



The Sequoia



BULLETIN OF SEQUOIA AUDUBON SOCIETY
A CHAPTER OF NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY
Volume 29, No. 9

SAN MATEO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA
May, 1980

MEETINGS

BOARD MEETING, May 1, Thursday, 7:30 PM in the conference room of Allstate Savings and Loan office, 1820 S. Grant Street in San Mateo. Board members and committee chairmen should attend. Other Sequoia members are welcome.

MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING, May 8, Thursday, at the San Mateo Garden Center. The Garden Center is located on Parkside Way--between 26th and 27th Avenues--just west of Alameda de las Pulgas in San Mateo. Refreshments at 7:30 PM. Meeting commences at 8:00 PM.

At the recommendation of Buelah Fabris, our guest for this evening will be Juanita Heineman, a brand new member of Sequoia Audubon Society, and a volunteer at the Wildlife Rescue Department of the Peninsula Humane Society. She will bring some of her "patients"--baby birds, fledglings and adult--for the program. She will tell us what to do if a bird falls out of a nest, or if a cat brings one in, or if one flies into a window. She will demonstrate how to feed young birds (even baby hummers) and how to prepare them for release. Mrs. Heineman will bring her colleague, Ms Sue Kelly and a "non-releaseable" Kestrel. Ms Kelly will tell us about her part in the raptor program and what is being done to return these birds back to their own natural environment. You will have a chance to see these tiny friends up close, even better than through a telescope. Bring friends and neighbors to see and hear this informative program.

Frank and Charles Newman will present another chapter in the "See and Hear" Bird of the Month Series.

FIELD TRIPS

(For Field Trip Information phone 344-4577)

MAY 3 & 4 SATURDAY & SUNDAY - MYSTERY TRIP

See April SEQUOIA, Page 2, for details

MAY 10 SATURDAY BOUVERIE AUDUBON PRESERVE

We will meet at the Bouverie Audubon Preserve near Glen Ellen at 7:30 AM. Arrangements have been made to share a trip with members of Madrone Audubon Chapter (Santa Rosa) who are also sponsors of Audubon Canyon Ranch. They are familiar with the preserve and will be helpful in our exploration of this beautiful area. Take the road to Sonoma and proceed to Glen Ellen on Highway 12. Look for a beer garden known as Secret Gardens. Bouverie Audubon Preserve is the first driveway on your right. Please call your Audubon Activities telephone 344-4577 for more information. Carpooling encouraged.

President: Wilma Rockman
1166 Grand Street
Redwood City, CA 94061
Phone: 366-3434

Editors: Ed and Amy McElhany
1009 Laguna Avenue
Burlingame, CA 94010
Phone: 343-3219

MAY 20 TUESDAY BIRDERS TO PACIFICA

Meet at 9:00 AM at the corner of Clarendon Road and Beach Boulevard (the northwest corner of the Sharp Park Golf Course). We will visit the marsh area in the golf course and then proceed to San Pedro Valley County Park.

Leader: Gil West

MAY 24 & 25 SATURDAY & SUNDAY - AUDUBON CANYON RANCH

Thirty lucky Sequoia Audubon members will be the guests of ACR for an ecological, ornithological and altogether good weekend at this marvelous facility. The trip will be conducted by John Kipping, ACR Biologist and his assistant, Ane Rovetta. There will be no charge for the trip but you are requested to bring along part of a potluck dinner for Saturday night.

Please phone Sequoia Activities at 344-4577 and make your reservations. This trip is limited to 30 participants only, so don't delay making your reservation. Further information may be obtained when you phone in your intention to attend. REMEMBER: THIS TRIP IS LIMITED TO 30 PERSONS.

-- Hal Lucas, Field Trip Chairman

JUNE 7 SATURDAY - SUNOL REGIONAL PARK

Meet at 9:00 AM in front of park headquarters at Sunol Regional Park. Bring lunch, liquids and walking shoes. The park is 37 miles from San Mateo in an easterly direction. Take Route 84 past the town of Sunol to Calaveras Road. (The junction of Route 84 and Calaveras Road is just east of Interstate 680.) Drive south on Calaveras Road to Welch Creek Road and then turn left into Sunol Regional Park. Yellow-billed Magpies will greet you upon arrival!!

-- Leader: Frank Collins

JUNE 15 SUNDAY - FITZGERALD MARINE RESERVE, Moss Beach

A very low tide of -1.1 feet at 6:50 AM should give us a chance to see unusual animals such as the colorful nudibranchs that hide when the sun gets too bright. Meet at 6:30 AM at the end of California Avenue and Lake Street for a walk on the tideflats. It may be foggy and cool, so dress in appropriate layers. Best footwear is lug sole or grip rubber sole shoes. Bring along your breakfast makings for a picnic tailgate cookout about 8:00 AM. We'll provide a Coleman stove and sour dough hotcakes. Please call to be included, 728-7916.

-- Leaders: Bill and Myrtle Johnson

FIELD TRIP REPORTS

February 23, Fitzgerald Marine Reserve

Although the trip was canceled because the winter storm made the water too turbid for good tidepooling, eleven people arrived at the 10:00 AM scheduled time. In spite of limited visibility in the pools, we saw purple, porcelain, lined-shore, hermit and red rock crabs; ochre, leather and bat stars; sculpin and blenny eel; purple sea urchin; aggregated, red and giant green anemones; turban and oyster drill snails; acorn and goose-neck barnacles; mussels and limpets. We saw eleven species of green and brown algae. Birding is not usually good at the reserve, but we had a black oyster catcher and a pair of American mergansers.

-- Bill Johnson, Trip leader

April 8, Foster City

It was a warm spring day and new birders as well as regulars came out on Tuesday to see what fancy garb our winter migrants put on before departing for their breeding grounds. There were Dunlins with their black bellies, Dowitchers turned brown where they had been white below and Avocets sweeping their bills through the water with their cinnamon-colored heads

and necks. Black-bellied Plovers even had black bellies! Two Meadowlarks scolded us as they brought large insects to their nest while Cliff Swallows were busy bringing mud to build their nests on the Water Treatment Building. It took a Cormorant a long while to maneuver a long fish into his mouth. It was a day of interesting observations as we walked the dikes along the bay.

-- Jean Allen

April 12, Pescadero Marsh

Ted Chandik enthusiastically led forty-two people through one of our most interesting days at Pescadero Marsh. From the observation deck and the dikes we observed ducks, shorebirds and waders in breeding plumage. At least three Bitterns flew by. Great Blue Herons seemed to be waiting and feeding near the Eucalyptus Grove. Could they be anticipating nesting there again? The marsh was all shades of green and yellow and on the hill was a garden of Checkerblooms, Sun Cups, Sky Lupines, Blue-eyed Grass, Buttercups, Iris and other wildflowers in bloom. By the time we had lunch at Pebble Beach and birded the ocean, we had seen about 60 species.

-- Jean Allen

CONSERVATION NEWS

"World population has passed 4.3 billion and is growing at the rate of 74 million a year. The growth rate is the equivalent of adding a Miami or a Milwaukee to the world's population every week: more mouths to feed in a world where a billion people now go to bed hungry and more energy and raw materials demanded from an already abused planet."

The above is quoted from the NAS Leader, which goes on to say that the Society's population program manager, Frances Breed, is compiling a mailing list of Audubon Society members who are interested in this subject and might wish to receive timely reports. To have your name added, write her at NAS headquarters, 950 Third Avenue, New York, NY 10022. This should include all of us, as overpopulation is basically the cause of all the world's present environmental ills.

There is an increasing governmental trend at all levels away from environmental concern. The Office of Management and Budget has followed this trend in its federal budget cuts. No funding at all in 1981 has been recommended for the Land and Water Conservation Fund which acquires lands for the Park Service, Fish and Wildlife Service, Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management. On the other hand, it recommends full funding for various pork-barrel water projects and scenic highway boondoggles and for the \$22 billion commercially unproven and environmentally unsound synfuels program. Full funding has also been recommended for the controversial and costly MX missiles system which would be so environmentally destructive of the Nevada-Utah Great Basin area. Fortunately, opposition to the missile proposal is increasing, not only on environmental grounds but also on military grounds since the virtual abandonment of the SALT talks.

The same trend away from environmental concerns is seen in the lack of progress in Congress of Rep. Burton's bill to add Sweeney Ridge, with its Portola Discovery Site, to the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. In the meantime the developer in December submitted to the Pacifica Planning Commission a new plan, limiting the 1500 proposed housing units to the 140 acres on the top of the Ridge, leaving some 900 acres, including the Discovery Site, in open space. Some support is evident for this in Pacifica, since the developer will build an access road from Pacifica to the Ridge, which the city cannot now afford to build. Letters to Rep. William

Royer, House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515, should be sent supporting Rep. Burton's bill.

The third San Mateo County Planning Commission hearing on the San Bruno Mountain quarry permit held April 9 was continued to July 9, with no definitive action being taken. SAS had joined the Committee to Save San Bruno Mountain in asking that the quarry be phased out at the expiration of the present permit, as had been the original intent. In the meantime Supervisor James Fitzgerald has raised another issue in asking for a study of the proposal by the Department of the Interior to declare areas of the Mountain as critical habitat for an endangered butterfly. Supervisor Fitzgerald fears this will endanger the housing proposed for 600 acres on the Mountain. The Interior Department will hold hearing April 17 and May 1 at the Airport Marina Hotel in Millbrae.

Both federal and state bills concerning the Stanislaus River are pending. Rep. Don Edwards' bill HR 4223, co-authored by Rep. Paul N. McCloskey Jr., would make the upper Stanislaus canyon a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. Letters in support are needed particularly to Rep. Royer, but also to Rep. McCloskey by those in his district.

In early April the Assembly passed AB 2164 which would override the State Water Resources Board ruling that the New Melones Dam should be completely filled only when there is a demonstrated need for the water, which does not exist at present. The bill would allow immediate filling. It now goes to the Senate, and letters to Senator Marz Garcia opposing the bill are needed. Address him at State Capitol, Sacramento, 95814.

About the same time the Senate passed the Peripheral Canal bill, SB 200, which is now in the Assembly. This bill would send needed water south from the Delta and would threaten Suisun Marsh. Letters in opposition are urgently needed to our Assemblymen, Robert Naylor or Louis Papan (State Capitol, Sacramento, CA 95814).

Another bill passed by the Senate and before the Assembly, SB 1550, will allow purchase of the Edgewood Road College Site in Redwood City by the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District. Letters in support should be sent to Assemblymen Naylor or Papan.

-- Ruth Smith, Conservation Chmn.

APRIL GENERAL MEETING

Once again we welcomed Ted Chandik, a favorite speaker and a member of Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society, to discuss the birds of Pescadero Marsh. Many families of water and land birds are represented at the Marsh including a heronry in a nearby woods. Through clearly defined slides and drawing from his formidable fund of bird lore, Ted refreshed our memories and taught us new insights into identification and habits of the many birds which use this area for nesting or feeding purposes. The program was in preparation for the following Saturday trip which he was to lead.

For more than 15 years Sequoia Audubon Society has been working with other agencies for the preservation of Pescadero Marsh. This valuable fresh water Marsh fed by Butano and Pescadero creeks is located about 15 miles south of Half Moon Bay. With land acquisition now closed, SAS has a committee led by Maryann Danielson which is working on recommendations for a Marsh management plan.

Our Bird of the Month was the exciting and favorite Pileated Woodpecker which Charles Newman had filmed and recorded at his Santa Rosa mountain cabin.

-- (C.G.)

AUDUBON CANYON RANCH is a 1000-acre wildlife sanctuary and education center located on Bolinas Lagoon three miles north of Stinson Beach on State Highway 1. It is open to the public on weekends and holidays from March 1

through July 4. Special visits may be arranged by phoning the Ranch, 383-1644. The Ranch is sponsored by Golden Gate, Madrone, Marin and Sequoia Audubon Societies. In 1969 the Ranch was designated by the U.S. Department of the Interior as a Registered Natural Landmark.

May is a delightful time to visit the Ranch. Activities in the heronry are at a peak, there are still some wildflowers and the weather should be pleasant. Public visiting time is from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM on Saturdays and Sundays and on Memorial Day, May 26. The picnic area has been refurbished and expanded, the display hall exhibits have been renewed and the book store has new books, cards, photos, "trinkets" and film for your camera. Plan a Ranch visit in May and bring friends.

Russell Peterson, President of National Audubon and Mrs. Peterson paid a surprise visit to the Ranch Wednesday, April 2.

APRIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Sequoia Audubon conducted its monthly board meeting on April 3.

Board policy was established in respect to requests for financial support from appropriate organizations. Members should refer such requests to the finance committee together with recommendations and evidence that the organization provides substantial support to one or more of the goals of the National Audubon Society. (Finance Committee chairman is Frank Allen 344-9339.)

Georgia Perkins and Ed McElhany were appointed as the audit committee to inspect the 1979/1980 records of the treasurer and report their findings at the June 12 general membership meeting.

A resolution was adopted to establish a Pescadero Marsh Council consisting of Sequoia Audubon as sponsor and as many other interested conservation and/or nature-oriented organizations as accept our invitation to membership. The Council will act as a central point where all public matters concerning the marsh may be coordinated.

A motion was adopted that Sequoia sponsor and underwrite a short, basic, general interest course on ornithology. The course will be conducted by Maryann Danielson and an announcement appears later in this issue of SEQUOIA.

AUDUBON CANYON RANCH - DOCENT TRAINING

Audubon Canyon Ranch, our wildlife sanctuary on the shore of Bolinas Lagoon, will again offer its outstanding docent training course in natural history and ecology. Graduates of the course commit volunteer time over the following two years to work with children in Bay Area classrooms and to lead students on nature walks at the Ranch. The 18-week training course will be held on Wednesdays, September through February (with 6 weeks off Thanksgiving through New Years.) An orientation day will be held at the Ranch this spring. Tuition is charged for the course; some partial scholarships are available. Interested persons may call Audubon Canyon Ranch, 383-1644.

WILDLIFE RESCUE, INC.

Wildlife Rescue has moved. Their new address is 4037 El Camino Way, Palo Alto, CA 94306. Phone, 494-SAVE

SAN FRANCISCO STATE UNIVERSITY--FIELD ORNITHOLOGY COURSES

Biol. 315 Z1 Field Ornithology (1 unit)

Identification, natural history and ecology of the birds of the Sierra Nevada. Field studies in the lodgepole pine-fir communities of the Yuba Pass area and in the marshland of Sierra Valley. Mon. June 9 thru June 13.

Biol. 315 Z2 The Sierra Nevada Woodpeckers (1 unit)

Observation and natural history of the Picidae and associated cavity nesters of the Yuba Pass area. The course will emphasize the adaptive anatomy and physiology of woodpeckers, their different vocalizations, nesting behaviors, food sources, general habits, and specific habitats. We will attempt to locate and observe 8 nesting species. Sun. June 15 through June 20

Both courses are being taught at the S.F.S.R. Sierra Nevada Field Campus located on Hwy 49 near Sierra City, in Tahoe National Forest. For Registration Information phone S.F.S.R. Summer Session 469-1373. For Information on Courses and Lodging phone 469-2418.

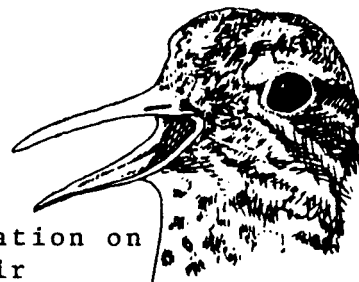
POINT REYES BIRD OBSERVATORY--NATURAL EXCURSIONS

Upcoming Point Reyes Bird Observatory NATURAL EXCURSIONS are: BIRDS & MAMMALS OF THE GULF OF THE FARALLONES--boat trip--June 1--Harriet Huber--\$35. OWLS OF NO. CALIF.--May 30 (evening)--June 1--Bill Clow--\$60. NATURAL HISTORY OF CALIF - A TRANSECT--June 9-18--Bob Stewart--\$200. BREEDING BIRDS OF NO. CALIF.--June 14-21--Bill Clow--\$100. BIRDS OF THE HIGH SIERRA--June 23-27--Bob Stewart--\$100.

For information/brochure contact: Linda Parker, PRBO, 4990 Shoreline Hwy, Stinson Beach, CA 94970, or call 415-388-2286.

ATTENTION BIRDERS

A NEW COURSE FOR EVERYONE INTERESTED IN BIRDS



This short course is designed to provide information on the breeding activities of birds as well as their identification. Topics covered will be migration, gaining a mate, nests and nest building, and development and care of the young. Field trips will be to a forest/chaparral area and to a coastal marsh where we will observe birds on their nests or tending the young.

Lectures: Wednesdays, May 14, 21, 28. 7:30-10 pm.
First meeting at the Burlingame Recreation Center

Field Trips: Saturdays, May 17 and 31

Instructor: Maryann Danielson, Director of Sunbeam Ecology Explorations and former Chief of Interpretive Services for San Mateo County Parks and Recreation.

Fee: \$15

***** For registration, fill in the form below *****

Name _____ Telephone _____

Address _____ City _____ Zip _____

Make check payable to Sequoia Audubon Society
Send to 848 Edgehill Drive
Burlingame, CA 94010

SAN FRANCISCO BAY NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

Interpretive programs are presented on Saturdays and Sundays at the following times:

Nature Walks: 11:00 AM
Films, Slides & Talks: 1:00 PM & 2:00 PM

Unless otherwise noted, all programs are given at the Refuge Interpretive Center, located next to the Dumbarton Bridge toll plaza on Thornton Avenue (Hwy 84) in Fremont. The Interpretive Center is open Wednesday through Sunday from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM, and closed Monday and Tuesday.

BAY ADVENTURE SEMINARS!!

An exciting, new program will be offered this summer at the Refuge. Bay Adventure Seminars presents a variety of courses in natural history, education and the arts.

The Refuge in supporting THE YEAR OF THE COAST by presenting the following special programs:

Sunday, May 4 2:00 PM. CALIFORNIA RAPTORS with live captive birds recovering from injuries.

Sunday, May 11 2:00 PM.. SWALLOWS for beginning birders. A two-mile walk to observe nesting colonies.

Saturday through Monday, May 24, 25, 25 11:00 AM MAY WILDFLOWERS

There will be two orientations for teachers at the magnificent new Alviso Education Center on Thursday, May 15 from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM and on Saturday, May 31 from 9:00 AM to 12:00 noon. For reservations and information phone 408-262-5513.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee is pleased to report for publication the following nominations for each office and for members of the Board:

President	Wilma Rockman	
Vice President	John Silliman	
Secretary	Georgia Perkins	
Treasurer	Frank Collins	
Director	Ed McElhany	Rick Baird
	Ruth Smith	Myrtle Johnson
	Frank Allen	

The above is presented to Sequoia Audubon Society for the year 1980/81. The election of officers will be conducted at the June 12 general membership meeting at which time nominations from the floor will be solicited. Any member nominated from the floor should have previously expressed a willingness to serve.

Nominating Com. Nancy Horn, Roy Nelson, Charles Newman

NONGAME WILDLIFE DECALS

The new California Department of Fish & Game Condor Decals will be available at the May meeting. The cost of the decals is \$2.00 each. The decal was designed by 18-year-old Laurence Peters of Pleasanton. It features his impression of a California Condor coming in for a landing near a craggy mountain. The money donated goes for such worthwhile projects as the guard of Peregrine Falcons on Morro Rock and the relocation of California Bighorn from Lava Beds National Monument to the Warner Mountains.

MONO LAKE

The state Senate Agriculture and Water Resources Committee approved AB2182 which would not stop diversions from Mono Lake to southern California until a five year study has been completed. During the course of this study we may lose Mono Lake permanently. The Waters bill, AB 2235, implements the Mono Lake Task Force recommendations. Please write and urge

your Assemblyman to support AB 2235.

In the House, Congressman Norman Shumway's HR 6196 would implement the federal government role. Write your Senators and Congressman to support it.

SEQUOIA CALENDAR

MAY	1	Thursday	Board Meeting
	3, 4	Saturday & Sunday	Mystery Trip
	8	Thursday	Monthly Meeting at Garden Center
	10	Saturday	Field Trip - Bouverie Audubon Preserve
	14	Wednesday	Sequoia Bird Class - 1st Session
	17	Saturday	Sequoia Bird Class - Field Trip
	20	Tuesday	Tuesday Birders to Pacifica
	21	Wednesday	Sequoia Bird Class - 2nd Session
	24, 25	Saturday & Sunday	Audubon Canyon Ranch - Overnighter
	28	Wednesday	Sequoia Bird Class - 3rd Session
	31	Saturday	Sequoia Bird Class - Field Trip
JUNE	7	Saturday	Field Trip - Sunol Regional Park

SEQUOIA ACTIVITIES PHONE: 344-4577

THE SEQUOIA May, 1980
Sequoia Audubon Society
P.O. Box 1131
Burlingame, CA 94010

Non Profit Organization
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
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