



BULLETIN of the SEQUOIA AUDUBON SOCIETY  
San Mateo County, California

VOL. 12 No. 2  
NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 1958

CALENDAR - NOVEMBER - DECEMBER

NOV. 4 - POT LUCK DINNER AND SCREEN TOUR.

POT LUCK AT 6 p.m., 2d floor, Educational Bldg., Congregational Church, Corner Ellsworth and Tilton, San Mateo. For Reservations phone: Mabel Lee, at Di 2-2428; or Alice Steele (evenings only) at Di 4-8317. SCREEN TOUR: 8 p.m., San Mateo High School Auditorium, Bellevue & Delaware. Robert C. Hermes of Homestead, Florida presents Ranch of Purple Flowers (Venezuelan wildlife in color). Election returns will be announced at intervals during the screen tour. COME AND BRING YOUR FRIENDS.

NOV. 8 FIELD TRIP (SATURDAY) At Cuesta La Honda. Meet at intersection of Woodside-La Honda Road and Skyline Blvd. at 9 a.m.

NOV. 13 (THURSDAY) Regular meeting. Burlingame Recreation Center, 8 p.m. Topic: "Northwest Indians - Native Art and the Potlatch." Speaker, Mrs. Dorothy Lilly. (Mrs. Lilly has made an extensive study of the Indians of the Pacific Northwest, and her discussion will be an interesting one. She will bring a number of beautiful and authentic specimens of Indian arts and crafts.

NOV. 15 (SATURDAY) - FIELD TRIP at Stow Lake. Meet at Stow Lake in Golden Gate Park at 9 a.m.

NOV. 23 (SUNDAY) Field Trip at Los Banos Game and Wildlife Refuge. (Mr. Watinbarger, warden). Meet at Tiny's Restaurant on Highway 152 in Los Banos at 8:30 a.m. Take warm wraps.

DEC. 6 (SATURDAY) Field Trip at Spring Valley Lakes. Meet at Water Temple on Canada Road at 8:30 a.m.

DEC. 11 (THURSDAY) Regular Meeting. Burlingame Recreation Center, 8 p.m. Topic, "Uganda, Africa." Speaker - Mr. Donald H. Fry, Jr. (Mr. Fry and his family have spent the past year in Uganda. He will tell about his experiences there and will show his slides. Mr. Fry is an excellent photographer, and his pictures include many of the birds and other animals of Uganda.

DEC. 27 - (SATURDAY) The Christmas Count. If you would like to help in this important annual bird count, please phone Jed McClellan, Di 4-3486, and arrange to work in your favorite area, or give a report on visitors to your own garden or feeding tray. Both species and numbers of birds are needed.

SCREEN TOUR TICKETS

Season tickets for the 1958-1959 screen tours have been mailed to those loyal, enthusiastic subscribers who purchased their tickets in April.

On October 8, Mrs. Hebbroon and her mailing committee sent out about four hundred letters and folders inviting others to take advantage of the opportunity to see and hear these beautiful instructive films.

To date a few prompt persons have mailed in requests, and tickets have been sent to them.

As Chairman of the Screen Tours, I wish to thank all these who have responded, and special thanks to the one who sent a stamped addressed envelope for her ticket.

--Katherine Lake

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WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

The Society wishes to extend a warm welcome to the following new members:

Mrs. Mary Young  
Mr. Richard De Voe  
Mr. Johannes Joos

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HAVE YOU CHANGED YOUR ADDRESS?

If so, please notify circulation manager, Mrs. Jack Hebbroon, 1055 Black Mountain Road, Hillsborough, so there will be no delay in sending out your copy of the Bulletin and other notices.

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BIRD NOTES

Autumn is really with us again! The Mocking Bird that spent last winter with us arrived September 23. The first White Crown Sparrow came to the feeder on Sept. 24, and was followed on the 28th by one Golden Crown Sparrow. I noticed three more Golden Crowns the next day. For the past two years there have been 20 Golden Crowns with us for the winter, but so far this year only these four. I wonder if all the rest met with disaster or changed their feeding territory.-- Gene Hebbroon.

KALEIDOSCOPE!

The first meeting of the Sequoia Chapter was attended by an appreciative group of Kaleidoscope enthusiasts on Sept. 11. This annual slide fest of vacation pictures might appropriately have been called, "America the Beautiful."

Mr. and Mrs. James Butler led us off on our travels with interesting slides taken at California's delightful Audubon Camp in the High Sierra near Norden. Then Mrs. David Sears took us across our wide United States in a tour which included many places of interest. We all wished we could "borrow" Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Baker's rustic cabin at Lonesome Cove, San Juan Island, Wash., from where they explored some of the waterways of beautiful Puget Sound. When Miss Charlotte Klock went to Alaska, she had planned on a brief visit, but remained to take a position as counselor in a girls' camp. Her slides and discussion of her experiences gave us a worthwhile insight into the beauties of our newest state.

Those attending agreed that another Kaleidoscope was a "must," so the date has been set for January 9, 1959, at which time Mr. and Mrs. Don Valentine and Mr. and Mrs. Jack Hebbroon will show us their vacation slides. Is there anybody else we haven't caught up with? If so, please be sure to let us know.

-- Ruth Breckenridge  
Program Chairman

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MEETING OF OCTOBER 9

Our President, Mabel Lee greeted those present and presented Ruth Breckenridge, who gave an introductory talk about the film, "The Wilderness Alps of Stehekin." This color and sound film ran for 30 minutes and held the audience of 30 persons enthralled by its breath-taking beauty. Surely this beautiful and virgin country should be preserved for the pleasure of generations to come.

-- Gene Hebbroon

CONSERVATION PROGRAM

Our Conservation Chairman, Claire Stewart reports the following projects to be considered during the coming year:

(1) To keep informed on Dove Legislation which will come up again next spring. In this connection she requests that each member of our chapter write to:

Hon. Frank P. Belotti  
Interim Committee on Fish & Game  
Capitol Building  
Sacramento, California,

and request that he give favorable consideration to dove legislation Bill No. 2307.

(2) To find out about the paid trapper of San Mateo County.

(3) To write Fish & Game Commission as to the legality of actual duck call records used by hunters.

(4) To inquire about the Chamber of Commerce weed control plan with chemicals, and refer them to the article in the March-April Audubon Magazine, 1958, on destructive use of poisons.

Mrs. Ohliger, Kathleen Weber and Mrs. Lorenz have generously offered to assist in this program. Other members interested in participating, please contact Claire Stewart, Chairman, LY 3-0393.

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HAWAIIAN BIRDS

On our recent visit in Hawaii, we found that most of the birds there have been introduced into the Islands. We managed to identify a few, but there were some that we didn't know. Those we could identify were: Minah Birds, Chinese Spotted Doves, Rice Birds, Cardinals, and English Sparrows. Along the rugged cliffs and in the craters of volcanoes, we saw Tropic Birds--a light grey bird with two long-flowing tail feathers. We saw a couple of Frigate Birds on the coastal area.

On the rugged, dry slopes of the volcano, Haleakala, in the island of Maui, we saw Pheasants and Chukar Partridges. These last named were

identified for us by the National Park Ranger, who also told us that the Plovers we saw in the fields and on the lawns in the town of Hana, was the American Golden Plover that had just arrived from their summer home in the Aleutian Islands to spend the winter. We were pleased to see them, as they rarely appear on the Western Coast of California. -- Gene Hebbbron

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NATIVE PLANTS -NOVEMBER-DECEMBER

Wild currant and manzanita begin to bloom as early as November.

Laurel trees start blooming in November or December.

The hazel bushes begin to shine with tiny new catkins in November.

The silk tassel bushes (*Gaviya elliptica*) and some of the willows show new catkins in December.

The leatherwood bushes put out tiny flower buds in December.

The Gorse bushes (European) are in full bloom before Christmas (especially at the dam between Spring Valley Lower Reservoir and San Andreas Lake)--their bright yellow blossoms seeming to defy the winter season.

German Ivy (which is neither German nor ivy, but a trailing species of *senedio* from Africa) covers large areas, both on the ground and as a climbing mantle over trees and shrubs, with its bright yellow blossoms in December and January. Look for it along the Coast Highway north of the Half Moon Bay road.

FRUITS

In November and December, the Buckeye trees, Coast Liveoaks and California Laurel drop their ripening fruits on the ground, and the woods are bright with berries--red honeysuckle, madrone and toyon berries and white snowberries. In December the coyote bush seed parachutes take to the air.

(continued on next page)

Native Plants - contd.

LEAVES, FRONDS, AND MOSSES

The maples, ashes, dogwoods and willows hold many of their leaves (yellow, pink, red, orange, and green) well into the November-December period; but the buckeye trees present bare limbs hung with their conspicuous fig-like fruits. In protected places some of the bright scarlet leaves of poison oak remain through November.

These are the leaves of the old year; but in December, the ninebark bushes begin to show new leaves; and even in November the bright green new fronds of licorice fern, leatherleaf fern and gold-back fern spring up in abundance and the low annual plants begin to green the earth - new grasses, teasel leaves, and miscellaneous cotyledons. And, do walk through the woods in the rain, to see the mosses!  
(\*also soap plant leaves and cow parsnip shoots)

J. Ed. (Jed) McClellan

FIELD TRIP TO GOLDEN GATE PARK -  
SEPTEMBER 14, 1958

On Sunday morning, September 14, 1958, Golden Gate Park was sunny and pleasantly warm. We met at a parking area in the Park, near the Chain of Lakes, and began our bird-watching right there among the cars, seeing from there mallard ducks, morning doves, Brewer blackbirds, valley quail, western robins, a red-shafted flicker, English sparrows, a sparrow hawk and a killdeer. Then we walked slowly along the trails around the lakes and added to our list cedar waxwing, black phoebe, white-crowned sparrow, anna hummingbird, chestnut-backed chickadee, red-breasted nuthatch, yellow warbler, western tanager, hairy woodpecker, Bullock oriole, American coot, brown towhee, winter wren, California creeper, western flycatcher, yellow throat, western wood peewee, western warbling vireo, and Oregon junco.

The tall trees on a little hill kept us looking skyward for a considerable time. The tops were full of birds, of several kinds; and the difficulty of seeing and identifying the birds at

such a height from directly below, was a real challenge, both to our necks and to our knowledge of birds.

The biggest thrill of the morning came when a little creeper spread his wings and tail out against a tree trunk right in front of us and within a few feet took a leisurely sun bath, giving us a very rare opportunity to study his markings almost as minutely as if we had held him in our hands.

-- J. Ed. (Jed) McClellan  
Field Trip Chairman

FIELD TRIP - OCTOBER 11, 1958

We were scheduled to study shore birds along Dumbarton Bridge on Saturday, October 11; but the opening of the duck-hunting season was scheduled for the same day. So - we found the bridge area pre-empted by numbers of hunters and the air ringing with gun shots. We left and reassembled at the Water Temple at Upper Reservoir of the Spring Valley Lakes and worked north along the lakes to the dam at the southerly end of San Andreas Lake, adjourning a little after 12 o'clock at the boom.

We saw a very satisfying combination of land birds and water birds, including: purple finch, scrub jay, brewer blackbird, song sparrow, golden-crowned sparrow, spotted towhee, brown towhee, Oregon junco, wren, red-shafted flicker, sparrow hawk, red-tailed hawk, Cooper hawk, green-backed goldfinch, Hutton vireo, valley quail, meadowlark, turkey vulture, chestnut-backed chickadee, Audubon warbler, black phoebe, American coot, great blue heron, Baird cormorant, mallard duck, pintail duck, bald pate duck, lesser scaup, shoveler duck, pied-billed grebe, eared grebe, killdeer, belted kingfisher, spotted sandpiper and greater yellowlegs.

Of special interest was an Audubon warbler busily searching the abandoned cliff swallow nests at the San Mateo Creek dam and occasionally flying out to catch in the air an insect that took wing.

J. Ed. (Jed) McClellan  
Field Trip Chairman

## ANNOUNCING.

WESTERN NATURE PHOTOGRAPHIC SALON  
FOR WEST COAST AUDUBON BRANCHES AND  
AFFILIATES

To be displayed at ASILOMAR CONVENTION, PACIFIC GROVE, CALIF., March 21, 22, 23, 24, 1959. Each Audubon Branch and Affiliate in Arizona, Oregon, Washington, and Wyoming is invited to submit ONE (1) photograph in each of TEN (10) designated categories. A panel of 3 judges (including Roger Tory Peterson), will select the winner in each of the categories as well as designating the winner of the 1st, 2d, 3d, GRAND PRIZES. Blue ribbons will be awarded to the winners in each category and prizes presented to the winning GRAND PRIZES.

Conditions of Entry

- A. Black and White (monochrome) Prints. Prints must be at least 5" x 7" (preferably larger) and mounted on cardboard backing to facilitate display. The usual salon board is suggested.
- B. All subject matter must depict NATIVE WESTERN WILDLIFE or PLANT LIFE.
- C. The 10 categories to be presented are: BIRDS, MAMMALS, REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS, INSECTS and other ANTHROPODS, MARINE LIFE, PHOTO MICROGRAPHS, WILDFLOWERS, TREES, SHRUBS, AND FUNGI.
- D. Branches and Affiliates must submit their entries on or before March 1, 1959, to the National Audubon Soc. Asilomar Convention, 2426 Bancroft Way, Berkeley 4, California.
- E. Participants must be a member or the Branch or Affiliate presenting their work.
- F. Entries will receive every care but the Society cannot be responsible for loss or damage. Winning photographs will be displayed at the Pacific Coast Headquarters of the National Audubon Society, before being returned.

Bill Goodall's suggestion that each chapter have its own local contest with appropriate judges at our January or February meeting will be discussed at our regular meeting in November.

Write your senator and congressman at Senate Office Bldg., Wash. 25, D.C. and House Office Bldg., " " " " to give favorable consideration to Wilderness Bill (new No. S-4028).

This year is the centennial of the birth of Theodore Roosevelt. It has been said that he and Governor Pinchot were our greatest conservationists, but let us not overlook the men in this day and age such as Senator Humphreys of Minnesota, Douglas of Illinois and Neuberger of Oregon, who devote a great deal of their time to some worthwhile causes. During the past year Senator Humphreys of Minn. has presented the following bills before the Senate:

1. Would prohibit inhuman methods of slaughtering food animals. Twelve meat packing houses now follow humane methods and it is hoped that all will accept this idea without being compelled to do so. There is a sentiment in Congress to make it illegal to continue to use brutal methods.
2. Another bill would make it illegal to take an animal by any method except one that will either capture it without injury, or kill it instantly. Traps must be cleared every 24-hours. The Amer. Humane Assn. has offered a prize of \$20,000 for a trap that will accomplish this purpose.
3. Another bill would make it mandatory to have congressional authorization before any land now set aside for wildlife use can be preempted by any other governmental agency such as defense. --Whittier Observer (an Audubon Bulletin)\*\*\*\*\*

Whooping cranes are about to begin their perilous fall migration from Canada to Texas--crossing six of our states and two provinces of Canada. The flock numbered 26 last year when it left Texas last spring to fly to its remote wilderness nesting area in Canada, a 2500 mi. flight. Although protected they have often been mistaken for other birds by gunners. People along the flyway, which extends through North and So. Dakota, Neb., Kan., Oklahoma, and Texas, are asked to report to their game wardens or conservation departments if they see what appears to be whooping cranes, and are requested to refrain from shooting in the area.

PUBLICATION STAFF

Editor and Stencils - Mrs. Eliz. Baker,  
457 - 26th Ave., San Mateo, FI 5-5335  
Asst. Editor - Mrs. Eugenia Hebbron,  
1055 Black Mt. Road, Hillsborough  
DI 3-0415.

Reporters

Program - Ruth Breckenridge (DI 3-4216)

Jr. Audubon - Eliz. Evans (LY 3-4533)

Publicity - Marian Harman (LY 3-6040)

Field Trips - "Jed" McClellan (DI 4-3486)

Conservation - Claire Stewart (LY 3-0393)

Screen Tours - Katherine Lake (OX 7-1305)

Seasonal Observations Avilene Butler

LY 3-4489 - and other members who  
are good enough to send their inter-  
esting observations to Bul. editor.

OFFICERS

Mrs. Mabel Lee, President (DI 2-2428)  
346 Lexington Way, Burlingame

Miss Ruth Breckenridge, Vice President  
135 Lorton Ave., Burlingame (DI 3-4216)

Methyl Shearer, Secretary (DI 3-0375)  
8 - 2d Ave., San Mateo

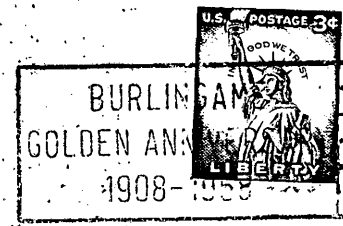
Wm. C. Harman, Treasurer (LY 3-6040)  
656 Cedar Street, San Carlos.

Eugenia Hebbron, Corres. Sec., (DI 3-0415)  
1055 Black Mt. Road, Hillsborough

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Thanks to all Chairmen who sent in  
their reports by October 20. Reports  
for JAN-FEB. Bulletin should be sent  
to the Editor by no later than Dec. 26.  
THANK YOU! -Elizabeth Baker, Editor.

(Suggestion -- Field trip and program  
reports may be sent in to the Editor  
immediately after meetings or field  
trips. Stencils could then be typed  
at intervals instead of all at one  
time).

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Return to Sequoia Audubon Society Bulletin  
c/o Mrs. Jack Hebbron  
1055 Black Mountain Road  
Hillsborough, California  
(Form 3547 requested)



Mr. & Mrs. Neil Dickinson  
554 Oak Park Way  
Redwood City, Calif.