



Sequoia Audubon Society is a branch of National Audubon Society. Its purpose is to enjoy and safeguard the wildlife of the Bay area. All interested persons are welcomed at field trips, bird walks and monthly general meetings. PRESIDENT: Mr. U. E. Gras - 425 Alder Lane, San Mateo, FI 1-0575.

MEETINGS

- March 5 BOARD MEETING at the home of President U. E. Gras, Thursday 8:00 pm at 425 Alder Lane, San Mateo. Any member of the Sequoia Audubon Society is welcome to attend.
- March 12 REGULAR MEETING - at Washington School Auditorium, Thursday 8:00 pm 801 Howard Avenue, Burlingame, Miss Maryanne Danielson, Director of the San Mateo County Junior Museum, will tell us about the activities of this very worthwhile and active organization. Miss Danielson and her staff bring nature study and science to many children in our county, and it will be very enlightening to many of us to learn about their operations. The presentation will be enlivened by the live specimens Miss Danielson will have with her. Light refreshments will be served following the program.

FIELD TRIPS

(Alice Steele, Chairman DI 4-8317)

- Mar. 7-8 Mt. TAMALPAIS - ALPINE LODGE Sat-Sun. Visit Muir Woods, and stay overnight on Mt. Tamalpais. MEET: View Point, at north end of Golden Gate Bridge at 9:00 am on Saturday. Stay at California Alpine Lodge on Panoramic Highway, Mt. Tamalpais. Reservations required - cost \$1.50 each, and food as assigned for pot-luck supper and breakfast. Full details will be mailed to all those making reservations. Saturday night dinner at 6:30 pm - stay overnight. Sunday, March 8 - visit Bolinas Lagoons. Meet at California Alpine Club, Mt. Tamalpais, at 9:30 am. Will have lunch in restaurant at Bolinas, or bring own. Hundreds of Black Brant wintered here, and there are egrets, herons, grebes, and shore birds to be seen. Join the group for any part of the outing, if you can't make all of it.
- March 21 SUNOL WATER TEMPLE and CALAVERAS PARK Saturday 8:00 am Leaders: Gene Hebbbron (DI 3-0415) and Lillian Montgomery (DI 4-4249). Meet at 8:00 am at the first parking place on the left on the approach to the Dumbarton Bridge. There we can double up in cars as desired. Birding around the San Francisco Water Temple at Sunol is exceptionally good. Bring lunch, which may be eaten at picnic tables in a pleasant park off Calaveras Road.
- April 4 BUTANO CANYON - annual Skunk Cabbage trip. Saturday Save this date- more details will be given in the next issue.

MID-WEEK BIRD WALKS

A new arrangement for the mid-week walks is to be used in the future. Rather than scheduling them a month or so in advance, they will be "non-scheduled", and will be determined shortly in advance each week. This will give more flexibility in selecting the best time and place. To learn where the walk for any given week will be, call one of the leaders, as follows:

- Gene Hebbbron DI 3-0415
- Florence Richardson FI 5-4443

FIELD TRIP REPORTS

GOLDEN GATE PARK - February 2
A beautiful day - too nice to be inside.
Robins were everywhere, up to 100 at a time on the green meadows, and mourning doves by the dozen with them. White-crowned Sparrows singing everywhere. Hermit Thrushes and nut-hatches in the rhododendron area.
Recommend: use of the bird exhibit of the California Academy of Sciences for identification of difficult species and familiarization with all kinds. There is an excellent Farralone Island nesting display - a San Joaquin Valley and a desert one. Waterfowl and pelicans, shore birds - gulls - warblers, wrens, etc. These birds are real, and sizes and shapes can be made positive. Only defect is on the older exhibits. Some of the plumage has faded, but you will find it well worth your time.
There are not the crowds of last year in the aquarium, but it is still a busy place. If possible be there before it opens and visit it first. Both parking and crowds are reasonable at 9:30 a.m. - the aquarium opens at 10:00 am. Later it is jammed. Tide pool displays with surging waves are outstanding.

HALF MOON BAY AREA - February 15

Beautiful clear day, with a cold wind. Reports of 150 Canada Geese on Lower Crystal Springs Lake and Snow Geese on North Lake as people gathered - 1 pair bluebirds, flickers, white- and gold-crowned sparrows, Bewick's wrens, spotted towhees, and turkey vultures all at meeting place.
Hundreds of Mew Gulls were feeding on fields and following plows. Meadow Larks and Red-wings and Starlings with the Blackbirds. We found Cinnamon and Green-wing Teal, Black Phoebe and Black Turnstones, Snowy Plovers and Loons, Scoters and Western Grebes, wrens and white- and gold-crowns. Golden-eyes and coots in the ponds. Birds everywhere seemed "spooky".
We went to Bonnie and Jed McClellan's lovely cottage in Moss Beach to eat our lunch. This is a real treat. The view is superb - the place is surrounded with birds, the Linnets and Finches are gorgeous in new spring "garb". We, in out of the wind - fine company - nice -

After lunch we explored ponds and side roads. Late pm, Nick Kroll took the last two cars of us to see the many Cinnamon Teal in Pescadero Slough. Finest sight I've seen, and Green-wing Teal, Brant, Gallinules, Snipe, Marsh Hawk, and the Violet - green swallows are back! Thank you Nick.

CONSERVATION NOTES

e community structure there are three elements - commercial, industrial, residential. The first two, often lumped together "invested interests" usually know what they want; aren't afraid about pressing government bodies to get it. The residential is also a "vested interest" but often its voice is scattered, insolute or unheard. But it can not be safely disregarded. And as being heard increasingly, often through local citizens' groups such as ours.

On Saturday, February 8th, a conference in Berkeley of the Northern California Affiliates and branches of the National Audubon Society was closed with an address by President Carl Buchheister. He remarked, "The strength of the National Audubon Society is in the strength of its local branches; and the close ties between them can not be over-emphasized." While our primary and predominate purpose is in educating the public to the values of conservation, we are also (nationally and locally) a citizens' action organization. "Most people just do not know about local issues. It is our duty, as individuals and as a local branch, to speak out on them." He then defined the tax-exempt status to dispel a confusion that often makes local organizations ineffective.

There is a place in our Society for the recreation and social activities. There is also room for this clear challenge to become a force to implement good government; to serve the well-being of the community. Dr. Sam Wood, Co-author of the well received "California, going, going..." report, once remarked that "planning is a relatively new and exciting, glamorous phase of government; one in which the people can make their desires known and have an active part." What can an action group do? To be effective, it must be informed. It can offer constructive suggestions or alternative proposals that make sense. It can work to get and keep competent public officials, both elected and appointed; to back and encourage their good efforts. It can help to fill the vacuum of public indifference in which these dedicated men operate.

What can the Conservation committee do for your Society? Someone recently described a committee as "a group of the unfit from among the unwilling to do the unnecessary" but here is a place for those among us who like action; who are dedicated to maintaining the best of our heritage with vision and good old American courage; who want to see our Society grow in service. But first, we need a committee. Any volunteers?

We've already learned that conservation is not only "way over there" but is also "right up here" with imminent threats of official tyranny reminiscent of that opposed at a famous tea party. At a CSM

Return to: Sequoia Audubon Society Bulletin
c/o Mrs. Bonnie McClellan
1356 Bernal Avenue
Burlingame, California
(Form 3547 Requested)

Public Forum recently, Harold Gilliam spoke; "We live in a land of unmatched beauty, and we are proceeding to ruin it as fast as we can." And Alan Temko added, "Billions are being spent to send some men to the moon, but nothing can be done about a few wooded hills right here in San Mateo County."

Bob Lebkicher
Conservation chairman

WELCOME - NEW MEMBERS

Geraldine Hrabe	Mrs. A. N. Lundholm	Mrs. Frances Dirstine
153070 Osage	795 Roble Ave. Apt. 3	723 W. Capistrano Way
Lawndale, Calif.	Menlo Park, Calif.	San Mateo, Calif.

REPORT ON FEBRUARY MEETING

Following the excellent pot-luck supper, a fine gathering, with many guests, enjoyed Uke Gras' beautiful pictures of his desert trip of last summer. Although the main emphasis was on the Canyon de Chelly and Monument Valley (Arizona), Uke also showed some fine views of the scenery en route. Besides the excellent and spectacular views of the scenic highlights, there were many fine shots of wildlife. Uke described the pictures and the trip, and added much to their showing by his interesting commentary. Many of those viewing the pictures will probably be stirred to visit this scenic region themselves, before long.

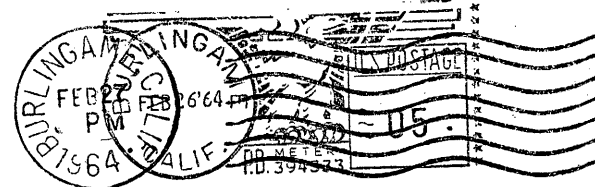
SPECIAL NOTICE - CONSERVATION

Remember to keep Sunday, May 3, open for the combined hike and picnic in the Skyline - Huddart Park, being sponsored jointly by the Committee for Green Foothills and the Loma Prieta Chapter of the Sierra Club. Come and meet some more wonderful people just like yourselves. Details in following Bulletins.

Bob Lebkicher

ATTENTION ADVENTURERS

For anyone with a true love of great adventure, and with the time to enjoy it, Stan Picher of Marin Audubon Society has organized a birding trip to Africa for the coming summer. The trip, a forty day tour of Uganda, Kenya, and Tanganyika, was planned and will be led by John C. Williams, the foremost ornithologist of the region. Right game parks and the widest possible variety of bird habitats will be visited, assuring members of the tour seeing around 600 species of birds and a wide variety of game such as elephant, lion, rhinoceros, hippo, buffalo, etc. For a brochure and further information, write to Stan Picher, P. O. Box 917, Belvedere, California. Monty Montgomery advises that he and Lillian are planning to take this tour, and he has a brochure, so contact Monty for any questions, before writing to Stan Picher, if you wish.



Mr. & Mrs. A. E. Montgomery
2270 Summit Dr.,
Hillsborough, Calif.