

President's Message

In the October issue of the AVOCET mention was made of our Society's desire to extend our conservation message to more people. Two principal avenues of effort were suggested--increase membership and an active education committee. This month we would like to tell you more about the education committee and what it is starting to do.

Chairman Diane Conradson had the first meeting of her committee at her home on Sunday October 7. There were ten people in attendance besides the chairman. They were Don Schmoldt, Mrs. Philip LaRiviere, Mrs. Virginia Bothwell, Mrs. John Henderson, Mrs. Jane Goraj, Miss L. David, Mrs. Rebecca Turner, Miss Lucy Evans, Robert Fuller and Warren Turner. Here are listed some of the ideas advanced during the course of the meeting:

Need to inform and encourage use of the marsh lands around the Palo Alto Yacht Harbor as a study project for elementary school teachers and pupils on the ecology of these virgin lands.

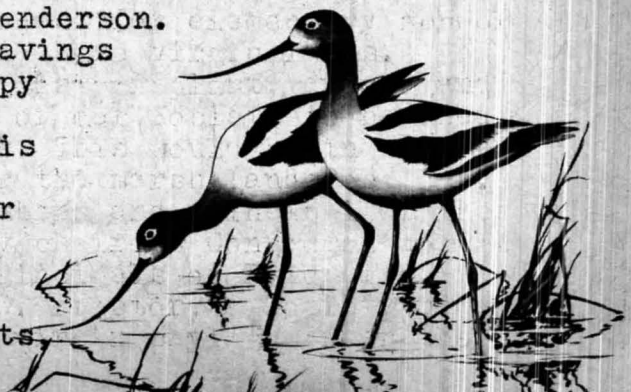
It was proposed that a comprehensive list of plant, animal and birdlife be compiled by some members of our Society to be used by the elementary teachers and pupils. This would be in mimeographic pamphlet form and would cover the marsh lands ecology. Mr. Paul Ford, one of our Society members and principal of the Barron Park School, would be asked by chairman Conradson to present this project to the school principals of Palo Alto. Also it was noted that Mrs. William A. Proctor, a Society member, is making a camera study of the virgin baylands near the Yacht Harbor.

Mrs. Conradson reported on the flyer she had distributed to many schools and youth organizations giving a list of services that our Audubon Society had to offer. As a follow up she had visited the Boy Scout and Girl Scout organizations in Palo Alto and found each organization was incorporating the flyer information in their bulletins to each one of their units.

The need for a better 35mm bird slide collection was discussed. The need for a 16mm projector and two 16mm films was expressed.

As can be judged, this was a good start and we will keep members informed as to progress made.

In connection with the 16mm projector and two 16mm movie films, the directors at their last meeting authorized purchase of a KODAK color and sound projector for a cost of \$385 and a 45" x 60" screen for \$45. The cost of the projector was the lowest of 4 bids received and was arranged by Director John Henderson. Payment is to be made temporarily from the savings account, but the directors would be most happy if a devoted member would care to donate the money to our Society to cover the cost of this projector and screen. Our Society income is limited to a portion of the dues each member sends to the National Audubon Society and a "cut" from the showing of Wildlife films at San Jose State College. The Society has a monetary policy of no benefits, no assessments.



no mention of money, if possible. Obviously, we are making an exception about mentioning money in this case. The directors have also viewed two possible 16mm moving picture nature films in color, THE WINDOW and YOURS FOR A SONG, with the thought of purchase, but no definite action has been taken as yet. Still on the subject of money, the Society directors would like to have pointed out that bequests by will to our Society would be welcome; likewise contributions in remembrance of birthdays, anniversaries, deaths of friends. For more details, please get in touch with the President of the Society. Finally, if members have nature books they would like to give to the Society, such additions to our library would be gratefully received.

--Warren M. Turner

November Calendar

Board Meeting:

Monday, November 5, at 7:30 p.m. at the home of Warren Turner, 646 Alvarado Row, Stanford.

Regular Meeting:

Monday, November 19, at 8:00 p.m. Rosegarden Branch, San Jose public Library, Dana & Naglee Sts., San Jose. Dr. Ira L. Wiggins, Professor of Biology and Botany at Stanford University will speak and show slides covering his ecology research in Baja California. He has made several trips to the region. Note that the regular meeting date has been changed to avoid conflict with Screen Tours.

Field Trips: (I have extra copies of the tentative schedule for the year's field trips, if you missed it in September. Call Joyce Todd DA 2-1787.)

Saturday, November 3, to the Teynham Woodward Ranch on Skyline Blvd. and possibly the City of Sunnyvale Mountain Park. Meet at 9 a.m. at Page Mill Road and Skyline Blvd. Leader: Virginia Bothwell (DA 2-1209).

Wednesday Morning, November 14, to Stevens Creek Park in the foothills of the Santa Cruz Mountains, southwest of Cupertino. Meet in the parking area at Stevens Creek Reservoir, near the dam at 9 a.m. The shrubs and trees in the park will still show some fall color; and where the leaves have fallen, birding will be more rewarding. Leader: Margaret Henderson (UN 7-4304).

Sunday, November 18, to the Mount Hermon area in the Santa Cruz Mountains. Most years we see one or more unusual winter visitants. Meet at 9 a.m. at the parking area at the playground. This is across the road and before reaching the Mt. Hermon Post Office. Leaders: Fanny Zwaal and Adist Doglan. For information call CY 2-2060.

Wednesday Morning, November 28, to a small, secluded area surrounded by housing and shopping development. Meet at Ladera Shopping Center at 9 a.m. This is a lovely spot - a real refuge. Leader: Mrs. Luther Cisne (321-3195) or call Da 2-1209.

Sunday, December 2, to the State Wildlife Refuge at Los Banos. Meet at Tiny's Restaurant on the main street at 9 a.m. Leader: Carlyle Sather. For information call AX 6-2410 (Eve Case).

Screen Tours:

Monday, November 12, at 4:15 p.m., Cubberley Auditorium, Education Building, Escondido Road and Lasuen St., Stanford University. Kenneth Morrison presents The Long Flight Back. A unique all-color film of the last-ditch fight to save our vanishing wildlife. Kenneth Morrison is Director of the Mountain Lake Sanctuary, Lake Wales, Florida. A story climaxed by heart-breaking journeys of the whooping crane and the comeback of America's flame-birds, the roseate spoonbill and flamingo. Returning wings beat their way from the Caribbean to the Mackenzie in the long flight back from near extinction to survival. Tickets are available at Tresidder Union Ticket Office.

Monday, November 12, at 8:00 p.m. at Morris Dailey Auditorium, San Jose State College. The film will be The Long Flight Back by Kenneth Morrison as described above.

New Members

We are glad to welcome the following new members:

Mr. W. R. Chester	4153 Park Blvd., Palo Alto
Miss Harriet Fancher	559 Matadero St., Palo Alto
Prof. Millicent Sears	2120 Amherst St., Palo Alto
Mr. Raymond J. Ewen	18 Manzanita Ave., Los Gatos

--Mrs. Irving Snow
Membership Chairman

F L A S H

Announcing an "AUDUBON CAMP of the WEST" for 1963.

Located in the WIND RIVER RANGE (Western Wyoming) at Trail Lake Ranch, Dubois, Wyoming.

ONLY 75 miles from GRAND TETON and YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARKS.

There will be THREE (3) two week sessions from June 23 through August 2, 1963.

For FULL details write:

AUDUBON CAMP
P.O. Box 3666
El Monte, California

--Bill Goodall
Western Representative

Palo Alto Baylands Report

The development of the BAYLANDS owned by the City of Palo Alto was discussed by the Palo Alto City Planning Commission special public hearing on October 3, 1962, at the City Hall. Mrs. Towle, chairman of the commission presided. Mr. Fourcroy, City Planner, showed and explained maps of plans already made concerning industrial, recreational and residential use of the BAYLANDS. Mr. Stomquist, member of the commission, made a plea to retain the BAYLANDS as a valuable bayshore front, recreation (not commercial amusement) and wildlife area. He mentioned receiving a letter from Mr. Warren Turner, President of the Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society, who expressed the concern and desire of the society to save the marshlands. Speakers from the audience voiced the need of more yachting facilities, one for more "open space" and another, representing his six-year old daughter, stated "the marshland had a charm of its own and was needed by migratory birds, some of which were rare and almost extinct along the Pacific Coast." The final decision of the commission was to recommend for the NEW PALO ALTO GENERAL PLAN that the "City-owned BAYLANDS should remain undeveloped and held in reserve with no commitment as to use at this time."

---Lucy Evans

(This meeting was attended by four members of the Santa Clara Audubon Society: Mr. Warren Turner, Dr. Amy Stannard, Mrs. Virginia Bothwell and Lucy Evans.)

What Your Board Is Doing

The October meeting of the Board of Directors was held at the home of Margaret and Howard Wolcott. The Education and Conservation Committee Chairman reported on future plans. The opinion of the group was to continue the Stanford Wildlife Films as at present and to explore instituting another series at Foothill College. All members were in favor of purchasing a movie projector with sound attachment, which will be used at our monthly meetings and for education outside the society. Bob Fuller is working on a plan for increasing membership which met with approval. He felt that the work would be too heavy alone and so in choosing a cochairman and a working committee, He suggested Oliver Allen as an excellent candidate for his "Notes Afield" chore. Under new business, the 1962-63 budget was approved. Besides money for the normal working of the society, \$200 was included toward the upkeep of the Sanctuary for the California Condor. The National Audubon Society is obligated for half each year; and as this is a California project, branches in California have a heavy responsibility.

---Eve Case.

Conservation Notes

The fact that THE WILDERNESS BILL and the TULE LAKE BILL were not passed before Congress adjourned is, indeed, a bitter disappointment to conservationists. It should not completely discourage us, however; instead, it should spur us into enlarging our numbers and to increasing our personal participation in getting such important measures successfully through Congress. The untimely death of Congressman Clem Miller in a recent airplane accident was, indeed, a great loss to the cause of conservation. But, at the very least, Clem Miller knew how greatly his efforts had been appreciated and the high esteem in which

he was held since the "Pt. Reyes' Victory Dinner" in his honor and at which he was present was held before the unfortunate accident. Conservationists who wish to make a small memorial contribution may send it to NATURE CONSERVANCY, 1711-A Grove Street, Berkeley 9, California, indicating that it is to be in memory of Congressman Clem Miller and to be used exclusively for the purpose of obtaining presently held private land so that the Seashore Park can become a reality - before land prices go higher.

National Audubon Society Proposes
a 5-Point Program to Meet Pesticides Problem

President Carl Buchheister has called for a five-point "action program" involving both state and federal agencies to meet the pesticides problem. Mr. Buchheister, together with Miss Rachel Carson (author of the controversial book Silent Spring) and Dr. Clarence Cottam (formerly of the Fish and Wildlife Service) participated in a panel discussion sponsored by the National Parks Association at the Smithsonian Institute. In a very brief summarizttion, Mr. Buchheister's five proposals were: 1. Shift the emphasis in the U.S. Department of Agriculture from the present general reliance on toxic chemicals to research in the biological and cultural controls and to a balanced program that would minimize, but not necessarily eliminate, the use of chemicals. 2. Greatly increase funds for Fish and Wildlife Service research on the effect of pesticides. 3. Pass a law giving the Federal Pest Control Review Board genuine authority to review, modify or veto pest-control programs proposed by federal agencies. 4. Amend the federal laws relating to the registration and labeling of pesticides to require that labels carry a specific warning when the pesticide is potentially dangerous to fish and wildlife or as a water pollutant. 5. By legislative act, create in each state a "Board of Pesticides Control" so composed as to "fairly represent the different aspects of the public interest, including health, agriculture, fish and wildlife and water pollution control." Mr. Buchheister further outlined specific powers and/or duties to be given to such state boards. All members of local Audubon societies should be alert for opportunities to support such state legislation whenever it is presented.

---Lloyd N. Case

Notes from Afield

To BOB FULLER we owe a sincere thank-you for a job well done. A supervising engineer for one of our country's leading electronics firms, he spends most of his long evenings and weekends at work. In spite of this, he has taken time to stimulate bird reporting by members and to provide us with an outstanding report on bird observations.

October Field Trips

Oct. 6 - Scott's Valley summer home of Mrs. Jeanette Wallace. Twenty people (and 25 birds) enjoyed Tom Harvey's theme of the fall season as related to birds and their habits. At the meeting place, they saw a Sharp-Skinned Hawk chase a House Finch 50 feet overhead until the finch out-manoevered the villain.

Oct. 14 - Alum Rock Park. Twelve persons enjoyed a beautiful day after the storm. Sixteen woodland birds were seen during the trip led by Clyde and Agnes Prussman and contributed to by a Navy man who had "camped" in the park with the wildlife the preceding night.

Oct. 20. - McCrary Ranch. Twenty-nine people saw 15 birds, including 2 Ouzels, on a walk which started at Wadell Beach and ended in the beautiful deep woods canyon with a high rough waterfall that has been the McCrarys' since the late 1800's.

Observations

WHITE-CROWNED and GOLDEN-CROWNED SPARROWS, which are with us during the spring and summer in small numbers, are now increasing into flocks as winter visitants.

SOLITARY SANDPIPER - 2 at Yolo Bypass near Sacramento - Aug. 25. The Woodland and Davis sewage disposal ponds and sugar settling ponds and the Yolo Bypass are the best area from August through October for this and the PECTORAL SANDPIPER. In fall, winter and spring, it is a concentration area for shorebirds and ducks.

RED CROSSBILL - 2 on the east rim of Crater Lake playing like human children, sliding down the sandy lava slope for ten feet with wings spread, then flying back to a nearby tree. After other play, they were at the slide again - at least twelve times in a few minutes. Late August - Howard and Margaret Wolcott.

LEAST BITTERN - 1 female at Kasson Road east of Tracy, Sept. 19, CIA.

BLACK TERN - 1 at Dumbarton - Sept. 11 - Ralph Trullinger. A new bird for this area to our knowledge!

PECTORAL SANDPIPER - 1 in fresh water marsh to north of highway at west end of Dumbarton Bridge - Sept. 22 - Earl Albertson. Close flock of 5 - same marsh - Sept. 30 - CIA.

AMERICAN REDSTART - Seen at three locations on the Monterey Peninsula in late September.

SWALLOWS - over 1,000 of mixed species with a few PURPLE MARTINS perched on three power wires spanning a small canyon at Camp Stewart - late Sept. - Claude Smith.

WESTERN BLUEBIRD - 15 to 20 and many CEDAR WAXWINGS - Highland Ranch near Philo, Mendocino County - Sept. 29 and 30 - Manette and Herbert Wittgenstein.

WOOD DUCK - 1 female in Palo Alto Duck Pond - Oct. 6 - Mark Nesbit.

HARLEQUIN DUCK - 1 female in Carmel River at mouth - Oct. 14 - Todd Newberry, Laidlaw Williams and CIA. She probably was "blown in" by the storm of the preceding two days. HARLEQUIN DUCKS are dependably seen in the rocky surf of Tomales Pt. in late Dec. and Jan. with CLDSQUAW. The female at Carmel was seen Oct. 18 - T.N. and Dr. Ron Branson. Photographed. Still there Oct. 21 - Capt. and Mrs; Elgin B. Hurbbert, CIA.

EUROPEAN WIDGEON - 1 in Carmel River at mouth - Oct. 18 - Todd Newberry and Dr. Ron Branson.

MOUNTAIN QUAIL - flock fed by fire lookout on 5,000 foot summit of Jamesburg Road above Carmel Valley - Oct. 18 - Dr. Ron Branson.

TERNs - Oct. 13 and 14 - 3 ELEGANT at Princeton, 4 ROYAL at Pomponio Beach, 15 ELEGANT and 10 COMMON at Moss Landing (last 2 still there Oct. 21). This seems a bit late for all but the COMMON, but perhaps the storm will send them southward. Several hundred CASPIAN nest in a mass on a dyke at Dumbarton. FORSTERS nest nearby.

Two TROPICAL KINGBIRDS, 1 AMERICAN REDSTART, 1 NORTHWRN WATER - THRUSH, 1 PALM WARBLER and 2 LONG-EARED OWLS at Pt. Reyes, 1 pair HARLEQUIN DUCKS at sout end McClure Beach - Oct. 21 - Rich Stallcup and John Ralph. Oct. 22 - Grace Miller, Alice Williams and OIA.

November Attractions

During this month fall migration of shore and pelagic birds is at its best for most species. When there is a northwest wind of 35 miles or more, the pelagic birds are "blown into" Monterey Harbor where they can be seen from the piers and the Pacific Grove shore. Watch the small pond at the Pt. Pinos Lighthouse for rarities, too. A southwest wind tends to drive them to the more southward-facing shores south of Carmel and north of Santa Cruz.

CARMEL RIVER MOUTH - the most dependable place for BAIRD'S SAND-PIPER is the river bed in September. A close flock of 5 was there Sept. 8. Since then, the dam above has let out enough water to flood the river bed. This spot collects many unusual species.

SALINAS RIVER MOUTH - Stop at the small private campground where Highway 1 crosses the river and obtain permission to pass down to the mouth - a good walk. Todd Newberry and Dr. Ron Branson counted 70 species, including Golden Plover, Pectoral Sandpiper, Short-Eared Owl and White-Tailed Kite - Sept. 13.

MOSS LANDING - Many rarities appear there. Observe from Jetty Rd. or ask Mr. Twitt, who lives by the salt pile and is owner of the salt works for permission to walk in to see the birds.

PAJARO RIVER MOUTH and Jetty Rd. are the most dependable places to see LEAST, ELEGANT, ROYAL, COMMON and CASPIAN TERNS in summer.

SWAN LAKE, the remaining one of the Twin Lakes Beach State Park, Santa Cruz, is one of the best theaters for duck watching in season. Walk the Park service road.

DUMBARTON - The best area for shore birds in quantity. Miss Emily Smith first told me that the birds wait for the tide to recede so they can feed in the exposed mud; then they are best observed in large numbers. If you wait for the rising tide to bring them back up to you, they are nearly fed and depart quickly. How true! Sport shops will give you free tide tables. The channels are tide affected, but salt ponds are not.

The Dumbarton salt ponds are leased to duck hunters. Birders are welcome there when the season is closed. The open periods this season are Oct. 13 to Nov. 19 and Dec. 8 to Jan. 6. So, the birds and birders have a good time from November 19 to December 8 and after January 6. Let's face it, hunters have an equal right to their pleasure, the same as we birders. Sportsmen may talk less and do more for bird conservation than we do.

LOS BANOS WATERFOWL MANAGEMENT AREA - A large rear section is closed at all times to hunters as a duck "rest area" - a good place to watch them during hunting season as they concentrate there to escape.

SACRAMENTO NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE - Seven miles south of Willows on U.S. 99W. Our best area for geese and swans. Take the marked road in the Refuge to the south end of the loop and examine the large flocks of AMERICAN WIDGEON in the pond - you'll find a EUROPEAN one or two. On the road at this point last Nov. 4, I found the SNOW BUNTING. Also, a BLUE GOOSE one-fourth mile beyond. If you see an EMPEROR GOOSE, beware, A tame one lives there - though a second one was seen two years ago.

TOMALES BAY - POINT REYES - A large area with most common species and many rarities of shore, water and woodland birds. One of the highest Christmas count areas in the U.S. Ask for detailed locations.

LOWER KLAMATH and TULE LAKE NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGES - For a Thanksgiving time trip afar, go to the Tule Lake Hg. for a permit to enter the "rest area" in the Lower Klamath, which is where the birds are. Most ducks, many BALD EAGLES, geese and LAPLAND LONGSPURS. The fields along the highway to the west of this refuge abound with ROUGH-LEGGED HAWKS. At Hg. watch the trees for a FARRIS SPARROW and drive along the base of the cliff to see a PRAIRIE FALCON. Be prepared for snow and ice. When you're there, come back by the north coast. The Smith River along U.S. 199 is a good area for RUFFED GROUSE. You may find BLACK-CAPPED CHICKADEE in the willows where U.S. 101 crosses the creeks one-half mile north of Requa. A mile north of the bridges, across the highway from the giant ox figure, is an excellent restaurant next to a motel. At Prairie Creek State Park see a large ELK herd and possibly a SPOTTED OWL and RUFFED GROUSE. You will probably see GREY JAY at the Hg. or Patrick's Point State Park and elsewhere in the north coast area. Eat your lunch and throw out bread scraps - they'll come. For ROCK SANDPIPERS, leave 101 at Arcata, follow the main road through Samoa, through the Coast Guard Station (ask permission at the "No one allowed beyond this point" sign) and out to the rock jetty where the birds are along the short north side. Eight or ten last Nov.

PANOCH VALLEY - Now is a good time to see FERRUGINOUS HAWK in the high valley. Turn east from Paicines and watch for many LEWIS WOODPECKERS in flat farm land before starting up to Panoche Pass.

Please send me your good ones so we can all enjoy them.

---CIA Oliver I. Allen

(948-5639) 490 Orange Ave., Los Alto

(Our young observer, Russell Greenberg, should again please send his notes to the above address! "A few weeks ago at Princeton we saw LOONS, WESTERN GREBES, WHITE-WINGED SCOTERS, COMMON SCOTERS, HOODED MERGANSER, HEADED GREBE, MARSH HAWK, a pair of RED-TAILED HAWKS and some SPARROW HAWKS."

Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society
Branch of
National Audubon Society

1962 - 1963

<u>Name</u>	<u>Office</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Telephone</u>
Warren M. Turner	President	646 Alvarado Row, Stanford	DA5-7777
Evelyn H. Case	Vice Pres.	2586 Homestead Rd., Santa Clara	CH3-2467
Margaret Wolcott	Secretary	25611 Altamont St., Los Altos Hills	948-6821
Wilma Thompson	Treasurer	758 Pollard Rd., Los Gatos	FR 8-4333
John R. Brokenshire	Director	102 S. 23rd St., San Jose 27	293-6289
Robert L. Fuller	Director	835 Webster St., Palo Alto	DA5-9575
Kenneth E. Hutton	Director	2675 Alma St., Palo Alto	327-0368
Claude Smith	Director	P.O. Box 489, Saratoga	UN7-3629
John Henderson	Director	20570 Canyon View Drive, Saratoga	UN7-4304

Membership
Chairman: Mrs. Irving Snow
21441 Roaring Water Way, Los Gatos (EL4-1811)

Conservation Resource Center
National Audubon Society
2426 Bancroft Way
Berkeley 4, California

Office of Western Representative
National Audubon Society
1000 North Durfee Ave.
El Monte, California

The Avocet

Our publication appears monthly except in July and August.
It is \$2.00 a year for non-members. Copy, preferably typed, is re-
quested by the 20th of each month.

Editor: Mrs. John E. Todd
912 Roble Ridge, Palo Alto (DA2-1787)

Circulation
Manager: Miss Elsie Hoeck
1311 Cristina, San Jose 25 (CY3-5668)

Typists: Mrs. Jane R. Castner
Miss Carol C. Rulofson
112 Murray Court, Redwood City (EM6-2514)

mimeographers: Mr. and Mrs. Emmanuel Taylor
14311 Quito Road, Saratoga (DR9-3424)

