

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. John L. Morrill, 505 Costa Rica Avenue, San Mateo, DI 4-5497.

MEETINGS

At the October meeting, held at the Burlingame Intermediate School, the members attending voted to have the meetings transferred to this location in the future. However, upon checking with the Burlingame School Office, it was found that the cafeteria was already allocated for many of our meeting nights, and they would not sign up as small a group as our normal meeting for the large auditorium. We will therefore continue to meet at the Washington School, for the balance of this season.

November 5 BOARD MEETING at the home of President John L. Morrill, 505 Costa Rica Avenue, San Mateo. All Thursday Board members are expected to attend, Committee Chairmen are urged to do so, and any other members will be welcome.

November 12 REGULAR MEETING - to be held at our normal Thursday meeting place, Washington School Auditorium, 8:00 pm 801 Howard Ave. Burlingame. We are privileged to have this program presented by Bonnie and Jed McClellan, on the topic of Mushrooms and Fungi of the Pacific Coast and San Mateo County in particular. The account will be illustrated by color slides, and a list of reference material will be given. There will be examples of available reference books and materials on display at the meeting.

This will be a program of great interest in many, so we urge you all to attend, and to bring any friends who might be interested in this topic.

FIELD TRIPS

(Chairman: G. Paul Lechich DI 3-7688)

Saturday PORTOLA STATE PARK
November 14 Leader: Mrs. Katherine Kroll (OX 7-2051)
9:00 am Meeting Place: Meet at 9:00 am at the intersection of La Honda Road and Skyline.
This should be a most enjoyable visit to one of our County's scenic parks.

Saturday BAY FARM ISLAND, Alameda
November 28 Leader: Mrs. Gene Hebbron (DI 3-0415)
10:00 am Meeting Place: Meet at the parking lot of the Alameda Municipal Golf Course. This may be reached by crossing the San Mateo-Hayward Bridge to the Nimitz Freeway, and turning left (North), towards Oakland. Proceed to the High Street off-ramp. Turn left on High Street and go to the end of the street, turn left, go over the bridge, turn right, and the parking lot is straight ahead. Bring a lunch and be prepared to walk.

This is a fine birding area, which may be lost to development operations, so don't miss this opportunity to visit this area.

MID-WEEK BIRD WALKS

(Leader: Gene Hebbron DI 3-0415)

Thursday Half Moon Bay Area. Call Gene Hebbron for in-
November 5 formation on when and where to meet.

Thursday Shore birds on the Bay. Call Gene Hebbron for
November 19 information on when and where to meet.

BEGINNERS BIRD WALKS

(Leader: Florence Richardson FI 5-4443)

Thursday Field trip for beginners to observe shore birds
November 19 will be combined with regular mid-week trip.
Wintering flocks of all regular mud-and sand-
flat species should be present in abundance. For
information on time and place to meet call Florence
Richardson (FI 5-4443) or Gene Hebbron (DI 3-0415).

FIELD TRIP REPORTS

FORT CRONKITE - October 10.

The weather wasn't very good, being quite foggy. Fortunately there was no wind, so it wasn't uncomfortable. About a dozen members and friends braved the fog and were pleased with what we were able to see. There were ducks, grebes, night herons, egrets, Willets, Sanderlings, Kingfishers, hawks, finches and great numbers of Audubon Warblers. The most interesting sight was the great numbers of Brown Pelicans, which put on a beautiful exhibition of flying and fishing. We logged thirty-six birds.

Those who hiked down the trail to Point Bonito didn't see any birds, but had a very interesting time. We visited the Bonito Lighthouse, crossing the swaying suspension bridge to get there. The Coast Guardsman on duty showed us around and answered questions. We climbed up to the light itself, looked into the engine room where the large air compressors were in action, then went out to stand under the fog horn, where we experienced sound at its loudest.

Gene Hebbron

GRIZZLY ISLAND WATERFOWL MANAGEMENT AREA -
October 17

A beautiful morning - about an hour's drive up Highway 40 to Fairfield, then 10 miles on a country road to the headquarters. There are spectacular bridges over Montezuma Slough to Grizzly Island and the Joice Island Sanctuary. Miles of wild rose hedges - a few still blooming and clusters of red rose hips lovelier than Toyon. Wild blackberries too, and many grasses and seeds. A young White-crowned Sparrow had his beak stained deep red (So did I!).
Hawks kept us excited. All day from one to three- once five at a time! - marsh hawks were in sight. There were many White-tailed Kites - none of us had ever seen so many before - so lovely we forgot to count! We listed Sparrow Hawks, Sharp-shinned, Cooper's, Red-tailed, and several unidentified. Several varieties of swallows, sparrows and finches, Red-wing and Brewer's Blackbirds, flickers, pheasants, California Quail, Kingfishers, Snowy and American Egrets, Great Blue Herons, Water Pipits, Snipes, Bushtits, Bewick Wren, Black Phoebe, Pied-billed Grebes, Coots, Meadow Larks, Audubon Warblers, Killdeer, Marsh Wrens, House Sparrows, Linnets, Shrikes ---

Pintail Ducks the most plentiful waterfowl. White-fronted Geese and Canadian Geese next. One flight of over a thousand White-fronted geese, lovely to see. There were a dozen or more of the larger, darker Tule Geese in the area with the big flock of White-fronted Geese. Mallards, Ruddy Ducks, Shovellers, Ring-billed Gulls - a lovely and varied habitat - the brown, rounded hills, green meadows and trees, the ponds and sloughs and a fine flock of decoys!! Thank you Nick and Katherine Kroll.

Alice Steele

CONSERVATION REPORT

Three important Conservation victories in one day - September 3rd. The Wilderness Bill was signed into law after failures in eight prior Congressional sessions. About 2 percent of the total national land area will be preserved thereby. Areas 100 thousand acres up unspoiled by roads or structures will be designated Wilderness; and from 15 thousand acres up to be called Wild Areas. A second signed bill authorizes a \$2 billion fund to buy land and water recreation areas over a ten year period. Third, a bill dedicating four Pacific flyway refuges for water-fowl: Tule Lake, Lower Klamath, Upper Klamath and Clear Lake. A dispute with agricultural interests over the water levels in refuges was settled satisfactorily by the bill.

Residents of Kings Mountain area of Skyline have protested extension of logging and sawmill operations west of Skyline between Swett Road and Bear Gulch Road. Logging on private lands, according to report, have made devastated wastelands of hillsides, creeks much befouled, and slash has been left behind as a fire hazard. Should San Mateo County continue to allow the "harvesting" of trees as a crop without restriction or regulation? This may be contrary to the public interest and a serious study of this situation is needed, with strong recommendations to follow.

A recent news article stated that it takes about twelve trees, producing oxygen and absorbing carbons, to offset one automobile's exhaust. This suggests we need all the trees we have and them some!

Proposition 1 on the November 3rd Ballot seeks authorizing of a \$150 million bond issue - \$105 to enlarge/improve State Beaches and Parks; \$40 million to counties and cities to assist in development of local recreational areas; \$5 million for wildlife conservation and also much needed access roads to hunting and fishing areas. Per statistics in the period since 1950: Population grew 50% - Use of State beaches and parks increased 430% while Beaches and parks lands expanded 24% and without the funds authorized it is likely to continue this way. Of California's 1,341 miles of available coastline, only 156 miles are part of the recreation system and less than 1% of California's land area is now in Beaches and Parks.

WANTED ~~Dead~~ ^{Alive}: Conservation Committee! Not the usual monthly bored meetings, but people with definite assignments. Representatives to other local conservation organizations. Representatives to other local Audubon Societies. Citizens of San Mateo, Burlingame, Daly City, Colma, South San Francisco, Pacifica, who will take an interest in what their local

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councils are doing and who will clip and save conservation news items in local papers. Our job as a committee will be to keep the membership of our Society informed on important issues.

San Mateo County is a wonderful place to live and work and let's see that it is kept that way - by a group of people who really care!

Bob Lebkicher
Conservation

SHORE SURVEY PROGRAM

We are now well under way in the semi-monthly shore survey for the Department of Fish and Game, and wish to thank those taking part for the conscientious way they have been performing the assignments. The going is easy now, but it will be rough when the weather gets wet. We hope our interest and dedication to this worthwhile program will not weaken under the rigors of Winter.

In connection with the survey, Maryann Danielson, the coordinator of the work, requests that all participants come to the November meeting of the Sequoia Audubon Society at 7:30, to discuss any problems that may have arisen, and any suggestions developed may be passed along by her to Mr. Lauppe of the Dept. of Fish and Game.

NEW TREASURER

It is with regret that we announce the resignation of Miss Anne M. Hall as Treasurer.

We are pleased to announce that Mrs. Gladys Jaten has accepted this post, and will serve as a member of the Board of Directors for the balance of the year. Our most sincere thanks are extended to Mrs. Jaten for this service.

BOOK REVIEW

(G. Paul Lechich - Di 3-7688)

SEA BIRDS by Charles Vaucher 254 pgs.

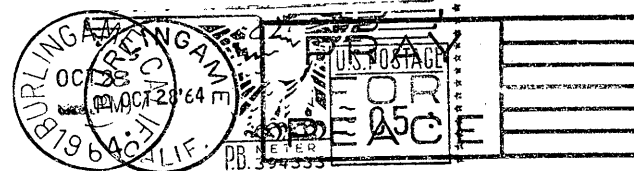
Paul submits this review of the book, as written by Charles Vaurie.

"The great majority of photographs are outstanding and many are excellent, especially those of the birds taken in flight. The latter certainly include some of the most remarkable ever taken... There are 255 photographs, fifteen in color (and, I may add, not up to the standard of the black and white)... This book is not comprehensive or 'scientific', but it does not pretend to be. It is really aimed at those who are thrilled by the sea and its incomparable birds, and in this it is perfectly successful. A conscientious reviewer should note, however, that the present edition, prepared in England, is not quite up to the standard of the original edition, published in Switzerland in 1958... But the quality of this present edition is still very high."
Natur Hist 73:10 Mr '64 280w

DUCKS at a DISTANCE

This is a waterfowl identification guide, published by the U. S. Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service. It is a compact and excellent aid in identifying ducks, both in flight and in the water, and should be of interest to anyone interested in the identification of ducks.

A supply has been obtained and may be purchased at the regular meetings, or by contacting the Editor (Di 4-5497). The price is 25¢ per copy.



Mr. & Mrs. A. E. Montgomery
2270 Summit Dr.,
Hillsborough, Calif.