



The SEQUOIA

BULLETIN OF SEQUOIA AUDUBON SOCIETY

A CHAPTER OF NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY SAN MATEO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

Volume 26, No. 1

September, 1976

MEETINGS:

BOARD MEETING, SEPTEMBER 2 THURSDAY, 7:30 PM, in the Founders Room at the West Coast Federal Savings & Loan Association building, 210 Primrose Road and Howard Avenue in Burlingame. Board members and committee chairmen should attend. Other members are welcome.

SEPTEMBER 9, THURSDAY, 8:00 PM, REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING at the San Mateo Garden Center. The Garden Center is located on Parkside Way--between 26th and 27th avenues--just west of Alameda de las Pulgas. A choice of topics evolving around California Indian life by a noted archaeologist who is a friend of our new program chairman, Steve Aldrich, had not been resolved by the early date we had to "go to press" this month, so our program cannot be announced. But Steve promises it will be an interesting one. Add to that the fact we haven't been together for three months (we've missed you) to exchange birding experiences and we know it will be a rewarding evening.

FIELD TRIPS:

The Field Trip Committee composed of

Howard Rathlesberger
Fran and Roy Nelson
Jean Jones
Peter Metropulos

announce the following outings for September:

Saturday, September 11 PESCADERO MARSH

The leader is Peter Metropulos (591-9898). We're bound to see some early migrants. Meet at the Pescadero Beach Parking lot at 8:00 AM. John Hart, State Park Ranger for Pescadero Marsh will be our official host.

Saturday, September 25th POINT REYES BIRD OBSERVATORY

Meet at the Bird Observatory no later than 9:00 AM. To reach PRBO drive to Bolinas in Marin County. Just before entering the main section of town turn right onto Mesa Road and continue past the RCA transmitter station almost to the end of the road. The work of the Observatory in capturing, banding, record keeping and research will be described and demonstrated. There will also be opportunity to bird in the surrounding canyons and the shore. The leader is Howard Rathlesberger (697-6611). Our official host will be Bruce (The Bander) Sorrie. Bring a lunch, we can picnic on the grounds.

The Field Trip Committee is anxious to receive member input and also to have volunteers as leaders for favorite birding sites and events.

PRESIDENT: John Prime
848 W. Hillsdale Blvd.
San Mateo, CA 94403
Phone: 573-5889

EDITORS: Ed and Amy McElhany
1009 Laguna Avenue
Burlingame, CA 94010
Phone: 343-3219

FIELD TRIP REPORTS:

May 22 - Annadel State Park - Leaders: Ruth Hass, Charles Newman

Sixteen birders met at 9:00 AM and spent the next four hours observing 53 species of birds, 3 turtles and 5 bullfrogs. The weather was fair, somewhat hazy with a light breeze. The following birds were observed:

Mallard - Wood Duck - Turkey Vulture - White-tailed Kite - Cooper's, Red-tailed, Red-shouldered Hawks - California Quail - Killdeer - Mourning Dove - White-throated Swift - Red-shafted Flicker - Acorn Woodpecker - Hairy Woodpecker - Nuttall's Woodpecker - Ash-throated Flycatcher - Black Phoebe - Western Flycatcher - Western Wood Pewee - Olive-sided Flycatcher - Violet-green, Tree, Rough-winged, Barn, Cliff Swallows - Steller's and Scrub Jay - Common Raven - Common Crow - Chestnut-backed Chickadee - Common Bushtit - Wrentit - House Wren - Mockingbird - Robin - Swainson's Thrush - Starling - Warbling Vireo - Orange-crowned Warbler - MacGillivray's Warbler - Yellow-breasted Chat - Wilson's Warbler - Red-winged Blackbird - Brewer's Blackbird - Black-headed Grosbeak - Purple and House Finches - Lesser Goldfinch - Rufous-sided and Brown Towhees - Oregon Junco - Chipping and Song Sparrow.

June 12 - Bolinas Lagoon and Point Reyes - Leader Jean Jones

Twenty birders started out to visit Audubon Canyon Ranch. However, due to problems in the water collection system, the Ranch was completely out of water and had to be closed to all visitors until repairs were made and sufficient water had accumulated in the storage tank. The field trip was therefore diverted to Bolinas Lagoon and later Point Reyes. The highlight of the trip was a male Indigo Bunting in full breeding plumage. The following species were observed:

Common and Arctic Loons - Pelagic Cormorant - Great Blue Heron - Common and Snowy Egrets - Bl.-cr. Night Heron - Mallard - Surf Scoter - Turkey Vulture - White-tailed Kite - Red-tailed and Red-shouldered Hawks - Marsh Hawk - California Quail - American Coot - Whimbrel - Marbled Godwit - Western and Herring Gulls - Black-legged Kittiwake - Forster's Tern - Rock and Mourning Dove - Great Horned Owl - Acorn Woodpecker - Western Wood Pewee - Violet-green, Rough-winged and Barn Swallows - Steller's and Scrub Jays - Common Raven - Common Crow - Chestnut-backed Chickadee - Common Bushtit - Robin - Swainson's Thrush - Starling - Wilson's Warbler - House Sparrow - Redwinged Blackbird - Brewer's Blackbird - Brown-headed Cowbird - Black-headed Grosbeak - Purple and House Finch - Pine Siskin - American and Lesser Goldfinches - Rufous-sided Towhee - Chipping, White-crowned and Song Sparrows and Indigo Bunting.

CONSERVATION NEWS

-- By Ruth Smith

By the end of August time will have run out on bills before the State Legislature in Sacramento. For the Coastal Bill, the outcome was anyone's guess in mid-August. The original bill authored by Senator Beilenson, SB 1579, was killed in the Senate Finance Committee and was replaced by Senator Jerry Smith's bill, SB 1277. It passed the Assembly but its fate in the Senate is questionable. Here it faces both the Natural Resources and Finance Committees. At least the Natural Resources Committee effectively killed an alternative weak Coastal Control bill authored by Barry Keene.

A crumb of satisfaction for conservationists remained in the passage of SB 1504 which extends for another two years the moratorium on killing of mountain lions. It still has to go to the Governor, but there

seems little doubt of his signing it. In contrast, the bill to conserve prime agricultural lands, AB 15, will face an uphill battle in the Senate Finance Committee.

In contrast to the Legislature's earlier adjournment, Congress has another month before its members finally go home to campaign for the November election. However, the pace has been stepped up on the more important bills, and here, too, a mid-August report may be out of date by the month's end.

Of great satisfaction to all Audubon members is the passage by both House and Senate of amendments to the Tax Reform Bill clarifying tax status of charitable organizations in regard to lobbying. Unfortunately, agreement on other provisions of the bill by both houses is more questionable in this session, and if it passes that hurdle it still faces possible presidential veto. Another lobbying bill, the Lobbying Disclosure Act (HR 15 and S 2477), originated by Common Cause but opposed by almost all other public interest groups because of the endless and costly reports it requires, is still pending in both House and Senate.

Hearings were being held before the Senate Public Works Committee on Section 404 of the Water Pollution Control Act which gives the Corps of Engineers control over all waters in the U.S. and requires its permit for dredging or fill of wetlands. The House had already passed an amendment which would remove this control.

A House and Senate Joint Conference Committee has been appointed to try to reach a compromise between the Senate's Bureau of Land Management Organic Act providing strong controls over use of public lands and a much weaker House bill. Only three members are from California, Reps. Phil Burton, Don Clausen and Biz Johnson.

Things are more optimistic locally. The Bay Area Air Quality Control Board denied a permit to the Dow Chemical Company to build a \$500 million petrochemical plant in the Delta which, besides increasing air pollution would add at least indirectly to pollution of the Delta waters and be a great hazard to Suisun Marsh. However, a hearing on this is to be held on August 18, so the outcome may be different by September. There is also an environmental coalition suit pending against Solano County for accepting an inadequate Environmental Impact Report on the Dow Plant.

The San Mateo County Planning Commission accepted Plan A for Sugarloaf Mountain, endorsed by both Belmont and San Mateo. This plan would allow some development in the areas adjacent to present development while keeping intact the environmentally significant areas. SAS Directors supported this Plan and further recommended that open space areas, particularly Laurel Creek Valley, be left in a natural state rather than artificially developed for recreation.

Our State Fish and Game Commission is now asking the Federal government for a waiver of the moratorium on sea otters and for a return of otter management to the state. Fish and Game's plan still is to contain the otters in a 230-mile stretch of coast and to relocate those unwary enough to stray outside the man-made limits. Otter numbers are still small and they will be increasingly endangered by oil spills with the increasing number of large oil tankers and new off-shore oil wells along the coast. Status of the southern sea otter as an endangered species is

pending in Washington, and those who support it should write to:

Mr. Keith M. Schreiner, Director
Office of Endangered Species
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Dept. of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240

In addition, those who support continued complete federal protection of the otters and oppose their return to semi-protection under state control should write to:

Director Lynn Greenwalt
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Department of the Interior, Washington, D.C. 20240

Finally, an appeal to new members interested in working for conservation, or to older members so interested who may have been inadvertently overlooked, to let me have their names, addresses and special interests. Experience is not necessary--merely interest and a little time. Particularly needed are people in the north end of the County who can attend important public meetings. We should have a nucleus of several such interested members in each city besides our already over-burdened Officers and Directors.

BIRDING FROM MY KITCHEN WINDOW -- By Fran Nelson

Spring gives way to summer and along with all the other changes come the changes in the bird activity. Courting diminishes and food gathering is on the increase. My kitchen window becomes a window into an avian nursery. Some of the young birds are being fed here as soon as their parents can get them this far from their nesting sites. For others we are a day-care center when they are more or less on their own. The youngsters are fresh and pretty in their brand new outfits.

A Mourning Dove, younger and smaller than the other juveniles that are here, is especially noticeable because his tail extends no farther back than to his wing-tips. His juvenile plumage is darker than that of an adult and his feathers have light edging giving him a petalled appearance. He's a striking little fellow and one any parent could be proud of but as far as his previously devoted father is concerned, he's had it! All he seems to want is the security of eating scratch from the exact spot from which his father is eating. Doesn't seem too much to expect at such a tender age--but, he is pecked away repeatedly and firmly!

An amusing sight is a juvenile Starling attempting a bath in the water feeder that is an inverted jar in a saucer which exposes a ring of water about an inch wide. He dips his beak into the water and the rest of his body is going through all the motions of bathing. He stops, shakes his feathers, preens and pokes at them and then repeats the same sequence several times. A bit later he repeats the same process only this time he is dipping his beak into this vast body of water that is contained in a clay saucer. Next he graduates to the edge of the saucer instead of standing beside it and he actually jumps in! But he is out so quickly that I have to wonder if his feet got wet! Had I blinked I would have missed it. He shakes and preens and stretches and so ends what was probably his first "bath."

A young Brown Towhee comes to nibble on an apple core. It is fun to watch him because he stops to scratch in the gravel as if he were trying to uncover something to eat. He nibbles--then scratches again and nibbles. He knows he has to do the towhee-hop but he doesn't quite know why yet. A parent arrives with a supplement.

The first two new Scrub Jays I have seen this season are on the reed fence. They are easy to distinguish from their elders with their dark gray heads and lack of white eyebrows and they look scrawny and long-legged like newborn colts. As I am taking note of some of these differences between them and their parents, one of them leaps a foot and a half into the air and, with the greatest of expertise, fields an insect! Such marvelous coordination! This youngster's bill is still substantially smaller than that on an adult.

A female Robin flies in with a beakful of something and looks wistfully at me to let me know she needs raisins and there are none. Before I do her bidding I must first check her load. She has a brown leaf with 2 or 3 green caterpillars on it and an insect of some sort. I go out with the raisins. She rearranges her load to include dessert and flies off to her young ones.

A female House Sparrow comes to our neighbor's house with a cabbage butterfly. Her mate is on guard on the rooftop and as she approaches he flutters his wings and makes sounds like a nestful of baby birds! She slips unobtrusively into the nest to feed her brood and leaves quickly with a fecal sack--good economy to have a load both coming and going.

A brilliant flash of vibrant orange swoops down low over our back yard and to the top of the pine behind our fence. I sense an air of urgency in his manner as I admire the jewel-tone beauty of this male Kestrel. He had swooped low over the area where the House Finches are served sunflower seeds. Sometimes there are seventy or more eating there. This is triple the number we would normally see and perhaps they are here because of drought-caused shortages in their natural foods. Perhaps that is why the Kestrel is here--lack of food to feed the mice and small birds he planned on for himself and his family. Perhaps it is partially a road-widening operation. The bulldozers have cleared all vegetation from a substantial part of his area--no cover for mice, grasshoppers and other insects--no life left there at all to sustain him. All his careful planning has gone for naught and now he has to find other sources of food for himself and his family.

Later, in the flock of House Finches, I notice one bird is walking instead of hopping. I pick up my binoculars. No wonder it's walking--it's a Brown-headed Cowbird! However, at this stage, its coloration and general appearance aren't too different from a female House Finch. I wonder if its foster parents are in that flock. Earlier in the season, I heard Lesser Goldfinch songs and mating activities from three different trees on three successive mornings followed by the ominous metallic trill of a female Cowbird each time.

One day I am utterly fascinated by a game three of the young California Thrashers are playing. It's a high-speed chase around a bushy succulent. Suddenly one stops and changes directions--or they all stop and the one I can see best stands there with his legs apart ready to go in either direction to surprise his opponents or to escape them. It's like a game that children play! Another facet of the game is when going counter-clock-wise, they nip at one certain dead flower head as they pass! Meanwhile, in the middle of their game a juvenile Rufous-sided Towhee flies into the succulent and nestles down on the top-most leafy rosette of the plant as a spectator. He, too, seems fascinated. He watches for a short time and then flies back under the nearby shrubs from whence he had come only to return in a moment as a participant! He quickly realizes he is out-classed and half runs, half flies back to the shrubs.

There is something of interest all the time during baby bird season-- a host of speckled Robins who will never look more like the thrushes they are than they do now, the little House Finches whose downy "horns" make me think of Great Horned Owls in miniature, the Juncos and the Rufous-sided Towhees who hardly bear any resemblance at all to their parents, the spritely Wrentits with their raggedy, expressive tails, the Titmice whose crests aren't much at this point, the Song Sparrow hopping around at my feet as I am placing a hummer feeder, the immature Mockingbird who runs around on the gravel flexing his wings, the Caspian Terns overhead crying in shrill tones to be fed and ever so many more. Twenty-three species of young plus adults of six more species can keep a backyard birdwatcher really jumping.

JUNE GENERAL MEETING: -- By Sheila Davies

The June meeting was also the Annual Meeting for the election of officers and was preceded by a magnificent potluck supper. After the brief Annual Meeting, the program opened with the Birdcall-of-the-Month presented by Charles Newman and Frank Allen, featuring the Ash-throated Flycatcher. This flycatcher eats flies, wasps, and beetles; Charles is fortunate to have such a valuable neighbor.

All of us who have enjoyed Jed McClellan's Plants-of-the-Month were sorry to hear that we were watching the last of this series. Jed received a standing ovation for his many interesting programs. This month's plant was a member of the barberry family, *Vancouveria Parviflora*. There are three species of the genus in California. The plant, with its delicate shooting stars, was named for George Vancouver, the captain of the "Discovery" who visited San Francisco Bay in 1792. There is a pink form and a yellow form of this "inside-out flower." (Perhaps Jed can spend his spare time putting all his programs into a book.)

Ted Chandik, naturalist at the Baylands Exhibit who is well known to Bay Area birders, presented a program on pelagic birds. Many of us aren't familiar with pelagic birds because we rarely see them from shore. To really learn about sea birds, it is necessary to go on a boat trip; however, Mr. Chandik gave us the next best thing and no one was sea sick. Among his photographs were some wonderful close-ups of seldom-seen birds such as the Fulmar and the Blue-footed Booby. The sea birds are not very colorful so we studied silhouettes to help in future field identification. Mr. Chandik told us of the many interesting adaptations of pelagic birds; for example, to get rid of salt concentrations in their bodies from salt water, the birds excrete salt from glands in their heads.

LETTERS TO THE EDITORS:

Dear Staff Members,

This is a note of appreciation for your newsletter. I don't find it easy to go to the meetings or outings but I still feel in touch with You through the newsletter. I particularly like Fran Nelson's column because good birding notes are told in an interesting and personal manner. A friend who gets another chapter's newsletter likes yours better for the same reasons I do.

Keep it up, and thank you.

Linda Wagner

You might be interested in this sidelight to our field trip to Pescadero Marsh. I told all members of our party that I was going to write it up for the editors of SEQUOIA. It's all exasperatingly true!---

Our group had dispersed around the general environs of Pescadero Marsh and Beach and Carol Kemnitz and I, feeling that we had had an

altogether good day of it, decided to wind up our birding with a stop on the Pescadero Road side of the Marsh. We parked on the shoulder approximately 1/4 mile east of Highway 1 and were watching a couple of snipe when Jerry and Georgia Perkins drove up. We were joined shortly by Wilma Rockman and within a few minutes Carol, who had a duck in the scope asked "What has a pintail but doesn't look like a pintail?"

I took the scope next, watched the duck lazily swimming in a distant pool and said it sure looked like a pintail to me except that the color was wrong. Then Wilma looked, agreed that the rear end was a pintail but the neck appeared short to her and said it looked "sick." Jerry and Georgia were equally certain that it was like no pintail they had ever seen. This duck had a decided cinnamon color to the breast. We checked our field guides--no help. Wilma produced Peter Scott's Waterfowl of the World. While there were some enticing pictures of cinnamon colored ducks with "pin" type tails, we all felt this bird was something of local derivation. Maybe we had a hybrid? Some peculiar form of eclipse plumage? Maybe it was a mutant form or some kind of albinism--it did have a faint light marking running up the neck.

We were all agreed on one thing: we had a male pintail duck that most decidedly was not a pintail duck. I decided we'd write up a description. Shape: pintail (neck somewhat short); Color: brownish with a distinct cinnamon or chestnut color at breast down to the water line, light marking up neck; Bill: shaped like pintail's but light in color; Activity:

As I was about to record other pertinent information, Carol began, "I've just thought of something...we're down in the duck hunting part of the marsh and you know, that duck moves funny (sick?) We all caught her meaning at once. That duck had not been acting like a pintail or any other living breathing duck. It moved slowly in circles. We had been decoyed! Carol made the identification. Wilma supplied the name: *Edecoy-itus Pescaderosus*." It's not a new species for Pescadero. In fact it's been there a long time. Let's hope this is one bird headed for the endangered species list.

-- Kay Moore

(4/26/76)

GUIDE BOOKLET - SAN FRANCISCO BAY

The Bay Conservation & Development Commission (BCDC) has recently issued a 56 page booklet listing 104 areas where the public may obtain access to San Francisco Bay. Copies may be obtained free at the Commission office or by mail upon request to BCDC at 30 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94102.

CLIFFORD J. DANIELS:

The untimely passing of Clifford J. Daniels on July 2, 1976, at the age of 56 is a sad loss for Sequoia Audubon Society. He served the society well for many years, both quietly behind the scenes, and as our Treasurer from 1968 to 1974. He was especially interested in the ongoing effort to save Pescadero Marsh, and after retiring as Treasurer handled much of the paperwork involved in our 1974-75 Pescadero Marsh fund raising campaign. He was also a member of the San Mateo County Branch of the American Fuchsia Society and of the Nature Conservancy.

A conservationist to the end, Cliff's will provided generous bequests both to the Nature Conservancy and to Sequoia Audubon Society's Pescadero Marsh Fund. It was his wish as well as the wish of his family and his closest friend, Sequoia Audubon Society member Harry K. Burmeister, that friends wishing to do so might make memorial contributions to Sequoia Audubon Society's Pescadero Marsh Fund, P.O. Box 5273, San Mateo, CA 94402.

BIRDING THROUGH A FRONT ROOM WINDOW -- By Byron Davies

The other afternoon, seated in my San Francisco living room with the paper and a cup of coffee, I was jolted out of my shoes by the crash and tinkle of breaking glass and by the frantic beating of wings. I had a blurred impression of yellow tarsi, a striped tail, and speckled brown and gray plumage. Eighteen thoughts were in my head at once--a hawk! is she hurt? get a towel to cover her and quiet her--nothing near but a hand towel--too small--talking to her quietly--that's stupid--a Cooper's--take it easy, Sweetie--no shotguns in this house--good grief, all the loose stuff in here--she'll hurt herself for sure, if she isn't already--get hold of Cliff--Yikes! there she goes--right across the room and back out the hole in the window.

Time is difficult to judge in cases like this, but I estimate the whole episode was over in twenty seconds, almost certainly in thirty. Her strong flight in leaving leads me to hope that she was only stunned--there were several bits of plumage about, but no sign of blood. On some of the shards of glass was a gruel-like mixture containing fresh seeds similar to those in the feeder--had she recently taken a seed-eater, and regurgitated part of her meal when she struck the window? Had she been carrying her prey, who left the seeds when they hit? There was no evidence outside the house, in support of those or any other hypotheses.

I refer to "she" because my guess at identification is Cooper's hawk, immature female--although we can't completely rule out the Sharp-shinned because of the size overlap. I only saw the tail in its fanned-out state. My length estimate of 14-16 inches is reasonable because she was at such close quarters in familiar (to me!) surroundings. I eliminate the flacons because of my general impression of shape, which suggests accipiter.

Later on, as I was cleaning up the glass, I realized that I'd forgotten to tell her that John Prime is now President.

BIRDS AND THE AIRPORT -- By Norman Fox

I recently was invited to attend a conference with Airport Management to discuss and pursue the problems related to airport safety. Birds in the airport environment provide known and unknown hazards to airplane flight.

Right now not enough information is available to isolate and act on any of the potential problems. However, many facts do stand out. For instance, there is a seasonal population of shorebirds in the thousands who live in the adjacent tidelands. Do these birds pose a potential safety hazard to airplane safety?

We have a seasonal mass population of ducks in the bay. What hazard do they pose. Serious consideration to duck hunting in these waters disturbing the usual flight patterns provide constant threat to airplane safety.

Flocking blackbirds who live north of the airport and feed on waste materials from a spice factory are part of the bird population which needs study. Other food sources such as garbage play a definite role in bird population.

Grasses are planted for dust control at the airport and birds such as the water pipit and rock dove feed on the grass seeds thus contributing to the bird population problem.

Audubon needs to keep informed, needs to participate in solving any real or threatened danger to the airplanes which provide our air transport system.

CALIFORNIA CONDOR SYMPOSIUM

A symposium on the California Condor, sponsored by the National Audubon Society, will be held on October 23, 1976, from 10-4, at the Marin County Civic Center in San Rafael.

The program will be presented by the representatives of the five agencies which make up the Condor Recovery Team. Speakers from the National Audubon Society, California Dept. of Fish and Game, the U.S. Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will be in attendance to present their agencies' roles and objectives in the Recovery Program.

To register for the symposium, please send \$2.00 (per person) to cover mailing and materials costs, your complete name and address to: Condor Symposium, National Audubon Society, George Whittell Education Center, 376 Greenwood Beach Road, Tiburon, CA 94920. Registration will be done by mail only.

U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE CONFERENCE

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in cooperation with the League of Women Voters, National Wildlife Federation, California Natural Resources Federation, National Audubon Society and the Sierra Club will conduct a conference from Friday evening, September 10, through the morning of Sunday, September 12, at Dominican College in San Rafael. Programs of the Fish and Wildlife Service will be reviewed and discussed. R. Kahler Martinson, Regional Director, FWS, will be present with others from his office in Portland.

The cost is \$35.00 per person which includes lodging for 2 nights and 5 meals. Reservations must be made by September 3. Phone your editors for further details.

AUDUBON CANYON RANCH

Golden Gate Audubon Society has made an \$800 gift to the Ranch in memory of Leonard Machlis, the late husband of Gertrude Machlis, past President of GGAS. The money is to be used to add to the Ranch's collection of books on ornithology, botany, natural history and the environment. Most of the books will be associated with the laboratory which is to be built in the new education center in Volunteer Canyon. A number of them will go to form the nucleus of a library for the use of the Research Associates at Cypress Grove. Audubon members are asked to contribute to the Library Fund or to give books to the library. Duplicates will be sold for the benefit of the fund. The basic book list was compiled by John and Kathy Kipping. The Ranch store will be able to buy the books wholesale.

Over the summer the Ranch received generous gifts from a number of clubs and organizations including the Corte Madera Woomen's Club, Northbrae Women's Club, California Alpine Club and the Tamalpais Conservation Club. The Ranch is also grateful to have received a gift from the Eldorado Foundation in support of the creation of the Education Center in Volunteer Canyon.

ACR is grateful to the late Helen Dickie of Golden Gate Audubon Society for having generously remembered the Ranch in her will. All bequests and memorials go into the Endowment Fund which must be built up if the Ranch is to enjoy the security of an assured income which will free it from the chance success of annual appeals. I hope that all the members of the Audubon branches which sponsor Canyon Ranch will leave what they can to this fund which will support the ranch, its natural beauty and programs for as long as we can forsee.

-- Stan Picher, Treasurer.

COYOTE POINT MUSEUM

An evening class series, "The Many Faces of San Mateo County," co-sponsored by the Coyote Point Museum and Canada College Community Services Division, is designed to help people read and interpret the landscape of the Peninsula. Scheduled are eight lectures on Thursday evening from 7:30--9:30 PM and two field trips on Saturdays from 9 AM--1 PM. The lecture series start on September 23 and will be held at the Captain's House, Coyote Point Park, San Mateo. The field trips are scheduled for October 23 and November 13.

Guest speakers will include Diane Conradson, San Jose State University; Tom Neison, San Francisco State University; Burt Harrell, Geologist, Cubberly High School; John Kipping, Resident Biologist Audubon Canyon Ranch; Clint Miller, San Mateo County Historical Museum. The fee is \$15.

For those people who are particularly interested in the Baylands or the seashore and who would like to share their interest and enthusiasm with others, additional training as a Museum docent will be offered. Practical, on-the-spot training will enable each participant to become a knowledgeable interpreter and thus join the Museum's active docents. Class Fee \$2. The course described above is a prerequisite for the docent classes.

The BAYLANDS docent training program will be held on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9:30 AM--12 Noon at the Captain's House. The emphasis will be on teaching and interpretive techniques as well as familiarization with the Bay habitat. The first meeting will be October 5 and will run for five weeks.

The SEASHORE docent training program will also meet on Tuesday and Thursday starting November 9 for four weeks. The meetings will be at the Captain's House from 9:30 AM--12 Noon on November 9, 16, and 23. On November 18, 30, December 2 and 4 the class will meet at the James V. Fitzgerald Marine Reserve from 12 Noon--3 PM in order to take advantage of the low tides. The emphasis will be on the plants and animals of the intertida zone plus practical interpretive techniques.

Training for Animal Docents (who work with animals at the Museum) and Foothill Docents will not begin until January 25, 1977. Because "The Many Faces of San Mateo County" will only be offered this Fall, all prospective Animal and Foothill docents must complete this class series before taking the docent training classes.

For further information or registration forms for any of these classes, please call the Coyote Point Museum (573-2595).

GREENBELT CONFERENCE - Saturday, September 11, 1976

This is a conference to show individual citizens how they can participate in open space preservation. It is sponsored by seventeen conservation organizations including Madrone Audubon, Sierra Club, Nature Conservancy, and Committee for Green Foothills.

Boalt Hall - Bancroft Way - U.C. Berkeley, 8:30 AM through lunch on Saturday, September 11. Registration \$5 and lunch \$4.

Send check to PEOPLE FOR OPEN SPACE

46 Kearny Street, Room 402

San Francisco, CA 94108

Phone 781-8729 for more details.

SEQUOIA AUDUBON SOCIETY OFFICERS, CHAIRMEN, AND DIRECTORS

Aldrich, Steve	366-3603	74 Nevada St Redwood City 94062
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	334-2851	606 Cambridge St San Francisco 94134
Fletcher, Louise	591-6804	1504 El Verano Way Belmont 94002
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
Horn, Nancy	342-9902	607 Ninth Ave San Mateo 94402
Jones, Jean	344-9339	1417 Sanchez Ave Burlingame 94010
McElhany, Amy & Ed	343-3219	1009 Laguna Ave Burlingame 94010
Metropulos, Peter	591-9898	336 Chesterton Ave Belmont 94002
Nelson, Fran & Leroy	593-7941	1035 Lassen Dr Belmont 94002
Newman, Charles	697-5601	25 Corte Alegre Millbrae 94030
Prime, John	573-5889	848 W. Hillsdale Blvd San Mateo 94403
Rathlesberger, Howard	697-6611	1795 Hunt Dr Burlingame 94010
Sauppe, Barry	349-8470	820 E. 19th Ave, #18 San Mateo 94403
Silliman, John	593-5323	264 Arundel Rd San Carlos 94070
Smith, Ruth	322-5279	1231 Hoover St Menlo Park 94025

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IF YOU ARE MOVING remember to send the SEQUOIA editors your change of address! If you are moving away from San Mateo County and wish to become a member of your new Audubon Chapter and receive their newsletter, remember to include your request to transfer your membership with your change of address to National Audubon Society. This is not done automatically but only upon specific direction from the subscriber.

The deadline for the October bulletin is September 15.

What doth it profit a man if he gains the world---and it isn't there.
--Dan O'Neill

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1009 Laguna Avenue
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2270 Summit Dr.,
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