



# The Sequoia



BULLETIN OF SEQUOIA AUDUBON SOCIETY Volume 16, Number 5

January 1967

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. A.E. Montgomery, 2270 Summit Dr., Hillsborough 344-4249 - Editor, Mr. J.L. Morrill, 505 Costa Rica Ave., San Mateo, 344-5497.

## MEETINGS

- January 5  
Thursday  
7:45 PM BOARD MEETING at the home of President A. E. Montgomery, 2270 Summit Drive, Hillsborough. Committee chairmen should attend, and other members are welcome.
- January 12  
Thursday  
8:00 PM REGULAR MEETING at the Washington School Auditorium, 801 Howard Avenue, Burlingame. Jed and Bonnie McClellan will present a program on "Plants Without Chlorophyll". Jed's interesting discussion of these plants will be well illustrated by Bonnie's excellent color slides. Light refreshments will be served at the conclusion of the meeting by Laverne Goodwin and her Social Committee.

## FIELD TRIPS

- (Chairman: Nick Kroll 697-2051)
- January 14  
Saturday  
9:00 AM RICHARDSON BAY (Marin County)  
LEADER: A. E. Montgomery (344-4249)  
MEETING PLACE: Meet at Vista Point, at the north end of the Golden Gate Bridge. Wear warm clothes and hiking shoes. Some participants plan to have lunch in Tiburon. Others may prefer to bring their lunches.
- January 28  
Saturday  
8:30 AM GOLDEN GATE PARK  
LEADER: Florence Richardson (345-4443)  
MEETING PLACE: Meet at parking area one-half block inside Park from Lincoln Avenue at 41st Avenue. Wear warm clothes and hiking shoes. Lunch is optional for those who wish to stay past lunchtime.

## BEGINNERS' BIRD WALK

- January 21  
Saturday COYOTE POINT Yacht Harbor and Dikes.  
LEADERS: Florence Richardson (345-4443)  
Ruth Dorsey (591-3109)  
MEETING PLACE: Call leaders for information on time and place of meeting.

## FIELD TRIP REPORTS

LOS BANOS WILDLIFE REFUGE - November 19 (Too late for report in December SEQUOIA)

We were fortunate to have Bill Anderson, of the California Department of Fish and Game as our leader on this outstanding trip. With Bill's guidance, the 23 who went on this trip enjoyed some sensational birding. Thousands of ducks and geese were seen, including Ross Geese, along with several hundred Sandhill Cranes, both feeding and in flight. Possibly the most noteworthy observation was the sighting of White-faced Black Ibis - the first time our group had seen these birds here.

A few early "birds", who drove down Friday morning, were rewarded by a special tour of the San Luis Waterway, where Whistling Swans were found.

Nick Kroll

PILLAR POINT (Half Moon Bay) - December 3

After an uncertain start due to anticipated bad weather, a hardy group of about a dozen birders went on the Pillar Point field trip. They were treated to a beautiful interlude in the weekend's otherwise dreary weather, with sun and clear skies.

## FIELD TRIP REPORTS (Cont'd.)

Forty-eight species were sighted between Crystal Springs and Pillar Point - including Western, Eared and Pied-billed Grebes, a single Gadwall, Common and Red-throated Loons, Double-crested and Pelagic Cormorants, a couple of Spotted Sandpipers, Brown Pelicans and a Cooper's Hawk.

Capping the trip was a delightful lunch hosted by Monty at Hazel's in Princeton. This was further productive in that the convivial setting saw the hatching of plans for a possible trip to Mexico in the spring.

Howard Gurevitz

## NATIONAL CONVENTION

The following "note" was received from Bill Goodall, Western Representative of The National Audubon Society:

Dear Audubon members and friends:

The National Audubon Convention has been laid to rest, business-wise, but I hope many stimulating talks and happy exchange of social patter with friends from everywhere, will linger pleasantly in your hearts and thoughts for a long time.

I have asked your Editor to let me use this bit of space so I may THANK YOU one and all for the support, interest, and work contributed. It was truly a "Western Team Effort". As your Western Representative it is understandable that I felt rather strong personal involvements. Your wonderful spirit and participation fulfilled and exceeded my expectations. I am most grateful.

May we all meet again at ASILOMAR, on April 6 to 9, 1968, is my closing wish to you.

Signed: Bill Goodall

## CONSERVATION NOTES

PARK AND OPEN SPACE PROGRAM: San Mateo County Park and open space planners are in the process of presenting to local city councils their plan for a \$66 million program for acquisition of open space. The program has been presented to, and endorsed in principle by, the Menlo Park City Council. Presentations to other city councils are planned; ask your city council for the date of the presentation in your own locality. Sequoia Audubon should be represented at these meetings.

JOIN SAVE THE BAY ASSOCIATION: Threats of fill and more fill for San Francisco Bay increase at an appalling rate. Many of us are already members of Save San Francisco Bay Association and are kept informed by its informative bulletins of citizen action required. For the information of new members who may want to join, the address is Save San Francisco Bay Association, P. O. Box 925, Berkeley, Calif., 94701. Send \$1 or more as a contribution and you will become a member.

"SILVER LININGS IN CONSERVATION" was the theme of the 62nd National Audubon Convention, November 1966. Following are notes from the December Audubon Conservation Guide regarding some speeches relating to conservation. In the opening speech President Carl Buchheister spelled out a dozen reasons why he believes Americans can conquer such problems as "massive pollution of the water and atmosphere, unplanned urban sprawl, and social decay in the great cities where too many children are born into an environment of ugliness."

Some of his reasons:

The fact that the people have become so aroused about it, the national leadership for conservation is coming from the highest office in the land.

A Secretary of the Interior (Stewart L. Udall) has become a national hero by fighting valiantly for conservation.

The growth of the National Audubon Society itself. The Society's membership now exceeds 45,000 compared to 30,000 when Dr. Buchheister became president in 1959.

Dr. Buchheister described a conservationist as "one who has faith in man's ability to learn how to live in harmony with nature and to control his destiny. With the continued support of our loyal members," he declared, "with an ever growing grass-roots strength in membership and in our branches, with the wise guidance of the dedicated men and women who serve on our Board of Directors, and with the continued devoted teamwork of an excellent staff, the National Audubon Society can meet every challenge of the future . . . We do not subscribe to prophecies of doom. With confidence we work for a better America!"

KEYNOTE ADDRESS by U. S. Senator Gaylord Nelson of Wisconsin emphasized three national problems: water pollution, environmental contamination through the unwise use of chemical pesticides, and the destruction of estuarine resources. He illustrated the latter vividly for Californians by pointing out what has happened to San Francisco Bay. Senator Nelson's main point: Solution of such problems can be achieved only through political action, and Audubon members must learn how to be effective citizens.

RAPTOR PROGRAM: An Audubon action program for the diminishing eagles and hawks of North America was spelled out by Roland C. Clement, staff biologist, and Alexander Sprunt IV, research director. Mr. Clement called for stronger protective laws for the birds of prey in some states, and for better enforcement in states that now have good laws. He urged local Audubon organizations to take the lead in these objectives, and to help the National Society in a sustained educational program designed to inform the public of the plight of the birds of prey and of their beneficial habits. Mr. Clement also said a federal law is needed to halt interstate traffic in birds trapped for sale to would-be falconers and to the pet trade. Reporting on five years of bald eagle studies, Mr. Sprunt said an accelerated decline of the species has been documented in many places, and that it is most serious on the eastern seaboard from Maine to Florida and along the shores of the Great Lakes.

He recommended:

1. Strict protection of bald eagle nest trees on both public and private lands.
2. Elimination of the use of DDT and other insecticides that persist in the environment and poison food chains.
3. A program to stop the shooting of eagles much like the effort that was successful, through public education, in protecting migrating whooping cranes.

BIRDS OF HAWAII: Paul M. Scheffer, state soil conservationist for the U. S. Soil Conservation Service in Hawaii, said of the 70 species of native birds known to exist when the islands were discovered in 1778, only 43 are believed to remain. Forty-two of these are found nowhere else in the world. Mr. Scheffer, vice-president of the Hawaii Audubon Society, said two main forces are destroying the native birds. They are the competing species of introduced wild-life and the destruction of natural habitat. He urged establishment of a wilderness area to preserve native species of both birds and plants.

REDWOOD NATIONAL PARK PLEA: Congressman Jeffery Cohelan of California strongly urged the National Audubon Society to support a national park in the Redwood Creek watershed along the northern California coast, a plan he sponsored with a bill in the 89th Congress. A Redwood Creek park, he declares, would be far better than the one recommended by the Johnson Administration and the National Park Service in the Mill Creek area some ten to twenty miles farther north which has already been heavily logged.

#### AUDUBON CANYON RANCH

We are pleased to report that your Board of Directors, at its December meeting, unanimously voted to contribute One-hundred Dollars (\$100.00) to Audubon Canyon Ranch, to aid them in the fine work they are doing to preserve and maintain this magnificent rookery and birding area.

#### NEW MEMBERS

We cordially welcome the following newcomers to SEQUOIA Audubon:

Miss Maureen McTaggart	Redwood City
Mr./Mrs. John D. Henderson	Redwood City
Mrs. Clyde B. Eller	San Mateo
Mr. Fairley J. Barnes	Atherton

Mr. & Mrs. Neil Dickinson  
554 Oak Park Way  
Redwood City, Calif. 94062

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
PERMIT NO. 3  
BURLINGAME, CALIFORNIA