



BULLETIN of the SEQUOIA AUDUBON SOCIETY
San Mateo County, California

Vol. 11 No. 2
SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 1958

CALENDAR SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER

SEPT. 14 - (SUNDAY) Field trip to Golden Gate Park, Chain of Lakes area. Enter park at 41st Avenue and Lincoln Way; continue straight in about 200 yards; then turn off into parking area on right. Meet at 9 A.M.

OCT. 11 - (SATURDAY) Field Trip at Dumbarton Bridge. Meet at Hillercopter plant on Willow Road at 8:30 A.M.

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COME TO KALEIDOSCOPE!

The first regular meeting of Sequoia Chapter will be held at the Burlingame Recreation Center on THURSDAY, SEPT. 11, 1958, at 8 P.M.

This, our annual "Kaleidoscope" should be a real "fun" meeting with members and friends exchanging and sharing treasured vacation experiences. Please plan to bring your slides, movies, or what have you, to "Kaleidoscope," and share your vacation with us. If convenient, please phone Ruth Breckenridge at Di. 3-4216, so that we can be sure to have the proper equipment available.

Of course, the most important people at "Kaleidoscope" are those

of you who didn't go vacationing this summer. By attending "Kaleidoscope" you receive a vicarious vacation, and you provide the adventurers with an audience!

- Ruth Breckenridge

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HELP
OUR SEQUOIA
AUDUBON SOCIETY TO GROW!

Our best method is by personal contact! Tell others of our aims and activities. Invite them to join our Chapter.

Many do not understand the wide scope of our organization--thinking of us only as "birders." While this branch may be of special interest to many, there are others to whom our objectives in the conservation of our natural resources (soil, water, minerals, flora and fauna, etc.) and the preservation of wilderness areas may make more of an appeal.

It is through our individual contacts and efforts that we will increase interest in the Society.

-- Mabel Lee
President

ELECTION OF OFFICERS AT MEETING
THURSDAY, MAY 8, 1958

INCREASE IN AUDUBON DUES

The regular meeting of the Sequoia Audubon Society was held on Thursday, May 8, 1958. This was the last meeting of the year, and election of officers was the business of the evening.

The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Mabel Lee, President, and Mrs. Bump, a member of the nominating committee submitted a list of members nominated to hold offices for the coming year.

Those nominated were:

- President - Mrs. Mabel Lee
- Vice-President - Miss Ruth Breckenridge
- Secretary - Mrs. Methyl Shearer
- Treasurer - Mr. Wm. Harman
- Corres. Sec. - Mrs. Eugenia Hebbron

Board of Directors:

- Mr. J. Ed. McClellan
- Mr. Don Valentine
- Mrs. Ida Smith

Committee Chairmen:

- Miss Ruth Breckenridge - Program
- Mrs. Elizabeth Evans - Jr. Audubon
- Mrs. Mary Miller - Fiesta
- Mrs. Marian Harman - Publicity
- Mr. J. Ed. McClellan - Field Trips
- Mrs. Claire Stewart - Conservation
- Mrs. Katherine Lake - Screen Tours
- Mrs. Elizabeth Baker - Bul. Editor
- Mrs. Eugenia Hebbron - Asst. Bul. Ed. and Circulation Manager.

There being no nominations from the floor the above were elected.

Mr. Chas. Hice from the Junior Museum at Coyote Point gave a talk entitled, "Between the Tides." He showed some beautiful slides of the Marine Life in the Tide Pools at Moss Beach and around Coyote Point. We saw how the animals living in the various Tide Zones have adapted themselves to their environment. This very interesting and instructive talk was enjoyed by all those present.

Refreshments were served at the conclusion of Mr. Hice's talk, and a general discussion and question period followed.

-- Gene Hebbron

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

We extend a hearty welcome to new members - Mrs. Mona Trigg and Mr. Harry E. Campbell.

Committee Chairmen Attention - Please send me item for Bulletin-Nov.-Dec. 1958, by October 20, re. your activities.

Thank you. - Elizabeth Baker, Editor.

Fifty-three years ago, when the Audubon Society was organized, the membership dues were set at \$5 per annum. Since then the minimum dues have never been increased. But, as everyone knows, operating costs have grown enormously since 1905. Membership organizations have raised their dues several times. Up to now we have held the line.

The Board of Directors of National Audubon has voted to increase membership dues in Regular, Sustaining and Life categories. Also in the husband-wife memberships in the Regular and Sustaining categories.

The new rates will apply to all membership renewable in September 1958, and thereafter. Notice of such changes will be mailed to members with each renewal notice mailed during the next 12 months.

NEW RATES

Regular	\$6.50
Regular (husband & wife)...	10.00
Sustaining	12.50
Sustaining (husband & wife)	20.00
Active	25.00
Supporting	50.00
Contributing	100.00
Life	300.00.

The Board simultaneously voted to terminate, effective September 1, 1958, the Student category of membership which has been applicable only to branches. At that time the Society will invite them to become regular branch members.

--- Gene Hebbron

TO NON-MEMBERS - Owing to the increase in the price of printing and postage, we are forced to curtail the number of issues of the Sequoia Audubon Society Bulletin, so we will only send it to those non-members who are really interested in receiving it. If you wish to receive further issues of the Sequoia Audubon Society Bulletin, please send your name and address to Mrs. Eugenia Hebbron, Circulation Manager, 1055 Black Mt. Road, Hillsborough, before October 15, 1958.

SCREEN TOURS

The preliminary plans for the 1958-1959 Screen Tours have been completed. They will be held as usual in the San Mateo High School Auditorium, Bellevue Avenue and Delaware.

Five tours have been selected by National for the West Coast area. On Tuesday, November 4, the first of the series, Robert Hermes will present "Ranch of the Purple Flower". This is a film on Venezuelan wildlife of the Orinoco basin.

Tuesday, December 2, Mr. William H. Wagoner, Jr., will show films of sub-tropical wildlife of Florida Bay.

The next tour will not be given until Tuesday, February 10, when Mr. Leonard Hall will lecture on conservation while presenting Karl Maslowski's photography and sound recordings of "Waterway Wildlife." These scenes are of a mid-western watershed area.

G. Harrison Orians brings to us the "Great Smoky Skyland" on Monday, March 16. This region is one of our greatest wildernesses and shows us something of the primitive civilization of mountain folk.

The last screen tour, Tuesday, April 21, will be "East and West from Hudson Bay," by Arthur A. Allen. Mr. Allen is a professor at Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y., and has made a study of birdlife in these Arctic regions.

It is hoped that the members of the Sequoia Audubon Society will plan to attend these screen tours and to spread the information of such instruction and inspiring entertainment about this great, wide, wonderful land of ours.

-- Katherine E. Lake

FIESTA 1958

To all those who so willingly gave their time to help with the planning, construction and maintenance of the Audubon Booth at the Fiesta, I wish to express my great appreciation and to say "THANK YOU ALL."

Claire Stewart, who planned and painted the back drops of "Animal Tracks,"

Fiesta 1958 (cont'd)

which attracted a great deal of attention and interest among the visitors to the booth.

Avilene Butler for the printing of bird menus, conservation signs and many good suggestions.

Dorothy Lilly for suggestions, greens and other objects for decorations. Also for help in the transporting of materials.

Gene Hebbro for recruiting members to act as host and hostess in the booth during the Fiesta.

Will Harman, who did the construction work; also had some fine suggestions for decorating of the booth.

Georgiana Larsen for transportation of materials.

Sumner Bump, who so ably assisted in the 'clean up' job, when the Fiesta was over.

Again, thank you one and all for making my job lighter and most pleasant.

--Mary Miller

Chairman of the Fiesta Booth

NATIVE PLANTS - SEPT. -OCT.

In September and October our fields and woods distinctly remind us that winter is coming. The pre-eminence of bright green foliage yields to the quieter shadowing of the changed mood. The grassy areas are now brown; and the bright highlights in the darkening woods are mostly the yellowing leaves of willow, ash and maple instead of blossoms. The leaves of the smooth and creek dogwoods are becoming translucent and turning red.

Only a few plants choose this as their favorite blossoming period. Among these are lessingia (lessingia leptoclada), California mugwort (artemisia vulgaris, var. heterophylla), Douglas baccharis, golden rod, hairy bird's beak (cordylanthus pilosus), San Francisco willow herb (epilobium francisum), panicled willow herb

(cont'd on next page)

(Native Plants Cont'd)

(epilobium paniculatum), and coyote brush (baccharis pilularis, var. consanguinea). Most of these are not brightly colored.

A few late summer wildflowers continue their blooming well into September-October period. Among these are common aster, yellow star thistle, showy madia and sneezeweed.

On the toyon bushes, the green berries are appearing. They must be ripe and red by Christmas. The blue elderberries and the honeysuckle berries are ripening (the red elderberries of the coastal canyons have long since ripened and disappeared); and the fruits are beginning to show on the gray-green-brown buckeye trees.

This is fall:

-- J. Ed. (Jed) McClellan

SEASONAL OBSERVATIONS

To pack a whole summer's observations into one report is, of course, not possible. Even the highlights get out of hand--bird nesting news, for example--the California thrasher that nested in or near the Harmans' yard in San Carlos--the antics of the courtship dances of Allen and Anna humming birds, and the amusing imitations of these by adolescent young hummers - the late nesting mocking bird whose nest was exposed by the pruning of a small tree. The mocker rebuilt in a nearby acacia and was feeding its young the first week in August. The unused abandoned nest was on display in the Audubon booth at the Fiesta - a large loosely woven nest of grasses and weed stalks sparsely lined with hair and plant fibers. Then there was the progressive tragedy which developed when a man cut down the heavy ivy growth from his house the end of June. Neighborhood boys brought me a mitt full of eggs--mostly sparrows. The frantic sparrows attacked the cliff swallows' colony farther down the block, pushing out over a dozen young and many more eggs, enlarging the entrance holes, dragging in sticks and grass while the cliff swallows dive-bombed them in frenzy and pulled at their tails--the losers, of course, in an unequal contest.

Seasonal Observations (cont'd)

An interesting episode concerned the firmness of the nesting cycle of linnets. A linnet's partially constructed nest was removed from a hanging basket of begonias which needed frequent watering. By the time the householder checked again a completed nest was in the same place. So -- a telephone call to the "Birdlady" - I suggested hanging a small empty basket nearby and transferring the nest to it. Sure enough, under the urge to lay her eggs in that nest, the linnet went on with her natural cycle and successfully raised a brood in the transplanted nest.

Three young San Carlos birdwatchers, about 11 years old, went on a Saturday bird walk of their own and came excitedly to report to me 22 species they had identified without a doubt. The future of bird watching would seem to be in good hands.

Jim and I attended the second session of Audubon Camp at Norden in July, and a whole row of exclamation points would not suffice to indicate what a wonderful time we had. The place, people, weather, instructors, Director and service, food and fun --all were absolutely TOPS. Start planning to go next year. No one should miss it!

--- Aveline Butler

FIELD TRIP TO NEW COUNTY PARK NEAR SAN BRUNO -- APRIL 26, 1958

A group of 10 people enjoyed the trip to this new San Mateo County Park, which proved a most attractive area. However a dense and verdant cover defied the efforts of the bird watchers' best binoculars to penetrate. Nevertheless some 22 species were identified by sight or sound. The highlight of the trip was the tour of the beautiful garden belonging to Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas Kroll. Mr. Kroll raises hundreds of kinds of cacti. All were thrilled by the secluded woodland beauty of the garden with its large conifers providing shade for beautiful ferns and other "woody" species.

-- Ruth Breckenridge

FIELD TRIP TO SEARSVILLE LAKE, MAY 10

The varied habitats at Searsville--dense growth of water plants, open water, woody thickets, chaparral covered hill-sides, and open fields, attract birds of many kinds. Our day's list totaled out at 41 including: Brown towhee, spotted towhee, black phoebee, red-winged black-bird, Brewer blackbird, valley quail, hermit thrush, russet-back thrush, scrub jay, great blue heron, green heron, cliff swallow, barn swallow, violet-green swallow, tree swallow, turkey vulture, morning dove, coot, killdeer, junco, yellow-throat, mallard, songsparrow, linnet, fox sparrow, bushtit, willow goldfinch, Bewick wren, brown thrasher, Anna hummingbird, Allen hummingbird, wrenit, black-headed grosbeak, yellow warbler, ash-throated flycatcher, Western bluebird, Western warbling vireo (and nest), olive-sided flycatcher. Number 41 -- the dramatic discovery of the day was spotted by our sharp-eyed Neil--a golden eagle flying majestically far, far above us!

-- R. Breckenridge, Reporter.

FIELD TRIP TO BUTANO FOREST, May 24, 1958

Because of the great size of the cathedral like trees of the Butano, birds are hard to see, but we did observe the following: Wrenit, Allen humming bird, black-headed grosbeak, orange-crowned warbler, russet-back thrush, California thrasher, red-tailed hawk, junco, chickadee, Stellar jay, scrub jay, green-backed goldfinch, willow goldfinch, California quail, and song sparrow.

As if to make amends for the reticence of the birds, the plants are conspicuous. Here, the California rhododendron grows to the height of a small tree, and its beautiful, brilliant rose flowers are spectacular. Less so, is the Knob-cone pine which grows only in Oregon and California in a few widely scattered localities. Two showy chaparral shrubs of the area are Chinquapin and Chaparral pea. Squaw grass, usually associated with more northerly climes, thrives here. As if attempting to produce the greatest contrast possible, two dwarf plants grow beneath the towering Redwoods and bloom abundantly--the beautiful little dwarf yellow violet and the dwarf Mariposa lily. Other plants in full bloom were Yerba santa, Lotus, Malocothrix, Milkwort,

Starflower, Zygadene, Pride of Calif., Madia, Modesty, Woodrose, and Yellow birdfoot.

Expert identification of the plants of the region by the leader, J. Ed. McClellan, did much to make the trip to the Butano a memorable one.

R. Breckenridge, Reporter.

The field trip to Sawyer Camp

Road on June 7, led by J. Ed. McClellan, who has made a special study of this area and has compiled an impressive plant check-list, now numbering 10 pages, provided a treasure trove of plants and birds, as well as a view of a large buck deer and a glimpse of a bob-cat slipping through the brush near the edge of the road.

DIRECTORY OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEECHAIRMEN

Mabel Lee, President, 349 Lexington Way, Burlingame, Di 2-2428

Ruth Breckenridge, Vice-President

135 Lorton Ave., Burl., Di 3-4216.

Methyl Shearer, Secretary, 8 - 2d Ave., San Mateo, Di 3-0375.

Wm. C. Harman, Treasurer, 656 Cedar St., San Carlos LY 3-6040.

Eugenia Hebbroon, Corres. Sec., 1055

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Don Valentine, 800 Jefferson Ct., San Mateo - Di 3-2898

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Fiesta-Mary Miller, 616 Millbrae Ave., Millbrae, Ox 7-5466

Publicity- Marian Harman, 656 Cedar St., San Carlos, Ly 3-6040.

Field Trips - J. Ed. McClellan, 1356 Bernal Burl., Di 4-3486.

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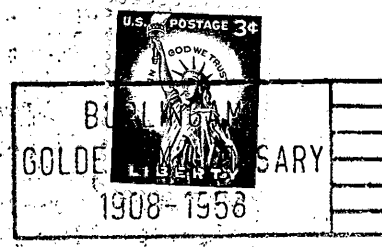
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Screen Tours, Katherine Lake, Ox 7-1305
Seasonal Observations - Avilene Butler,
Ly 3-4489, and All members of the
Sequoia Audubon Society who have
an interesting bird observation to
report.

Contributions

Contributions should be typed if possible, single-spaced and in 3-1/2 inch columns as they appear in the bulletin (this saves retyping by editor when setting up bulletin). As mimeographed material will be limited to 5 pages, it may be necessary to cut some of the articles submitted; therefore subjects should be covered as briefly as necessary. It will be appreciated greatly if all items are received by the 20th of the month preceding publication; for example, items for the Nov-Dec. Bulletin should be submitted by October 20.
-- Elizabeth Baker, Editor

Return to Sequoia Audubon Society Bulletin
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(Form 3547 requested)



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