

CONSERVATION: A VAST PLAN

The New Frontier seems to have no boundaries when it comes to conservation. This is emphasized in the sweeping, all-inclusive message on the subject which the President has just submitted to Congress. Those acquainted with conservation messages of the past say this is one of the most comprehensive on record. It covers much familiar ground, projects conservation planning many years into the future, and covers, as the President says, "the complete spectrum of resources." It gives major emphasis to the development of new recreation resources, to be financed by a "land conservation fund", from admission and other fees to be imposed on users of these areas for camping or other recreation purposes. It repeats the President's request for establishment of a youth conservation corps. The newest program and the one with most immediate relationship to the public is that calling for the expansion of outdoor recreation resources. All of the fee money will go back into the acquisition of more land, the improvement of present facilities; so it is believed that the public will cooperate with and support this type of financing. While it has always been an American tradition that the great out-of-doors is free, the truth of the matter is that "those days are gone", as one observer put it. "We have reached the point where the easy things have been done and the cost is steep." He asks that Congress enact legislation establishing a national wilderness preservation system. A bill to accomplish this has already been introduced. (Wilderness Act 5174). Other legislation designed to set aside new park lands includes: creation of Point Reyes National Seashore in California; Great Basin National Park in Nevada; Ozark Rivers National Monument in Missouri; Sagamore Hill National Historic Site in New York; Canyonlands National Park in Utah; Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore in Michigan; Prairie National Park in Kansas; Padre Island National Seashore in Texas; and a national lakeshore area in northern Indiana. The President mentions these all specifically and asks Congress for their approval. The acquisition of these park lands would be financed through the new "land acquisition fund". "In the work of conversation," the President concluded, "time should be made our friend, not our adversary. Actions deferred are frequently opportunities lost, and, in terms of financial outlay, dollars invested today will yield great benefits in the years to come."

---Josephine Ripley, Christian Science Monitor

3/2/62

Coming Events at a Glance

Wed. Apr. 4	4:30 P.M.	Stanford University
Wed. Apr. 4	8:00 P.M.	San Jose State College
Sat. Apr. 7	9:00 A.M.	Dumbarton Bridge Area
Mon. Apr. 9	3:00 P.M.	Branch Library, San Jose
Wed. Apr. 11	8:30 A.M.	Searsville Lake
Sun. Apr. 22	9:00 A.M.	Pilarcitos Lake & Stone Dam
Wed. Apr. 25	8:30 A.M.	Stevens Creek Canyon
Mon. June 13	7:30 A.M.	Santa Cruz Wharf





April Calendar

Regular Meeting: Monday, April 9, at 8:00 P.M. in San Jose-Rosegarden Branch of San Jose Public Library, Dana and Naglee Streets.

Mr. Donald D. McLean of San Jose will present three 16 mm reels of silent color film: two on fringillidae (finches and sparrows), and one on owls, including short-eared, long-eared, great horned, pygmy, screech and burrowing. Mr. McLean will speak to the film as it is presented. He put the reels together from films taken in his own back yard, throughout California and the West, in the Canadian Rockies, in Nova Scotia, in Florida, and at way points during trips across the country. Donald McLean has been actively engaged in some role of naturalist work since 1915 and in grammar school days collected bird specimens for pay for the University of California (Berkeley). He has collected over 8,000 bird specimens, mostly for the University of California and for himself. These were primarily taken in California and Arizona. Mr. McLean was assistant park naturalist at Yosemite for four years. Following this, he worked in research for thirty-four years in the California Fish and Game Department, retiring in June, 1961. I might add that I had the pleasure of working nearly all day with Don on our last Christmas Count. I was amazed at his ability to sort out species by ear when we could not see them through the fog. Without using his binoculars, he could usually call out the identity of a flying bird at some distance, and later close up observation with glasses never found him to be in error.

---Bob Fuller

Field Trips:

Saturday, April 7, to Dumbarton Bridge, East Palo Alto. Take Bayshore Freeway to Dumbarton Bridge turnoff. Proceed east to parking strip on left side of road just west of bridge. Meet at 9:00 A.M. Les Sleeper will be the leader.

Wednesday, April 11, to Searsville Lake, at 8:30 A.M. Park at entrance on intersection of Sandhill and Portola Roads. There is a 25¢ admission charge. Call Virginia Bothwell (DA 2-1209) if you need more information.

Sunday, April 22, to Pilarcitos Lake and Stone Dam on the San Francisco Watershed Reserve. Meet at the Las Pulgas Water Temple on Canada Road, about 5 miles north of Woodside, at 9:00 A.M. Bring lunch. Leader: Mark Massie.

Wednesday Morning, April 25, to Stevens Creek Canyon, in foothills of Santa Cruz Mts., southeast of Cupertino. Meet at 8:30 A.M. in parking area at Stevens Creek Reservoir. Leaders: Eve Case (CH 3-2467) and Connie Hinds (YC 8-4682).

Screen Tours:

Wednesday, April 4, at 4:30 P.M. Cubberley Auditorium, Education Bldg., Escondido Road and Lasuen Street, Stanford University. Eben McMillan presents The Shandon Hills. Central California is the setting for this intriguing and intimate of life in the Shandon Hills. Golden eagles, road-runners, prairie falcon, and nighthawks accompany the wildflowers, snakes, and tarantulas in telling of the interrelationship of all living things to one another throughout the four seasons. Eben McMillan of Cholame, California, narrates this unusual color film which he and John Taft of Camarillo California, spent four years in producing. Tickets are available at the door.

Wednesday, April 4, at 8:00 P.M., Morris Dailey Auditorium, San Jose State College. Eben McMillan will shown the same film given earlier in the day at Stanford. Tickets are available at the door.

Special Event:

Monday, June 18, 7:30 A.M., Mr. Leavitt McQuesten's annual offshore birding trip, leaving from Stagnaro's Landing, Municipal Wharf, Santa Cruz. The boat (U.S. Coast Guard inspected) will return about 11:30 A.M. the same day. Come warmly dressed; bring blanket, overcoat, binoculars, camera and lunch (and some bread to feed the birds). If you want to take seasickness prevention pills, plan to arrive at the landing one-half hour early. I have only the usual ten tickets (which have been sold promptly in past years), so please reserve them as soon as possible. Call Joyce Todd ( DA 2-1787).

New Members

We welcome with great pleasure the following impressive list of new members:

Mr. Ralph Trullinger	1960 Santa Cruz Avenue	Menlo Park
Mr. Joel Hornstein (Student Member)	52 South Tenth Street	San Jose
Mrs. William A. Proctor	758 Greer Road	Palo Alto
Mrs. Richard E. Eggleton	624 - 16th Avenue	Menlo Park
Mrs Norman I. Silberling, Sr.	1120 Palo Alto Avenue	Palo Alto
Mrs. Decatur Baldwin	361 Everett Avenue	Palo Alto
Dr. & Mrs. Robert W. Moncrief	250 Williams Street	Los Gatos
Mr. & Mrs. Albert E. Gilleece	430 Yale Road	Menlo Park
John H. & Bethel B. Dearborn	Dept. of Biological Sciences Stanford University	
Mr. & Mrs. Luther E. Cisne	322 Churchill Avenue	Palo Alto
Mr. & Mrs. Robert A. Isaacs	1646 Mary Avenue	Sunnyvale
Mr. A. A. Maggi	233 Ridge Vista Avenue	San Jose 27
Miss Lucille Brokenshire	870 North Fifth Street	San Jose
Mrs. Hazel Griswold	484 Woodland Avenue #5	Los Gatos
Dr. Norman J. Sissman	1555 Stanford Avenue	Palo Alto
Mrs. Ruth B. Canolis	15085 Criole Drive	Saratoga
Miss Margrete Siemens	825 Roble Avenue	Menlo Park
Miss Eileen Abbers	195 West Rincon Avenue	Campbell
Miss Gwyneth Baxley	20247 La Paloma Avenue	Saratoga
Mr. & Mrs. John C. Cosgrove	2101 Monterey Avenue	Menlo Park
Miss Elsa Dresbach	130 Atherton Road	Novato
Dr. & Mrs. A. A. Spar	951 Hamilton Avenue	Palo Alto
Mr. Tom Malone	3326 Granada Avenue	Santa Clara

It is with great regret that we announce the passing of our distinguished member, Mr. Henry Hill. A fund has been started to buy books for the S.C.V.A.S. Library as a memorial for him. It seems a particularly appropriate way of honoring his memory since he had a great interest in libraries. Anyone desiring to contribute to the fund, please send contributions to the treasurer.

---Angelina Snow, Membership Chairman

A Tribute

Our Society lost a loyal member with the death, recently of Mr. Henry G. Hill of San Jose. Mr. Hill was an able lawyer and a very public-spirited man. For forty years, he was President of the San Jose Board of Library Trustees, and in 1954 he was chosen "distinguished citizen" of San Jose for his active aid to numerous charitable and civic organizations. He became a member of our Society in 1931 and served as President in 1933. For many years, he was a diligent worker in our activities. He also gave the Society legal advice and assistance on several occasions. It was he who carried through the proceedings to incorporate the Society. Mr. Hill was the kind of good citizen that every worthy organization covets for its membership.

---M. R. Kirkwood, Stanford University

March 13 Field Trip to Moss Landing and Elkhorn Slough

Leader Viola Anderson had a number of "goodies" waiting for the good-sized group that was rugged enough to brave the chilly breezes that swept across the flats of Elkhorn Slough and the threat of rain that kept us in suspense. However, as Viola herself said, "The damp atmosphere certainly did not dampen our spirits." After a bit of good birding in the area of Jetty Road and the lagoon, Viola led the group into the area along the road on the north bank of Elkhorn Creek, directly east of the highway bridge. This was a new area for most of us, and it proved to be extremely interesting and productive. The luncheon stop was at McClusky Slough, where it was "bird-while-you-eat". The list for the day counted fifty species, which included, among the usual occupants of that area, Common and Red-throated Loons; H rned, Eared, Western and Pied-billed Grebes; Double-crested Cormorants; Black Brant; Gadwall; Cinnamon Teal; White-winged and Surf Scoters; A ocets, showing a decided cinnomon coloring; numerous Gulls, including Glaucous-winged and Bonaparte's; Forster;s and Caspian Terns; Belted Kingfisher; numerous Sandpipers and "Peeps"; and, of course, the usual species of birds in the grasses and along the roads. What was probably the highlight of the day was Capt. Hurlbert's (from Pacific Grove) finding of three Semipalmated Sandpipers on a mud flat. Thank you, "Oxy" Hurlbert, for your find. And an extra-large serving of special thanks to you, Viola, for a very exhilarating day.

---Lloyd N. Case

Notes from Afield

Our bird observations article by Bob Fuller, will not appear this month. Mr. Fuller has been on the east coast for some time, but he promises a report in the May issue. Send your observations to him at 835 Webster Street, Palo Alto, or phone DA 5-9575.

---J?T.

A Few March Board Meeting Notes

The Condor Sanctuary warden is supported half by National Audubon and half by the Government. Our local societies are asked to make a contribution to National for the warden's support. It was moved, seconded and unanimously approved that our local society send \$200.00 this year.

It was authorized that the West Coast Nature Scholarships of \$18 each from Screen Tour funds will be awarded by Dr. Applegarth to twenty students.

The Committee for the Library is: Chairman, Manny Taylor, Assistant, Lloyd Case. The Committee is authorized to choose other members if they wish, to select books, plan the cataloguing and circulation set-up and to find ways to earn more money for the fund.

Discussion was held on how our Society might help local service clubs activate conservation committees.

The Avocet will run a reminder that people desiring membership blanks in the Palo Alto area are to contact Mrs. W.R. McCannor (DA 4-1330) or Mrs. M.R. Kirkwood (DA 3-7325).

---Margaret Wolcott, Secretary

### Palo Alto Baylands

It has been suggested that interested members inform themselves concerning the proposed fate of the City of Palo Alto's marsh and tideland areas. Available at the Reference Desk of the P.A. City Library are three items necessary to such study: a letter concerning the Palo Alto Airport, the Bloom Report and the Friedman Report. It may become a county matter, rather than purely the city's affair. Here is part of a letter from the Feb. 6, 1960, Palo Alto Times:

"A serious lack of appreciation for the undeveloped lands that border the bay and for the bay itself, seems prevalent among many local politicians and developers. All too commonly the south bay wet lands are referred to as "useless" or as a "cesspool". True enough, pollution is a serious local problem, but by and large the bay and the small area of remaining marsh land is relatively unspoiled. The bay and marshes are now well used by boating enthusiasts, students of wildlife, duck hunters, and many other people who frequent them simply as an escape from urban and artificial surroundings. The bay lands as such are a valuable resource worthy of being protected and developed in a semi-natural state rather than being spoiled for the sake of further urbanization. Commercial development of Palo Alto's bay lands would not only destroy the recreational potential of the parcel of land in question, but would also have a wide spread deleterious effect on the scenic beauty, wildlife, and recreational utility of the entire south bay. Rather than make the first move towards spoiling the resource she now has at her doorstep, Palo Alto should promote interest among neighboring communities that hold bay lands and the three counties that include the south bay in an effort to preserve this land for its own natural value."

---H.J. Silberling, Barbara B. Silberling  
1421 Emerson St., Palo Alto.

### Editor's Notes

"Americans have come to love air-conditioning better than trees and gardens, bulldozers better than hillsides, and have missed the lesson that man's greatest mission is not to conquer nature by main force, but to co-operate lovingly with her for his own purposes."

---Lewis Mumford

For the convenience of Audubon members and friends, the Conservation Resource Center of the National Audubon Society in Berkeley announces special Saturday hours: March 10-June 9, 11:00 A.M.-3:00 P.M. The Center welcomes you to enjoy the variety of books, gifts, charts -- a wealth of materials on the conservation of natural resources.

A penny-a-pack increase in the Wisconsin State cigarette tax has been put into effect by Governor Gaylord Nelson (a graduate of San Jose State College). The pennies will go into a ten-year conservation program for outdoor resources. Other states and the Federal Government appear to be thinking along the same lines. Secretary of the Interior Udall has proposed an increase in the Federal cigarette tax to allow for expansion of the system of National Parks and recreation areas.

---Conservation News 12/16/61

Support as generously as you can the current yearly appeal for sanctuary funds by National Audubon. Our example, in preserving these lovely spots, has influenced many a visitor.

---J.T.

Stanford University appealed to Governor Brown for help to block a move that would take 550 acres of university-owned land for a flood control project. It would destroy Jasper Ridge biological experimental area, a 72-acre preserve that has become a national resource, President Sterling said. Stanford authorities are convinced that the Ladera dam project, as proposed by the Army engineers is overdesigned and wasteful of public funds and Stanford's endowment.

---S.F. Chronicle, 3/20/62

I have just received word from the President of the Seattle Audubon Society that they have established their own Office Headquarters and that it is staffed from 10:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. six days a week. Anticipating many Audubon members and friends will be traveling to Seattle between April 21 and October 21 to visit the World's Fair, they have extended a cordial invitation to be sure to contact their office. They will be pleased to give information and suggestions on field trip areas to visit, books on the natural history of the area, and other pertinent data of interest to Audubonites. They may be contacted as follows:

Seattle Audubon Society  
Dr. Claude Heckman, President  
320 Joshua Green Building  
Fourth Avenue and Pike Street  
Seattle 1, Washington  
Telephone: MAin 2-6695

May I suggest that you insert the above information in a forthcoming issue of your Bulletin for the information of your membership.

---Bill Goodall, Western Representative

In a letter to the S.F. Chronicle (3/13/62), Karl Kortum (whose scathing comments helped kill the unsightly and unnecessary Tiburon Bridge proposal recently) wrote in regard to "Atom Versus Nature at Bodega Bay": "If everyone reading this would take five minutes to write a letter, they would be licked." Express your opinion to the State Public Utilities Commission, Gas and Electric Branch 455 Golden Gate Avenue, San Francisco, California.

The State hopes to obtain all of Angel Island "very shortly" and turn it into a park with both "wilderness" and built-up portions. The master plan envisions that much of the tree-covered area will be kept "wild", except for trails and cleared space for picnickers. Angel Island is where Lieutenant Juan de Ayala anchored the first ship known to have entered San Francisco Bay. --S.F. Chronicle 2/2/62

The U.S. Forest Service has proposed creation of a 108,000-acre wilderness area in the Inyo and Sierra National forests. Regional Forester Charles Connaughton said 26,000 acres would be added to the Mt. Dana-Minarets primitive area, and the total region would be designated the Minarets Wilderness Area. Within the boundaries there are about 400 lakes and ponds, rugged peaks and spires of unusual grandeur, many fine fishing streams and more than 24 glacier remnants. As a wilderness area, no roads would be built into the region, no trees would be cut except in emergency situations, and there would be no construction except for trail work and minor campground improvements. ---S.F. Chronicle 1/28/62

The unfortunate cancellation of Audubon Camp of California for this summer was necessary because (1) the Sugar Bowl Lodge Corporation has other plans for its property in the future and therefore would be unable to extend the lease beyond 1962 in any event and (2) they must carry out certain construction work this summer which would result in a great deal of mutual interference and unavoidable inconvenience. Mr. Buchheister (President of N.A.S.) sent us a list of major considerations in leasing a new site for next year. If you know a likely area, contact Charles Williams (DA 3-0787) or Eve Case (AX 6-2410). ---J.T.



Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society  
Branch of  
National Audubon Society

1961 - 1962

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The Avocet

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