



The Sequoia



Sequoia Audubon Society is a branch of National Audubon Society. Its purpose is to enjoy and safeguard the wildlife of the Bar 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

June 4
Thursday
8:00 pm
BOARD MEETING at the home of incoming president John L. Morrill, 505 Costa Rica Avenue, San Mateo. Members of both the outgoing and incoming boards, and committee members for both periods, are requested to attend.

There will be no general meeting in June, the next being scheduled for September 10, to start the new season. Anyone taking photos of interest to our members during the summer are requested to contact our new program chairman, Vice-president Alice Steele, before the September meeting, so that your pictures can be included in our first program.

FIELD TRIPS

(Alice Steele, Chairman DI 4-8317)

June 6
Saturday
7:30 am
Breakfast
Cookout
TILDEN REGIONAL PARK, Berkeley
Leaders: Florence Richardson (FI5-4443) and Carol Boyd (DI 4-5901)
Meeting Place: 401 Spruce St., Berkeley, at corner of Spruce and Grizzly Peak Blvd.

Convenient Route: Leave Eastshore Freeway at University Avenue. Turn left on Sacramento, then right on Cedar, and left on Spruce. Continue on Spruce to the meeting place.

The Laurel Canyon Trail will take us through stream-side willows, eucalyptus, oak, redwood, pine, chaparral, and open grass-covered hillsides. On May 4, 47 species were seen from this trail, including Bullock's Oriole, Lazuli Bunting, Nuttall's Woodpecker, Calliope Hummer.

RESERVATIONS FOR BREAKFAST at 10:30 are necessary by Thursday, June 4. Charge: 60¢ per person. Bring your own silverware. Food and other supplies will be brought by the committee.

After breakfast, continue bird observation or join a group to visit the California native plant collection in the Regional Park's Botanical Garden. Bring Botanic Garden Guide if you have one. You may prefer to hike one of the many trails in this 2,065 acre park. Warm clothing that may be shed by layers as the day progresses is advisable.

June 20-28
ECHO SUMMIT LODGE - Sierras - Highway 50
Bird walks scheduled on June 27 and 28.
The week of June 20 - 28 will be open to reservations from members of Sequoia. Reservations may be made singly or in groups, and for all or part of the time. Good birding, many wildflowers, big trees.
Reasonable rates include all meals. The place is California Alpine Lodge at Echo Summit on Highway 50, overlooking Lake Tahoe.
For information or reservations call Alice Steele (DI 4-8317) or write 1109 Chula Vista Avenue, Burlingame. Reservations should be made as soon as possible.

MID-WEEK BIRD WALKS

The mid-week bird walks will continue on a non-scheduled basis, the times and places to be chosen as circumstances warrant. For information on these walks contact either of the following:

Gene Hebborn DI 3-0415
Florence Richardson FI5-4443

FIELD TRIP REPORTS

AL WOOL RANCH - La Honda May 3
Early morning showers after a night of much-needed rain left the side roads untrustworthy, so Mr. Wool and his charming wife took us to a spot on La Honda Creek where birding was excellent and wildflowers were a delight.
Redwood trees make a good cover for shower protection. Birds were all out to enjoy the sun and sing awhile. Flycatchers and vireos, Violet-green Swallows, Black Phoebes, and Pygmy Nuthatches like the area. The swallows flashing about were lovely, and we almost missed the Vaux Swifts with their distinctive flight. (Neil says they flap their wings alternately).
Nice spotting, Mr. Wool. A thrush, Spotted Towhees, Black-headed Grosbeaks, wrens, chickadees, and the beautiful Lazuli Buntings, goldfinches and warblers kept us busy.
Fringe Cups were out, the Red Columbines and Blue Forget-me-nots were perfect, Triliums still in bloom in the shade - fern fronds uncurling, in a new-washed world.
We were fortunate to have a group of people who are good at voices - Mr. Wool, Lillian Montgomery, Paul Lechich, and Mrs. Wool. Going home, we saw Rufous Hummingbirds on the old road north of Pescadero.
Thank you Mr. and Mrs. Wool and Neil Dickinson. We hope to be so privileged another day.

Alice Steele

LAKE PILARCITOS and STONE DAM May 16
Twenty-seven people made this rewarding pilgrimage. Those who attended felt that it was indeed a rare privilege to see this beautiful wilderness area, serene and untouched by the inroads of modern "civilization".
The native plants were in full glory: columbine, Woodland Star, Starflower, Bitter Cherry, and Bleeding Heart. The luxuriant ranks of Five-fingered Ferns growing at Stone Dam were beautiful beyond description.
Bird songs filled the air, but the birds were difficult to see. Among interesting bird observed were thrashers, Wilson's Warblers, Lazuli Buntings, and Orange-crowned Warblers. On the way home, part of the group saw Western Kingbirds on Sawyers Camp Road.
(P.S. -- Yep - it rained!!).

Ruth Breckenridge

During the coming season, your Board will be thinking about projects that will define our aims and function as a local branch of the National Audubon Society. Such major projects are needed to pull our forces together and to give us a program we'll all be happy and proud to have a part in.

Recently, National's President Buchheister stated that our predominant and primary aim is in educating the public. In terms of ideals, what can surpass helping our young learn a respect for the land (and its resources) as the benevolent birthright it really is?

The members of our Society will likely have many good ideas to offer on such a program and during the summer interim, here are some things to think about:

The new CSM Campus has had considerable impact on the area, with 10,000 enrolled in night and adult education classes. In February an evening public forum program was begun, on subjects of local and popular interest. Made to order for a series on the abundant local natural environment, under our sponsorship.

What about a program in the natural science subjects already taught in our schools, relating them to the local habitats? Could make exciting experiences of both teaching and learning.

In the field of Conservation, the San Mateo County Parks and Recreation is a going concern. Among new projects, the Coyote Point development, Pescadero Reservoir and Riding/Hiking Trails are areas wherein our Society can give support and contributions of lasting community benefit. For instance, NAS's new Nature Centers Division has staff naturalists who go over the grounds and make recommendations.

Last year the State adopted a scenic highway program and four principal roads in San Mateo County have been designated as part of it. It is going to take some local interest and some pushing if this or the similar regional parks revival are to be a benefit while the areas are still "scenic" to be saved.

Finally, there are other "citizens' action groups" with similar aims, formed around some worthy local causes. And these are growing, favorable forces - democracy at its best. Great to have a part in it, and our Society should consider a program of mutual cooperation and support, wherein the entire community will benefit.

May "valued community service" be our watchword for the coming season and on this note, we are sure to grow!

Bob Lebkicher
Conservation

Return to: Sequoia Audubon Society Bulletin
c/o Mrs. Bonnie McClellan
1356 Bernal Avenue
Burlingame, California
(Form 3457 Requested)

1274 - 5901

PRESIDENT
Mr. John L. Morrill
505 Costa Rica Avenue
San Mateo (Di 4-5497)

VICE PRESIDENT
Mrs. Alice Steele
1109 Chula Vista Ave.
Burlingame (Di 4-8317)

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512 Burlingame Avenue
Burlingame (Di 4-1630)

TREASURER
Miss Anne Hall
1417 Oak Street
San Mateo (Fi 1-5198)

DIRECTORS
Miss Ruth Breckenridge
Mrs. Ruth Dorsey
Mr. Robert C. Lebkicher

NEW PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

First, I wish to thank you for the confidence shown in me by electing me to this important position. I will devote my efforts to make the coming year as interesting and useful as the terms of my predecessors have been.

During the last few years, there have been serious encroachments by various private and government agencies on the more attractive areas of our county. Our Conservation Chairman, Mr. Lebkicher, has followed these developments closely, reporting them in his monthly column in this bulletin.

It is our feeling that the time has passed for merely following these developments in a casual manner, and it is our hope that in the coming year we can all work actively together to do everything we can to protect these features of our beautiful county which are threatened.

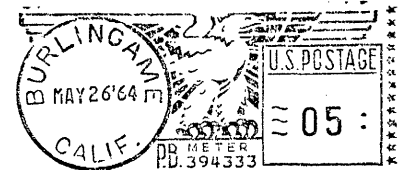
As a first step in this direction, we want to get more members, and at the same time more revenue. It is my feeling that each one of us knows at least one person who has an interest in the welfare of his county, and is therefore a potential member. We are enclosing an application blank, with return envelope, and ask that each one of you contacts and enrolls a new member this summer. With this as a starting point, we can make this coming year the most productive in the history of this unit of the Audubon Society.

John L. Morrill

CONSERVATION PROGRAM

As the initial project of our new year, dedicated to greater community service, we are requesting help for a survey of bird life along our bayshore.

The Department of Fish and Game, of the State of California, has asked Miss Danielson, Director of the San Mateo County Junior Museum, to direct a study of bird life from Coyote Point to Redwood City. Miss Danielson will need the help of as many observers and reporters as possible to conduct this work. Each volunteer will be assigned an area to observe, and will be required to count species and numbers of inhabitants of his assigned area at weekly or bi-weekly intervals, and at various tides. This study can be a major step in determining the future of our bird refuge areas along the bayshore, so all who can spare a morning a week to help, please contact Miss Danielson for an assignment. She may be contacted at the Junior Museum at Coyote Point, or by telephone at 344-9911.



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

ENROLL A NEW MEMBER --- TODAY!