



The Sequoia

BULLETIN OF SEQUOIA AUDUBON SOCIETY

A CHAPTER OF NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY

SAN MATEO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

Volume 26, No. 9

May, 1977

MEETINGS:

BOARD MEETING, MAY 5, 7:30 PM at the home of President John Prime, 848 West Hillsdale Boulevard in San Mateo. Board members and committee chairmen should attend. Other members are welcome.

REGULAR MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING, MAY 12, THURSDAY, 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 will be an illustrated talk by Bob Rutherford, President of the Marine Ecological Institute, "How to Build a Program for Marine Science." M.E.I. is a private, non-profit organization founded as an environmental center to obtain and disseminate objective information about San Francisco Bay principally through research and education. Field trips are conducted aboard the Institute's 85-foot research vessel, The Inland Seas, for school students from 4th grade through college and other interested groups. Trained instructors are aboard but student participation is encouraged. Enthusiasm is contagious as the "secrets" of salt water ecology are revealed. Mr. Rutherford will explain the "workings" of this center in Redwood City which, since its founding in June 1970 has become a valuable source of information and inspiration to serious students of marine biology and a source of fascination to all who have participated in its field trips.

Frank Allen and Charles Newman will have more "sounds" for us in the Bird-of-the-Month series.

FIELD TRIPS::

For field trip ride sharing phone Pearl Morgenstern at 341-2510.

The STONE AND PILARCITOS DAMS Field Trip scheduled for Saturday, May 7 has been cancelled due to drought conditions.

MAY 14 and 15 MYSTERY TRIP

Details and registration form appeared in the April SEQUOIA. Al Bergeron tells us there are still a few vacancies. Phone him at 349-2960.

JUNE 4, SATURDAY, AUDUBON CANYON RANCH

Meet at Audubon Canyon Ranch at 10:00 AM. The Ranch is located on Shoreline Highway (Route #1) about three miles north of Stinson Beach.

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

If you find you are early there is interesting birding on Bolinas Lagoon shortly before reaching the Ranch. Bring a picnic lunch to be eaten in the picnic area at the Ranch.

The leader will be A. E. "Monty" Montgomery. Phone: 344-4249.

FIELD TRIP REPORTS:

Jasper Ridge, March 26, 1977

Approximately 45 Birder-Botanists were escorted from 9:00 AM until 3:30 PM by the Docents and proceeded to explore the biological reserves of Stanford University. The weather was perfect and it couldn't have been a more beautiful day for our field trip. Our Life Bird for the day was the Blue-gray Gnatcatcher. Our docents informed us that they nested in the Jasper Ridge area.

70 species were counted on this trip: Horned and Pied-billed Grebe - Double-cr. Cormorant - Great Blue Heron - Common and Snowy Egrets - Mallard - Gadwall - Cinnamon Teal - American Widgeon - Ring-necked Duck - Canvasback - Ruddy Duck - Turkey Vulture - Sharp-shinned, Cooper's and Red-tailed Hawks - Sparrow Hawk - California Quail - American Coot - Killdeer - Greater Yellowlegs - Band-tailed Pigeon - Mourning Dove - Anna's and Allen's Hummingbirds - Red-shafted Flicker - Acorn Woodpecker - Yellow-bellied Sapsucker - Downy Woodpecker - Black Phoebe - Violet-green, Tree, Rough-winged and Barn Swallows - Steller's and Scrub Jays - Chestnut-backed Chickadee - Plain Titmouse - Common Bushtit - White-breasted Nuthatch - Wrentit - Bewick's and Long-billed Marsh Wren - California Thrasher - Robin - Hermit Thrush - Western Bluebird - Blue-gray Gnatcatcher - Ruby-crowned Kinglet - Starling - Orange-crowned and Audubon's Warbler - Yellowthroat - House Sparrow - Western Meadowlark - Red-winged Blackbird - Brewer's Blackbird - House Finch - Pine Siskin - American and Lesser Goldfinch - Rufous-sided and Brown Towhee - Oregon Junco - White-crowned, Golden-crowned, Fox and Song Sparrows.

CONSERVATION NEWS:

The aftermath of the Dow Chemical Company's withdrawal of its plans for a petrochemical plant near Suisun Marsh may prove almost more disastrous for the state than the original proposal. Heeding the outcries of business and labor interests over the Dow matter, the state administration is planning legislation that would seriously weaken the environmental protection laws now in force by making agencies such as air resources and water quality protection, the Coastal Commission and the Fish and Game Department merely advisory, with all the power for approval of industrial siting given to three top administrative officials.

Governor Brown's excuse for this about-face in his policies is that he has heard no protests from environmentalists. Their silence has also been noted by some of the legislators who helped pass the environmental protection laws. Unless they let both legislators and the governor know their opinions, those who supported reasonable protection of air and water quality, and conservation of all natural resources, may see all of their work go for naught.

Another postscript to Dow and one that might prove more successful is the recent proposal by the Atlantic Richfield Co. (Arco) to build an even larger petrochemical plant next to the now-abandoned Dow site on the Sacramento River in Solano County. However, a second possibility has also been mentioned of locating the plant in Southern California. Which-ever site is chosen, there was a slightly heartening statement from Arco that it will not try to build if it cannot meet the State's air pollu-

tion standards, but nothing was mentioned about water pollution and oil spills, which could be an even worse hazard for the Bay area location.

Otherwise, there has been little change in the environmental legislative scene in Sacramento since last month. SB 4, the Beverage Container Recycling Act, was scheduled for a hearing April 18 before the Senate Finance Committee. The early April hearing for SB 68, the used oil recycling bill, was postponed and no new date set. Senator Alquist was making no attempt to move his similar bill, SB 160. SB 345, repealing the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act is before the Senate Agriculture and Water Resources Committee, but no hearing date was set as of mid-April.

SB193, the business-supported agricultural lands bill, was scheduled for a hearing before the Senate Governmental Organization Committee on April 26, while its companion bill, AB 293, was before the Assembly Resources, Land Use and Energy Committee but with no hearing date set. Assemblyman Warren's bill creating a prime agricultural land preserve system was also before the same committee with no scheduled hearing. The departure of Mr. Warren for Washington has left the bill for the present without a sponsor, and it is questionable whether one can be found who will work as devotedly for its passage as Mr. Warren did last year.

The news from Washington is not too promising. The House passed the Water Pollution Control Act amendments which removed the Corps of Engineers' jurisdiction (under Section 404) over a major part of the nation's wetlands, including thousands of acres in the Bay area. The bill was then attached to the Public Works bill funding needed sewage treatment plant construction and sent to conference with the Senate. It is possible the Senate will stand firm and work out some reasonable compromise.

Senator Cranston and California Representative John Krebs introduced bills - S. 88 and HR 1771 - transferring Mineral King (which the Disney interests still want to develop) to the National Park System by adding it to Sequoia Park.

Our own Representative McCloskey has recently introduced a bill which should help solve the killing of porpoises by tuna fishermen. The bill would require an observer on practically every American tuna boat and would prohibit importation of tuna caught by foreign boats without observers. It has been found that the porpoise kill can be minimal when boats carry government observers.

In an endeavor to save Redwood National Park from destruction by continued logging on adjacent lands, Representative Phillip Burton has introduced legislation to authorize purchase of some 74,000 acres of adjacent lands to protect the key redwood areas. The administration has also set expansion of this park as a highest priority goal and planned to introduce its own legislation by April 15.

BIRDING FROM MY KITCHEN WINDOW -- by Fran Nelson

A Robin is sitting on the baffle looking down at the raisin area. I try to control my impulse to run out with a few raisins because I may not be able to keep the supply coming considering crop failures and prices. Naturally, controlling my impulse is a losing battle and when I go out the Robin stays on the baffle. This has to be a Robin who knows me! Back up in the kitchen -- I keep noticing that she hasn't gone down for the raisins. She just sits there with her bill pointed upward and frequently she turns her head and looks at me. Has she just stopped by

to say hello? I pick up my binoculars and suddenly realize this is a very special friend who has returned!

This is the Robin who sat day after day last summer on our baffle at the place where the pyracantha we planted on the front side meets the holly planted by a bird on the back side. It was quite a secure place for a bird who had just lost one eye. I suspect a gun artist caused this severe handicap for a creature who desperately needs all faculties for survival. Having only one eye is bad enough for a human being with both eyes facing front but it must be infinitely more difficult for a bird who has its eyes placed on the sides of its head. I figured the wound could not have been caused by a fight because there wasn't a feather out of place -- just one small wound which took out one eye. She would leave her secluded spot long enough to eat a few raisins when it looked safe enough to do so. After she recovered enough to be moving around more, she would come to the baffle, turn her left eye toward me, always with her head tilted upward, and I would run out with raisins and currants for her.

Time passed, and instead of eating the raisins, she carried them off! I was sure that nesting responsibilities would surely mean the end of her. How could she possibly take care of herself and help defend and feed a young brood? I watched for her each day. She was easy enough to spot because of the way she held her head and the way she had to keep moving to best see all around her.

One day she appeared with a young one by her side and she poked raisins down its throat. How I gloried in her success! It soon became obvious to me that she and her young one spent a lot of time hiding in the *Xylosma senticosa*. When I would go out with raisins for other birds who came for them, she and her youngster would appear immediately! Imagine my joy when she appeared with three young ones trailing after her! I watched with unbelieving eyes as she fed them!

After a heavy moult and just about the same time as most of the other Robins left, she, too, disappeared. And now, she is back! Somehow, we must keep the raisins coming to her! For what does she know of crop failures and inflationary prices? Most friendships are give-and-take affairs and a few raisins isn't very much to give!

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.

Sequoia Audubon host duty at the Ranch commenced on April 16 and will continue each Saturday and Sunday through May 22. Four persons are required during this time to greet visitors, provide directions and to answer such questions as they can. Visitors are pleasant, interested and interesting. They and the Ranch environment combine to make host duty a real fun experience. There is plenty of spare time for the hosts to visit the heronry and see the spectacular heron and egret nests in the tops of the redwoods. The bookstore is an interesting place in which to browse as is the adjacent display hall. Call Shirley Sampson at 591-8046 and sign up for host duty. Hosts should plan to arrive shortly before the

opening time of 10:00 AM and will be free to leave about 4:00 PM. The drive from Burlingame takes about an hour and a half.

NEWS FROM THE RANCH -- from Betty Boyd

Spring is not just around the corner. Spring is here! The Ranch is a beehive of activity. The hills are green; wildflowers are in bloom and overhead the Heronry is a place of great activity. During the week bus loads of eager school children arrive and have their fill under the able guidance of the docents of the Volunteer Council, while on weekends visitors arrive from nearby and faraway areas.

Preparations are now under way for Marin Audubon's annual barbecue held on Mothers' Day, Sunday, May 8, for the benefit of the Ranch. Don't delay in sending your reservation with check to Marstin Tallant at 30 Scenic Avenue, San Anselmo, 94960.

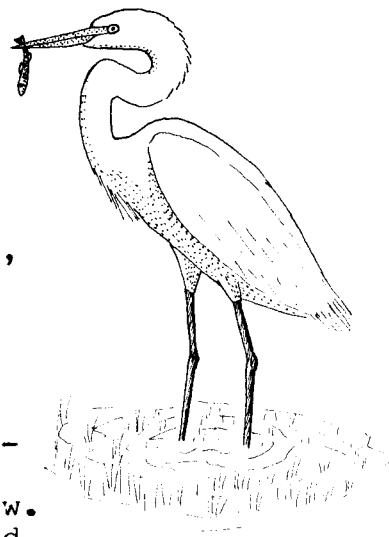
PESCADERO MARSH RANGER REPORT By State Park Ranger, John Hart

Spring has officially arrived at the marsh, bringing with it the usual brilliance of color in both the flora and the avifauna. At this time of the year the marsh has its expected change in rating from "G" to "X" and, as is customary, the north lagoon is closed to the public from March 16 to September 1 to allow Mother Nature her needed privacy.

Birds present in the marsh now include the following: American avocet, American bittern, Brewer's and red-winged blackbird, bufflehead, coot, dowitcher, ruddy duck, common and snowy egret, eared and pied-billed grebe, marsh and red-tailed hawk, great blue heron, killdeer, white-tailed kite, mallard, red-breasted merganser, western sandpiper, surf scoter, song sparrow, barn, rough-winged and violet-green swallow, cinnamon teal, black turnstone, willet, long-billed marsh wren and greater yellowlegs.

The common egret is readily seen in the marsh now. It was during its mating period in the late 1800's and early 1900's that this bird was once hunted for its long white plumes (aigrettes) as adornments for women's headwear. The common egret was hunted to near extinction and for several years the National Association of Audubon Societies employed guards to protect the few remaining breeding colonies.

Such lamentable atrocities are best expressed by William Beebe, "The beauty and genius of a work of art may be reconceived, though its first material expression be destroyed; a vanished harmony may yet again inspire the composer, but when the last individual of a race of living things breathes no more, another heaven and another earth must pass before such a one can be again."



ANO NUEVO RANGER REPORT

Miriam Guthartz and Mike Bradeen,
State Park Rangers

Elephant seal season is over at Ano Nuevo State Reserve and the whole reserve is now open for birders, picnickers and everyone else from 8:00 AM until sunset. Seal season was very successful this year; we had almost 200 elephant seals visit the mainland, where 16 pups were born. The island had over 800 pups born and had a total

elephant seal population of about 1,500 animals. We gave seal tours to about 40,000 people between December and March but unfortunately many thousands of people were turned away from this marvelous opportunity.

Many birds have been seen on the Reserve lately. Besides the usual Marsh Hawks, White-tailed Kites, White-crowned Sparrow, etc., we've noticed Barn Swallows, Violet Green Swallows, Harlequin Ducks (spotted at Ano Nuevo Point) and several hundred Brandt Cormorants.

The spring wildflowers are in bloom -- purple searocket, golden poppies, yellow mustard and sweet-smelling yellow sand verbenas to name just a few. The reserve is a beautiful place this time of year with its great variety of wildlife.

APRIL GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Frank Allen started off the meeting with a two-minute unedited tape recorded at a roadside stop near San Blas, Mexico. We heard a great variety of birdcalls (and some human conversation, too) including Elegant Quail, Blue Mockingbird and Streaked-backed Oriole. Frank then presented his Bird-of-the Month, the Rufous-sided Towhee. We heard the recorded calls and saw some excellent slides including a nest with young.

Paul Howard, National Audubon Western Regional Representative, commenced his presentation with some general observations. In 1968, Paul moved to Sacramento to relocate the regional office from Los Angeles. At that time National Audubon had 6,000 members in California and 19 chapters in 14 western states. In making his forecast for office facilities, Paul estimated that in 10 years there could be 10,000 members in California. Today, counting family memberships as one, there are in California, 47 chapters and 37,000 members. In the past five years National membership has increased from 158,000 to 365,000.

Paul commented on the good work Sequoia Chapter has done at Pescadero Marsh and thanked us for our support of Audubon objectives.

In the past nine years Paul has visited Alaska once or twice each year but he does not claim to be an expert on Alaska. (He defines an expert as a person from out of town with slides.) It is almost impossible to describe the size of the State of Alaska. Its 566,432 square miles ranks it far and away number one in area, over twice the area of Texas and nearly four times the area of California. In population, however, the story is different. Of the 300,000 residents, two thirds live in its largest city, Anchorage.

On a recent trip to Alaska Paul flew in a small plane at 150 miles per hour for 10 or 12 hours each day for two weeks at altitudes of from 50 to 150 feet from the ground. With slides, charts and commentary, we were taken for a tour of Alaska to demonstrate the conservationists' views on the allocation of some 83 million acres of "public interest" lands. These are federal lands remaining unallocated from various grants to the State and to the native Alaskans. By December 18, 1978 Congress must determine how these lands are to be allocated among federal agencies such as National Parks, National Monuments, National Forests, National Wildlife Ranges and Refuges, etc. Unallocated lands will revert to the Bureau of Land Management and become subject to development and exploitation within the regulations of that agency. Paul's slides showed the outstanding geologic, wildlife, and botanic features of these lands and detailed the recommendation as to their use. Some of these lands contain vital nesting areas for ducks and geese and their preservation

is vital to duck and geese populations in our own state. During the next year and a half there will be a tremendous program by many conservation organizations toward the proper distribution of this land. We must all keep informed of the progress of congressional action and support this program with letters and other exhortations to our representatives in Washington.

On July 1 Paul will become Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of National Audubon Society. We wish him and Mrs. Howard every success and happiness in this new assignment.

Cliff Lindquist introduced one of his boarders, a Turkey Vulture named Junior. Cliff estimates his (or her) age at about 3 years--young for this species. Junior weighs some 7 or 8 pounds, has a 6-foot wing span and is truly a beautiful bird. Junior was formerly a resident of the San Francisco Junior Museum and the Coyote Point Museum and is now a likely candidate for release to his natural wild habitat.

Al Bergeron announced that the following have been selected for full or partial scholarships for Audubon Workshop of the West this summer: John Hart, Su Lin Wilkins, Craig Benkman and John Trapani.

President John Prime announced the nominating committee: Eila Fox, Jean Jones, and John Silliman, and asked that members contact the committee to recommend officers for the 1977-1978 term.

The program concluded with some remarks by Chaplain Johnson of Peninsula Hospital. Chaplain Johnson said that he is an inventor on the side and displayed a folding boat as one of his more recent inventions. The boat folds flat to about the size of a folded card table. It is quickly assembled into a small craft for one person complete with mount for a tiny outboard motor, all for \$4.56.

Chaplain Johnson observed that after listening to our program it appeared that our purpose and his official purpose at the hospital were about the same--to comfort the afflicted and to afflict the comfortable.

ALASKA NATIONAL INTEREST LANDS HEARINGS

Nationwide hearings have been scheduled by Representative John Sieberling commencing in Washington, D.C. on April 21 and concluding in Ketchikan, Alaska on July 9. The San Francisco hearing is on June 18. Anyone wishing to testify must request permission by addressing a letter to Honorable John Sieberling, Subcommittee on General Oversight and Alaska Lands, 1324 Longworth Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20515.

APRIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

The board of directors of Sequoia Audubon held their regular meeting on April 7.

President John Prime appointed the nominating committee: Eila Fox, Chairman, Jean Jones and John Silliman. He also appointed the audit committee: Steve Aldrich and Howard Rathlesberger.

The board voted to enter a gift membership in National Audubon Society for Lisa Lawrence of Menlo Park. Lisa, fourteen years old, wrote an inspiring conservation-oriented letter to the editor which appeared in the Palo Alto Times. The board felt that she should be aware of our appreciation and encouragement.

There was a discussion about engaging, for a fee, a recognized ornithologist to conduct a workshop program and field trips. This could perhaps be done once or twice a year. The idea will be more thoroughly investigated.

BIRD FOSTER PARENTS

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Every spring the Peninsula Humane Society is deluged with hundreds of orphan birds. Over the years we have found that several species of young have an almost 100% mortality rate. One way of coping with this predicament is to find foster parents in the wild to adopt these babies.

If you should encounter any families of Killdeer, Quail, Swifts or Kestrels (downy stage) in accessible areas (particularly near the Peninsula Humane Society) we would appreciate your giving the information to Hal and Barbara Lucas at 344-3796 so that we may contact them when we need help.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

-- Violet Subbotin, Co-ordinator for
Orphan Birds and Mammals,
PENINSULA HUMANE SOCIETY

HUMMINGBIRD OBSERVATIONS - by Dianne Heredia

I've enjoyed your Birding from My Kitchen Window column in THE SEQUOIA for some time and envy the variety of birds you have to watch. An apartment dweller can also get some special bird watching treats, if one wants and takes certain steps. We live on Polhemus Road in the foothills of San Mateo. The area still has a few wooded areas, although they are quickly becoming overgrown with houses and apartments. We live on the second story of our building, which gives us an excellent vantage point directly at nearby treetops.

It was early this February when we first suspected that our regular female Anna's Hummingbird visitor might have a nest close by. Up to that time we had three regular visitors, a plump male, a thinner male with a growth on his beak, and a little pale female. In early February the female began making very frequent stops at our three feeders, and the males had disappeared. We followed her round-about route to the eucalyptus tree just adjacent to our dining-room window, facing Polhemus Road. We couldn't spot her nest exactly, except we could note that eventually she always stopped at the same outside limb of the eucalyptus.

She would plunge her needle-like beak into a clump of eucalyptus flowers, and jab-jab-jab several times, repeating these motions several times before flying away. Within a week we could make out two tiny pin-like beaks opening up at her arrival at the alleged nest site. She fed continually, and so did her little nestlings tucked secretively in their walnut-sized nest on that precarious limb of the eucalyptus.

The week before we first noticed her activity, someone had "topped" the eucalyptus trees along Polhemus Road, and we could just imagine her fury at this activity. Anyone who has hummingbird visitors knows how much wrath can be wrapped up in a few ounces of fancy plumage.

They survived the tree topping, and they survived several nights of gale winds and pouring rains. We were probably more worried than mother hummingbird during those nights. How relieved we were each morning to look out and confirm that the little family had survived the weather.

She obviously knew just what she was doing. She had selected her nest site within easy distance of our feeders, and also within clear eye range of any intruders from several directions.

Each day we watched the nestlings grow bigger and bigger. After about two weeks one chick had popped out on the limb, alongside the nest. Apparently the nest was now too small for both of them. Mother hummingbird continued to feed them, and as soon as both outgrew the tiny nest, she led them both into the interior branches of the eucalyptus. We couldn't spot them then, but we could hear their high-pitched greetings to her as she flew in to feed them.

One morning, about the second week in March, we spotted one of the babies in the pine tree that grows alongside our balcony. He was trying out his flying ability, and seemed amazed each time his rapidly beating wings lifted him off his branch. He didn't venture too far that morning as we watched him, but we figured he must have already journeyed at least as far as the eucalyptus tree, a grand distance of thirty feet. We haven't seen both hummingbirds together since they were at the original nesting site, but we reason that they both survived, since as bee-sized babies they had survived freezing nights, gale winds, and a tree topping.

The other hummingbirds, males and females, have now returned to our feeders, having properly respected Mrs. Hummingbird's territory while her nestlings were feeding. They have resumed their squabbling and quarreling, and even have to contend with a brand new arrival, a lovely Rufus beauty, who we first spotted March 26. This morning we observed a little female sitting on the old nest, then she darted skillfully to one of the feeders. We think she might be one of the little ones we were so privileged to watch grow.

-- Dianne Heredia
810 Polhemus Road, San Mateo

WILDLIFE RESCUE CLASSES

Wildlife Rescue, Inc., working under state and federal permits, is a non-profit, 100% volunteer organization whose motto and function is to RAISE, REHABILITATE AND RELEASE wildlife. We do this by training volunteers to give foster home care to orphaned and injured wildlife.

Wildlife Rescue will be offering classes co-sponsored by Menlo Park Recreation Department. Classes are comprised of a series of three classes: Class I - Orphaned Birds, Class II - Orphaned Animals, and Class III - Injured birds and Animals. To be a member of the Wildlife Rescue Team all three classes must be taken. The three-class series will be repeated monthly.

TIME: 7:30 PM, Thursday

PLACE: Menlo Park Recreation Center, Menlo Park Civic Center, Room 195

DATES: APRIL 7, 14, 21; MAY 5, 12, 19; JUNE 2, 9, 16; JULY 7, 14, 21.

Children under 16 years must be accompanied by an adult. (No wildlife is given to a child unless an adult family member has also taken the class, a reasonable safeguard to the (wild) life entrusted to the child.)

CLASS FEE must be paid in advance and accompany pre-registration form.
\$10 - per adult 16 years and older. \$12 - per adult plus one child.
\$15 - per family. No charge - Senior Citizens.

For more information and pre-registration forms write to: Marilyn Dexheimer, 1370 Sherman Avenue, Menlo Park, CA 94025.

FIELD TRIP MANNERS

In order to provide maximum enjoyment on field trips, please--no

dogs, no radios. Smoking can be an extreme fire hazard in some areas, especially in this drought year, so if you must smoke be sure it is in a safe area. Few field trips can hold the interest of all young children and interest flags they may distract other field trip participants. Some youngsters, of course, are as interested as adults and should be encouraged to take part in field trips. Your good judgement is needed.

SET WILD ANIMALS FREE (SWAF) REPORT

Cliff Lindquist tells us that Dr. Donald Conkling of the Millbrae Veterinary Hospital has offered to give medical aid and advice to Cliff and Max Krueger's "boarders" if and when it is needed. This is a most welcome offer for although Dr. Rausch's valuable aid has been greatly appreciated, the proximity of Dr. Conkling's hospital is a decided advantage over a trip to Santa Cruz.

The latest x-rays of Kachina Harris' Hawk's broken leg show so much improvement that Dr. Rausch has recommended that the cast be removed. He also advised that Kachina have tough meat to chew (so she can hold the meat with her feet as she tears off bites) and have several perches of different heights so she can strengthen her feet by hopping from one to another. Thus Kachina's chances for release to the wild appear good again.

THE BABIES ARE COMING by Doug Morris -- From Spring, 1977, PAWPRINT

Spring is upon us! For some people that means baseball practice or picnics in the park--but at Peninsula Humane Society, we've learned through hard experience that Spring means orphaned wild birds and mammals. Every year, PHS receives hundreds of youngsters from concerned individuals throughout San Mateo County. When we receive a young wild animal, every attempt is made by the Wildlife Department to raise and ultimately release that animal back to the wild. However, we wonder how many of these young creatures are really orphaned?

If you should find what appears to be a young orphaned or abandoned wild animal, before you do another thing, try to determine if, indeed, that animal is orphaned. Remember that sometimes it is necessary for Mom to leave her young, temporarily! I mean, after all, even mothers have to eat! The following are some helpful hints to remember:

1. In most cases, young birds and mammals can be returned to the nest and Mom won't abandon them if you've touched them--quite the opposite, in fact. While we're on it, whole nests can be replaced should they blow down.
 2. Some birds don't nest in trees, and the young BELONG on the ground.... especially birds like Killdeer and shorebirds. These are birds which are notoriously difficult to hand raise and should be removed only if you are sure Mom is dead.
 3. Most young birds leave the nest long before they are accomplished fliers. They must go through ground school before they solo!
 4. Orphaned mammals are often left for prolonged periods while Mom forages for herself. This is particularly true of deer. Please do not disturb. A good idea is to leave the scene, carefully noting the location, returning later to see if the young animal is still there. If so call us. DO NOT move the animal.
 5. Remember, removing wild animals from the wild is illegal and in most cases, carries a stiff fine!
- If you are sure you've located an orphaned wild animal, call us at 344-7643 we're here to help!

Ed. Note: If you live in the area from Redwood City south to Cupertino, call Wildlife Rescue, Inc., Phone 969-WILD. They will be glad to help you with your orphaned wild animal or bird in that area.

SPRING PLANT SALE

The San Mateo Garden Center invites you to its fifth Annual Spring Plant Sale to benefit the garden center, on Saturday, May 14, 1977 from 10 am to 3 pm. They will have African violets, bonsai, daisies, dish gardens, ferns, fuchsias, geraniums, perennials, roses, succulents, unusual plants, vegetables, bonsai pots, and dried material. There will be experts on hand to explain the plant culture with emphasis on culture with a minimum of water. Refreshments will be served. The Cochairmen and Eila Fox (343-1406 and Peg Lindsell (342-9014).

AUDUBON SIERRA NATURAL HISTORY WORKSHOP AT GOLDEN TROUT CAMP

Once again it's time when we can begin daydreaming about spending a week in "primitive luxury" at Golden Trout Camp. It's at 10,000 feet elevation in the southern Sierra, near Mt. Whitney, and we hike in the 2½ miles from the end of the road and carry in our sleeping bags and personal belongings. We'll spend our days hiking with naturalist-leaders learning about the flora, fauna and ecology of the alpine and subalpine area, and maybe ascend nearby 14,000-foot Mt. Langley. We'll see Foxtail Pines, Pikas, Dippers, Gray-crowned Rosy Finches, Goshawks, profuse wildflowers and who knows what. Delicious dinners are served in the central log cabin, after which we'll stay cozy around the wood stove, review the day's adventures and hear guest lecturers. Sleeping tents and all meals are provided.

Dates for this year's workshops are from July 23 through August 10. Costs are from \$70 to \$90 per adult.

For a brochure giving more information, write Golden Trout Camp Workshop, % Mrs. Tomi Sollen, 825 N. Soledad, Santa Barbara, CA 93103, or call her at (805) 966-4836.

1977 SUMMER FIELD COURSES IN NATURAL HISTORY

The University of California Extension at Davis, California offers the following courses taught by David Gaines this summer:

BIRDS OF HONEY AND EAGLE LAKES

June 11-13, Saturday--Monday U.C.D. Extension Section 771K20

This course, which will acquaint participants with Sandhill Crane, Long-billed Curlew, White Pelican, Osprey, Bald Eagle and many other equally interesting birds, will stress field identification skills and the roles birds fill in the natural environment. Three days of active birdwatching will be interspersed with afternoon lectures and evening campfire discussions on flight, molt, migration, breeding ecology, population dynamics and conservation. Car-camping at Honey and Eagle Lakes.

Two units. \$50 (excluding food and transportation).

NATURAL HISTORY OF THE MONO BASIN

July 7-10 Thursday--Sunday U.C.D. Extension Section 771K21

This course will provide a field-oriented introduction to the vertebrates and vascular plants of the Mono Basin, one of the most awesomely beautiful and biotically interesting regions of the world. During four days in the field we will range from the shores of Mono Lake to the headwaters of its snow-fed tributaries high above timberline. Obser-

ational and identification skills will be stressed in the field--telling warblers from sparrows from vireos, distinguishing plants by leaf, flower and growth form, interpreting animal behavior, etc. Afternoon lectures and campfire discussions will cover topics ranging from geology and climate to community ecology and conservation. Car-camping near Mono Lake. Two units. \$50 (excluding food, transportation and campground fees).

To enroll, contact: University of California Extension, Davis, CA 95616.

C A L E N D A R

- May 5 - Board Meeting at President John Prime's home.
 8 - Mother's Day Barbecue at Audubon Canyon Ranch
 12 - Regular Monthly Meeting at Garden Center. Bob Rutherford
 14 - Spring Plant Sale at Garden Center
 14, 15 - Mystery Field Trip
- June 2 - Board Meeting
 3-5 - Eagle Lake Field Trip - See April SEQUOIA, Page 9
 4 - Audubon Canyon Ranch Field Trip
 9 - Regular Monthly Meeting at Garden Center
 18 - Field Trip - Details in June SEQUOIA

THE SEQUOIA May, 1977
Sequoia Audubon Society
1009 Laguna Avenue
Burlingame, CA 94010

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