



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, Dr. Howard Gurevitz, 1505 Oak Rim Dr., Hillsborough 342-3620 - Editor, Mr. J. L. Morrill, 505 Costa Rica Ave., San Mateo, 344-5497.

MEETINGS

- May 2 BOARD MEETING at the home of President Howard Gurevitz, 1505 Oak Rim Drive, Hillsborough. Thursday 8:00 PM Committee chairmen should attend. All members are welcome.
- May 9 REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING at the Burlingame Recreation Center, 850 Burlingame Avenue. The program will feature Jed McClellan, who will present "Native Plants: Variety Within Genus". Jed's talk will be illustrated by many of the excellent color slides taken by Bonnie McClellan. Following the meeting, refreshments will be served by our Social Committee, Barbara Drake and Maureen McTaggart, co-chairmen.

FIELD TRIPS

(Florence Richardson, Chairman 345-4443)

- May 4 MYSTERY TRIP Saturday 6:00 AM to 7:00 PM LEADERS: Ruth B. Hass Phone 345-9089 205 Santa Clara Way, San Mateo 94403 Jack Morrill Phone 344-5497 505 Costa Rica Ave., San Mateo 94402 MEETING PLACE: The basic meeting place will be at the Southern Pacific parking lot at California and Broadway in Burlingame. Those taking this trip will be advised of more convenient meeting places as soon as the reservation list is completed. This will be an all-day trip to an area of great interest, and should be quite rewarding for both birds and wildflowers. Bring an ample lunch (enough for an extra snack to tide you over until a late dinner), and sturdy hiking shoes. Since a bus is being chartered, all reservations must be in, with your check for \$5.00, no later than Tuesday, April 30.

STANFORD CAMPUS

LEADER: Lillian Montgomery (344-4249)
 MEETING PLACE: Meet at Macy's parking lot, in the Stanford Shopping Center.
 This has been an exceptional place to observe migrating and nesting birds of many species. Bring lunch, or it may be obtained at one of the nearby restaurants or cafeterias.

- May 18 AL WOOL RANCH - La Honda Saturday 9:00 AM LEADER: Mr. Al Wool. For information, call Mrs. Ruth Hass (345-9089) MEETING PLACE: Meet in the parking lot of Baw's Fountain, in the town of La Honda. Wear walking shoes and bring lunch. Again we are privileged to share with Al Wool the birds, flowers and natural beauty of his ranch in the La Honda hills.

- June 1 BUTANO STATE PARK Saturday 9:30 AM LEADER: Jed McClellan (344-3486) MEETING PLACE: Meet at the town of Pescadero, at the intersection of the main street and Pescadero Road. Bring lunch. Wild rhododendrons and other plants should be seen on this outing.

BEGINNERS' TRIPS

- (For information call Mrs. Hebbroon 347-8366)
 May 2 STANFORD CAMPUS, Palo Alto Thursday 9:00 AM LEADER: Florence Richardson (345-4443) MEETING PLACE: Macy's parking lot at Stanford Shopping Center. Homework is suggested on family and individual characteristics of the following migrating or nesting birds: Anna's, Allen's and Rufous Hummingbirds; Downy Woodpeckers; Plain Titmouse; Common Bushtit; Nuthatches; Bewick's Wren; California Thrasher; Audubon's, Yellow, Wilson's and Orange-crowned Warblers.
- May 25 THE ABOVE TRIP WILL BE REPEATED. Saturday 9:00 AM LEADER: Lillian Montgomery (344-4249)

FIELD TRIP REPORTS

Audubon Canyon Ranch - March 30 A. E. Montgomery, Leader. The field trip to Audubon Canyon Ranch on March 30 was an enjoyable one, as it always is. A large group assembled at the Ranch. Our first interest was aroused right at the parking lot by a pair of Killdeer Plovers putting on the "broken-wing act" to draw our attention from the nest with four eggs on the gravel immediately in front of one of the parked cars. The naturalist, Clerin Zumwalt, gave us an introductory talk. After a walk together up the trail, stopping at the Clem Miller Lookout to observe the birds on Bolinas Lagoon, then up to Henderson Overlook above the rookery, where con-

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siderable time was spent watching the Great Blue Herons and American Egrets on their nests, we returned to have a picnic lunch together on the new picnic tables at the Ranch. After lunch we enjoyed the round trip Bert Harwell Nature Trail in Garden Club of America Canyon, then took cars and drove to Point Reyes Bird Observatory, where we were welcomed by the administrative director, John Ralph, who gave us a very interesting and instructive demonstration of the procedure for catching birds, securing statistical data on them -- age, sex, condition, weight, etc. -- and banding them. The group recorded 80 species of birds seen on this trip.

CONSERVATION NOTES

WILDLIFE REFUGE

A committee headed by Dr. Thomas Harvey, professor of Biology at San Jose State College, is surveying sites in San Francisco Bay for a proposed national wildlife refuge, to be financed by federal duck stamp receipts and appropriation. As is customary, opposition may be expected from local governments; Menlo Park City Council has already expressed disdain. Public interest in the project may succeed in overcoming opposition. It is hoped that Sequoia Audubon may lend its support to this project.

TOBIN CLARK ESTATE

Voters in the city of San Mateo will make the decision on whether the 242 acre Gelia Tobin Clark Estate will be saved for a park and cultural center, at the special election on June 18.

San Mateo Audubon members are invited to join the Citizens for Tobin Clark Park Committee to assist in generation, before June 18, of public interest in the acquisition of this desirable park land. For further information, phone Mrs. Pat Lapp, 341-2028 or Mrs. Leola Maxwell, 341-1812.

SENATE BILL 2805 - THE JACKSON KUCHEL BILL

Senators Thomas H. Kuchel, California, and Henry Jackson, Washington, have proposed a bill authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a broad program of ecological research and surveys; maintain an inventory of natural resource management projects and to collect, evaluate and disseminate ecological information. The bill also calls for a Council on Environmental Quality to be appointed by the President, with consent of the Senate, to report biennially to the President on the state and condition of the environment; provide advice and assistance to the President on the formulation of national policies to foster and promote the improvement of environmental quality; obtain information using existing sources, to the greatest extent practicable, concerning the quality of the environment and make such information available to the public.

BAYFRONT LAND SWAP

Although the suit brought by the Alameda Conservation Association challenging the legality of the swap of bayfront lands between the State of California and Leslie Salt Co. was dismissed in U. S. District Court, James Funsten, the attorney for the Association, plans to appeal the decision or take the case into a California state court. Contributions to the legal fund are needed and may be sent to: Alameda Conservation Association, P. O. Box 341, Alameda, Calif., 94501.

WEBB RANCH

San Mateo County's Local Agencies Formation Commission (LAFCO) has under consideration Ladera's request to be annexed along with Webb Ranch to Portola Valley for the purpose of retaining low density development west of Route 280. Stanford University wants to develop an industrial park -- "the largest in the West" -- on Webb Ranch and hence wants Menlo Park to have jurisdiction over the Ranch in order to have a more favorable climate for the industrial zoning. The entire atmosphere of the foothills would suffer disastrously due to expressways required to handle the heavy traffic, smog caused by congested traffic and acres of pavement for parking lots, consequently removing plant life which is our best hope of disposing of carbon dioxide from our polluted air.

MEANWHILE, BACK AT THE RANCH --

PURISIMA CANYON

San Mateo County Planning Commission and the Board of Supervisors have the choice of exercising their governmental responsibility in upholding the County master plan which shows this area reserved as open space for recreation, or of granting a permit to log 2400 acres in scenic Purisima Canyon just west of Skyline Boulevard. The proposed logging schedule would take 75% of the canyon firs and redwoods in two 6 month cutting seasons.

MORE BAYFILL

Although the Bay Conservation and Development Association has recommended only minimum fill to make the shoreline accessible to the public, the City of San Mateo announced in April a proposed "concept" for its Bayfront development which included an eventual 18-hole golf course and a windbreak high enough to protect the recreational area from the customarily high winds, both to be constructed from sanitary fill, i.e., dumps covered over with soil. Other undesirable features include moving Bay Meadows racetrack and the County fairgrounds to the relatively narrow strip of land between Bayshore freeway and the Bay shoreline, increasing traffic congestion and smog. There will be more hearings on this -- please watch the Advance Star for scheduled hearings and show your interest in your own environment by attending.

Non-Profit Organization
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