



Bulletin of the SEQUOIA AUDUBON SOCIETY
San Mateo County, California

Vol. 8 No. 3
September-October, 1957

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September 12 - REGULAR MEETING,
Burlingame Recreation Center, Burlingame Avenue at 8 P.M. - "Summer Kaleidoscope". Bring a few slides with you which would be of interest to the group - perhaps some taken on your vacation.

September 14 (Saturday) - FIELD TRIP
Dumbarton Bridge trip. Meet at Hiller Helicopter Plant on Willow Road in Palo Alto at 8:30 A.M.

October 10 - SCREEN TOUR, 8 P.M.
Bert Harwell - "Forgotten Country" at San Mateo High School Auditorium. POT LUCK DINNER at 6 P.M. (before the Screen Tour) at Burlingame Recreation Center.

(Note: Because this Screen Tour falls on the date of our regular monthly meeting (2nd Thursday of the month) there will not be a regular meeting until November.)

October 19 (Saturday) - FIELD TRIP
to San Mateo County Memorial Park. Meet at 8:30 A.M. at intersection of Skyline Blvd. and Half Moon Bay Road.

Two chickadees sitting on a branch beside a pathway. Said one to the other: "Oh, look quickly - there goes a Bearded, Double-breasted Stickwalker!"

Recent New Members

We welcome to our Sequoia Chapter:

Miss Marjorie Fraser,
1440 Kentfield Ave., Redwood City
Mr. and Mrs. Silas W. Hays,
756 Lexington Way, Burlingame
Mrs. La Verne Goodwin,
135 Darthmouth, San Mateo
Mr. Charles M. DeMetriades,
848 Garland Dr., Palo Alto

Membership Chairman, Mrs. W. C. Harman, 656 Cedar Avenue, San Carlos, would appreciate names of anyone interested in joining the National Audubon Society, of which Sequoia Chapter is a member. Membership blanks and information will be furnished on request for both adults and children.

SEQUOIA CHAPTER TO HAVE LENDING LIBRARY

Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Harman have been appointed to head a committee to set up plans for the establishment of a lending library for members of the Sequoia Chapter. If you have any good books on birds, wildlife, wildflowers, trees, etc. that you are willing to donate please contact the Harmans - LYtell 3-6040.

AUDUBON FIESTA BOOTH - For its part in the San Mateo County Floral Fiesta, August 2 through 10 our society had booths Nos. 119 and 120 in the Pacific Building.

Plans were made well in advance and when the time came the committee, overriding all difficulties (and there were several) carried them out. First, Bill Harman carpentered two handsome wood display cases for showing the many books which National Audubon Society's office loaned us. To get and return those books meant two trips to the Berkeley center, and it was Elizabeth and Howard Evans who made the trips.

A beautiful 8' x 8' tempera painting, "Conserve or Perish", done by Claire Stewart, member and artist, contributed considerably to our exhibit and attracted many Fiesta spectators. Filling the entire background of booth 119, it clearly depicted the awful contrast between a world alive and growing under good conservative methods, and one that had been converted into dust and dry bones through careless mismanagement of natural resources.

For the background of booth 120, Elizabeth Evans arranged a composite of bird cut-outs and nature prints on pegboard. This was of particular interest to Junior Audubon members and natural science instructors.

Aveline Butler supplied recipes for feeding of wild birds as well as several types of feeders.

Jean Hebbren did the telephoning and book work necessary to keep the booth supervised by members for the duration of the Fiesta. This was no small job as each day was divided into three four hour shifts.

A long list of names of people requesting information regarding Screen Tours, field trips, con-

servation and related material attest to the value of the attraction, and should encourage the continuance of our Society's participation in this annual country wide community activity.

Dorothy Lilly, Chairman

BACK LOG OF SPRING AND SUMMER
ACTIVITIES

CONVENTION - April 13-16, incl. Katherine Lake, who was one of the 450 members attending at Asilomar, reports "70 hours of pure joy, information, learning and appreciation". Here are a few highlights from her excellent report that space does not permit printing in entirety:

"At Point Lobos, California, lilac was most beautiful; on Bird Rock a large pelican entertained. Cormorants, gulls, ducks, sea lions were in the audience....On trails, in the dinner line or just strolling--birds were present in the pines and cypress tree tops.

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Hatton were host and hostess to a group of 50 to 60 landlubbers at their ranch in the head of Calera Canyon. There, a bright colored oriole, a rufous humming bird and a large deer were main attractions.

Lectures and films gave a wealth of information. The film 'Behavior Patterns of the Sea Otter and Western Gull World' was one of the best, and was shown to President and Mrs. Eisenhower after the convention last year. Newton Drury's talk, 'The Tides As They Affect State Parks' climaxed the convention. He showed how 'tides of public thinking, the politicians, and the pressure groups' make the work of State Park preservation more difficult each year.

May 10 - Audubon Potluck, Election of Officers, and a most informing talk by Mrs. A. E. Niederrhoff of San Carlos on Beliviva. With slides and a display of

Back Log continued

colorful artifacts Mrs. Niederhoff gave us a glimpse of native Indian life in the departments of Cochabamba, La Paz, Sucre, and Beni. Emily Valentine modeled a native costume. Mrs. Niederhoff stated that Indians make up 90 percent of the population of Bolivia, and that potatoes, of which there are a hundred varieties, constitute their principal diet.

FIELD TRIP OF MAY 25

Anybody for a stroll along a happy little road--without-a name? Surprisingly enough, an unusually large number of Auduboners were for just such a stroll, which was a last minute substitute for the previously scheduled Butano trip which had to be cancelled because of washed-out roads. Designated by the California Trails Association as "a horse and foot trail", it is a "little-road-without-a-name". Running roughly parallel to Crystal Springs Road, it wanders from the Eichler Highlands sign on Skyline Boulevard on the west, to Polhemus Road on the east.

Beneath the protective shade of the many buckeyes, bays and Madrones and Coast live oaks, Ed. McClellan led the group and identified the following:

Among the shrubs were blue elderberry, holly-leaf, cherry, toyon, coyote brush, redberry, Coast silk tassel, poison oak, blue witch, California wild rose, pitcher sage, gooseberry, wild lilac, California hazel, sticky monkey flower, thimble berry, and Yerba Santa. Growing abundantly among the shrubs was California honeysuckle with its bright pink flowers. In several places we saw patches of California wood fern, gold-back fern, maiden hair fern, and coffee fern.

Although some of the early bloom-

ing wildflowers, such as mission bells, hounds tongue, meadowruc and star Zygodone had already gone to seed, we saw a wealth of flowers still in full bloom. Among them were Indian warrior, Indian paintbrush, columbine, western wallflower, blue dicks, harvest brodiaea, wyethia, collinsia, buttercup, woodland star, strawberry, grass iris, Coast iris, wild cucumber, checker-bloom, yellow monkey flower, lupine, milk maids, white tar-wood, fairy lantern, Coast larkspur, pink wild onion, milk thistle, California bee plant, birdseye gilia, and tidy tips, and Italian thistle.

To most of us the greatest treat of all came almost at the end of our road - an imposing and picturesque rock cliff literally covered with star-fruited and Pacific stone crop. We shall not soon forget these beautiful succulents with their bright yellow flowers and green and red leaves which made a brilliant splash of color on the lichen-encrusted rocks.

The birds along the little road were somewhat reluctant to show themselves, but their songs filled the air with a continuous melody. Among those who showed themselves and paraded their bright spring suits were Black-headed Grosbeaks, Green-backed Goldfinches, House Finches, Scrub Jays, and a Red-tail Hawk.

Ruth Bröckenridge

10.8 percent of California doves have young in the nest after September 1. Conservationists are recommending that the hunting season begin not earlier than October 15 and extend 15 days, with no shooting within 1/4 mile of watering places and irrigation canals. No other bird is legally killed while bringing forth young. Dove killing is not hunting.

(Note - All of ~~us~~ this summer have had our experiences with nests and nestlings. This one had a happy ending. I asked Barbara, who is 13, to write up her experience. She and her mother watched the mother robin take over the feeding of the "youngster" about a week after they rescued it in early April.--
Aveline Butler)

A Little Bird in a Big World

By Barbara Du Fane

One evening after dinner, my brother was just leaving for the show when he saw a helpless baby robin huddled on the lawn. It had been very windy that day, and evidently the little bird had tumbled from its nest. The baby had hardly no feathers and just fuzz on its head. It appeared that one leg had been injured in the fall.

We put it in a little strawberry basket lined with tissues. My father suggested feeding it with an eyedropper and a diet consisting of honey, water and milk, and cereal.

I remembered Mrs. Butler from Girl Scouts and called her up for advice on the bird's diet. She and her husband came over to my house, bringing a book which told of a lady that raised four baby birds. The book suggested pabulum, egg yolk moistened with milk, ground beef, and the soft part of cherries and grapes.

The baby seemed to know that we were there to help him. He would open his mouth (that seemed twice as big as he was) whenever anyone walked by, and would keep chirping until he had enough food.

There were times when we were concerned about his surviving, and he didn't seem to move his injured leg at all. We decided to call him Beauregard.

About a week after we found Beauregard, we brought him out in the backyard, and gave him exercise on the lawn by holding

(Cont'd) him up so he used his legs. The first day he was all tired out. We noticed that the mother and father robins were in the tree watching, but they didn't come near Beauregard.

The next morning, Beauregard seemed much stronger and livelier. That afternoon, we brought him in the backyard, and used the same procedure again. Beauregard started hopping around real lively. The mother and father robins came from the front yard and seemed very interested in the bird's antics. They would take turns walking around Beauregard but never too close. Finally after an hour of this behavior, the mother bird started looking for food and came to the baby. Beauregard didn't pay any attention, so his mother tapped him on the side of his neck with her beak. The baby opened his mouth so she could feed him. We were about 6 ft. away, and it was wonderful to watch the attention that the mother bird showered on Beauregard as she went about feeding him.

The next day the mother robin moved Beauregard under a shrub. When she saw that we located her hiding place, she moved Beauregard again. Now he is under a woodpile in the far end of the yard happily reunited with his mother.--End.

Keep your eyes and ears open for the first white-crown sparrow and the first golden crowned. They come toward end of Sept. or first of Oct. They love water, so keep the bird baths filled and begin to stock your feeding station regularly if you are not already doing so.--Aveline Butler

Contributions from all members will be welcomed on their bird observations. Send yours in. --Editor.

SEJOCIA AUDUBON SOCIETY

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT - Mrs. Mabel Lee
349 Lexington Way, Burlingame
DI 2-2428

VICE PRESIDENT - Neil Dickenson
554 Oak Park Way, Redwood City
EM 6-7661

SECRETARY - Miss Charlotte Knudsen
6A Lorton Ave., Burlingame
DI 4-0232

TREASURER - Mr. Nicholas Kroll
118 Laurel Ave., Millbrae
Ox 7-2051

CORRESPONDING SEC. - Mrs. Eugena
Hebbron, 1055 Black Mountain Road,
Hillsborough - DI 3-0415

Bulletin -

Mrs. Elizabeth Baker, Editor
457 - 26th Ave., San Mateo
Fireside 5-5335

Mrs. Alice Lyttaker - Stencils
616 Ansel Road, Burlingame
DI 3-6779

Miss Ruth Breckenridge,
Reporter
125 Lorton Avenue, Burlingame
DI 3-4216

Mrs. Avilene Butler
769 Tamarack Ave., San Carlos
Seasonal Observations
Ly 3-4489

COMMITTEES

CHAIRMEN -

Membership - Mrs. Marian Harman
656 Cedar St., San Carlos
LY 3-6040

Program - Mrs. Olita Dickenson
544 Oak Park Way, Redwood City
EM 6-7661

Junior Audubon - Mrs. Elizabeth
Evans, 342 Laurel St.,
San Carlos. Ly 3-4533

Fiesta - Mrs. Dorothy Lilly
224 Baytree Road, San Carlos
Ly 3-3504

Field Trip - Vacant

SCREEN TOURS

Chairman, Mrs. Mabel Lee

Ticket Manager -

Mrs. Georgina Larsen
875 Knoll Drive, San Carlos
Ly 3-2836

Publicity -

Mr. Donald Valentine
800 Jefferson Court
San Mateo
DI 3-3498

Observation, Aug. 23, 7 p.m., Old Bayshore Highway at the end of the Millbrae Overpass. We saw Avocets, Hudsonian Curlew, Long Billed Curlew, Forrester's Tern, Willets, Black bellied Plover, Pied bill Grebe, Sea Gulls, and a Blue Herron. Overhead we saw a flight of Canadian Geese. All this in just 40 minutes, as the sun went down over the hills. J. Ed McClellan reported seeing a Whistling Swan at this place. Last year a pair of swans remained here and nested. Perhaps they have adopted us instead of going north.--Gene Hebbron

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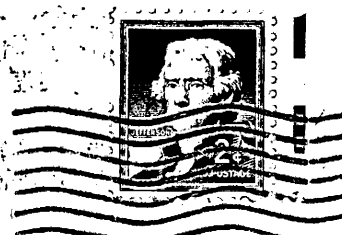
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