



The Sequoia

BULLETIN OF SEQUOIA AUDUBON SOCIETY

A CHAPTER OF NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY

SAN MATEO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

Volume 26, No. 6

February, 1977

MEETINGS:

BOARD MEETING, FEBRUARY 3, THURSDAY, 7:30 PM at the home of John Silliman, 264 Arundel Road, San Carlos; just north of San Carlos Avenue about a mile west of El Camino.

Board members and committee chairmen should attend. Other members are welcome.

REGULAR MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING, FEBRUARY 10, 8:00 PM 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 in San Mateo.

Our program is entitled, "Travels of a Drop of Water," and will be presented by Clerin Zumwalt. Three routes of travel of our drop of water will be traced - the physical route via snow, ice, water - the chemical route via photosynthesis - the final route into the watershed, treatment plant, through residences and out into San Francisco Bay.

Mr. Zumwalt is a member of Marin Audubon, a director of Audubon Canyon Ranch, and is associated with Marin Municipal Water District. In the earlier years of Audubon Canyon Ranch he was the ranch naturalist and took many beautiful color photographs which are today displayed in the ranch Display Hall and also appear on some of the ranch postcards. Old time Sequoia Audubon members may recall that Zummie presented a program to us on Audubon Canyon Ranch at our March, 1968 meeting.

Frank Allen and Charles Newman are traveling thousands of miles into Mexico to obtain some new material for their Bird of the Month audio-visual presentation. They should have something outstanding for us to hear and see.

FIELD TRIPS:

FEBRUARY 5, SATURDAY, LAKE MERCED & GOLDEN GATE PARK

Meet at the boat house at Harding Park Golf Course at 8:30 AM. The leader is Enes Millar (566-6119).

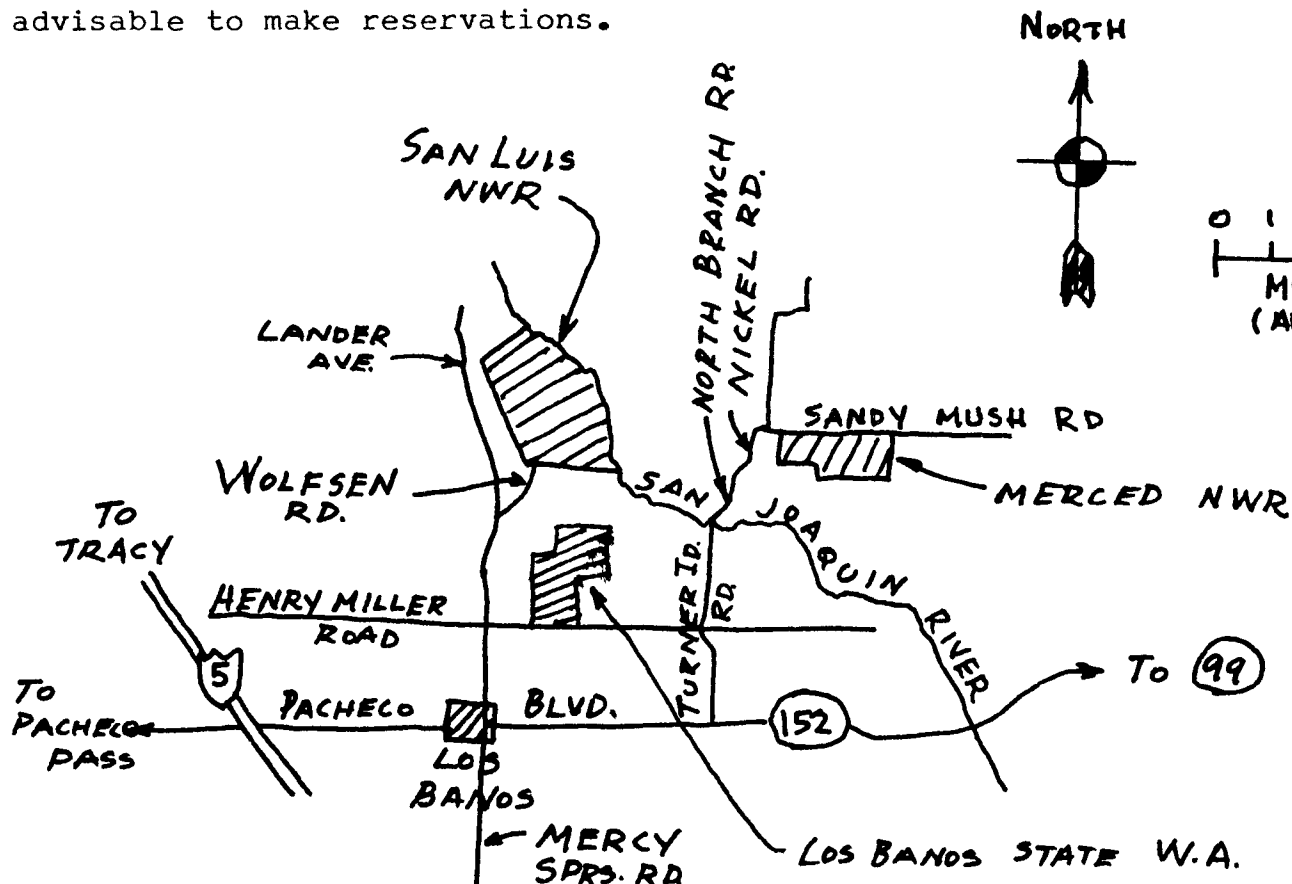
FEBRUARY 26 & 27, SATURDAY & SUNDAY LOS BANOS AREA
(Rescheduled from February 19 & 20)

On February 26 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.

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

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

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



Allow approximately 2½ hours driving time (125 miles). For further information call Jean Jones (344-9339) or Nelsons (593-7941).

MARCH 13, SUNDAY, ALUM ROCK PARK

Leader: Andy Kratter 343-2391

MARCH 26, SATURDAY, JASPER RIDGE

Leader to be announced

APRIL 2, SATURDAY SAN BRUNO MOUNTAIN

Leader: Enes Millar 566-6119

APRIL 30, SATURDAY MT. DIABLO

Leader: Jean Richmond 837-2843

MAY 7, SATURDAY, STONE & PILLARCITOS DAMS

Leader: Maryann Danielson 342-6919

MAY 14,15 SATURDAY & SUNDAY, MYSTERY TRIP

Leader: Al Bergeron 349-2960

FIELD TRIP REPORTS:

January 8, 1977 Foster City Leaders: Al Bergeron and Ron White

We has a fair day for Foster City with some 68 species being sighted. A single Redhead Duck was sighted by leader Ron White on Foster City main lake in the early AM. Unfortunately, it was not to be seen later when the group came to see it.

The "mystery bird" of the day was a carcass picked up along the edge

of Belmont Slough. It had all the characteristics of a Dowitcher EXCEPT the legs were black instead of yellow. Ron White took it to expert Ted Chandik and guess what--it was a Dowitcher. Ted says the legs darkened after death. Well, as I said earlier, it was a fair day.

Artic Loon - Horned, Eared, Western and Pied-billed Grebes - Brown Pelican - Double-cr. Cormorant - Great Blue Heron - Common and Snowy Egret - Bl.-cr. Night Heron - Mallard - Pintail - Cinnamon Teal - American Widgeon - Shoveler - Redhead Duck - Canvasback - Greater Scaup - Common Goldeneye - Bufflehead - White-winged Scoter - Surf Scoter - Ruddy Duck - Hooded Merganser - White-tailed Kite - Marsh Hawk - Sparrow Hawk - Clapper Rail - American Coot - Semipalmated and Snowy Plover - Killdeer - Black-bellied Plover - Ruddy and Black Turnstones - Long-billed Curlew - Willet - Greater Yellowlegs - Knot - Least Sandpiper - Dunlin - Short-billed Dowitcher - Western Sandpiper - Marbled Godwit - Sanderling - American Avocet - Black-necked Stilt - California, Ring-billed, Mew and Bonaparte's Gulls - Forster's Tern - Rock Dove - Mourning Dove - Burrowing Owl - Belted Kingfisher - Horned Lark - Water Pipit - Loggerhead Shrike - Starling - House Sparrow - Western Meadowlark - Brewer's Blackbird - House Finch - Savannah Sparrow - White-crowned and Song Sparrows.

CONSERVATION NEWS:

So early in the legislative year was this written that little had been started in the field of conservation in either Washington or Sacramento. The Legislature was concentrating principally on tax reduction and Congress was barely over the throes of post-election reorganization. The outlook for environmental legislation in this session of Congress appears much more hopeful than in 1976. Morris Udall is the new chairman of the Interior and Insular Affairs Committee. He hopes to get the strip mining control law, twice vetoed by the President, passed by summer. Others of his priorities are a land use policy law and a conservationist-backed law for protection of the public interest lands in Alaska - a top priority for NAS.

There is no lack of other conservation problems to be solved. At present the most important local one appears to be the proposed \$500 million Dow petrochemical complex at Pittsburg and near Collinsville on the Delta just upstream from Suisun Marsh. A permit from the Bay Area Air Pollution Control District was refused last year. This was followed by a December hearing in Sacramento before all the state boards which would have to grant permits before construction could take place. As a result, Dow will probably resubmit requests for permits. It also has an on-going suit against the Air Pollution District.

The principal objection to the plant is its further degradation of the already over-polluted air of the Bay area. This would particularly affect the agricultural area of the Delta and beyond already experiencing detrimental effects from smog. With the heavy tanker traffic generated by the plant, there would also be great danger of spills into the Bay and Delta waters with resulting devastation of the eco-systems there and, with even more serious results, in Suisun Marsh, the largest remaining wetland area in the U.S. outside of Alaska. Besides danger from the surface carriage of toxic materials, there would also be danger from a pipeline carrying them under the river at a point adjacent to the Antioch earthquake fault.

There has been cited in favor of the plant the large number of jobs that it would create. These would, however, be far in excess of all

local unemployed persons, even supposing they could all be used, which is not likely. This would mean a large influx of new population from outside the Bay area, with further air and water pollution, overcrowding and housing scarcity. It is significant that the Chemical Workers' union, the one most closely involved, is said to be opposed to the new plant because of the air pollution.

Letters expressing opposition are needed to those who will be concerned in permits for the project. They are:

Gov. Edmund G. Brown, Jr.
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

Paul Howard*
State Board of Reclamation
1416 9th Street
Sacramento, Ca 95814

State Air Resources Board
1709 11th Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Department of Water Resources } Both at
State Water Resources Control } above ad-
Board } dress.

* Yes, this is our own Paul Howard, the Audubon Western Regional Representative. He particularly needs to hear from Auduboners in his capacity as Chairman of the Board of Reclamation.

The Dow plant was one of the topics discussed at the January 8 meeting of the Bay Area Audubon Council. BAAC consists of representatives from all of the greater Bay Area Audubon chapters and meets quarterly to discuss problems and other things of general interest. Steve Aldrich, John Silliman and I represent SAS this year.

Among topics discussed January was description of the new fresh water marsh created from the reclaimed wastewater produced by the Mountain View District sewage treatment plant near Martinez. A similar marsh exists at Richardson Bay near the Wildlife Refuge.

One of the speakers was Garrett De Bell, who called himself the Curry Company "controller" for environmental affairs in Yosemite. He appears to have a good program going for environmental protection, and he asked that he be called for assistance on any problems developing concerning the environment there.

While we are all still thankful for the several fairly heavy rains of early January which finally broke the drought of the 1976-7 season, they came nowhere near filling the reservoirs either locally or elsewhere in the state. Whether or not normal rainfall continues, there will be at least some shortages carrying over from last year. It therefore behooves us all to continue doing everything we can to conserve water. Savings now will go to increase the storage needed for the usually dry summer months.

-- Ruth Smith, Conservation Chairman

BIRDING FROM MY KITCHEN WINDOW:

By Fran Nelson

Spring sounds in October? My ears must be deceiving me but, no! A female House Finch is fluttering her wings and begging to be fed just as she does when she is being courted in the spring! A bit later a male House Sparrow dances around his mate with all the attendant sounds and the bowing and scraping! Still later, a Brown Towhee and her mate are on our television antenna and she is fluttering her wings! House Sparrows are collecting sheaths from the reeds of our fence the

way they do when they are nest-building. The Anna Hummingbird is singing and doing his mating dive but that is to be expected. They are very early nesters. But what is so magical? What is in the air to inspire the others on this day? The Mockingbird is bursting into song now and then but with him it's territorial, I think. Earlier, after such a burst of song, he gave chase to another Mocker. He was making strong statements in song punctuated with loud "chups".

I always love having Wrentits around--so perky and pretty with their rich brown garb and their yellow eyes. There are two of them here now and it's fun to see first one, then the other, dashing out from beneath the shrubs for a quick bath. Then both run out together for a second dunking. How speedy and efficient they are! If I could bathe that quickly, I'd save a week every year!

Now the rain is falling softly. Some fluttering in the birch tree catches my eye. It takes binoculars to tell that it is an Anna Hummer! It's usually easy enough to tell a hummingbird because who else is that tiny? But this one doesn't look that tiny. This one hadn't looked the right size to be anyone I know! It's an unbelievable sight! All his body feathers are fluffed out. His wings are extended about 45 degrees from his body. His position is horizontal with his tail straight out from his back. His head is pointed upward and he is moving it from side to side much in the way he does when he sings. He pivots from time to time as smoothly as if he were a wind-up mechanical toy! When he is turned so that his tail is toward me, it looks like two fluffy white powder puffs under it! All the while his whole little body is vibrating! He is not shaking, flapping his wings and taking the usual kind of bath at all! This quivering, cleansing operation goes on for quite a long time with time out only to guard his feeder

The rain has stopped--a good time to replenish the baths and add some seeds. About the time I am back inside, I begin to notice a lot of small insects. They are very fluttery--sort of like little moths. They become more numerous very quickly and have made flycatchers out of nearly all the birds in our yard! And then another amazing sight is added to this amazing day! There is a dense up-welling of these insects--many, many thousands! They are coming up from behind the fence of the house next door to ours and all from within this one span of fence! How I wish for a sudden up-welling of knowledge so I could know what I am seeing! I focus my binoculars on one individual of tens of thousands only to have it snatched from my by a female House Sparrow! All the birds are having a feast! If I only had a net--even the most inept couldn't miss with the air as full of them as it is! But wait! Here on my window-sill is one of these creatures who has kindly given himself up as a specimen. Must have come in on my clothing and he is definitely injured. He's very drab--looks a lot like an ant with two pairs of translucent wings. A feeling of horror comes over me! What if they are termites?

A call to one of my always helpful friends at the Coyote Point Museum--she knows immediately that they are indeed termites. She quickly dispels all my fears that our house is about to come tumbling down around me by telling me that this is a species that lives in damp, buried wood. They come up out of the ground after a rain and strike out to form new colonies. The knowledge that they are not the ones who want to share our dwelling, until it collapses, makes this a thoroughly enjoyable and interesting experience to say nothing of enlightening.

All this and 25 species of birds in one day! Who needs more than

a good kitchen window?

AUDUBON CANYON RANCH is a 1000-acre wildlife sanctuary and education center located on Bolinas Lagoon three miles north of Stinson Beach on State Highway 1. It is open to the public on weekends and holidays from March 1 through July 4 each year. Special visits may be arranged by phoning the Ranch, 383-1644. The Ranch is sponsored by Golden Gate, Marin and Sequoia Audubon Societies. In 1969 the Ranch was designated by the U.S. Department of the Interior as a Registered Natural Landmark.

NEWS FROM THE RANCH -- By Betty Boyd

News for this issue is somewhat scant. A great deal of time has been spent by staff and volunteers in formulating plans for the Indian exhibit to be installed at the Main Ranch and for new additions to the educational center at Volunteer Canyon.

Research Associates at Audubon-Cypress Grove were saddened when they found just a short month after its release, the immature Black-crowned Night Heron. It had been seen from time to time feeding at low tide and catching an occasional frog in a nearby pond--but it was still unable to achieve any sustained upward flight.

The following memorials have been received by the Ranch: from Joy Sheets in memory of Dr. Leo Stanley, from Mr. & Mrs. John R. Barnard in memory of Joseph C. Brewster, from Mr. & Mrs. Thomas E. Welsh in memory of Mrs. Harry B. Allen, from Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Price in memory of Mrs. Harry B. Allen.

Audubon Ranch is most grateful to the following persons whose names have been added to the list of its Sponsors--friends who have contributed \$800 or more to the Ranch: Constance A. Park, Mrs. Marron Kendrick, Dewey Donnell, Mr. & Mrs. Everett Carpenter, Mrs. Starr Bruce

The Ranch is also grateful to the following organizations which have recently made generous contributions: Morrow Bay Audubon Society, San Leandro Garden Club, Beresford Garden Club, Oak Knoll Garden Club.

The Ranch is especially grateful to Mr. Frank Campini who recently made a gift to the Endowment Fund and to Eleanor Evans Crum who made the Ranch a very special gift at Christmas time.

CHRISTMAS COUNTS:

My thanks goes out to all those hardy souls who participated in the counts this year. A certificate of valor, perseverance and courage should be awarded to anyone who participated on the Año Nuevo count. Torrential rains and winds up to at least forty-five miles per hour greeted us on count day. Amazingly enough we managed to get 151 species. Under those weather conditions that is a remarkable showing. Some of the more interesting species seen that day are as follows: Red-necked Grebe, American Bittern, Rough-legged Hawk, Merlin! Golden Plover! Thayer's Gull, Ancient Murrelet, Rhinoceros Auklet, Dipper, Violet-Green Swallow, and Lark Sparrow. There were also ten in count period birds. In count period includes the three days before and the three days after the count.

The Crystal Springs count had a pretty good showing of birds this year. A grand total of 177 species were observed this fine day. There were also fifteen in count period species. Maybe next year we can top 190 species. Some of its interesting birds were: Northern Fulmar, American Bittern, Cattle Egret, Black Brant, Blue-winged Teal, Eurasian Wigeon! Barrow's Goldeneye, Oldsquaw, Black Scoter, Common Merganser,

Golden Eagle, Golden Plover! Lesser Yellowlegs, Thayer's Gull, Ancient Murrelet, Marbled Murrelet, Common Crow, House Wren, Palm Warbler! Evening Grosbeak, Red Crossbill and White-throated Sparrow. The best bird on this count was an Elegant Tern!! This bird is fairly common in the fall, but very rare in the winter.

Next year I would like to see more people counting at bird feeders. Perhaps we could start a bird feeder campaign. Believe it or not, some of the rarest birds show up at bird feeders, and hummingbird feeders. Other bird counts in the Bay Area have numerous feeders watched on count day. And as a result they get four or five species at feeders that are missed by everyone else in the field.

Thank you again for participating on one or both of the counts this year. I hope to see you again next year.

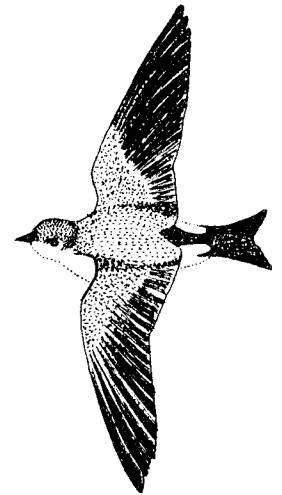
-- Compiler, Barry Sauppe

PESCADERO MARSH RANGER REPORT:

January was the month when the marsh finally received an appreciable amount of rainfall. In fact, Butano Creek and Pescadero Creek flooded at their confluence due to a persistent buildup of sand at the mouth of Pescadero Creek. This was unfortunate for some nearby artichoke fields but served to increase the waterfowl habitat.

I have added signs around the marsh perimeter which has apparently paid off because this year I have not encountered any "confused" hunters and it looks like the waterfowl will have a happy new year.

Bird species remain about the same as last reported in the January issue with one delightful addition, the Violet-green Swallow (depicted by sketch). These birds have come to the marsh in great numbers and are a sight to behold. They move so quickly and with such unbelievable agility you feel you are watching some miniature air show being performed on your behalf.



-- John Hart
State Park Ranger

SUMMER JOBS:

Applications by high school and college students for 3 to 12-week conservation jobs in national parks and forests next summer are due by March 1st. For information and applications, write to: Student Conservation Association, P.O. Box 550, Charlestown, N.H. 03603.

(Audubon Leader)

GARDENING FOR BIRDS:

Gardening for birds has a double advantage: you can increase the local bird population and enhance your own environment at the same time. The gardener who wants to attract more birds must always keep in mind the three necessities:

FOOD, COVER, WATER

Food. You can provide extra food for birds by stocking a tray with wild bird seeds and hanging hummingbird feeders. However, if you entice

birds by providing extra food, you must maintain the supply constantly, even if in small amounts. The birds may come to depend on your supply and will suffer if you go to Mexico for a month. Seed trays should be kept clean because droppings from a sick bird could infect the rest of your visitors. Hummingbird feeders also must be kept clean and free from mold.

If it is not possible for you to keep a constant supply of extra food, it is far better to landscape with plants that will do the job for you. Abstain from the use of pesticides and let the birds help you control insects.

Water. It is very easy to supply birds with water and they need it year round for drinking and bathing. Containers for water must be shallow and the inside surface must be non-glazed to prevent slipping. I keep several containers filled with water in my garden: a big one for Robins, and smaller ones for smaller bathers. The undisputed favorite is a simple clay saucer which is only about one inch deep, just about as high as a White-crown's tummy. Shallow bonsai pots are attractive in a garden and also good for water because the inside is not glazed. As with seed trays, water containers should be kept clean.

Cover. Landscape designers are turning away from large expanses of smooth lawns which require lots of care and water, and are using instead the wide variety of native plants. Many native plants are drought-tolerant and need little care, making them particularly valuable for background planting. This change in design philosophy is more compatible with birds' needs. Birds will not venture into large open spaces; they must have cover within easy range when danger threatens.

Several birds successfully foraging in a garden encourage other birds to come and try their luck. Once birds discover that you have given them FOOD, COVER, and WATER, you will have so many interesting birds to observe that you will neglect your garden. But with a good base of native plants, the neglect won't be apparent and the gardener and the birds will have a happy relationship.

-- Sheila Davies

NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY CONVENTION:

All Audubon members and their families are invited to attend the 1977 National Audubon Society Convention. The Convention will be held at YMCA of the Rockies, Estes Park, Colorado on June 9-12, 1977. (Thursday-Sunday.) National Audubon has reserved rooms at YMCA of the Rockies. Rates are in the range of \$34 for children and \$54/\$72 for adults with an option of reductions for June 10 arrival. Rates include meals and lodging. Deadline for reservations is March 9. There is an additional charge of \$15 per person for registration.

There are also some housekeeping cabins, motels in Estes Park and campgrounds in nearby Rocky Mountain National Park.

Many optional field trips have been arranged from night star gazing and natural history hikes at no charge to a 3-day river rafting expedition on the Platte River at \$165 per person.

The program commences on Friday evening with an address by National Audubon president Elvis Stahr and continues through Sunday afternoon with adjournment at 5:00 PM. Workshops include Lobbying, State Audubon Councils, Chapter Program, Education, Alaska, Strip-Mining, Clean Air Act, Bottle Legislation, Water Pollution Control, Coastal Zone and Land Use Planning.

Aside from the exciting aspect of the official program and field trips, here is an opportunity to meet socially with Audubon people from

all over the United States and possibly from other countries also. It will be a thrilling and worthwhile experience.

Phone your editors (343-3219) and we will arrange to have a descriptive brochure sent to you.

JANUARY BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING:

The board of directors of Sequoia Audubon held their regular meeting on January 6.

An anonymous gift of \$200 has been received. It was voted to contribute half of this contribution to San Diego Audubon to help in their project for enlargement of their Silverwood Wildlife Sanctuary.

A. E. "Monty" Montgomery, the chairman of our new Finance Committee made his first report. Sequoia reserve funds are presently deposited in Savings and Loan banks and it was suggested they be left there for the time being.

A booklet listing the plants of Pescadero Marsh was displayed. This booklet was recently published by the Santa Cruz City Museum and California Native Plant Society. Our friend Bill Anderson is a co-author. We will try to obtain additional copies for distribution.

JANUARY GENERAL MEETING:

Ron White presented his booklet "Marshflat Heritage Trail," text and illustrations by Ron and Marnie White, edited by Al Bergeron and Marcia Stump. This is a delightful, comprehensive nature guide for the sights and sounds to be encountered on the marsh trail in Foster City.

Something new and different: An autographed print of Guy Coheleach's Red Shafted Flicker was raffled off. John Silliman sold the raffle tickets (\$34.50 worth to be turned over to the Lindquist/Krueger Rehabilitation Program) and Mae Varni from Daly City was chosen from the audience to select the winning ticket from the box. It cost me every cent I had in my wallet to produce \$1 for three tickets but I won the print!

Our speaker, Lyman Fancher is a bridge tender for the Southern Pacific on the Dumbarton railroad bridge just a mile south of the mouth of Mowry Slough. This is a good place for seal watching and Lyman takes full advantage of it as he prepares his thesis on Harbor Seals for his Master's degree at Cal State at Hayward. Although he takes many of his pictures while wearing a wet suit and although he has constructed a blind in Mowry Slough, the Harbor Seals are wary and elusive; pictures are taken from a distance. Individuals are hard to identify, they are invariably covered with mud.

Except for about 25 residents, the seals appear at the slough in late January. The biggest and strongest males seek the spot containing the largest number of females. Implantation is delayed for three months and gestation takes 9 months so it is a year before the baby seal is born. The pups are born with black coats which change to mottled silver as they grow. The parent pinnipeds take the pups up smaller sloughs or inlets to teach them to hunt and swim. While the pups are still small they ride on mother's back hanging on with claws and flippers, but the mother is careful not to stay submerged too long hunting for food. They are opportunistic feeders, they feed on the bottom as well as the surface. By late August they are gone until the next spring.

The seals must haul out frequently but they seem uneasy, are constantly on the alert and never get far from their security, the water. Sea lions have reversible flippers which enable them to maneuver

satisfactorily on land but seals do not. They are very inefficient on land. One of the most amusing scenes from the movie was a picture of one of the Harbor Seals clumsily flopping and scrunching around until he had himself in position to sli-i-i-ide down a mud bank into the water!

-- Amy McElhany

RAPTOR REHABILITATION PROGRAM:

Max Krueger plans to bring a visitor to our February 10 meeting-- the young Harris Hawk who has been their boarder recently. As reported in the January SEQUOIA, Max and Cliff need a name for their friend and have asked Sequoia members to come forth with suggestions. Phone your editors (343-3219).

CALIFORNIA FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS:

CFO will hold their second annual convention in Monterey on Washington's Birthday weekend (February 19, 20, 21). The meeting starts on Saturday morning (Feb. 19) with a series of papers and slide shows with time out for lunch and dinner and continues in the evening with a slide presentation on shore birds and gulls by Will Russell. On Sunday there will be a boat trip lead by Rich Stallcup and on Monday morning a field trip to Moss Landing and the Salinas River mouth.

Phone Susanne Luther at 339-0986 for details.

POINT REYES BIRD OBSERVATORY:

PRBO has scheduled a series of weekend field trips lead by Rich Stallcup. Fee is \$25 per weekend except for the Monterey Bay trips for which it is \$45.

February 5-6 WINTER WATERFOWL OF CALIFORNIA - The Coast

Two days studying winter visiting water birds at Bolinas Lagoon, Tomales and Drakes Bay. Differentiation in hard-to-identify groups will also be emphasized.

February 26-27 WINTER WATERFOWL OF CALIFORNIA - The Central Valley

Two days studying water birds at Gray Lodge State Wildlife Management Area, the Feather River at Oroville, Lake Oroville and the Sacramento National Wildlife refuge. We will probably see huge numbers of ducks, geese, cranes and swans. Fee includes indoor camping Saturday night.

March 12-13 WINTER WATERFOWL OF CALIFORNIA - The Great Basin

Two full days at Honey Lake in the cold and lovely sagebrush desert. We will see large numbers of waterfowl on the Honey Lake State Wildlife Management Area and will see numerous hawks, eagles, and other bird species. We will witness the ancient and awesome dancing of the Sage Grouse. Fee includes two nights of indoor camping.

March 5-6, June 4-5, August 27-28, October 22-23

THE BIRDS OF MONTEREY BAY

We will spend Saturday working the lagoons, breakwaters, river mouths, dunes, harbors and rocky shores from Moss Landing to Asilomar. Sunday will be an all day pelagic trip to and beyond the continental shelf and north to the Monterey Submarine Canyon. Emphasis both days will be on the identification and behavior of shore and marine birds. We should see many other animals including possibly several species of marine mammals. Food and Saturday's lodging are the responsibility of each person.

Write PRBO Natural Excursions, 4990 Shoreline Highway, Stinson Beach,

California 94970 for further information.

NATURE EXPEDITIONS INTERNATIONAL:

SHOREBIRDS OF CALIFORNIA - Ted Chandik - Fee \$20.

Lectures: March 10, 24 7:30 PM-10PM Mountain View Community Center
Field Trips: March 19, 26 8:00 AM-2:00 PM.

MARINE BIRDS OF CALIFORNIA - Ted Chandik - Fee \$12

Lectures: March 31, April 7, 14 7:30 PM-10:00 PM Mountain View Com.Cen.

FIELD TRIP TO FARALLON ISLANDS - Ted Chandik or Bob Hansen - Fee \$22.
April 16, 17, 23, 24 7:00 AM to 4:00 PM From San Francisco.

Phone 941-2910 for details.

NEI offers many fascinating field trips, expeditions and classes.
Ask to be put on their mailing list.

COYOTE POINT MUSEUM: (Phone: 573-2595)

The January-February COYOTE TALES lists many interesting classes and trips among which the following seem especially attractive:

February 5 - JUNK IS FOR THE BIRDS - How to recycle empty cans, bottles, containers into bird feeders.

February 26 - LET'S TAKE A WALK - A three-mile guided hike in the watershed.

March 12 - A WALK IN THE WOODS - Maryann Danielson leads a 5-mile hike from Lake Pilarcitos to Stone Dam.

MARINE ECOLOGICAL INSTITUTE:

Sign-ups are now being taken for "A Fish Eye View of the Bay", a docent-training course beginning February 2 at the Marine Ecological Institute. MEI docents help prepare classes for Discovery Voyages aboard the Institute's 85-ft. ship, the R.V. "Inland Seas", sharing their knowledge about the Bay, their enthusiasm and concern about its possible uses and misuses.

The training program combines field trips with lectures to provide the docents with an overview of the ecology of San Francisco Bay. Included are trips to the Bay/Delta Model in Sausalito, the Palo Alto Baylands, and Leslie Salt, and lectures on Bay area geology by Dr. Kenneth LaJoie of the U.S. Geological Survey and Bay fishes by Dr. Robert Hassur of San Jose State.

The course fee is \$25, and further information may be obtained by calling Karen Keefer or Deborah Helms at 364-2760.

SAN MATEO GARDEN CENTER - PLANT SALE:

The Garden Center will have a plant sale on May 14. They need donations of such things as containers for herbs and dish gardens, wire or macrame baskets, plant stands, drift wood, bird feeders, Bonsai materials, moss, herbs, trees, shrubs, orchids, books. Contact Eila Fox (343-1406).

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 transfer is not made auto-

matically but only upon specific direction from the subscriber. Unless you notify us that you want to continue to receive THE SEQUOIA, we shall not send it to your out of San Mateo County address.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

- February 3 - Board Meeting at Silliman Residence
- 5 - Field Trip to Lake Merced, Golden Gate Park
- 10 - Regular Monthly Meeting at Garden Center
- 26 & 27 - Field Trip to Los Banos
- March 3 - Board Meeting
- 10 - Regular Monthly Meeting at Garden Center
- 13 - Field Trip to Alum Rock Park
- 26 - Field Trip to Jasper Ridge

Call Pearl Morgenstern (341-2510) for information about car pooling on field trips.

Birds do not sing because they have an answer. They sing because they have a song.

THE SEQUOIA February, 1977
Sequoia Audubon Society
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