



FIELD TRIP TO PILAR POINT ON OCT. 28

On a windy day which early in the morning had threatened rain, we found quiet, warm sunshine on the beach below the cliff of Pilar Point. This trip was led by Mr. and Mrs. Montgomery. On the way to the Point those in the first cars had an excellent opportunity to see the Heerman's Gulls at close range. Several hundreds of these gulls congregated about the breakwater. Audubon warblers were on the rocks everywhere. There were the usual sanderlings, knots and black turnstones. Others seen along the cliff and on the bay were the water pipit, Say's phoebe and black phoebe, pelagic cormorant, ruddy duck, red-breasted merganser, surf scoter, white winged scoter, and western grebe. Red-tailed hawks and a marsh hawk were observed as we left the Point.

There were many sparrows and finches in the fields beside the road leading to Dune's Beach, but the strong wind kept them too low for good observation.

A. E. Montgomery

THE ANSWER TO 1001 QUESTIONS

ATTENTION CONSERVATION MINDED CHRISTMAS SHOPPERS: Buy books, stationary, binoculars, and many other charming and useful gifts from National Audubon Society and have the satisfaction of knowing that the proceeds from your purchases help to support the education programs of the National Society. Selections may be made for delivery by mail from **THE ANSWER TO 1001 QUESTIONS ABOUT NATURE GIFTS**, a brochure received by all members and Sequoia subscribers, or at National Audubon Society Conservation Resource Center, 2426 Bancroft Way, Berkeley 4, California. Copies of the brochure are also available to nonsubscribers by writing to the above address.

EDITOR'S NOTE: A report of the November 19 Field Trip to the Foothills above Redwood City including a list of the fifty-nine species of birds observed will appear in the December SEQUOIA.

SORRY - NO MORE POT LUCK DINNERS

Because of the state law enacted in September 1961, we will be unable to have Potluck Dinners in the future.

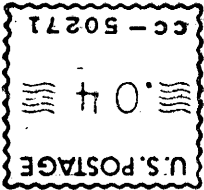
E. Hebborn

THE RICHARDSON BAY TRIP

The early morning of November 4 was obscured by an over-abundance of thick, thick fog. But undeterred as usual by such a minor handicap, Sequoia Auduboners groped their way to the appointed meeting place at Vista Point. Here we were met by our leader, Mrs. Elizabeth Lennon of Marin Audubon Society, who proved to be an expert and charming guide and hostess. By the time we reached Rodeo Lagoon the sun's light, diffused by the fog, had transformed the area into a mysterious fairyland of great beauty. Although there was a number of species of ducks on the lagoon, we were more intrigued by the busy little birds in the trees along the edge of the water. Here a black phoebe was catching his lunch, numerous fox sparrows and golden-crowned sparrows were in evidence, a marsh wren's tilted tail disclosed the owner, and ruby-crowned kinglets displayed their brilliant crown patches. Neil and Oleta, the last ones to leave this miniature paradise, were rewarded by a bittern's flushing in front of their car. Heading seaward, the fog and cold became quite penetrating, but in spite of a rather hasty retreat, the experts had managed to spot a Wilson's snipe. At Strawberry Point the sun was shining, and we had an opportunity to enjoy the stately beauty of American and snowy egrets, and a great blue heron. The call of hunger temporarily curtailed further birding, and we headed for our destination, the National Audubon Society's Richardson Bay Wildlife Sanctuary. As we sat on the terraces eating our bag lunches, we luxuriated in the warm sunshine, impressed by the beauty of Richardson Bay below us, and charmed by the lovely old house which provides a distinctive atmosphere of its own. After lunch, Mr. John Larsen, National Audubon Warden, and our good friend, told us the interesting story of how the sanctuary and the beautiful old house had been obtained for National Audubon Society. He told us that during the winter from 15,000 to 17,000 ducks, gulls, and cormorants visit the sanctuary. He emphasized that all Audubon Society members and their friends are welcome to visit the sanctuary, but that it would be wise to phone (Dunlap 8-9843) and make an appointment. Otherwise a visitor might find himself surrounded by the many groups of school children, scouts, etc., who flock to the sanctuary in almost as large numbers as the birds!

Ruth Breckenridge

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Return to Sequoia Audubon Society Bulletin
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(Form 3547 Requested)

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(Items for Bulletin for each month should be in Editor's hands by 20th of preceding month.)

MEETING

December 7 BOARD MEETING: 8 P.M. at Eugenia Hebron's home, 1055 Black Mountain Rd., Hillsborough. All board members requested to attend.
Thursday
December NO REGULAR MEETING this month.

FIELD TRIP

December 9 GOLDEN GATE PARK: Meet at parking lot inside the Park at the 41st Avenue entrance at 9:00 A.M. Lunch optional. Leader: Mrs. Florence Richardson (FI 5-4443)
Saturday

CHRISTMAS COUNT

The 1961 Annual Christmas Census will be held on December 30. Meeting place will be Pulgas Temple on Canada Road at 8:30 A.M. Persons interested in participating should contact Neil Dickinson. EM 6-7661