



The Sequoia

BULLETIN OF THE SEQUOIA AUDUBON SOCIETY
San Mateo, California

VOL. 12 No.12
March 1960

MARCH CALENDAR OF EVENTS

3/10 3/16 3/22 3/26
3/30

MARCH 10 (THURSDAY) - REGULAR MEETING
8 P.M., Burlingame Recreation Center.
Mrs. Jack Hebbbron will show her bird slides which have proved so popular and helpful. By showing a few familiar ones each time even a beginner can learn enough about identification of birds to find a feeling of satisfaction.

The main speaker of the evening will be Mr. J. Ed. McClellan whose subject will be "NATURE'S OWN GARDEN." Jed's collection of books and pictures plus his delightful story telling technique make his annual talk on plants an evening which is both entertaining and informative. Come and bring a friend.

MARCH 16 (WEDNESDAY) 9:00 A.M., BIRD WALK. Meet at West Third Street and Dartmouth Road. *G. Hebbbron, leader.
*San Mateo ***

MARCH 22 (TUESDAY) - 6 P.M. POT LUCK DINNER; 8 P.M. SCREEN TOUR:

POT LUCK DINNER 6 P.M.

at Washington School, Howard Avenue, Burlingame. If you can come on the spur of the moment do so, but if convenient phone one of the following:

- Mrs. Alice Steele -- Di 4-8317
- Mrs. Mabel Lee -- Di 2-2428
- Mrs. Oleta Dickinson- Em 6-7661.

SCREEN TOUR (following Pot Luck Dinner - 8 P.M. (3/22/60) - San Mateo High School Auditorium, Delaware at Bellevue Avenue.

Dr. G. Clifford Carl will present, "SECRETS OF THE SEA." Dr. Carl is Director of the Provincial Museum, Victoria, B.C., and is noted for his research in mysteries of the sea - the life within and along its shores. His motion pictures in natural color include sea urchins, starfish, octopus, fur seals, humpback whales and a variety of sea birds. Tell your friends about this splendid film - the final one of our 1959-1960 Screen Tour Program.

MARCH 26 (SATURDAY) 8:30 A.M., FIELD TRIP to BUTANO CREEK (Skunk Cabbages). Meet at intersection of Skyline Blvd. and Half Moon Bay Road.

MARCH 30 (WEDNESDAY), 9:00 A.M., BIRD WALK. Meet at Crystal Springs Dam, G. Hebbbron, Leader.

(Note - if you are planning to join G. Hebbbron's bird walks 3/16 or 3/30 - please notify her --Phone Di 3-0415.)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It's Spring! Almost overnight flowering fruit trees, blossoming daffodils, and verdant green hillsides have transformed our environment into a glowing, vivid, exciting wonderland. Every season has its own particular appeal, but spring is the time especially designed to help us find release from the problems of every-day living. At this time the outdoors is calling us to new and exciting adventures!

Audubon field trips always provide relaxation and inspiration (con'td p.2)

President's Message (Cont'd)

but the spring trips seem to hold special rewards. The trip to Butano Creek to see the brilliant yellow blooms of the skunk cabbage has become an annual pilgrimage. While the skunk cabbages are spectacular, some of the smaller blossoms along the way - hound's tongue, mission bells, bleeding heart, and many others, have a rare and delicate beauty of their own. The birds, too, have donned their own spring finery, and are singing their sweetest songs.

Let's heed the call of spring and forget about that living room window which needs washing, or the back fence which needs mending, or the papers in the briefcase which need reading. These are inanimate things which can be pushed aside, but everywhere outside it's spring, and spring won't wait. So why don't you plan to come with us to Butano Creek? Also, if you are free to do so, why not plan to join "Gene" Hebborn on her Wednesday morning trips? Another outstanding event of spring will be Jed's annual talk on plants at our regular meeting on March 10. We are looking forward to springtime adventuring with you! -- Ruth Breckenridge.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The following committee has been appointed to nominate officers and directors for 1960-1961: Marian Harman, Mabel Lee, and Gladys Jaten. If you have any ideas or suggestions, please contact one of the committee members.

BACKLOG REVIEW"THE LAND THE GLACIERS FORGOT"

The third screen tour was preceded by the usual delectable potluck dinner.

Mr. Howard Orians presented an interesting and beautiful pictorial account of the section of southwestern Wisconsin which the great glaciers by-passed. This area is quite different from the surrounding glaciated regions. Here there are no lakes, and there are many interesting and unusual rock outcroppings.

All of Mr. Orians' pictures of plants and animals were beautiful and appealing, but the outstanding "event" was the "bird bathing beauty contest. The many closeups of the birds as they came to the lovely pool to bathe were viewed with appreciation and enthusiasm by the audience. Among the star performers were the redstart, song sparrow, cardinal, indigo bunting, red-winged blackbird, red-eyed vireo, rose-breasted grosbeak, cerulean warbler, flicker, yellow-bellied cuckoo, red-eyed towhee, and the scarlet tanager.

- Ruth Breckenridge

LAKE MERCED FIELD TRIP

On January 23, 1960, some of our members looked out at the dense cold fog, and crawled back into the blankets; but those who made the trip to Lake Merced drove out of the fog just before arriving at the lake and had good birding.

The most exciting encounter was an eared grebe already sporting the bright red fans of the breeding season. The other eared grebes were still in winter plumage. The pied billed grebes were sounding their spring calls, however. One horned grebe was changing from winter to spring plumage. Other birds of interest were a green heron and a kingfisher. - J. Ed. (Jed) McClellan

LA HONDA FIELD TRIP

On the morning of February 7, 1960, a group went to La Honda. Some of the newspapers had misstated the meeting place, but I believe all who went to the wrong place caught up with the party before we left the official meeting place. We had some good birding in the hills south of the creek. Of special interest were a creeper, blue birds and mocking birds. We saw ruby-crowned kinglets but missed the golden-crowned kinglet, the green heron and the Florida gallinule, which had been seen on a previous trip.

--J. Ed (Jed) McClellan

On February 7, I had occasion to go out in my front yard quite early in the morning. Hearing a "honk-honk-honk" I looked up and saw 50 Canadian Honkers flying in formation--a most inspiring sight! E. Baker

REGULAR MEETING FEB. 11

"The John Muir Trail" proved to be a very fine film of the high country. It showed a family of four hiking through untouched meadows and high mountains, and finally up the sheer cliffs to the top of Mt. Whitney. Surely, there could be no more fitting memorial to a great naturalist than the preservation of the magnificent stretch of country along this trail. --Ida Smith

"LAND OF EARLY AUTUMN" FEB. 18

The potluck dinner preceding the fourth screen tour was attended by 40 people.

Mr. Cleveland P. Grant's superb pictures of wildlife held his audience enthralled as he recounted his journey from Wisconsin to Alaska, "land of early autumn." In Wisconsin we saw the male ruffed grouse as he did his odd, head-shaking dance. On the prairies, the great bison seemed to be very close to the camera. As we continued northwestward into the Canadian Rockies, we were rewarded with remarkable closeups of mountain goats, big-horned sheep, mule deer, and elks. In Alaska, we practically rubbed noses with great bull moose.

We wondered at times how we (and Mr. Grant) could possibly escape the huge claws of the grizzly bears. We enjoyed the antics of the other grizzly bear followers, the magpies, who enjoyed second hand blueberries. We saw the herds of caribou who are the "most important animals of the North to the people of the North."

As the "land of early autumn" changed to the land of early snows, we watched the animals prepare for the long winter. We loved the family of Holboell's grebes, especially the chicks who rode so happily on Father's back, and we grieved for the unwary one who failed to heed winter's warning in time to leave the ice-locked pool.

CONSERVATION NOTES

by Kathleen Weber

MISSION 66

The National Park Service's Mission 66 is nearing its midpoint. Its achievements have been many to date:

1. It has inspired long-range conservation programs by other agencies.
2. Improvements have been made to the Park System's facilities.
3. Protection and administration have been strengthened.
4. Visitor understanding is being enhanced through the programs and facilities provided in new visitor centers.
5. Steps are being taken to improve management and to provide trained and dedicated employees to replace those who will be lost through attrition. Improved morale of the park ranger forces is certain to result from the establishment of the Division of Ranger activities.
6. Establishment of the National Park Service Training Center to train new employees in the traditions and policies of the Department of the Interior and the National Park Service in a manner guaranteeing a lasting impact.
7. The fine accomplishments of the park concessioners have been planned and executed through teamwork with the Nat'l. Park Service.
8. It includes a survey of what might be termed, "missing links in the National Park System, as well as a survey to identify nationally important historic sites, and the completion of a National Recreation Plan.

"We can only pay our debt to the past by putting the future in debt to ourselves." - John Buchan

Conservation Notes (cont'd)

STATE SCENIC ROUTE

California State Highway 1, between Carmel and San Simeon through the Big Sur country, considered one of the most scenic roads in the U.S., has been removed from the master plan of freeways, but it is still scheduled for improvements that would alter its character and impair its attractiveness. State Senator Fred Farr would have such roads designated as "scenic highways" from which truck traffic and high-speed through-traffic would be diverted to alternate routes, leaving the designated roads to the more leisurely traffic of tourists, sightseers, and vacationists. The legislation would provide for advisory commissions of local citizens with which the Highway Division would consult before changing the character of roads that might be designated "scenic." The proposal is one of extreme interest to Californians and one that well warrants the careful study that Senator Farr has requested it be given by highway officials, the Dir. of Natural Resources and the State Planning Officer.

SEC. OF INT. FRED A. SEATON SPEAKS:

"There is every reason to believe that the next 5 or 10 years constitute critical years if we are to add what we need to our heritage of scenic, historic, and cultural treasures for the use and enjoyment of the greater, and largely urbanized, population of the future. The important thing is that those places of high intrinsic value for public refreshment, enjoyment, and inspiration be quickly identified, and steps taken to protect and preserve them for this overriding purpose before they are irretrievably lost to other uses."

There literally is no time to lose. Fortunately, some remedies, having already been thoroughly studied and discussed, lie immediately at hand. One of the most significant is the Wilderness Bill, which would establish for the first time as Congressional policy the preservation of federally owned wild areas in their primeval state. This bill would add no new lands to the Federal domain, but would merely give clear statutory protection to 55 million acres of America's finest unspoiled country that is already included as wilderness within national parks, forests, wildlife refuges and other federally controlled areas.

ASKED TO AID FORESTS

Congress has been asked to provide a \$22,800,000 start on the biggest improvement program ever undertaken in national forests. The program would cost over a billion dollars over 40 years.

Operation multiple use is designed to keep pace with economic needs and national growth.

Values produced by this program include water, grazing for domestic animals, wild game, sports, fishing, recreation and scenery.

INTERNATIONAL NATURE SLIDE EXHIBITION

Nature color slides from an international array of photographers will be exhibited throughout the Bay area by the Photochrome Club of San Francisco, beginning March 16.

The showing will last about 1-1/2 hours and will include slides of birds, insects, mammals, flowers, fungi and lichen, as well as scenes of nature in general. Phyllis Lindley, National Audubon Society staff member will be among those on the panel of selection. Schedule of showing is listed below. Admission free. Top award will be for the slide which best illustrates the relationship of a living subject to its environment or habitat, in the opinion of the judges.

Wed., Mar. 16, 8 p.m., Morrison Auditorium, Calif. Academy of Sciences, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco.

Sat., Mar. 19, 8 p.m., Olney Auditorium, College of Marin, Kentfield, Hosted by Ross Valley Camera Club.

Sun., Mar. 20, 3 p.m., Rosicrucian Museum, San Jose. Hosted by Light and Shadow Club.

Mon., Mar. 21, 8 p.m., Chabot School, Chabot Road and Patten St., Oakland, Hosted by Oakland Camera Club.

Wed., March 23, 8 p.m. San Francisco Museum of Art, Van Ness and McAllister Sts., San Francisco

1960 CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

<u>Loons</u>	<u>Ducks (cont'd)</u>	Marble Godwit	<u>Wrens (cont'd)</u>
Common	Redhead	Sanderling	Bewick's
Pacific	Ring-necked	Avocet	Marsh
Red-throated	Canvas-back	Black-necked	
	Greater Scaup	stilt	
<u>Grebes</u>	Lesser "		Mockingbird
Holboell's	Golden-eye	<u>Gulls</u>	Calif. thrasher
Horned	Bufflehead	Glaucous winged	Robin
Eared	Old-squaw	Western	Varied thrush
Western	White-winged	Herring	Hermit "
Pied-billed	Scoter	California "	Western bluebird
	Surf Scoter	Ring-billed	Golden-crowned
<u>Pelican</u>	Amer. "	Short "	kinglet
Brown	Ruddy	Bonapartes	Ruby-crowned
		Forster's	kinglet
<u>Cormorants</u>	<u>Merganser</u>	Caspian	Amer. pipit
Farallon	American	Calif. Murre	Cedar waxwing
Brandt's	Red-breasted	Guillemot	Calif. shrike
Baird's		Heerman's	Hutton's vireo
	<u>Hawks</u>		
<u>Hérons</u>	White-tailed kite	Morning dove	<u>Warblers</u>
Great Blue	Sharp-shinned		Myrtle
Green	Cooper's	<u>Owls</u>	Audubon
Night	Red-tailed	Barn	Townsend's
	Red-bellied	Screech	Long-tailed chat
<u>Egrets</u>	Marsh	Horned	West. meadowlark
American	Sparrow	Short-eared	Yellow throat
Brewster's			
	Clapper rail	Anna's hummingbird	<u>Blackbirds</u>
<u>Swan</u>	Sora	Belted Kingfisher	Bicolored
Whistling	Gallinule	Red-shafted flicker	Tricolored
	Coot		Brewer's
<u>Goose</u>	Black oyster-	<u>Woodpeckers</u>	Hooded oriole
Canada	catcher	California	Cowbird
Cackling	Semipalmated Plover	Hairy	Purple finch
Black Brant	Killdeer	Downy	House finch
White-fronted	Band-tailed pigeon	Red-breasted sap-	Green-backed finch
Snow	Black-bellied plover	sucker	Pine siskin
	Surf bird	Black Phoebe	Spotted towhee
<u>Vulture</u>	Black turnstone	Say's "	Brown "
<u>Golden eagle</u>	Wilson's snipe	Horned lark	Oregon junco
<u>Calif. quail</u>	Long-billed curlew	Steller's jay	<u>Sparrows</u>
<u>Ring-necked pheasant</u>	Hudsonian "	Calif. "	Savannah
		Amer. raven	Lark
<u>Ducks</u>	<u>Sandpipers</u>	Crow	White-crowned
Mallard	Spotted	Chestnut-backed	Golden "
Gadwall	Least	chickadee	Fox
Widgeon	Red-backed	Plain tit-mouse	Song
Baldpate	Western	Bush tit	English
Pin tail		Slender-billed	
Green-winged Teal	Wandering tattler	nuthatch	
Blue-winged "	Willet	Creeper	
Cinnamon "	Greater yellow		
Shoveler	legs	<u>Wrens</u>	
Wood	Kirot	Wren-tit	
(cont'd)	Long-billed	Winter	
	dowitcher	(cont'd)	

Officers

President - Miss Ruth Breckenridge
135 Lorton Ave.
Burlingame (Di 3-4216)

Vice Pres - Mrs. Ida Smith
121 Magnolia Ave.
Millbrae (Ox 7-5627)

Treasurer - William Harman
556 Cedar St.
San Carlos (Ly 3-6040)

Secretary - Mrs. Eugenia Hebbro
1055 Black Mt. Road
Hillsborough (Di 3-0415)

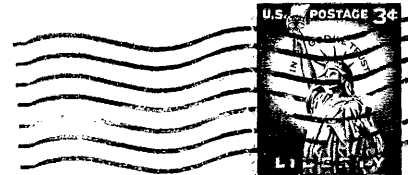
Bulletin Staff

Editor - Mrs. Elizabeth G. Baker
457 - 26th Ave
San Mateo (Fi 5-5335)

Asst. Editor &
Cir. Mgr. - Mrs. Eugenia Hebbro
1055 Black Mt. Road
Hillsborough (Di 3-0415)

Reporters - committee chairmen

Return to Sequoia Audubon Soc. Bulletin
c/o Mrs. Jack Hebbro
1055 Black Mt. Road
Hillsborough, Calif.
(Form 3547 Requested)



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