



The Sequoia



BULLETIN OF SEQUOIA AUDUBON SOCIETY
A CHAPTER OF NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY

SAN MATEO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

Volume 28, No. 4

December, 1978

MEETINGS:

BOARD MEETING, DECEMBER 5, TUESDAY, 7:30 PM in the conference room of Northern California Savings & Loan office, 1430 Chapin Avenue in Burlingame. Board members and committee chairmen should attend. Other members are welcome.

CHRISTMAS POTLUCK DINNER, DECEMBER 14, THURSDAY, 6:30 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. Those who have not previously attended the festive Christmas Potluck should plan to come this year and see why regular participants eagerly look forward to this gala event. Please phone Mary Keohane (854-6346) to report what dish you plan to bring and the number in your party. This phone call is important to insure a balanced menu and adequate table arrangements. Guests are always welcome. Bring your own place settings.

REGULAR MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING, DECEMBER 14, THURSDAY, 8:00 PM at the San Mateo Garden Center following the Potluck Dinner.

Mr. John Olmsted of SEQUOYA CHALLENGE will present a spectacular slide show program entitled "Transect of America" following the potluck dinner. This program will encompass the breadth of North America, but will emphasize California, specifically the northern California coast in Mendocino County, and in particular, the Jughandle Ecological Staircase, including the Pygmy Forest. Mr. Olmsted's unique program equipment consists of four slide projectors projecting images on a screen 30 feet wide.

Make plans to attend the holiday potluck dinner at the Garden Center at 6:30 and then relax and enjoy this spectacular program. Bring your friends and food and come early to insure yourself of a good seat.

Frank Allen and Charles Newman will present a new chapter in their "see and hear" Bird-of-the-Month series.

FIELD TRIPS:

DECEMBER 5 - TUESDAY BIRDERS TO CRYSTAL SPRINGS WATERSHED

Take Hillcrest Boulevard in Millbrae from Highway 280 and go west under the freeway and then south to the west side of San Andreas Dam. Park here. Bring lunch. Wear warm clothes. From the parking area

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74 Nevada Street
Redwood City, CA 94062
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EDITORS: Ed and Amy McElhany
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Burlingame, CA 94010
Phone: 343-3219

We want to consolidate into not more than 4 cars. Phone the trip leader or Jean Jones (344-9339) if you plan to attend.

LEADER: Craig Benkman (594-1224)

DECEMBER 9, SATURDAY - MOSS BEACH AND PILLAR POINT

Meet at 9:00 AM at the James V. Fitzgerald Marine Reserve. Take Highway 1 to Moss Beach and then west at California Street. Drive to the end and then right into the parking lot. Bring a lunch and dress warmly as we will be birding near the ocean all day.

LEADER: Craig Benkman (594-1224)

DECEMBER 16, SATURDAY - ANO NUEVO CHRISTMAS COUNT

This count is centered in Butano State Park and includes such outstanding areas as Pescadero Marsh, Pigeon Point, Ano Nuevo Point, Portola, Butano and Big Basin State Parks, Sam McDonald and San Mateo County Memorial County Parks. Most of the areas are best covered by foot so be prepared for walking. If you want to participate, call me at (408) 338-2700 or (408) 338-6132 or Frank Allen at 593-9504 or Jean Jones at 344-9339. The earlier you phone the sooner assignments can be made thus enabling everyone a chance to scout the sector.

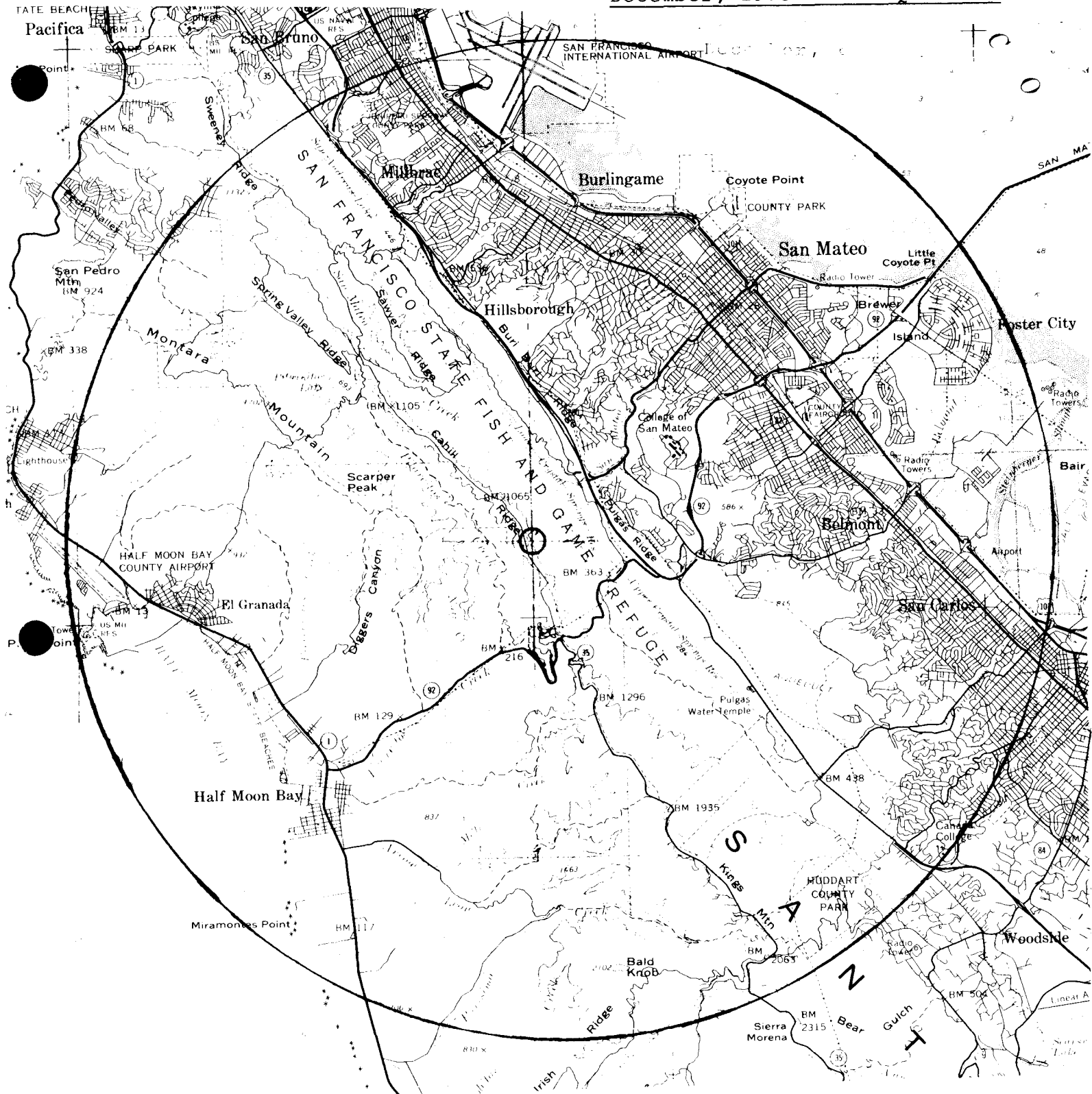
-- Mark Zumsteg, Compiler

DECEMBER 30, SATURDAY - CRYSTAL SPRINGS CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

Peter Metropulos is busy organizing our 15-mile diameter count area into sections. Section leaders will be chosen and you will be notified who your section leader is. If you haven't signed up yet, please call Frank Allen, Personnel Coordinator, at 593-9504 or Jean Jones, assistant, at 344-9339 (or mail the enclosed flyer right away) and say you will be willing to help on this important ornithological survey. Peter reports that year after year we have had difficulty getting the following birds on Count Day in San Mateo County: AMERICAN BITTERN, CROW, RAVEN, RING-NECKED PHEASANT, VIRGINIA RAIL, SORA, BARN OWL, BURROWING OWL, NUTTALL'S WOODPECKER, WHITE-BREASTED NUTHATCH, WESTERN BLUEBIRD, BROWN-HEADED COWBIRD. If you find any of these on December 30, please call one of the numbers listed below and report it.

Also, Peter requests that all who feed birds at home please tally the species on December 30 and report them. He says we can use EVERYONE'S HELP. You don't have to spend the whole day out in the field--just walk around several blocks, count the birds you see and call them in BETWEEN 1:00 and 5:00 PM to one of the persons listed below. Be sure you count within the circle shown on the map. Hillside and wooded areas within the cities are especially good to cover. Birds on the bay, ocean and in parks will be counted by Section Leaders. However, we need your help in counting all of the birds of each species within the cities of the Count Circle.

Virginia Fleming - Burlingame - 697-0749
Marian Lockwood, - Menlo Park - 325-0517
Janet Morrison - San Mateo - 345-3410



JANUARY 13, SATURDAY - LAKE MERCED AND GOLDEN GATE PARK

Meet at the boat house at Harding Park Golf Course at 9:00 AM
LEADERS: Barbara and Hal Lucas 344-3796

JANUARY 16 - TUESDAY BIRDERS TO ANO NUEVO STATE RESERVE

This will be primarily an opportunity to observe northern elephant seals within the ecology of the dunes community. Wear your warmest windbreakers and boots and bring a lunch. We will do some birding after

the seal walk. Ano Nuevo is just inside the San Mateo County line on New Year's Creek Road, 28 miles south of Half Moon Bay. Only 20 people will be permitted on our tour, so please call Fran Nelson, 593-7941, if you would like to be included. There will be a parking fee of \$1.50 per auto, so CARPOOL! Tuesday Birders will be given preference.

MARCH 24 and 25 - SATURDAY & SUNDAY - MONTEREY AREA AND PELAGIC TRIP

Rich Stallcup, the president of "American Birds," will lead a two-day birding trip for our chapter on March 24 and 25. The pelagic trip on Sunday will be preceded on Saturday by an all day birding session in the Monterey Bay area. Make your reservations early as the boat will only carry up to 36 people. The fee for the boat trip is \$15.00 per person. Boat reservations will be on a first come, first serve basis. Each person is responsible for his or her own lodging reservations. If you are interested in attending, please fill out the coupon below and include a check in full made payable to "Sequoia Audubon," and send it to:

Jerry & Georgia Perkins, 24 Bayview Court, Millbrae, CA 94030
(No later than February 1, 1979.)

I am planning to attend the pelagic trip:

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

NUMBER IN PARTY: _____ AMOUNT PAID _____ (\$15.00 per person)

PROJECTED FIELD TRIPS - Schedule Subject to Change

February 3 & 4, Saturday & Sunday - LOS BANOS
February 24, Saturday - SAN FRANCISCO WATERSHED or FOSTER CITY
March 10 & 11, Saturday & Sunday - BODEGA BAY
April 7, Saturday - HELLYER PARK IN SAN JOSE
April 14, Saturday - SAN BRUNO MOUNTAIN WILDFLOWERS
April 21 & 22 Saturday & Sunday - YOSEMITE
April 28, Saturday - MINES ROAD
May 19, Saturday - SUNOL AREA
June 2, Saturday - POINT REYES

FIELD TRIP REPORTS:

October 28 - Pescadero Marsh

On a perfectly beautiful day, 56 people came to show their interest in Pescadero Marsh. And Bruce Elliott made it an educational reward for each participant. His profound knowledge of the history, the ecology and managements problems of the marsh, presented in his unique manner, left us with renewed desire to move ahead in our attempts to preserve San Mateo County's only coastal marsh. Three Bitterns were observed, along with a White-tailed Kite, and Great Blue Herons that nest in the eucalyptus grove. With such a stimulating leader, no one was concerned that we only saw about 40 species of birds. Dan Taylor, representing National Audubon, walked the marsh with us and assured us that the Regional Office in Sacramento is ready to support our efforts to maintain Pescadero Marsh as a year-round habitat for the 180 species of birds and other animals that use the marsh.

-- Jean Jones

November 14 - Tuesday Birders - Coyote Hills Regional Park

Coyote Hills has become one of the most rewarding of birding

places in the Bay Area. The management should be commended for dredging and maintaining the marsh areas and preserving the whole wildlife habitat. Our Tuesday Birders walked the hillside and the marshes without feeling that we disturbed anything. Where else could you go and have a Sora and a Virginia Rail in one scope? And Craig Benkman discovered a flight of 10 Whistling Swans!

-- Jean Jones

CONSERVATION NEWS:

With the approach of the year's end and the demise of the 95th Congress, this seems a good time to review its environmental achievements or lack of them. Actually, in spite of apparent decreasing enthusiasm for conservation of the part of many legislators, this Congress passed a considerable number of good or pretty good laws affecting conservation and the environment.

In the hectic days before final adjournment, the Omnibus Parks bill and a reasonably good Endangered Species Act were passed. The Sikes Act was renewed, with funding for the first time for its conservation of wildlife on federal lands. After failure to override the President's veto of the pork barrel water projects, Congress passed a reasonable public works appropriations bill which eliminated 17 of the original water projects. Congress also finally passed a strip mining bill, expanded the Land and Water Conservation Fund, adopted acceptable amendments to the Clean Air and Clean Water Acts, and passed a number of important parks and wilderness bills, including the Endangered Wilderness Act.

On the minus side, of course, must first be placed failure to enact the Alaska Lands Bill, largely due to the last minute filibuster threat of Alaska's Senator Gravel. The Non-Game Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act also failed passage after Administration opposition, and the Interior Department Appropriations Bill went to the President with the amendment intact limiting federal enforcement of the steel shot regulations.

Preservation of Alaska lands and non-game wildlife will be National Audubon Society's priorities in 1979.

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Locally, governments are still mainly concerned with what form retrenchment mandated by Prop. 13 will take. After the suspension for 1978-9 by the County Supervisors of Charter for Parks (allowed by the law) and the obligatory use of already allocated funds, only some \$600,000 will be left of present Parks and Recreation Department funds. This pretty effectively prevents the possibility of further land acquisition this year, including two marsh areas on the coastside adjacent to the Fitzgerald Marine Reserve. Major expenditure agreed on at the first November meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission will be a water line for Coyote Point Park which will allow use of reclaimed irrigation water from the new San Mateo-Foster City sewage treatment plant. This will provide material future savings to the County.

Fate of the Edgewood Road College site and the Hassler property is still questionable. The County has applied for federal funding of half of the \$1,167,500 cost of the college site; with the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District contributing another quarter to the needed funds. M.R.O.S.D. also hit by Prop. 13, is currently looking into ways of raising funds for both the college site and the Hassler property. Federal funding for half of the \$2.2 million price of the Hassler property has been offered, with a 3-month time limit for acceptance. Suggested means of further funding includes a local assessment district, solicita-

tion of contributions from businesses and individuals and acquisition of parts of the property by other local or federal agencies.

-- Ruth Smith, Conservation Chmn

ALASKA REPORT

As you all must know by now, the Alaska Lands Bill was not acted upon during the last Senate session. The bill would have set aside some 100 million acres of federal lands for wildlife refuges, wilderness areas, wild and scenic rivers and would have prevented oil exploration in the Arctic National Wildlife Range to preserve the porcupine caribou population. However, we must remain optimistic as I have received a letter from Senator Cranston informing me that the Carter Administration may now use its authority under the Antiquities Act of 1906 to set aside the acreage as National Monuments and, under the Federal Lands Policy and Management Act of 1976, may prevent mining of the areas.

If the lands are now set aside as monuments, there is a possibility of setting up another bill next year. We must write our representatives and Senators and thank them for their support and urging them to support a bill next year.

Write your Representatives and Senators at:

House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

through

We must, then, tell President Carter that we care and support his action to save our last wilderness frontier. For an update of information, call the Alaska Hotline: (202) 547-5550.

-- Georgia Perkins - Alaska Coordinator

BIRDING THROUGH MY KITCHEN WINDOW:

At nesting time, a certain rapport exists between some of the Robins and me. I'm not sure just how or when it all started but now that it's a going thing, it begins each season before the Robins commence building their nests. It ends shortly after the post-nuptial moult is complete and probably because they have begun their migrations. This relationship is nothing I consciously tried to foster. It just sort of happened and it keeps expanding.

In this instance, some soft but insistent notes from a Robin tell me that something is not quite right. Locating the Robin, I see she is one of the pair who successfully raised three of their four young here last summer and now she and a different mate are tending four. She doesn't normally scold me, but in case I am doing something wrong, I step just inside the doorway. The calls become more insistent. I have taken the wrong action and so go back outside. She moves toward the rear of the yard and seems to want me to follow. Obediently, I do the best I can without wings.

Walking behind the baffles and continuing on behind the xylo-mas, I hear her coaching me onward and so assume I am on the right track. I am wondering as I proceed if there is some danger to her youngsters on the other side of the fence. She and her mate have been flying in that direction with food some of the time. Surely she would be more excited if that were the case.

I have reached the back fence. There is one little opening through which I can see by contorting my body in ways it clearly resents. The Robin is in a pine looking at me, still talking to me and I have the feeling that I am supposed to follow her farther. Oh! for a pair of wings! They would come in handy so often! But I'd even settle for the ability to explain why I can't do better! I should like to tell her that

I just can't make it through that small opening and that my territory ends here anyway!

The best I can do at this point is to scan the area. Since there is a Quail down low on the bank and a Mourning Dove half way up, neither showing any alarm, I am pretty well convinced there is no prowling cat. The only alarm displayed is by the Brown Towhees who have come between me and their Cowbird baby! It is at this time that I find out for sure what I had feared is a fact. They have been parasitized!

There is personal satisfaction in understanding what a bird is telling me but this time I leave in defeat, sorry to let her down. I have chased cats, starlings and jays for her at other times when she has sounded the alarm but this is a more subtle problem. She is sometimes quite indignant at the presence of another Robin and would rather a Thrasher be elsewhere but these battles she must wage without me! It may well be no more serious than that.

Later in the day, about dinner time, the Robin is again apparently leading me in the same direction. This time, from the back of the fence, I hear a flock of noisy Starlings nearby and the sound of a Scrub Jay coming from two or three back yards away. These are the only problems insofar as I can see but I can't see very far. She has given me another chance and again I have flubbed it!

I had not expected grave danger. The tone of her voice was not distressed the way it was several days ago when she led me from the side of the house to the front yard. I knew from the frenzied tone of her voice that at least one of the two youngsters that had been in the nesting tree, but out of the nest for a few days, was on the ground. I went out to check and sure enough! She was distraught and so was I! I could help guard for only a few minutes before leaving to meet the commuter.

Then the situation became critical when a teen-age boy approached wheeling his bicycle up the sidewalk. The screaming Robin then dived upon her offspring and trampolined him straight up into the tree across the street! I can't think that Robin was any more relieved than I! And the boy walked on oblivious of the part he had played.

Another attempt to solve her current problem ends in frustration. Our lines of communication are generally good but this problem remains a mystery. A youngster on the ground I can understand! A cat nearby spells trouble -- or a Jay who comes too close. The less apparent situations, and hopefully less urgent, can sometimes jam the lines. When we do communicate, it gives me a real sense of achievement.

NOVEMBER GENERAL MEETING:

"A total habitat created by waste water," is the way the three completed marshes adjacent to the Mountain View Sewage Treatment Plant near Martinez was described by Francesca Demgen at our November 9 meeting. Ms. Demgen, resident aquatic biologist, and Warren Nute, designer of the plant, were our guest speakers.

The project was built ten years ago and this use of the waste water was an original departure from dumping out-flow into San Francisco Bay. Since then stricter regulations have been set down by EPA governing all sewage waste water.

In 1968 this long-ago natural marshland was a dry field except when winter rains filled some of the low places. Now, once again, it is a year-round marsh supporting 86 species of birds which either live there or stop over during migration. Eco-floats have been provided which make the 8-acre area more productive by encouraging the growth of many small

organisms, 34 species to date, which feed on algae and which, in turn, provide food for birds as well as fish.

This fresh-water marsh, quite correctly designated an educational center, is host to many visiting groups and individuals and our Chapter plans a visit there this month.

Also a part of the program were Frank Allen's slides showing the Evening Grosbeaks which were photographed at Yuba Pass.

-- C.G.

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 -- from Betty Boyd

The old barn, once used to store hay for the livestock in by-gone days, has been demolished. In time, after the land reverts to its natural condition, shrubs and trees indigenous to the area will be planted. In Volunteer Canyon the remodeling of the Thompson house is well underway and we hope that you will respond as generously as possible to the request for funding.

Some very fine gifts have been received. Margaret J. Willsea of Walnut Creek sponsor an acre and in so doing writes "Rather than make a bequest in my Will, I am herewith enclosing my check as a one-time gift in recognition of your fine work." We are very grateful to Mrs. Willsea and thank her. The gift, as though it had been a bequest, goes into the Endowment Fund.

The name of Mrs. Robert J. Ernsbergh is now added to our list of sponsors. Mrs. Ernsbergh has made a contribution to the Ranch every year since 1962. A third sponsor is Robert J. Wood. His gift has been made to the Ranch in honor of Clifford Conly, Jr., one of our most active Directors who contributes generously of his expertise in various fields.

Our many thanks to the MJB Company for its always welcome and generous contributions of coffee for staff and volunteers. Elizabeth Terwilliger has also made a contribution in appreciation to Skip Schwartz for building the steps at the Monarch Butterfly Grove at Muir Beach.

NOVEMBER BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING:

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

Vie Subbotin and Trudy Hartley representing the In-home Orphan Bird Program of the Peninsula Humane Society described their activities and needs. They brought with them a 3-month old female California Quail who enhanced their presentation and appeared to emphasize a point now and then by cooing. Their formula for "Bug Butter" -- a young bird diet -- was described. It consists of strained baby beef, strained baby chicken, mealworms, crickets, Brewer's yeast, vitamins, bonemeal and other ingredients. They will present a written request to the board for financial support.

The 1979 Mystery Trip was discussed and will be arranged by John Silliman and John Prime.

Wilma Rockman, education chairman, presented her views on an appropriate education program. She feels that slides and tape cassettes featuring natural history and conservation could be provided for use in San Mateo County schools. The material would be prepared by Sequoia

Audubon from members' collections supplemented from other sources. She also pointed out the need of a new checklist of the birds of San Mateo County.

President Aldrich reported that National Audubon was preparing a new membership application form which would be available specially imprinted for use by individual chapters.

Our scholarship program for Audubon Workshop of the West was discussed. The problem in the past several years appears to have been last minute cancellations by the scholarship recipients.

MONO LAKE:

Mono Lake lies some 200 miles east of San Francisco at the foot of the eastern escarpment of the Sierra. It was created about 3 million years ago and some 2,000 years ago volcanic eruptions produced its two islands, Negit and Paoha. In 1857 the surface was at an elevation of 6386 feet, lowest in historical times. By 1919 the surface had risen 42 feet to 6428 feet and then declined again to 6417 feet in 1941. The lake has been fed by 5 streams running down into it from the eastern slope of the Sierra and by local groundwater. In 1941 water from four of the five Sierra streams was diverted through a tunnel into the Owens River to the south and ultimately into the Los Angeles Aqueduct. The annual diversion from 1941-1970 amounted to 56,000 acre feet and reduced the surface elevation to about 6385 feet. In 1970 the second Los Angeles Aqueduct was completed and diversions increased to 100,000 acre feet per year. By 1977 the surface had dropped to 6377 feet, 10 feet below the 1857 historic low.

The lake has no outlet so evaporation concentrates the dissolved materials and today its water is twice as saline and ten times as alkaline as the ocean. No fish live here but countless billions of brine flies and brine shrimp feed on rich algae and provide food for one of the largest concentrations of water and shore birds in California. On Negit Island some 30,000 California gulls nest annually, the second largest such rookery in the world. The island provides a predator-free environment, essential because of the accessible ground nests of this species. Eared grebes use the lake as a stopover in their migration and peak visitor populations have been estimated at 750,000 birds. 90,000 Wilson's Phalaropes have been observed at one time -- about a third of the world population stops at Mono Lake on their migration.

At the present rate of water diversion, Mono Lake will stabilize some 75 years from now at a level of about 6323 feet -- 54 feet below its present level. Its surface area will be about one half the present area and the dissolved solids will preclude any life within its waters. The islands will be connected to the main land providing easy predator access to the gull nests.

Last spring the California Department of Fish and Game with the cooperation of the National Guard enlarged with five tons of explosives the channel between Negit Island and the mainland. The channel, due to the lowering lake level, had become less than a foot deep and 100 feet wide. The blast enlarged it to four to eight feet deep, 320 feet long and over 50 feet wide. This is a temporary solution and cannot be repeated as the lake level declines.

It is hard to describe the beauty of Mono Lake in its stark desert surroundings with the overwhelming Sierra as a backdrop. Anyone who has paused at Conway Summit on Highway 395 and gazed south will not soon forget that spectacular and unique scene. There is some reason for optimism if Los Angeles does indeed curtail water diversions as they have announced. An organization called the Mono Lake Committee has been

most active in promoting awareness of the Mono Lake problem and in trying to find solutions. For further information write them at P.O. Box 2764, Oakland, CA 94602.

POINT REYES BIRD OBSERVATORY:

PRBO, in conjunction with South American Wilderness Adventures, presents a superb slide show on Ecuador at Fort Mason, Laguna and Marina Boulevard in San Francisco on Wednesday, December 13, at 7:30 PM and on Wednesday, January 17, at 7:30 PM. If you are interested in birding in Ecuador or just want to learn more about this country's natural history, come to this talk by Bill Abbott and Bob Wolfson.

Point Reyes Bird Observatory and South American Wilderness Adventures offer a birding tour to Ecuador July 31 to August 21, 1979 with artist, Paul Greenfield. Mr. Greenfield is currently at work on the "Field Guide to the Birds of Ecuador," to be published by Princeton University Press and PRBO's Bob Stewart.

OCEANIC SOCIETY:

The Oceanic Society-Bay Chapter is again offering the unique opportunity to witness the spectacular migration of the California Grey whales as they journey from Alaska to Mexico. Passing the California coast by the thousands, they travel to the warm lagoons of Baja to give birth during January and February.

Beginning December 28, Society observation boats will be taking passengers from two locations: an 8 hour trip from the Bay Area to Point Reyes and a 3 hour trip departing from Half Moon Bay. Thereafter, WHALE-WATCH trips will continue every Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday throughout January and February, with marine naturalists onboard. Complimentary evening whale programs included.

Call or write to: WHALEWATCH, Oceanic Society, Bldg. 240, Fort Mason, San Francisco, CA 94123. (415) 441-4086.

VOICES IN THE SEA: COMMUNICATION AMONG WHALES

The Oceanic Society in cooperation with the L.S.B. Leakey Foundation is proud to present Roger Payne, research zoologist of the New York Zoological Society. Dr. Payne is best known for his record, Songs of the Humpback Whale and for his research on communication among humpback, right and fin whales.

The program will be held Monday, January 15, 1979, at 8:00 PM at Zellerbach Auditorium in Berkeley.

Tickets: \$2.50 student; \$3.50 general; \$4.00 door

Available at Oceanic Society, Cal Box Office and Bass Outlets.

MONTEREY BAY PELAGIC EXCURSIONS:

Monterey Bay is one of the finest areas in North America to observe seabirds and marine mammals. Due to an ever-increasing demand for pelagic trips, the following excursions are offered:

10 December, Sunday	13 January, Saturday
6 January, Saturday	11 February, Sunday

All trips depart from Fisherman's Wharf aboard Benji's "Spirit of 76" at 8a.m. and return about 3p.m. A prominent leader, familiar with seabirds, will accompany each trip. Each trip is \$15 per person. Reservations can be made by sending a check payable to Debi Robinson, 935 Lighthouse Ave., #2, Pacific Grove, CA 93950. Please enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope for your return confirmation. Early reservations are encouraged.

NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY - WESTERN EDUCATION CENTER

376 Greenwood Beach Road, Tiburon 94920

Phone: 388-2524

Jon Winter will present six classes on special bird identification problems. Classes will be conducted at the Western Education Center in Tiburon from 10 AM to 12:30 PM on January 6, 13, 21 and 27 and February 3 and 10. The fee is \$36 for all six classes or \$7.50 for individual sessions. For further information phone the center.

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The third annual symposium to be presented by the National Audubon Society's Western Education Center will be entitled, "Owls of the West; Their Ecology and Conservation." This year's day-long program will be held in the Morrison Auditorium of the California Academy of Science in San Francisco on Saturday, January 20, from 9:30 am - 5:00 pm.

Admission will be by advance registration only. For tickets, mail a self-addressed, stamped envelope and your check, made payable to National Audubon Society, for \$3.50 per person, to OWLS, Western Education Center, National Audubon Society, 376 Greenwood Beach Road, Tiburon, CA 94920

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The National Audubon Society's Western Education Center announces the start of its program to develop a collection of original color slides of western wildlife. The initial phase of this project will emphasize the bird life of the region while succeeding phases will add plants, reptiles, amphibians, etc. into the region-wide collection.

The collection is to be developed through donations of original 35 mm color slides by members and friends of Audubon chapters from the Rocky Mountains west to the Pacific.

The purpose of the collection will be to provide a resource, at minimal cost, to chapters, their members and friends, for the development of educational programs, to illustrate lectures or articles, to incorporate into displays, etc. In addition, black and white glossy prints will be made available from these slides for chapter publicity chairpersons as an aid in promoting programs and field trips.

This project is one of the priority requests made by chapters at regional conferences this year. For this effort to be successful your help is needed. Please consider submitting your high quality original slides for inclusion in the Western Wildlife Collection.

To obtain collection entry forms, please write to The National Audubon Society, Western Education Center.

Full credit will be given to all donors. The collection "in progress" will be available for review at the National Audubon Society Convention at Estes Park.

SOME OTHER 1978 CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNTS:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Count Name</u>	<u>Compiler Contact</u>	<u>Telephone</u>
12/16	Point Reyes	P.R.B.O.	(415) 868-1221
12/17	Putah Creek	Don Hallberg	(916) 756-1671
12/17	Santa Rosa	John Parmeter	(707) 255-6757
12/17	Oakland	Malcom Sproul	(415) 841-3086
12/17	San Jose	Sue Kaiser	(408) 267-7268
12/21	Gray Lodge	Bruce Duell	(916) 695-2697
12/23	Hayward-Fremont	Treet Pelletier	(415) 881-0545
12/23	Clear Lake	James Matzinger	(707) 928-5376
12/28	Folsom Lake	Truman Holtzclaw	(916) 966-2917
12/30	Marin County	Phil Schaeffer	(415) 388-2524
12/30	Contra Costa County	George Scheffel	(415) 687-7305
12/31	Benecia	Frank Beyer	(707) 644-0236

EDITORS' NOTE:

VERY BEST WISHES TO ALL FOR A HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON!

Our special thanks to all Sequoia people whose help each month makes it possible to publish THE SEQUOIA. Frank Allen, Barbara Benkman, Frank and Lorraine Collins, Adelaide Fichtner, Carmen Gales, Jean Jones, Marion Lockwood, Barbara and Hal Lucas, Fran and Roy Nelson, Janice Palmer, Georgia and Jerry Perkins, John Silliman and Ruth Smith have all contributed time and talent and we are grateful to each and all of them.

SEQUOIA CALENDAR

- December 5 - Tuesday Birders - Crystal Springs Watershed
5 - Board Meeting
9 - Field Trip - Moss Beach and Pillar Point
14 - Christmas Potluck Dinner and Monthly Meeting
16 - Ano Nuevo Christmas Bird Count
30 - Crystal Springs Christmas Bird Count
- January 2 - Board Meeting
11 - Monthly Meeting at Garden Center
13 - Field Trip - Lake Merced and Golden Gate Park
16 - Tuesday Birders - Ano Nuevo

THE SEQUOIA December, 1978
Sequoia Audubon Society
1009 Laguna Avenue
Burlingame, CA 94010

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

TIME VALUE MAIL