



The Sequoia



Volume 24, No. 3

November, 1974

BULLETIN OF SEQUOIA AUDUBON SOCIETY

SAN MATEO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

A CHAPTER OF NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY

MEETINGS:

NOVEMBER 7, THURSDAY, 7:30 PM BOARD MEETING at the home of President Davies. Board members and committee chairpersons should attend. Other members are welcome.

NOVEMBER 14, THURSDAY, 8:00 PM REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING at Roosevelt School, Broadway and Vancouver Avenue in Burlingame. The program had not yet been resolved at the time of our "press" deadline but judging from the first two programs this year we are sure it will be another interesting one. So, come, enjoy the fellowship and refreshments, the "mystery" program, Charles Newman's fine (and it gets better every month) BIRD CALL OF THE MONTH and, of course, the always wonderful PLANT OF THE MONTH: In California we are accustomed to seeing brown hills in late summer and in the fall. We think of spring and early summer as the time for brightly colored wildflowers. Yet, there are blooming in our local hills, right now, flowers that are brilliant! So, the plant of this month will be *Zauschneria Californica*, the California Fuchsia. It is gay enough for any season but it is on display now.

-- J. Ed. McClellan

FIELD TRIPS: Fran Nelson, Chairperson 593-7941

November 9, Saturday - San Pedro Valley Park

Meeting time is 8:30, in the parking lot of St. Peter's Church, situated at the park's entrance area. We will then drive on to a parking area within the park proper, where our member, Ernie Fremont, is going to give a brief introduction to the park, its fauna and flora. Anticipate a walk of about one mile from there (round trip). After lunch, on the way out, we'll stop at the park headquarters, SANCHEZ ADOBE, where Mr. Boris, the resident ranger has agreed to give us a brief tour of this interesting landmark. The San Pedro Valley was the base camp area from where the Portola expedition discovered the San Francisco Bay.

DIRECTIONS: Coming from the South (Half Moon Bay), or the North (Daly City), you enter the City of Pacifica on the Coast Highway, (State Highway 1). When reaching the Pedro Point Area at Linda Mar, watch for the "Historical Landmark" sign announcing the Sanchez Adobe. Turn east into Linda Mar Blvd. and proceed for about a mile through Linda Mar until you see the Sanchez Adobe to your right. Go past this building for another mile until you reach the end of Linda Mar Blvd. which coincides with the parking lot belonging to St. Peter's Church. The church is very noticeable because of its round structure with the roof beams meeting in the center. Latecomers can follow the unpaved road along the creek to the left of the church.

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November 23, Saturday - 9:00 AM Santa Cruz

Randy Morgan of the Santa Cruz Bird Club has graciously consented to lead us on a birding tour of the Santa Cruz area. We will meet at the big parking lot of a restaurant called the Sail-Inn which is on Corcoran Lagoon. From Highway 1 going toward Watsonville, take the 41st Avenue off-ramp (about 3 miles after the junction of Highway 17 and Highway 1). Go south toward the water. Turn right onto Portola Drive to Corcoran Lagoon. The parking lot is on the left as you come west on Portola Drive.

FIELD TRIP REPORTS:

Pescadero Marsh - September 1 - Barry Sauppe, Leader.

35 participants birded from 8:30 AM until noon under overcast skies with gentle breezes and observed 104 species as follows: Arctic and Red-throated loons; Western and Pied-billed grebes; Pink-footed and Sooty shearwaters; Brown pelican; Brandt's and Pelagic cormorant; Great Blue heron; Common and Snowy egrets; Bl.-cr. Night heron; Least and American bittern; Black brant; Mallard, Pintail ducks; Green-winged and Cinnamon teal; shoveler; White-winged and Surf scoters; Ruddy duck; Turkey vulture; White-tailed kite; Red-tailed hawk; Marsh hawk; Osprey; Sparrow hawk; California quail; Virginia rail; American coot; Black oystercatcher; Semipalmated and Snowy plover; Killdeer; Black-bellied plover; Surfbird; Ruddy and Black turnstone; Long-billed curlew; Spotted sandpiper; Wandering tattler; Willet; Greater and Lesser yellowlegs; Pectoral, Baird's and Least sandpiper; Short-billed dowitcher and Long-billed; Western sandpiper; Marbled godwit; Sanderling; American avocet; Northern phalarope; Glaucus-winged, Western, Herring California, Ring-billed and Heermann's gulls; Elegant tern; Common murre; Pigeon guillemot; Marbled murrelet; Rock and Mourning doves; Belted kingfisher; Red-shafted flicker; Downy woodpecker; Black and Say's phoebe; Violet-green, Tree, Rough-winged and Barn swallows; Scrub jay; Common raven; Chestnut-backed chickadee; Common bushtit; Wrenit; Bewick's and Long-billed Marsh wrens; Robin; Loggerhead shrike; Starling; Black-throated Gray warbler; Yellow-throat; House sparrow; Western meadowlark; Redwinged and Tricolored blackbirds; Brewer's blackbird; Brown-headed cowbird; Purple and House finches; Pine siskin; American and Lesser goldfinches; Brown towhee; Savannah sparrow; White-crowned and Song sparrow.

Rodeo Lagoon - September 28 - Jean Jones, Leader

36 participants birded from 8:30 AM until 3:30 PM in cool, foggy weather and observed 74 species. On the first stop, the albinistic Red-tailed hawk was observed perched on the hillside - always a delight to see. The Virginia rail made its usual appearance at the pond. The migrating Tennessee and Blackpoll warblers showed up at Battery Wallace.

We were all pleased to note how well-kept the park is now that it has become part of the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. Also heartening were the large numbers of juvenile Brown pelicans. Maybe the DDT ban is paying off. Those who remained after lunch were privileged to see a Great Horned owl perched on the hillside below Battery Wallace. The following species were observed: Western and Pied-billed grebe; Brown pelican; Brandt's and Pelagic cormorant; Great Blue heron; Snowy egret; Bl.-cr. Night heron; Mallard; Pintail; Cinnamon teal; Ruddy duck; Turkey vulture; Sharp-shinned, Cooper's and Red-tailed hawks; Marsh hawk; Sparrow hawk; California quail; Virginia rail; American coot; Killdeer; Willet; Western sandpiper; Marbled godwit; Sanderling;

Western, Herring, California, Ring-billed and Heermann's gulls; Forster's tern; Rock and Mourning dove; Great Horned owl; Anna's hummingbird; Belted kingfisher; Red-shafted flicker; Downy woodpecker; Black phoebe; Western flycatcher; Western Wood pewee; Violet-green swallow; Steller's and Scrub jay; Chestnut-backed chickadee; Common bushtit; Wrentit; Bewick's and Long-billed Marsh wrens; Hermit thrush; Golden-crowned kinglet, Water pipit; Loggerhead shrike; Starling; Audubon's and Townsend's warbler; Yellowthroat; House sparrow; Western meadowlark; Redwinged blackbird; Brewer's blackbird; Brown-headed cowbird; Purple and House finches; Pine siskin; American and Lesser goldfinches; Oregon junco; White-crowned, Fox and Song sparrow; Tennessee and Backpoll warblers.

CONSERVATION NEWS:

Ruth Smith, our Conservation chairperson, is travelling but her column will resume in the December SEQUOIA.

In the November 5 election there are several measures of direct or indirect interest to conservationists. Among them:

State Proposition 17 to designate portions of the Stanislaus River as components of the California Wild and Scenic Rivers System (and probably forestall construction of the new Melones Dam).

County Proposition A would authorize formation of a San Mateo County Transit District.

Foster City Proposition Q would permit acquisition of 39 acres as open space.

SIGHTINGS:

Barry Sauppe, Chairperson 349-8470

Peter Metropulos 591-9898

On an organized boat trip off Princeton, October 5, an estimated 300 New Zealand Shearwaters were seen, (TC). An adult Broad-winged Hawk was observed migrating south along Skyline Ridge, Oct. 3, (BS), the first county record. An Osprey was at Año Nuevo Point, Oct. 9 (FN). A Merlin was seen north of Santa Cruz, Oct. 6, (RS). Pectoral Sandpipers were found in small numbers at Pescadero, Año Nuevo, and Belmont Slough. A Long-tailed Jaeger, very rare in California, was observed seven miles off Princeton, Oct. 5, (TC). A Tufted Puffin was off Princeton, Oct. 5, (TC). Four Black Swifts were flying over the College of San Mateo, Sept. 14, (PM). A Scissor-tailed Flycatcher was seen by many birders near Gazos Creek Road, Sept. 13 to Oct. 3. A Great Crested Flycatcher was well-described from Neary Lagoon, Santa Cruz, Sept. 26, (RM). A Willow Flycatcher was calling at Davenport, Oct. 5, (PM).

Each year for at least two decades small numbers of eastern warblers have been detected during migration on the coast of California. It is not known for certain what causes these birds to show up thousands of miles west of their normal range. Some speculate that certain individuals are born with faulty migratory instincts and therefore become lost. Others believe that weather, especially wind, plays a major role in displacing migrants. At any rate, this Fall has been an especially good one for finding eastern vagrants on our coast:

An adult male Prothonotary Warbler was at Neary Lagoon, Sept. 28, (RM). Two Tennessee Warblers were at Año Nuevo, Oct. 2, (BS, PM). An immature Magnolia Warbler was at Point Reyes, Sept. 23, (BS). An immature Cape May Warbler was well seen at Año Nuevo, Oct. 9, (BS, PM). An

adult Cape May was at Point Reyes, Sept. 30, (BS). An immature Chestnut-sided Warbler was at Año Nuevo, Oct 2 and 9, (BS,PM). Two Blackpoll Warblers were at Moss Beach, Sept. 27, (BS, PM). Another was at Año Nuevo, Oct. 2 (RC, PM, BS). An adult and an immature Prairie Warbler were at Moss Beach, Sept. 27 (BS, PM). Another immature was at Princeton, Oct. 11, (BS, PM). A Northern Waterthrush remained on the creek at Año Nuevo, Sept. 25-28, and was seen by five birders. A male Hooded Warbler was discovered in a willow patch north of Santa Cruz, Oct. 5, (PM, RM), and was seen the next day also. An American Redstart was at Año Nuevo, Oct. 2, (PM,BS), and another was at Princeton, Oct. 11.

An immature Black-throated Sparrow was in a Belmont backyard, Oct.3, allowing excellent studies, (PM), and a Chestnut-Collared Longspur was seen at Point Reyes, Oct. 9, (BS).

Observers: Roy Carlson, Ted Chandik, Peter Metropulos, Randy Morgan, Fran Nelson, Barry Sauppe, Rich Stallcup.

SAN MATEO GARDEN CENTER HOUSE TOUR:

Sequoia Audubon is a member of the Garden Center and is supporting their campaign for a Garden Center Building. On Saturday, November 16, from 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM the Center is sponsoring a house and Garden Tour. Tickets are \$6.50 each and all proceeds will go into the Building Fund. The following Hillsborough homes will be visited:

Dr. & Mrs. Jack Lewis, 319 Bridge Road
 Mr. & Mrs. Dennis McCarthy, 229 Bridge Road
 Mr. & Mrs. James Goldsmith, Jr. 209 Bridge Road
 Mr. & Mrs. Michael Gottlieb, 280 Sierra Drive

In addition there will be a Tea, a Boutique, Plants and Table Decoration Displays at Crystal Springs School Auditorium, 400 Uplands Drive in Hillsborough.

For information and tickets, phone:

Muriel Warwick 589-2905 (Office 343-2775)
 Millicent Wright 692-4180
 Eila Fox 343-1406

CRYSTAL SPRINGS CHRISTMAS COUNT:

As you all probably know, our Christmas count day will be upon us very soon--December 22. Last year the participants did a fine job and we hope all of you will be able to join us again this year for the big day. With a little more luck and favorable weather we might be able to top last year's count. In fact, we were tenth in the entire country last year!

In my opinion the purpose of a Christmas count is threefold: (1) It enables people with an interest in birds to get together and enjoy a day outdoors sharing that interest together. (2) It supplies needed data concerning how many birds of each species are present in our count area, which in turn aids in determining what birds are decreasing or increasing in numbers. And (3) it also gives birders the challenge of finding how many different species are in their count area in a given twenty-four hour period.

For the many of you who are new to birding or those of you that feel your birding abilities aren't sharp enough to be in the field on count day, never fear. We have a place for you all. Just birding in your own

neighborhood could turn up birds which we others in field, marsh and woods might fail to find. With over one thousand members in Sequoia, there must be many people with bird feeders. Feeders play an important role in the count. Many birds which are difficult to find or are rare in our area turn up at feeding stations. We urge all of you to keep your feeders full and observe the birds closely for rarities. Some of the birds to be looked for are as follows: Allen's or Rufous hummingbirds, Cassin's finch, Grosbeaks, Western tanagers, Orioles and White-throated sparrows. Even a beginner with a field guide can identify these birds and you would be contributing very much to our count. If you have any problems identifying your feeder birds call Peter Metropulos (591-9898) or myself, Barry Sauppe (349-8470).

Those of you who plan to be in the field that day contact us as soon as possible.

-- Barry Sauppe

NEW BOOK:

Autumn of the Eagle by George Laycock
N.Y., 1973 Chas. Scribner's Sons, \$6.95

Eagles are a "cause" these days, and as such have become rather two dimensional. George Laycock's book gives us a feeling for the real eagleness of eagles--their history and humor as well as their pathos.

Laycock writes mainly of the bald eagle, our national symbol (which Benjamin Franklin thought should have been a turkey). It turns out our national symbol weighs about 11 pounds and can lift and carry a load of 5--8 pounds. It generally lives around water because it is partial to fish. Its nests can withstand storms that have toppled man-made observation towers containing 4 tons of steel.

All of this and much more the author, who is Audubon magazine's Field Editor, sets down in a very readable narrative. What makes this book superior is the third and rounding dimension Laycock allows the eagles: the nests, for example, may be 2 tons of dried sticks, but they will always have one sprig of fresh evergreen. What humanist can ask "why"? For that matter, what humorist could fail to appreciate the eclectic eagle whose split-level contained such treasures as a Clorox bottle and a pair of pink panties? And then there's Old Abe who knew full well the mischief he was making as he flew at the drying uniforms and simmering soup pots of the Eagle (named after him) Regiment.

But the book is the autumn of the eagles, and there is also the loneliness of a widowed eagle as she moves toward giving up the effort of her life.

Perhaps, when you have come to love and care about these birds through Laycock's book, the title will seem too optimistic. There may not be a spring to follow this eagle autumn.

-- Nancy Lechich

OCTOBER MEETING:

BIRD CALL OF THE MONTH: Charles Newman shared with us a recording he made near Santa Rosa of the quavering, "bouncing ball" song of the Screech Owl. This small owl is qidespread throughout the United States, but with various plumage colors and voice tones. Its song actually sounds like a small ball bouncing to a standstill. For comparison,

Charles played for us a tape of a Mexican Screech Owl with a noticeably lower-pitched voice.

PLANT OF THE MONTH: Jed McClellan showed us some samples of the familiar Sunflower family, whose bright, sun-like faces we've all seen following the sun across the sky. Jed told us a surprising fact about the sunflower--that what we think to be one sunflower is really many. The dark center is made up of many flowers, and each petal is in fact an individual flower! Jed showed us slides of some of the varieties of Sunflower: the common Sunflower; the Hairy-leafed Desert Sunflower photographed in the Colorado Desert; the Desert Sunflower with a yellow, not dark, center and found in the Colorado, Mojave and Death Valley deserts; and the cultivated Sunflower from which come sunflower seeds.

SURPRISE GUEST: The very welcome surprise guest of the evening was a magnificent Red-tailed Hawk introduced to us by Max Krueger of the State Department of Fish and Game, and Cliff Lindquist of the Peninsula Humane Society, whose exciting wildlife rehabilitation program is supported in part by a monthly contribution from Sequoia Audubon. Lost and injured wildlife, like this Red-tailed Hawk which escaped from a falconer, are mended, re-trained, and then released into their native habitat. It was a thrill to see such a beautiful creature which, like so many others, has responded to Max and Cliff's dedicated efforts. They have named our visitor "Sequoia" and have promised to give us monthly reports on his progress.

GUEST SPEAKER: Mr. R. J. Andree, vice-president of the Santa Clara Audubon Society, presented a slide presentation of a National Audubon trip to Alaska which he took this summer, along with Sequoia Audubon members Jean Jones and Lillian and Monty Montgomery. The highlight of the trip was a tour of the treeless, volcanic Pribilof Islands which lie about 200 miles north of the Aleutian Islands in the Bering Sea and are the breeding grounds of the Fur Seal, Sea Bear, Otter and Blue Fox.

About 600 people, most of whom are Aleuts, reside in settlements on the two largest of the island group, St. Paul and St. George Islands. Their livelihood depends on the controversial Fur Seal harvest which takes place five or six weeks each year. There are presently about 1½ million fur seal on St. Paul Island alone. During the harvest, the male seals are driven upshore and clubbed on the head. Because of their thin skulls they are killed instantly and skinned immediately.

In addition to the seal life on the islands, there is a colorful variety of bird, mammal and plant life. Mammals include the smoky brown Arctic Fox and the handsome Mountain Goat. There are many unfamiliar varieties of wildflowers along with the familiar lupine and the Alaska State Flower, the Forget-Me-Not, which grows on thick, fuzzy mounds. The islands provide cliffside rookeries for a fascinating array of birds like the elegant Thick-billed Murre which lays "pointed" eggs that won't roll off the precipitous cliff ledges. Others include the Red-faced cormorant, the beautiful Horned and Tufted puffins, and red- and Black-legged kittiwakes. There are nesting Bald eagles, many Barn swallows Blue grouse and the Gray-crowned Rosy finch.

In addition to the wildlife, Mr. Andree showed slides of the awesome Portage Glacier and the beautiful blue icebergs which break off from it, the velvety tundra of Mt. McKinley, and the midnight sun over Fairbanks.

The Department of Parks and Recreation office in Half Moon Bay has undertaken an experimental interpretive program at Pescadero Marsh. It will be patterned after the U.S. Forest Service "Exploring Your Environment" program. The program consists of a small group working individually or in pairs examining the marsh environment in some depth.

Plans are for the first session or two to be conducted for the teacher/naturalists of the resident outdoor education camps who regularly use the area. If the program proves worthwhile, and as Ranger time can be withdrawn from other duties, this session could be expanded to include other interested people.

The course will take about four hours, during which the 'explorers' will measure water and soil pH, salinity, dissolved oxygen and more. From these measurements and associated predictions it is hoped that the participants will gain a greater understanding of what is at Pescadero Marsh, and why.

The possibility also exists that as some people complete this program, they can in turn present the course to others. Any comments, suggestions, etc., will be appreciated. Contact Ray Patton at 95 Kelly Avenue, Half Moon Bay, CA 94019 or phone 726-4939 (office) or 726-5053 (home).

-- Ray Patton

PESCADERO MARSH: (From PAWPRINT, bulletin of Peninsula Humane Society, with permission.)

WILDLIFE WATCHING by Doug Morris

Do you have a spare morning to spend with some of San Mateo's most beautiful, fascinating residents and tourists? Then hie yourself to Pescadero Marsh! You'll probably go away a confirmed bird freak even if you've never had much interest in birds before.

I first became a "birder" in the Willamette River sloughs of Oregon. The bird that did it to me was the dusky Canada goose. I'll never forget the early morning migration flights of these great dark honkers wheeling in from the Cooper River delta in Alaska. When I returned home to the San Francisco Bay Area, I did so with a feeling that all my really good "birding" was over. I was wrong and Pescadero Marsh proves it.

Pescadero Marsh is a state Wildlife Sanctuary that takes in the mouth of Pescadero Creek where it meets the Pacific Ocean south of Half Moon Bay. It's easy to get there: just take coastal highway 1 south from Half Moon Bay and park off the highway at Pescadero Beach (there is a sign on the highway).

Leave early for the marsh, as it is really worth it to be there when the birds are just becoming active early in the morning.

During the Fall (starting about mid-September) or early Spring you will want to enter the marsh by the marked footpath that starts at the tide-water pool under the bridge. Look for Western Grebes in that pool. They're the large black birds riding very low on the water, white-necked with red eyes. One look at that very long neck and you'll know they are fishermen. You may even see their cousins with them, the red-necked, much smaller Pied-billed Grebes.

From here the trail winds northeast across the dunes to a levee. Atop the levee, the river will be on your right and the long-grass marsh on your left as you look east.

Stop here for a while, because you will want to savor this moment. Out on the marsh will be a great bounty of waterfowl: watch for Shovelers with large spatulate bills for sifting in the mud and Cinnamon Teal, a beautiful small duck, cinnamon red in color.

If you watch carefully you may see groups of Bufflehead, a small black duck with white markings on the head and breast, and Pintail duck, a real aristocrat with a long, shapely neck marked in greys, browns, white and cinnamon.

Between you and the waterfowl will be myriad songbirds: wrens, warblers, red-winged blackbirds. Throughout this section of marsh you'll see coots with their white beaks, patiently tolerating the seasonal interlopers. It's easy to recognize the coot; he's the one that's looking down his nose at everyone.

Continue walking east along the levee watching for Great Blue Herons, large grey-blue birds with long necks and incredibly powerful, slow wing beats. He's known as the world's best trout fisherman. Once, on the Siletz River of Oregon, I staked myself and my best Fenwick rod against the Great Blue and was roundly thrashed eight trout to one! Also watch for the American Egret, a smaller cousin, all decked out in stately white duds, somewhat formal for a fisherman.

When you get to the stand of eucalyptus, take the edge off the morning chill and break for a cup of that hot coffee in your thermos. While you're still, this is the time to admire the Marsh Hawk with the white rump spot as he hunts about four feet off the tips of the grasses. The Marsh Hawk is the only harrier native to this area and the female shows rust color in the early light while the male is smaller and slate grey.

When you've finished your coffee, wander down the levee a little farther to the back corner where more herons and egrets can usually be found, but stay clear of the poison oak which gets thicker as you go east. Watch the ridgeline with all the eucalyptus to the north, for there is usually a Red-tailed Hawk or two working just over the tree tops. Notice the large fan-like tail and broad wings.

On the return trip, watch the south side, the slough side, of the levee where you're likely to see more herons and quite a variety of shore birds. I particularly like to spot willits with their brilliant black and white wing-flashes when in flight.

On the way out you might want to dally on the rocks by the mouth of the creek. Look for Surf Scoters working the very edge of surfline for their food. They are sea ducks with brilliant black, white and orange bills.

I'll never forget those Oregon honkers, but Pescadero Marsh with its Cinnamon Teal certainly helps.

OLD MAGAZINES

Magazines containing interesting pictures are welcome by residents of senior citizen homes in San Mateo County. Contact Eila Fox (343-1406). She will tell you how to see that your picture magazines are "re-cycled."

CALIFORNIA BLACK BEAR: (From OUTDOOR CALIFORNIA May-June, 1974)

There are two races of black bear in California, Northwestern black bear in the northwestern area and the Sierra Nevada black bear in the Sierra and west into a portion of the Coast Range. Their fur is long and dense

and may be black, dark brown, cinnamon brown, yellowish brown, or sometimes bluish. The largest black bear on record was trapped in Yosemite and weighed 680 pounds but generally an adult averages between 200 and 300 pounds.

Our bears usually avoid contact with people. They tend to be nocturnal but even when moving around in daylight they are elusive and shy and seldom seen. (In the artificial environment of parks they do become more bold and can be a dangerous nuisance.) They are wild animals and can inflict serious damage and injury. Young bears are very appealing but should be avoided--to capture them is illegal and a mother bear with cubs is dangerous and will fight savagely to defend them.

Bears are omnivorous feeders. In the spring they eat fresh vegetation such as skunk cabbage, scouring rush, grasses and tender buds of sprouting trees. In the summer and fall they eat berries, insects, fruit, carrion, acorns, fish and honey. Normally, they do not prey on game or domestic livestock but now and then will kill a hog, sheep, calf or fawn. Because they are carrion eaters and may be seen eating the remains of an animal that died of other causes, they are sometimes falsely accused.

In areas where the weather is mild, some bears do not take their winter sleep. In colder areas they do den up and sleep for long periods.

The young are born during the dormant period, usually in January. They are tiny at birth, six to eight ounces, and blind and helpless for 30 to 40 days. By May when the mother becomes active and leaves the den, they are well developed and about 18 inches long. The first young of a three-year-old female is usually a single cub but twins and triplets are common after that.

Black bears appear clumsy because of their flat-footed, shuffling gait, but they can move rapidly if the occasion requires. They climb trees readily and the smaller bears usually seek safety in trees if danger threatens.

The black bear is the only bear presently inhabiting California. The grizzly bear was at one time abundant but became extinct in California in 1922. It was larger and much more ferocious than the black bear. In 1953 the legislature adopted the grizzly as the official state animal and it appears on the California flag.

TURTLES:

After delivering a lecture on the solar system, philosopher-psychologist William James was approached by an elderly lady who claimed she had a theory superior to the one described by him.

"We don't live on a ball rotating around the sun," she said, "We live on a crust of earth on the back of a giant turtle."

Not wishing to demolish this absurd argument with the massive scientific evidence at his command, James decided to dissuade his opponent gently.

"If your theory is correct, Madam, what does this turtle stand on?"

"You're a very clever man, Mr. James, and that's a good question, but I can answer that. The first turtle stands on the back of a second, far larger turtle."

"But what does this second turtle stand on?" James asked patiently.

The old lady crowed triumphantly, "It's no use, Mr. James -- it's turtles all the way down."

The Southland Corporation, through its 5000 "7-Eleven" stores, has undertaken to raise nearly a quarter of a million dollars to acquire, in cooperation with the National Wildlife Federation, 385 acres as a bald eagle refuge. The proposed refuge is in the Missouri River bottom near Picktown, South Dakota, and is the wintering site of almost 300 bald eagles, nearly 15 percent of all of the American bald eagles resident in the contiguous 48 states. In addition to the eagles, the new refuge also supports white tail deer, quail, rabbits, turkeys, foxes, coyotes, opossums, raccoons and some bobcats.

The 7-Eleven stores intend to donate one cent from the sale of each cup of their SLURPEE drink in a special endangered species cup. The cups feature illustrations of endangered species by wildlife artist, Chuck Ripper and a brief description of endangered wildlife.

The Southland Corporation has advanced \$200,000 to the National Wildlife Federation for property acquisition. Public contributions to this fund may be made to Department Eagle, National Wildlife Federation, 1412 16th Street N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036.

--(National Wildlife Conservation News)

THE SEQUOIA is the news letter of Sequoia Audubon Society. A Subscription is \$2.00 per year for 10 issues--one each month, September through June. Membership in National Audubon Society includes a SEQUOIA subscription to members living within this area and membership in Sequoia Audubon Society.

If you move from our area (San Mateo County) but want to continue to receive the SEQUOIA, please notify the editors and we shall be happy to send it to you. Otherwise, we shall assume you would prefer to receive the newsletter of the Chapter in the area to which you have moved and shall automatically remove your name from our subscriber list.

Application for National Audubon membership may be sent to National Audubon Society, 950 Third Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10022. The following dues schedule is effective September 1, 1974. The figures in parenthesis indicate the amount remitted by National to the local chapter.

Student	\$7	(\$1)	Donor	\$250	(\$60)
Regular	\$15	(\$5)	Patron	\$500	(\$100)
Family	\$18	(\$7)	Life	\$1000	(\$100)
Sustaining	\$30	(\$13)	Affiliated Club	\$50	---
Supporting	\$50	(\$20)	AUDUBON		
Contributing	\$100	(\$40)	Subscription	\$13	---

The public is invited to Sequoia Audubon meetings and field trips. Board Meetings are held at meeting places announced each month in the SEQUOIA, on the first Thursday of each month. Regular monthly meetings are at Roosevelt School, Vancouver Avenue and Broadway in Burlingame on the second Thursday of each month. There are no meetings in July or August.

The closing date for the SEQUOIA is the 15th of each month.

PRESIDENT:	Byron Davies	DIRECTOR:	Norman C. Fox
VICE PRESIDENT:	John E. Prime, Jr.	"	Ed McElhany
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BAY AREA AUDUBON COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES: Byron Davies, Norman Fox and Ruth Smith

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Crotchett, Victor	343-5226	1104 Balboa Ave., Burlingame 94010
Danielson, Maryann	342-6919	848 Edgehill Dr., Burlingame 94010
Davies, Byron & Sheila	334-2851	606 Cambridge St, San Francisco 94134
Fox, Norman & Eila	343-1406	51 W. Bellevue, San Mateo 94402
Friday, Robert	365-1194	80 Amber Ct., San Carlos 94070
Gurevitz, Liv	347-0912	1400 Southdown Rd. Hillsborough 94010
Jones, Jean	344-9339	1417 Sanchez Ave., Burlingame 94010
McElhany, Ed & Amy	343-3219	1009 Laguna Ave., Burlingame 94010
Nelson, Fran	593-7941	1035 Lassen Dr., Belmont 94002
Newman, Charles	697-5601	25 Corte Alegre, Millbrae 94030
Prime, John	345-4968	848 W. Hillsdale Blvd. San Mateo 94403
Sauppe, Barry	349-8470	820 E. 19th Ave. -B, San Mateo 94403
Smith, Ruth	322-5279	1231 Hoover St., Menlo Park 94025
Stromsness, Hallie	342-3888	803 N. Humboldt -401, San Mateo 94401

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