



VOL. 12, No. 22

BULLETIN

April - 1961

APRIL CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

Regular Meeting - April 13, 1961
Thursday at 8:00 P.M. Washington School
in Burlingame.

The Richfield film on wild flowers will be shown. From all reports this film is very beautiful and is in such demand that it had to be reserved months in advance.

Please come and bring your friends.

FIELD TRIPS

APRIL 8, 1961 (SATURDAY)

Field trip to Petrified Forest,
Leader: Ruth Breckenridge.
Meet at junction of Highway 101 and
Mark West (Petrified Forest) Road,
about 4 miles north of Santa Rosa,
at 10 A.M.

Take lunch or plan to eat at coffee
shop at the Park.

There is an entrance fee of 70¢ per
person.

APRIL 23, 1961 (SUNDAY)

Bunker Hill Road.
Leader: Bea Brainard.
Meet at San Mateo Creek Dam on Sky-
line Blvd., at 8:30 A.M. (Then if
parking area usable go to parking
area on Polhemus Road and walk up
Bunker Hill Road and back).

BIRD WALKS FOR APRIL

APRIL 12--Meet at Borel Ave and El
Camino at 8:30 a.m.

APRIL 26--Meet at Crystal Spring Dam
at 8:30 a.m. for walk on
Sawyer Road.

Gene Hebborn, Leader

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

At this time of year we suddenly
realize that time is racing along at
a jet-age clip. We realize that summ-
er is almost here, and we wonder how
we have managed to leave undone so
many of the things we had planned to do.
(continued)

The officers and directors who have had the privilege of guiding Sequoia Audubon Society activities this year are also thinking about the things we have left undone. At the top of this list is the regret we feel over not having met and talked with all of you personally. We wonder about those of you who do not take an active part in our activities. Is there any way we could reorganize in order to meet your needs and interests?

We also wonder about those of you who formerly made such enjoyable contributions to our bulletin. The activities, experiences, and observations, of our members, whether or not they have been former contributors, would make interesting reading. Your activities to not have to constitute "great moments in history" in order to be of interest. What have you seen or done at home or while traveling? What do you plan to do this summer? If you are the verbal type, or if the spirit does not move you to put pen to paper, why not phone the bulletin editor, Miss Carol Boyd, or one of the officers or directors? We'll be glad to "put you into print!"

Ruth Breckenridge

FEBRUARY 9 MEETING - TREES - THE
REDWOODS

Mr. J. Ed. (Jed) McClellan's annual talk on plants, always eagerly anticipated, was as enjoyable and informative as ever.

It was indeed most appropriate for Jed to choose the Redwoods for his topic, especially since so many place names and organization names, including our own Sequoia Audubon Society, honor these interesting and unique trees.

Jed told us that Redwood lumbering was one of the first extensive industries in our county and that Redwood timber is still being harvested. There are several public parks in our county in which Redwoods are preserved.

The Redwoods are members of the Taxodium family which also includes the Bald Cypress, Japanese Cypress, Chinese Fir, Umbrella-Pine and Dawn Redwood.

The Sequoias comprise one of the oldest groups of trees and are relics of a vanishing tribe. They appeared in the Mesozoic Era, about 135 million years ago.

The Dawn Redwood was thought to be long extinct until it was re-discovered in China in 1944. Unlike the other Redwoods, the Dawn Redwood is deciduous.

The Coast Redwood (*Sequoia sempervirens*), for which our Audubon Society is named, is considered to be the tallest tree in the world. The Coast Redwood is found in the Coast Ranges only, in areas visited by summer fog, from seal level to 3,000 feet. The Coast Redwood ground sprouts, and thus forms circles around old stumps.

The Giant Sequoia or California Big Tree (*Sequoia gigantea*) is not as tall as the Coast Redwood, but it has greater girth. Excepting possibly the Bristlecone Pine and the Montezuma Cypress, the Giant Sequoia is considered to be the oldest living thing on earth. The Giant Sequoia is now limited to a few groves scattered through the Sierra Nevada Mountains.

The interesting and informative mimeographed outline of his talk which Jed gave his audience helped make his presentation more meaningful. Copies of this outline are still available for those who failed to get one at the meeting.

Jed's display of books and other pertinent materials was greatly enjoyed. A highlight of the display this year was a number of exquisite original paintings of native California wildflowers which Jed has been collecting through the years.

Ruth Breckenridge

THE STINSON BEACH FIELD TRIP

The morning of March 4 started out with clouds and rain, but a large and enthusiastic group convened at the vista area at the Marin County end of Golden Gate Bridge. The good birding started right there and continued all day. The rain, and even the clouds, were soon replaced with bright sunshine.

We enjoyed a delightful day in the country, including a picnic lunch at Tomales Bay State Park.

Among the birds reported were Surf Scoter, Cormorant, Scaup, Coot, Golden-eye, Snowy Egret, Brewer Blackbird, Crow, White-crowned Sparrow, Raven, Buzzard, Loon, Kingfisher, Ruddy Duck, Canvas-back, Pintail, Willet, Eared Grebe, Bufflehead, Pied-billed Grebe, Killdeer, Sparrow Hawk, Bluebird, Meadowlark, Dove, Redwing Blackbird, Robin, Phoebe, Shrike, Red-tailed Hawk, Scrub Jay, Varied Thrush, White-winged Scoter, American Scoter, Audubon Warbler, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Gull sp., Woodpecker sp.

J. Ed. (Jed) McClellan

POINT REYES NATIONAL SEASHORE bills have been introduced by Congressman Clem Miller, H.R. 2775, and Senators Clair Engle and Thos. H. Kuchel jointly, S 476.

These identical measures would authorize the Secretary of the Interior to acquire up to 53,000 acres for the park on the Point Reyes peninsula in Marin County north of San Francisco. There is at present a very active group working in Marin County to save this area from the developers.

THE NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY and NATURE CENTERS FOR YOUNG AMERICA, INC. national non-profit organizations, are merging in order to intensify a campaign to insure that America's city children will have places to experience the world of nature and study conservation.

The staff and program of Nature Centers for Young America will be operated as a division and coordinated with the Audubon Society's other educational activities. Publications of the Society will be used along with NCYA literature to promote the Nature Center movement in cities where the need is recognized.

The National Audubon Society, probably the nation's best known conservation organization, was incorporated in 1905. While stressing conservation education, it also maintains a chain of sanctuaries for the protection of rare or endangered species of wildlife, conducts biological research, and operates Audubon Camps for the training of teachers and other adults in ecology and techniques of conservation education. It speaks as a citizen's organization on public conservation issues.

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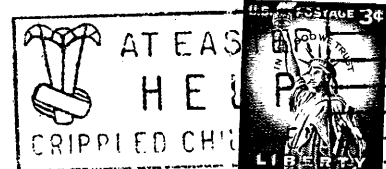
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 (Form 3547 requested)



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