible) to be sent to "Warm Springs-Legal", P.O. Box 6181, Santa Rosa, CA 95406. Your Directors have thought it important enough to vote a donation of \$100 in January.

Congressional action in the matter is also a possibility, both through de-authorization of the Dam project and through clarification of the role of CEQ and of court review of Environmental Impact Statements. Letters to Senators and Representatives can be sent by those interested.

With the start of a new Congress and Legislature it will be in order again to list names and addresses of those representing San Mateo County in Washington and Sacramento:

President Gerald Ford
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Governor Edmund G. Brown, Jr.
State Capitol Building
Sacramento, CA 95814

Senators Alan Cranston
and John Tunney
Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Representatives Paul N. McCloskey, Jr.
205 Cannon House Office
Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

State Senator Arlen Gregorio
Assemblyman Dixon Aratt
Assemblyman Louis Chapon
State Capitol Building
Sacramento, CA 95814

Leo Ryan
1113 Longworth House
Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

SOLAR ENERGY

From, "Senator Alan Cranston Reports," January 1975
"The city of Santa Clara, California, has received a federal grant to equip its new community center with heating and cooling systems powered by the natural energy of the sun.

The building is being constructed with 270 3x8-foot panels on its southern exposure. The solar panels will collect and store energy to meet 90 percent of the building's air conditioning needs.

I think solar energy has great potential for heating and cooling homes, offices and factories in the United States. In the 93rd Congress I sponsored the successful Solar Heating and Cooling Demonstration Act of 1974. It will allow for many more experimental projects like Santa Clara's. President Ford signed my bill into law in September. I am also studying the potential of wind power, coal gasification, geothermal energy and methanol. Each is clean, abundant and non-inflationary."

Ruth Smith, Conservation Chairman

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

We can look to 1975 to bring increased efforts to exploit and exhaust the world's natural resources. Those of us who believe these gifts should be carefully husbanded can show our beliefs to our neighbors and colleagues by our daily activities. We need not be fanatic zealots, but we can in our public and private lives act as leaders in many small ways that, when multiplied member by member, chapter by chapter, will have a large effect on resource use. Take a fresh look at some you may have forgotten:

Use your car less--walk or bicycle or bus. Car pool. The Audubon field trips must do more of it. Tune and drive your car for best mileage. Turn your house and office heat down. Sweaters are cozy. Look at your consumption critically--how much of it merely generates waste, not only of packaging but of the object itself? Or of the energy to run it? One electric toothbrush is trivial in itself, but it represents an attitude about family purchases and energy consumption that must be seriously reconsidered.

Join the conservation committee--attend meetings and report. Ruth Smith desperately needs help in monitoring official hearings on an unbelievable variety of matters affecting our world, most of them local in impact.

Write - write WRITE. Legislators. Newspapers. Public agencies and bureaucrats. Oil companies and utilities. The only hard part is starting.

We needn't wear hair shirts to help.

-- Byron Davies, President

BOOK REVIEWS By G. Paul Lechich

Two books are noteworthy this month. Both deal with deteriorating environments, although their subjects could hardly be more separate:

Horns In The High Country by Andy Russell, A. Knopf, New York, 1973, \$6.95

If you enjoyed Andy Russell's Grizzly Country (in its way almost as good as some of Seton's works), you can look forward to Horns In The High Country and the vicarious pleasures of meeting its wildlife. To those of us who have never seen a mountain goat or Canadian bighorn close up, except in a zoo, Russell's photographs are excellent and make one feel a part of his own hunting party.

Like a number of men who have earned their living as guides, he has given up the gun for the camera. Through his eyes and lenses, you realize the precarious situation of all big game from the Rockies to Alaska. Though this book has been around for a year, it still offers plenty of relevant armchair insights.

Southern California's Deteriorating Marine Environment by Rimmon Fay, et al, Center for Calif. Public Affairs, Claremont, Calif. 1973, \$3.50

Written as a report for the Southern California Association of Governments, as part of its regional coastline planning program, I cannot recommend too highly the introduction and preliminary chapter on regional geology as an excellent preliminary course in shoreline physiography. Even with no previous knowledge, but a little thought, you will be able to understand many of the processes that are contributing to the deterioration and change of our own northern coastline as well.

SIGHTINGS

Barry Sauppe, Chairman 349-8470
Peter Metropulos 591-9898

An immature Whistling Swan was seen flying over Ano Nuevo Point, Dec. 29 (RH, PM). A lone Snow Goose was found near Pescadero, Dec. 29 (AK, BS). A male Barrow's Goldeneye at northern Crystal Springs Reservoir, Dec. 21 was a good find (H&LG); a female was carefully observed at Princeton, Dec. 22 (RS). A drake European Wigeon was at the southern end of Crystal Springs Reservoir, Jan. 7 (BS). Eleven Hooded Mergansers at Mariner's Island, Dec. 21, was a large concentration for this uncommon duck (PM, BS). At least three Bald Eagles (two adults and one immature) were observed on the Crystal Springs Lakes during the past couple of months. A Merlin was seen Dec. 31 and Jan 3 along Harbor Blvd. in Redwood City (BS). Two Screech Owls were heard calling in Huddart Park, Dec. 22, and another was on Gazos Creek Road, Dec. 29. At least four Saw-Whet Owls were heard calling along Purisma Creek, Jan. 15 (PM, BS). A Poor-Will was flushed from Gazos Creek Road, Jan. 14 (PM, BS). A female Black-and-White Warbler was closely studied at Pilarcitos Creek in Half Moon Bay, Dec. 22 (RH, PM). It was seen again Jan. 15. A Palm Warbler was in a willow thicket along Hwy 1 south of Gazos Creek, Dec. 29 (RH, PM) and another was observed Jan 15 along Pilarcitos Creek (PM, BS). Also at Pilarcitos that day were five Orange-Crowned Warblers, one Nashville Warbler, and one female Wilson's Warbler. Thirty Red Crossbills were feeding in Douglas Firs above Pilarcitos Lake, Dec. 18 (PM, BS) and one was at Gazos Creek Road, Dec. 29 (AK, BS). A White-Throated Sparrow frequented a feeder in Burlingame throughout Dec. and early Jan. (AK); one was at a feeder in Belmont in Dec. (F&RN). Another was along Sawyer Camp Road Jan. 7 (BS). A Lapland Longspur was with a flock of Horned Larks at Redwood Shores, Jan. 4 (PM). This was the second San Mateo County record.

Observers: Howard & Liv Gurevitz, Ralph Hunter, Andy Kratter, Fran & Roy Nelson, Peter Metropulos, Barry Sauppe, Rich Stallcup.

SIGHTINGS Continued

I, compiler for the Crystal Springs and Ano Nuevo bird counts, I would like to give my thanks and appreciation for all those who participated. Crystal Springs total species was 169 and Ano Nuevo was 161.

-- Barry Sauppe

BALD EAGLE

On Christmas Count Day (December 22) Liv Gurevitz observed a Bald Eagle flying north over Crystal Springs Lake. Two Red-tailed Hawks flew out from the ridge west of the lake and harrassed the eagle to the point where he changed his mind and retreated to the south. He later returned and flew over a group of six Christmas Counters who were lunching. He was last seen perched in a tree on the west side of the lake, his white head clearly visible in the green foliage.

THE KRUEGER/LINDQUIST WILDLIFE REHABILITATION PROGRAM - By Nancy Bentz

Cliff Lindquist and Max Krueger wish, first of all, to thank Jean Jones and Dr. and Mrs. Fox for their personal donations to the Raptor Rehabilitation Program, which were used for needed food for their boarders.

Al Wool took Cliff and his wife on a tour of the Calaveras land near Milpitas recently and is going to allow them to use the property for releasing the raptors. Cliff sighted two pair of Golden Eagles and four pair of Red-tailed Hawks there that day as well as a hearty population of mice and ground squirrels which should provide ample food for the raptors. Cliff hopes to have a field trip scheduled there on the day when their Red-tailed boarders are due to be released.

Speaking of the Red-taileds, Cliff and Max plan to bring "Sequoia's" female roommate, named "Girlfriend," to the February potluck meeting.

Cliff reports that monies contributed to the Raptor Rehabilitation Program from Sequoia Audubon have been used for food, sand, and nylon flight lines for flying the birds.

Max and Cliff can always use financial assistance in furthering their program. Call Cliff at 343-2526.

LAND USE

Ruth Smith has written us the following note concerning a passage she ran across while reviewing some old papers --

Ours is not the first generation to recognize problems of land use and overuse. James Lloyd, a Boston merchant and land owner on Long Island wrote in the 1680's:

This meadow is of very great vallue & soe may increase the most of any land on Long Island; by reason that formerly the Plaines did yeald vast Quantities of hay To Hempstead a towne in the midle thereof, Huntington, Oyster Bay, Jerrico, Musketacove & all the Plantations westward as far as Flushing; but of late persons inhabit verry much by the sides of Hempstead Plaines & their catle feed downe the Plaine that ther is noe moweing & haveing litle or noe meadow on the north side of Long Island, they must all depend upon the south meadows which is not sufficient for all that want itt.The Fort Neck meadow is ac-compted the best upon Long Island & afords burthens of Grass to admiration."

KENNETH L. CARLSON

Sequoia Audubon member Kenneth Carlson has provided the paintings and Laurence Binford the text for a new book, BIRDS OF WESTERN NORTH AMERICA. The book is in many bookstores now and sells for \$25. The Golden Gate Audubon, GULL, has a complimentary review in the January issue.

AUDUBON CANYON RANCH

Audubon Canyon Ranch is a wildlife sanctuary and center for nature and conservation education. The principal ranch holdings consist of several canyons opening onto Bolinas Lagoon just north of Stinson Beach. Ranch headquarters is located at what was Canyon Ranch, the acquisition of which was the original purpose of the organization back in 1961. The Ranch is sponsored by Golden Gate, Marin and Sequoia Audubon Societies each of which are represented by seven directors on the board.

Over the past few years the Ranch has acquired several parcels of land in the Muir Beach area and along the east shore of Tomales Bay.

The Ranch Headquarters area contains the principal public attraction--the heronry--located in the top of a grove of redwoods. Here each spring about 100 nests of Great Blue Herons and Common Egrets are occupied by these magnificent birds. The public is invited to watch this spectacle each weekend from early March to July 4. All Sequoia members should plan to visit the Ranch during this period. Hours are from 10 AM to 4 PM Saturdays and Sundays. In addition to the heronry there is a fine display building and bookstore and a picnic area.

W. S. "Stan" Ficher was one of the founders of ACR and over the years has been its guiding light. He has agreed to send us periodic reports of Ranch news and here is the first one:

The following friends either contributed or pledged "an acre" to Audubon Canyon Ranch this past month or brought the longtime total of their contributions up to the \$800 "Sponsor" level:

Her family and friends in memory of Marianne Best Mason

Margaret E. Koehler in memory of George R. Koehler

Ann Rogers in memory of Clare V. Rogers

Ava Helen and Linus Pauling

Mrs. Anne C. Bunn

Mrs. and Mrs. Donald L. Peterson

The ranch is deeply grateful to its Sponsors, new and old, who have contributed so significantly to its success. It would also like to acknowledge the generosity of two foundations, the Marshall Steel, Sr. Foundation and the Winifred and Harry B. Allen Foundation, which again gave important support to the ranch as they regularly have in the past.

TREASURER'S REPORT The good news is that the number of returns to the ranch's annual appeal for funds this year was gratifyingly high; more people actually contributed to ACR than ever before. There are, of course, more Audubon members. But I believe that our friends realized that the land acquisition program on the shores of Tomales Bay deserved their support; that they realized that the costs of running the ranch's programs and maintaining the thousands of acres it owns, its trails and its many buildings have risen sharply. The bad news is that the total of all those contributions is less than we received last year, for almost no one was able to give as generously as in the past.

Won't those Audubon members who made no contribution at all to the Ranch send whatever they can afford to Audubon Canyon Ranch at P.O. Box 2113, San Francisco 94126? Please! And thanks!

AUDUBON CANYON RANCH

Continued

February 1, Maurice (Skip) Schwartz, assisted by his wife, Karen, will become the overall manager of Audubon Canyon Ranch. Both Skip and Karen are graduates of the Volunteer Council training course; they understand the aims and philosophy of the ranch. ACR has for a long time needed a full-time employee who could watch over its properties which are spread from one end of Marin to the other along the coast. The land needs to be visited regularly, posted, kept free of debris, sometimes fenced; signs need to be put up or repaired. In December there were two emergency calls: "Kids are shooting the ducks and coots and grebes from ranch-owned shoreline of Keyes Creek," and "There are horses all over the 40 acre Griffith Marsh at the foot of Tomales Bay." These are the kinds of problems Skip will be dealing with. He and Karen will also be in charge of activities at the ranch proper: Preparing for the influx of students and visitors which starts in March; staffing the overlook; supervising the volunteers at the entrance and at the bookstore; working with members of the Volunteer Council and the Forum; maintaining trails and buildings; housekeeping; purchasing supplies and equipment; taking care of all the jobs, big and little, expected and unexpected, which come with a large, public attractive place like Audubon Canyon Ranch.

GOVERNOR BROWN'S AUTOMOBILE

President Byron Davies has sent the following letter to Governor Brown with copies to Evelle Younger, Jesse Unruh and March Fong Eu. These latter three, it will be recalled, opted for expensive, luxury autos.

Dear Governor Brown:

During its regular meeting on January 9, 1975, the Board of Directors of the Sequoia Audubon Society noted with delight your position on official vehicles; we commend you most heartily.

Your choice of a smaller car in itself something of a token; but it represents an attitude toward the husbanding of our finite resources that we sincerely hope will be held by many more officials, both elected and appointed.

Yours truly,

SEQUOIA AUDUBON CONTRIBUTIONS

At the December Board meeting the following contributions were approved for 1975:

Audubon Canyon Ranch	\$750.
Peninsula Conservation Center	100.
Environmental Quality Coord. Council	15.
Audubon Workshop of the West	500. (approx)
Kreuger/Lindquist Program	20. per month

The Audubon Workshop of the West item covers 2 "scholarships" available to worthy persons selected by the Board. The Workshop is conducted at Trail Lake Ranch near Dubois, Wyoming during several two week sessions each summer. (See Nancy Betz' report in the October 1974 SEQUOIA.)

Candidates for our scholarships must be 18 years of age or older, need not be Sequoia members but should be of potential value to the Audubon cause. The scholarship covers meals, housing, field trips and instruction but not transportation to and from Dubois. If you have someone in mind, make your recommendation to President Byron Davies.

LETTER TO THE EDITORS

Editor -- Flora Tarries, a birder friend and I had a very good day at the Palo Alto Yacht Harbor on Sunday, 1/5/75 and observed 43 species. This outing provided several firsts for me including Gadwall, European Widgeon, and Burrowing Owl. We were happy to start the new year with such good company.

I enjoy "the Sequoia" and appreciate your hard work.

-- Pat Muetting
San Mateo

SEATTLE AUDUBON COSTA RICA TRIP

Costa Rica Ecology Workshop April 4--19, 1975

Led by world renowned naturalist Dr. Alexander Skutch, this workshop is scheduled at the research stations of the Organization for Tropical Studies in three widely varied habitats. For information write to Seattle Audubon Society, 714 Joshua Green Building, Seattle, WA 98101

AUDUBON PUBLICITY

Victor Crotchett handed us a page from the La Crosse, Wisconsin Tribune of December 22 which contained an article by a staff writer reporting the La Crosse Audubon Society Christmas Count. About 24 column inches were devoted to a detailed report of the number of each species sighted as well as the names and addresses of all participants. The count was held on December 14 and turned up 7031 individuals of 62 species, 6 more species than the 1973 record. One item in the list was 142 Cardinals.

The Wall Street Journal on December 20 contained a page one feature article about Roger Tory Peterson. The article refers to Mr. Peterson "the modern Audubon" and says he has taken over where John James Audubon left off. Peterson's original, "A Field Guide to the Birds" was written 40 years ago and describes the birds of eastern North America. It is in its 47th printing and has sold 1.7 million copies. He has also written several other bird guides for the birds of Western North America, Europe, Texas and Mexico and miscellaneous nature books. His fourteen volumes have sold over 8 million copies. In his 66 years, Mr. Peterson has accumulated a "life list" of 655 species. Prior to Peterson's guide, field identification of birds was largely left to scientists whose methods often required a shotgun.

Mr. Peterson is also a talented painter and photographer.

POINT REYES BIRD OBSERVATORY

Saturday Walks With PRBO

PRBO offers a series of all-day walks in natural areas. Of course the emphasis will be on birds when they are present, so bring binoculars and a lunch. Come on as many days as you wish. For the first five walks, we will meet in front of the Bear Valley headquarters information center at 0630 sharp. The 8 March walk will begin at the same time but at PRBO headquarters. On 15 March we will meet at 0700 in the parking area at the junction of Southside Road and the Bolinas Ridge highway on Mt. Tam. These walks are free and open to everyone.

February

- 1 Muddy Hollow-Limantour (4 miles)
- 8 Abbott's Lagoon (3 miles)
- 15 Pierce Ranch loop (4 miles)
- 22 Somewhere in the Bishop Pine forest

SATURDAY WALKS WITH POINT REYES BIRD OBSERVATORY Continued

MARCH 1 Inverness Ridge to Bear Valley
8 Lake Ranch (7 miles)
15 Tamalpais

We will be walking unless it is pouring rain...

Farallon Fall Sightings

(PRBO operates a station on the Farallon Islands.)

To survive alongside the glowing accounts of the fall migration elsewhere in California the story from the Farallones would have to be something special. It is, as just three highlights will show:

A Dotterel on 12-15 September was the first record for the 48 contiguous states.

A White Wagtail on 10 October was the second California record.

30 warbler species were recorded during September.

The Dotterel is an unusually interesting "first". The species breeds regularly in Scotland, Scandinavia and the USSR. Even in Northwestern Alaska where the existing North American records are from it has been recorded very sporadically. The last published record is more than 20 years old. However, a number of new Alaskan records are due to appear in the literature, and the Dotterel has an obvious preference for areas where ornithologists occur only as accidentals.

The proverbial tameness of the Dotterel was well illustrated during its brief stay on the island. A flurry of excitement followed an attempt by a White Shark near the North Farallones to include an abalone diver in its diet. The victim was brought to Southeast Farallon, loaded in a litter and evacuated by air. Meanwhile, the Dotterel was sitting unperturbed having its photograph taken within a few idle wing flaps of the action.

The White Wagtail was another of an amazing crop of Alaskan/Siberian vagrants during fall 1974.

Warblers have always been a Farrallon specialty, but September's array was outstanding. There were at least 20 species present on 3 consecutive days (16,17,18). Outstanding were Mourning Warblers (18,25 and 26; first island record); Yellow-throated (15 to 18; second record); and Golden-winged (14 to 16; third record).

The island list now numbers at least 322 species, 16 of which were first records for California and 9 of which are still the only records for the state. (From PRBO Newsletter - January 1975)

SEQUOIA AUDUBON SOCIETY

PRESIDENT	Byron Davies	DIRECTOR	Norman C. Fox
VICE PRESIDENT	John E. Prime, Jr.	"	Ed McElhany
SECRETARY	Sheila Davies	"	Charles Newman
TREASURER	Victor Crotchett	"	Ruth Smith
DIRECTOR	Albert Bergeron		

CHAIRMEN

Membership	Liv Gurevitz	Field Trips	Fran Nelson
Conservation	Ruth Smith	Sightings & Christmas Ct.	Barry Sauppe
Program	John Prime	Habitat Acquisition	Charles Newman
Education	Jean Jones	Camp Promotion	Al Bergeron
Publicity	Nancy Bentz	Social	Eila Fox

Audubon Canyon Ranch Directors Al Bergeron, Maryann Danielson, Byron Davies, Robert Friday, Ed McElhany, Charles Newman and John Prime

Bay Area Audubon Council Representatives Byron Davies, Norman Fox, Ruth Smith

SEQUOIA AUDUBON SOCIETY 1974-1975

Bentz, Nancy	593-5600	631 Wellington Drive, San Carlos 94070
Bergeron, Al	349-2960	251 Killdeer Ct, Foster City 94404
Crotchett, Victor	343-5226	1104 Balboa Ave, Burlingame 94010
Danielson, Maryann	342-6919	848 Edgehill Dr, Burlingame 94010
Davies, Byron & Sheila	334-2851	606 Cambridge St, San Francisco 94134
Fox, Norman & Eila	343-1406	51 W. Bellevue, San Mateo 94402
Friday, Robert	365-1194	80 Amber Ct, San Carlos 94070
Gurevitz, Liv	347-0912	1400 Southdown Rd, Hillsborough 94010
Jones, Jean	344-9339	1417 Sanchez Ave, Burlingame 94010
McElhany, Ed & Amy	343-3219	1009 Laguna Ave, Burlingame 94010
Nelson, Fran	593-7941	1035 Lassen Dr, Belmont 94002
Newman, Charles	697-5601	25 Corte Alegre, Millbrae 94030
Prime, John	345-4968	848 W. Hillsdale Blvd, San Mateo 94403
Sauppe, Barry	349-8470	820 E. 19th Ave. -18, San Mateo 94403
Smith Ruth	322-5279	1231 Hoover St, Menlo Park 94025

BIRD WALK

Jean Jones will guide a bird walk sponsored by the Burlingame Recreation Department on Saturday, February 15. The group will meet at Coolidge Center, 1400 Paloma Avenue, at 9:00 AM and car pool to the bird area. Bring binoculars and wear warm clothing.

THE SEQUOIA
Sequoia Audubon Society
1009 Laguna Avenue
Burlingame, CA 94010

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Permit No. 152
Burlingame, CA 94010

Address Correction Requested

Mr. & Mrs. A. E. Montgomery
2270 Summit Dr.,
Hillsborough, Calif. 94010