



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. John L. Morrill, 505 Costa Rica Avenue, San Mateo, DI 4-5497.

MEETINGS

June 3 BOARD MEETING at the home of incoming President, A. E. Montgomery, 2270 Summit Drive, Hillsborough. Members Thursday 8:00pm of both incoming and outgoing Boards, as well as committee chairmen for both periods, are requested to attend.
There will be no general meeting in June, the next regular meeting being scheduled for September 9, to start the new season.

FIELD TRIPS

(G. Paul Lechich, Chairman 344-1164)

June 5 POINT REYES
Saturday LEADER: Nick Kroll (Ox 7-2051)
3:30am MEETING PLACE: Meet at Vista Point, at the north end of the Golden Gate Bridge, at 8:30 am sharp. Bring lunch, and wear warm clothing.

June 13 ANO NUEVO ISLAND
Sunday LEADER: J. Ed. McClellan (Di 4-3486)
8:30am MEETING PLACE: Meet at the Crystal Springs Dam, on Skyline, at 8:30 am sharp. Bring lunch and wear warm clothing.

REPORT ON ANNUAL MEETING

The officers and directors of Sequoia Audubon Society for the year 1965-1966 were elected at the annual meeting of the membership on May 13. The nominating committee appointed by your president consisted of the following.

Lynn Carl
Jean Maxwell
Lillian Montgomery

The candidates they selected were elected by unanimous acclamation. Your leaders for the coming year will accordingly be:

Pres. A. E. Montgomery
2270 Summit Drive
Hillsborough (344-4249)

V. P. Florence Richardson 45 Madison Avenue San Mateo, (Fi5-4443)	Dir. Maryann Danielson 848 Edgehill Drive Burlingame (342-6919)
Sec'ty. Liv Gurevitz 1505 Oak Rim Drive Hillsborough (342-3620)	Dir. Eleanor McCurley 1127 Parrott Drive San Mateo (345-1608)
Treas. Gladys Jaten 15 El Cerrito Ave. San Mateo (344-9482)	Dir. G. Paul Lechich 1269 Bellevue Ave. (library) Burlingame (343-7688)

OUTGOING PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It has been a real privilege to serve as your president for the past year. I want to thank each member for the wonderful support given to our programs in the Conservation Movement. It is my sincere feeling that our efforts have contributed significantly to the general arousing of the general public to some of the threats to the Bay and to the more pleasant aspects of our County. The effectiveness of our efforts, and those of other Conservation groups, has been demonstrated by the great public interest in Senator McAteer's

work on control of Bay fill, as climaxed by the passage of his bill by the State Senate recently. The job is not done yet, though, as an even stiffer fight is expected in getting passage of the bill in the House. We should all therefore continue to make our desires known, by writing to our Assemblymen, and urging them to do all they can to have the bill passed into Law. Again, many thanks to all. I will be looking forward to the new season with anticipation.

CONSERVATION NOTES

SAN FRANCISCO BAY was a busy subject during the month. Public letters and expressions at hearings were helpful in getting the McAteer Bay-Fill Control bill (S-309) past three committees and the State Senate with a surprising 29-3 majority. It now goes to the Assembly to face more opposition. Let's hope they too have heard the public's voice - reminders now help!
Meanwhile, the developers at Bay Farm Island in Alameda are busy with a dike along the north 500 acres, apparently to beat a legislative moratorium's passage. The south portion was subject of an unprecedented Army Corps of Engineers' public hearing last month, said to be due to "the State's obvious interest" and where the State Resources Administrator, Mr. Hugo Fisher, asked abeyance pending the McAteer bill outcome.

The proposed Bay Garbage dump fill east of the causeway at Candlestick, requested for another 30 years, kicked up a major storm of protest and battle next to Woodside vs AEC in recent years. SF Senator McAteer expressed surprise at Mayor Shelley's approval ("It has to go somewhere!") after serving at the McAteer Commission hearings on bay-fill. SF Supervisors were furious that Senator and Mayor had pre-empted their policy-making functions. Earlier, San Mateo County Supervisors said there were "no objections" to the proposal. Brisbane town officials state they are no longer amused at being called the "Garbage Gateway" to anywhere.

Water Pollution Control Agency published a 200 page report on SF Bay on April 19 - many old charges, first time collected. A blast at San Francisco - mixing storm drain and raw sewage overflow to increase bacteria and foul public beaches. Some pollution figures, in thousands of gallons: San Francisco, 120; Port Authority, 153; Bethlehem shipyards, 135; Navy ships, 151, Commercial ships in port, 350.

Contra Costa officials are in Washington to protest funds to the San Joaquin Reclamation Project, whose San Luis Drain is to empty into Delta and Bay outlets, may completely foul SF Bay. A \$54 million project to irrigate at public expense some half-million new San Joaquin acres, for more crops eventually to be subsidized for not-growing.

HIGHWAY REFORM was on the minds of Assemblymen who passed three bills, two 58-2 and 69-0, to curb Highway Commission powers. One gives veto rights to State Parks Commission for State Park lands (a companion Senate bill provides governor's right to override such veto) and another (for the first time) allows cities and counties to protest condemnations of rights-of-way. Our committee member, Miss Marian Lockwood, represented us at the Sierra Club Conservation meeting last month and has typed a Sierra

Club bulletin of pending highway bills for any of our members' information. State Senate support is needed and reminders of public sentiment are timely.

Despite President Johnson's expressed desires to beautify the highways, per Drew Pearson recently, the federal highway chief, Rex M. Whitton, is another determined spoiler with concrete ribbons. Outraged protests have come from many sources for ruined scenic areas, monuments and historic sites and nature sanctuaries and reserves - Westchester County - New York; Boston, Memphis, San Antonio, San Francisco and elsewhere. An arbitrary June 30 deadline for federal funds has caused scrambles and poor planning everywhere, including San Francisco. It was reported that due to his inability to curb this ruthless subordinate, former Commerce Secretary Hodges' resignation was acted upon by the President.

Freeway battles in San Francisco continued with proposed extension of the Embarcadero skyway to the Golden Gate Bridge which opponents said would "effectively separate the city from its waterfronts." But Governor Brown said he not only wants this freeway but the controversial Panhandle (Golden Gate Park) freeway as well.

COOPERATION in CONSERVATION was subject of a meeting and a panel discussion in Palo Alto Monday evening, May 17. Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society was sponsor and the panel also represented Committee for Green Foothills, Sierra Club, Save San Francisco Bay Association, Palo Alto Yacht Club, Palo Alto League of Women Voters, Citizens for Recreation and Regional Parks and two Santa Clara County groups. George Treichel in the audience recalled being present at a similar gathering in England where a "Council of Nature" was formed representing all conservation groups, successfully operating and putting out its own newsletter, "Habitat." A similar council was proposed and formation meeting will be June 10. Until established it is likely to remain Santa Clara County oriented.

REDWOODS NATIONAL PARK (proposed) brought 3,000 letters now being evaluated in Washington for a NPS Report to Interior Department and then to the President. At this late date, Legislative actions seems unlikely, for this session.

POINT REYES SEASHORE NATIONAL PARK originally marked for 53,000 acres, ran into trouble due to Congress' \$14 million limit on land acquisition. A customary land-swap to lumber owners of national forest lands brought a public protest from the Oregon governor. California Representative Clausen is asking a \$44.5 million appropriation, against the \$35-40 million needed for land acquisition.

STATE PARKS received a 2,000 acre addition. The State has purchased 470 acres of the owner, Pacific Lumber, donated the adjacent 30-acre Fern Canyon, at \$350,000. Save-the-Redwoods League with public-donated \$2 million plus funds gave an additional 1,500 acres including 4 miles of Gold Bluffs Shore addition to Prairie Creek Redwoods, with forests from shore to skyline ridges.

A FEDERAL PARKWAY from Golden Gate headlands to Grants Pass was proposed by Resources Administrator Hugo Fisher as an alternate to the proposed Redwoods-National Park. Federal economic guarantees have been asked if the Park is established as Humboldt and Del Norte Counties state this will put them in starvation economic straits.

Placer County Supervisors publicly opposed a 1-acre fill opposite old Tahoe Tavern on Lake Tahoe as a "blight on the waterfront" and have the opportunity to stop it where it should be - before it begins. Or, a lesson from SF Bay.

WOODSIDE homeowners brought a court action against AEC to prevent imminent condemnation of scenic wooded hillsides and an eyesore transmission line that might cost them \$30 million in property values. Woodside council and San Mateo County said "No" to use permits, arguing for underground lines in keeping with the fight against blight; upholding of community standards. On May 20, it was announced that a three judge panel in Superior Court also went against AEC. In the AEC Act, the AEC Commission is specifically forbidden from transmitting electricity in violation of federal, state or local laws and regulations. For Woodside, victory after a long and costly fight against a tyrant.

REDWOOD SHORES development swings along. Oakland Assemblyman Petris' bill to stop a \$176-million Redwood City bond issue, "designed to enrich a developer at public expense" in hearing recently, was somewhat bent by a "legislative counsel opinion" and killed May 18 by 4-3 voice vote of Natural Resources Committee. Redwood City Planning (haha) Commission on May 4 closed a two part public hearing and adopted the proposed Redwood Shores General Plan, in spite of audience protests, a RC School Board Resolution, and other organizations' resolutions. These were ignored by Commission and City Staff, as they had been for a year, along with questions that had been asked and unanswered. If you have high blood pressure or heart ailments, refrain from attending your city's planning hearings.

BEAUTY and BLIGHT was subject of a SF Chronicle contest, won by ardent conservationist Don Aitken, Jr., who lives on Skyline above Portola Valley. Pictures of both submitted included an air photo of Westlake's "ticky-tacky boxes row on row" and Don's prize is two round trips to Rome via Pan American.

FLIGHT BACK TO NATURE was the feature article in SF Chronicle on May 12, describing the delights of attracting some of the 150 varieties of birds in the area to brighten our gardens in both sight and sound. Some local authorities' experiences with feeders and birdbaths were described and the Audubon Society efforts were duly credited.

How a Conservationist gets that way, by one of the greatest: "Far better it is to dare mighty things, to win glorious triumphs, even though checkered with failures, then to take rank with those poor spirits who neither enjoy much nor suffer much, because they live in the gray twilight that knows not victory nor defeat."

Theodore Roosevelt

So ends a busy month - and three and one-half years of this column. It has been both pleasure and privilege to serve - now it's time to let someone new have a whack at it. May that person and this Society have great satisfaction and success in continued service to our community of San Mateo County.

Bob Lebkicher
Conservation

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(Form 3457 Requested)

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