

The Sequoia

BULLETIN OF SEQUOIA AUDUBON SOCIETY

Volume 16, Number 10

June 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

Note: There will be no Board Meeting this month.

June 8
Thursday Instead of our regular monthly meeting on this date, we will join the Golden Gate Audubon Society in their fiftieth anniversary celebration to be held at the Kaiser Center dining room, 300 Lakeside Drive, in downtown Oakland on Thursday, June 8. The evening begins with a champagne punch social hour at 6:00 P.M. The gala Golden Anniversary Banquet will be served at 6:45 P.M. Charles H. Callison, Exec. V.P. of National Audubon Society will come from New York as the featured speaker. William N. Goodall, Western Representative, and officers from other Northern California branches will be present. The deadline for reservations is Friday, June 2, and the cost is \$5.00 per person. To make reservations send your check made payable to Golden Gate Audubon Society to Mrs. Kathleen Horr, 3326 Beachwood Drive, Lafayette, Calif. 94549, giving your name, address, and phone number. Tickets will not be sent: your check is your receipt. The plan for chartering a bus has been abandoned. Each person will arrange for transportation, but it is suggested that arrangements may be made for joining with others in cars at the S.P. parking lot on California Drive near Broadway to leave by 5:30 P.M. Phone Jack Morrill (344-5497) or Liv Gurevitz (342-3620).

FIELD TRIPS

(Chairman: Nick Kroll 697-2051)

June 3
Saturday BUTANO RIDGE
8:30 A.M. LEADER: Jed McClellan (344-3486)
MEETING PLACE: Meet at 8:30 sharp at the parking lot at the Crystal Springs Dam on Skyline Blvd., near the junction with Crystal Springs Road. Bring a lunch.

June 17
Saturday TILDEN PARK, Berkeley
9:00 A.M. LEADER: Florence Richardson (345-4443)
MEETING PLACE: Meet at 401 Spruce Street, Berkeley. This is at the corner of Spruce and Grizzly Peak Blvd.
A convenient route is to leave the Eastshore Freeway at University Avenue, turn left on Sacramento Street, then right on Cedar Street, and turn left on Spruce. Continue out Spruce to the meeting place. Bring lunch.

REPORTS

THE MOON: Saturday, April 29, was a beautiful day with unlimited visibility. This trip, a new addition to our schedule, was outstanding in both the wildflowers and the scenery. Through the efforts of Leader Charles Newman, the trip were privileged to have the help of Mr. Fredrick (U.C. Botanical Gardens) and Helen Sharsmith ("Spring Wildflowers of the San Francisco Bay Region") in identifying the flowers.

AL WOOL RANCH: On May 6, this was indeed a day of superlatives - cloudless blue skies, balmy spring weather, rich green hillsides, beautiful flowers, and interesting birds. Our host and hostess, Mr. and Mrs. Al Wool, were, as always, genuinely enthusiastic about sharing their wonderful world of nature with us. The final touch of perfection to an already wonderful day came suddenly when high overhead a pair of Lazuli Buntings were seen winging their way "home" to the ranch to start their annual nesting activities.

POINT REYES: Saturday, May 13, turned out to be a beautiful, warm day, just right for such an outing as this trip to Pt. Reyes and Tomales Bay State Park. All enjoyed picnic lunches after an invigorating walk up Mt. Wittenberg. Later, we visited Tomales Bay State Park and Pt. Reyes Beach. Everywhere we saw many birds, and numerous wildflowers in bloom, following our wet Spring. About fifty species of birds were tabulated, and many interesting plants.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

The office of president for the past two years has afforded me much satisfaction due to the wonderful spirit of loyalty and helpfulness shown by everyone in the Society. We have a truly outstanding, warm-hearted, intimate fellowship together, always willing to help for the good of the Society and the causes we serve to advance.

I cannot adequately express my sincere appreciation for the conscientious help given by the officers and directors, each of whom loyally attended all monthly meetings of the Board of Directors, and of the committee chairmen and committee members who gave such unflinching assistance.

A. E. Montgomery

REPORT OF ANNUAL MEETING

Officers and Directors of Sequoia Audubon Society for the year 1967-1968 were elected at the annual meeting on May 11. The nominating committee, consisting of Jed McClellan, Chairman, Gene Hebborn, and Gladys Jaten, proposed a slate of candidates which was elected by unanimous acclamation. The officers and directors for the coming year will be:

Pres. Dr. Howard Gurevitz
1505 Oak Rim Drive
Hillsborough (342-3620)

V.P.	Charles Newman 25 Corte Alegre Millbrae (697-5601)	Dir.	Miss Maryann Danielson 848 Edgehill Drive Burlingame (342-6919)
Sec.	Liv Gurevitz 1505 Oak Rim Drive Hillsborough (342-3620)	Dir.	John Morrill 505 Costa Rica Avenue San Mateo (344-5497)
Treas.	Mrs. Gertrude Medler 400 Terrace Way San Mateo (341-2220)	Dir.	G. Paul Lechich 480 Primrose Road Burlingame (344-3405)

CONSERVATION NOTES

CITY DECLARED WILD BIRD SANCTUARY: At their May 8 public meeting, the Menlo Park City Council approved unanimously a resolution urging "all citizens and employees of Menlo Park to take all reasonable action necessary to avoid unnecessary destruction of birds, their nests and their eggs and to take whatever reasonable steps are necessary to preserve the wild bird life within the city." The resolution said wild birds are "a great economic value in the destruction of insect and worm pests and afford a varied and continually changing opportunity for observation of nature's most interesting species."

SAN BRUNO MOUNTAIN: Another resolution on a more urgent subject was the one adopted by the San Mateo County Conservation Committee of the Loma Prieta Chapter of the Sierra Club. Referring to a declaration of Dec. '66 by the Directors of the Sierra Club stating that "San Francisco Bay is . . . the most significant open space within any major metropolitan area in the United States . . . and must be both guarded and restored," the resolution stated: "This Committee recommends denial of any applications, if presented, for large scale removal of rock and dirt from San Bruno Mountain. This Committee strongly urges that the critical importance of San Bruno Mountain to the people of the Bay Area be recognized, and that decisive action be taken to preserve this mountain area as a regional park for the use and enjoyment of all our citizens."

MESSAGE FROM SAVE-THE-BAY ASSOCIATION: "The San Bruno Mountain-Bay Fill is being increasingly promoted throughout the county by West Bay Community Associates, formerly the Pacific Air Commerce Center. This enormous fill project continues to be studied by the Task Force of the San Mateo County Regional Planning Committee which will hold its next PUBLIC HEARING AT THE BURLINGAME CITY HALL AT 8 P.M. on JUNE 22. The plans for "sculpturing" the mountain and filling the Bay cannot be achieved without the support of several public bodies; the cities of Burlingame and San Mateo and the County of San Mateo would have to accept the project. Permission of the State Division of Highways is necessary to move the dirt from the mountain across the Bay Shore Freeway at Sierra Point; however, this permission can be granted without a public hearing. The cities involved, or the county, should request a public hearing. The drawings of the project, in addition to industrial and residential development, show large park and water areas to be developed at public expense -- estimated by the company to be \$50,000,000 for the fill alone. San Mateo County residents are URGENTLY requested to keep current on this development by writing and telephoning City Council and County Supervisor members, asking their opinions and their estimates on the time when crucial local decisions will be made." IF YOU HAVE ANY INTEREST IN THE ENVIRONMENT OF SAN MATEO COUNTY, BY ALL MEANS ATTEND THE JUNE 22 MEETING AND CONTINUE DURING THE SUMMER TO GIVE THIS MATTER YOUR TIME AND ATTENTION AND TALK TO YOUR NEIGHBORS ABOUT IT -- THE DEVELOPERS WILL NOT DISCONTINUE THEIR ACTIVITIES DURING SUMMER VACATIONS!

NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY STAND ON REDWOOD PARK: Quoting the May 1 Audubon Conservation Guide: "In a statement sent last week to the Senate committee that is studying proposals for a Redwoods National Park, the National Audubon Society generally endorsed the recommendation of the Dept. of the Interior. Some additions and other action to save the red-

woods, were also urged. Interior has recommended a park in the Mill Creek watershed and the Jedediah Smith and Del Norte State Parks at either end of it; the Sierra Club has favored a site in the Redwood Creek-Prairie Creek section. The Audubon statement explicitly said that "the Society does not oppose" the Redwood Creek plan but believes the "best opportunity" lies with the Mill Creek proposal. The Society made its decision after a re-study of the Redwoods question and a tour of the area by Exec. Vice Pres. Callison, Vice Pres. Clement and Western Repr. Bill Goodall. They found that the Mill Creek area (1) would be "equal, at least, if not superior" in recreational and scenic values; (2) would preserve a sizeable watershed in its entirety (the most ambitious Redwood Creek proposal would protect only part of the watershed, leaving a stream vulnerable to erosion and siltation), and (3) is adequate in size and quality for national park purposes. The Society also urged acquisition of additional old-growth groves along Redwood Creek where there are exceptionally tall trees; asked federal aid and close federal-state cooperation to acquire lands to complete the state-owned redwood parks, and urged prompt state action to save Humboldt State Park from erosion.

STATE BILLS: The 1967 California State Legislature has under consideration an impressive number of bills regarding conservation. The one of most immediate significance to San Mateo County residents is AB 1391 proposing the formation of a Coastline Conservation Study Commission with functions similar to the Bay Conservation and Development Commission. We hope that all residents of San Mateo County will support AB 1391 as San Mateo County probably has more to lose than any other county in possible overdevelopment of its coast-side lands.

PLANNING AND CONSERVATION LEAGUE: For those men who are conservation-minded and realize the imminent threats to California, the best way to keep informed and advised of necessary action is to get on the Planning and Conservation League's mailing list to receive "California Today Legislative Report." Do this by sending a dollar, or more, to:

Planning and Conservation League
2636 Ocean Avenue
San Francisco, California 94132

The League needs our financial support.

DON'T FORGET TO BE A CONSERVATIONIST
ALL SUMMER LONG ! ! ! !

Marian Lockwood, Chairman
Conservation Committee

NEW MEMBERS

In this final bulletin of the season, we wish to welcome the following new members to Sequoia Audubon:

Mrs. & Mrs. Robert La Mar	San Mateo
Mr. E. P. McElhany	Burlingame
Mrs. B. Stewart	Carmel Valley
Mrs. Astrid Willsrud	Redwood City
Mrs. Clifford Cone	San Bruno
Mrs. Evert Kincaid	San Mateo
Miss Jean Loeffel	Burlingame
Stanley & Karen Searles	Daly City

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