



# The Sequoia



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. A. E. Montgomery, 2270 Summit Dr., Hillborough. 344-4249.

### MEETINGS

- Nov. 4 BOARD MEETING at the home of President A. E. Montgomery, 2270 Summit Drive, Hillsborough. All Board members and committee chairmen are expected to attend. Other members will be welcome.
- Thurs. 8 pm
- Nov. 11 Regular monthly meeting at Washington School Auditorium, 801 Howard Avenue, Burlingame. Last year Jack Hebborn went on a photographic tour of Africa. We are to have the good fortune to see the pictures he took on this safari. Anyone who has seen Jack's pictures will know that we are in for a most enjoyable evening. Bring a friend with you. Light refreshments will be served at the conclusion of the meeting, courtesy of Ruth Canoles and Laverne Goodwin.
- Thurs. 8 pm

### FIELD TRIPS

(Chairman: Nick Kroll Ox 7-2051)

- Nov. 13 PORTOLA STATE PARK
- Sat. Leader: Katherine Kroll (Ox 7-2051)
- 9 am Meeting Place: Meet at 9:00 am sharp at the intersection of Skyline and La Honda Road. This should be an enjoyable visit to one of our county's scenic parks. Emphasis will be upon the flora of the area, with mushrooms to be seen if we have some wet weather. Some interesting varieties of birds are also seen in this area. Such as swifts and kites. Bring your lunch and look for a most pleasant outing.
- Nov. 27 PILLAR POINT
- Sat. Leader: G. Paul Lechich (344-3405)
- 9 am Meeting Place: Meet at 9:00 am sharp at the intersection of Half Moon Bay Road and Skyline. This area abounds in shore and sea birds, as well as a good variety of field birds. Lunch is optional, there are restaurants or lunch counters in the area for those who want to stay past noon time.

### FIELD TRIP REPORTS

#### STANFORD UNIVERSITY - Sept. 26.

The dry season of Fall finds all the meadows gold and brown. Grass is tall and dry, or already plowed under.

Blackbirds are everywhere. The young ones have beautiful feathers. We were fortunate in getting close-up looks at Redwings, Brewers, Meadowlarks, Starlings.

California Thrashers, hummingbirds and doves in the trees. In the open meadows hundreds of mourning doves, with linnets, meadowlarks, flickers and blackbirds feeding together. California Quail and a shrike gave us an interesting day, even though Stanford is in the midst of a tremendous building program.

Alice Steele

#### MONTEREY BAY BOAT TRIP - October 16

In spite of high seas and a brisk wind (about 18 knots), the thirty intrepid tourists enjoyed an exciting day on the bounding main - and it was really bounding.

Although the rough water kept the food fish deep, and prevented the assembling of any large concentrations of sea birds, we were fortunate in seeing a fine variety of pelagic birds. Among the more exciting sightings were four types of Shearwaters - Sooty, Slender-billed, Pink-footed, and the rarer New Zealand variety. Also seen were Fulmars, Ashy and Black Petrels, and Cassin's and Rhinoceros Auklets. Both Pomarine and Parasitic Jaegers were also sighted.

We were indeed fortunate to have the expert aid of Dr. Ronald Branson, of the Monterey Peninsula Audubon Society, to locate and identify these birds for us. The pitching of the boat prevented effective use of binoculars, and it was hard to keep a bird under observation long enough to compare its characteristics with the handbook, so we surely would have overlooked some of these birds if Dr. Branson had not been with us. We herewith offer him our thanks, and hope we may have the pleasure of his company again.

One of the real highlights of the trip was the frolicking about the boat of several porpoises. Four to six of these exciting black and white speeders played tag with the boat for a good ten minutes, criss-crossing back and forth under the prow as close as they could get. Several large sea lions were also seen well out from shore.

Several of us stopped at Moss Landing on the way down, and drove around the lighthouse at Pacific Grove afterwards, and were rewarded by seeing an unusual variety of birds. Alice Steele reports she listed 59 varieties, and may have overlooked some, at that. In ten minutes at Moss Landing, we counted over twenty-five kinds of birds - we should keep this place in mind for a field trip in the future.

In spite of the rough weather - although the day was bright, clear and warm - only a few of us suffered from Mal-de-mer. The skipper expressed his surprise at how well we stood up to the tossing.

Jack Morrill

\*\*\*\*\*

### NEW ACTIVITIES

#### PESCADERO MARSH

The extensive marshes and pond at the mouth of Pescadero Creek constitutes the only sizable fresh-water marsh left in the county. It supports a great variety of bird life, including a heron rookery, and is a favorite birding area for many of our members. We have recently heard reports that the State has purchased about 100 acres of this land, with the intention of adding it to the Pescadero Beach State Park. In order to follow this development and its possible effect upon the bird-life of the marsh, President A. E. Montgomery has appointed the following "Pescadero Marsh Sub-committee" to the Conservation Committee:

- Mr. John L. Morrill - Chairman
- Miss Maryann Danielson
- Mrs. Katherine Kroll
- Mr. J. Ed McClellan
- Mrs. Eleanor McCurley
- Mrs. Florence Richardson
- Mrs. L. Alice Steele

CONSERVATION NOTES

A regional conference for San Mateo and Santa Clara Counties was held October 9th at Foothill Jr. College. Considering the lethargy of the general public regarding planning and conservation, attendance was quite good. About 1000 attended and heard local and state officials, developers and professional planners discuss different (sometimes conflicting) views of land development and preservation of natural beauty.

\*\*\*\*\*

On October 14th Bob Lebkicher presented our Society's official stand on Bayfront development to the Bayfront Sub-Committee of the Regional Planning Committee of San Mateo County. In the presentation Bob stressed the idea of a green belt of public land surrounding the Bay which would consist of parkways, recreation areas, wildlife refuges and trails. If this green belt existed the public, for once, would have easy access to the waters of S. F. Bay.

It is very dubious indeed just what general plan the Bayfront Sub-Committee will eventually come up with, and if there will be any consideration at all given to the citizens' recreational and esthetic interest in the Bay or not.

\*\*\*\*\*

At this moment the hottest conservation battle in our County seems to be over the future of a major landmark. . . . San Bruno Mountain. The powerful combine of Crocker Land Co. (which owns the mountain), Ideal Cement (which owns the tidelands the mountain would fill) and David Rockefeller (who has the money needed to get the job done) seems determined to lop 600 feet off the top of this mountain and then take the dirt by means of conveyor belts to Redwood Shores. PUBLIC PROTEST ALONE can do anything to prevent this. WRITE to the County Supervisors, the newspapers and even the disc-jockey, Don Sherwood, who really did stir up a lot of support for the McAteer Bill.

\*\*\*\*\*

The Bay Conservation and Development Commission, established by the McAteer Bill, will hold its next public meeting October 28 at 2:00 pm in the State Building, Golden Gate Avenue, San Francisco. Attendance is urged.

\*\*\*\*\*

All of us in Sequoia Audubon who feel strongly about the natural environment of our County are at times overcome with weariness and frustration in the uphill fight to try and save some remnants of what this land once was. Too often we step aside passively and give up, thus giving silent consent to the planned destruction of our landscape. Let's change this attitude. LETTERS, LETTERS, LETTERS. . . . get those letters off and let your opinions and protests be known.

Eleanor McCurley - Conservation Chairman

Return to Sequoia Audubon Society Bulletin  
c/o John L. Morrill  
505 Costa Rica Ave.  
San Mateo, Calif.  
(Form 3457 Requested)

SPECIAL NOTICE

NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY  
CONSERVATION RESOURCE CENTER  
2426 Bancroft Way, Berkeley, California  
THornwall 8-4042

REMINDER: Audubon members receiving the Christmas gift catalog and brochures from the New York headquarters will be glad to know that all books and items listed and pictured (as well as many more of specific Western interest) are available now at the Audubon Center in Berkeley - Western service outlet for the National Audubon Society.

All who live in the vicinity or are traveling in the Bay Area are welcome to visit our center (Monday through Friday, 12:00 noon to 5:00 pm, Saturday 11:00 am to 4:00 pm) to enjoy our browsing room and inspect the books, records, gifts, etc. at first hand. If residing outside the area mail orders will be handled promptly. Descriptive folder and book lists sent on request.

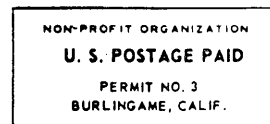
William N. Goodall, Western Representative

NEW MEMBERS

In the confusion of starting off the new season, and with a lack of space, we have neglected welcoming all the new members of SEQUOIA AUDUBON. We now want to correct this, and therefore greet the following recent joiners:

Mrs. Wm. H. Fischer	306 W-31st Ave.	San Mateo
Mrs. Ruby Flattau	251-D W-36th Ave.	San Mateo
Mrs. E. L. Becker	P.O. Box 1504	San Mateo
Miss Isobel Sanford	1407-A Sanchez	Burlingame
Mrs. Jean Jones	1417 Sanchez	Burlingame
Douglas H. Jones	347 Edge Road	Menlo Park
Mrs. Emily Connery	2831 Flores St.	San Mateo
Mrs. Ione Nomm	232 - 27th Ave.	San Mateo

If we have overlooked anyone, please let us know, so we can list your name and address in the next issue of the SEQUOIA.



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