

# The Avocet

Volume X Number 8

October, 1963

## DR. L. RICHARD MEWALDT WILL GIVE ILLUSTRATED REPORT

### ON WORK WITH WHITE-CROWNED AND GOLDEN-CROWNED SPARROWS

An illustrated progress report of his fascinating experiments to determine the capacity of White-crowned and Golden-crowned Sparrows to navigate over long distances will be given his fellow members of the Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society at its first Palo Alto meeting of the year Wednesday evening, October 9, by Dr. L. Richard Mewaldt, Professor of Zoology of San Jose State College. "Displaced -Crowned Sparrows Return to San Jose" will be the subject of his talk, which will be illustrated with slides of various stages of the experimentation.

Dr. Mewaldt will tell what happened when White-crowned and Golden-crowned Sparrows were taken from the San Jose State College campus and released 1800 miles away at Baton Rouge, Louisiana. How many returned, how long it took them - which is a story involving their return to San Jose via their breeding grounds in Washington and British Columbia - will be related in detail by Dr. Mewaldt.

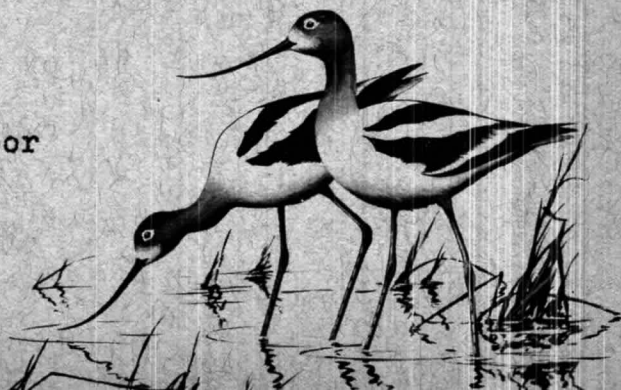
What happened in another phase of his study - when the same species were released in Maryland 2400 miles from San Jose - may develop between now and the time of Dr. Mewaldt's talk. The birds were released in Maryland last winter between October, 1962, and April, 1963. If the story unfolds as Dr. Mewaldt suspects it will, the return to San Jose will also be by way of the birds' breeding grounds, and their arrival in San Jose on their fall migration can be expected momentarily now.

The long-term study on which Dr. Mewaldt is engaged - financed by the National Science Foundation and the Office of Naval Research - seeks to determine what it is which enables these and other species of birds to navigate successfully over long distances.

The meeting, as usual, will be held in Room R, Palo Alto Community Center, 1305 Middlefield Road, starting at 8:00 P.M.

### Coming Events at a Glance

Mon. Oct. 7	8:00 P.M.	San Jose
Wed. Oct. 9	9:00 A.M.	Alum Rock Park
Wed. Oct. 9	8:00 P.M.	Palo Alto
Fri. Oct. 11	4:15 P.M.	Stanford University
Fri. Oct. 11	8:00 P.M.	San Jose
Sat. Oct. 12	9:00 A.M.	Isenberg Ranch
Sun. Oct. 20	9:00 A.M.	Palo Alto Yacht Harbor
Wed. Oct. 23	9:00 A.M.	Marthen's Ranch
Sat. Nov. 9	9:00 A.M.	San Francisco Creek



President's Message

On several occasions, both at San Jose and Palo Alto, attendance at monthly meetings has been disappointingly small. There was general rejoicing, consequently, at the large number who turned out at the first meeting of the year in San Jose last month. Several times more chairs had to be fetched out - and I think one of the best things that can happen at a meeting is to have to fetch out more chairs.

The recipe for this kind of meeting seems to have principally two ingredients - good speaker and good pictures. (Salaam to you, Dr. Eve Case, and a bow to the east where the marshland picture was made.)

We're using the same recipe for the first Palo Alto meeting of the year - Wednesday evening, October 9 - good speaker and good pictures! Dr. L. Richard Mewaldt, San Jose State College zoologist, and his own pictures - all about his research with White-crowned and Golden-crowned Sparrows. See details on page 1.

Department of Appreciation: During the month your president had need for more Audubon Society typing than he could take care of himself, and it was done promptly and beautifully by one of our more recent members, Mrs. Victor Reis of Saratoga.

Several others merit the society's appreciation for routine services repeatedly well performed: Mr. and Mrs. John Henderson for typing stencils for our annual roster of members; Miss Elsie Hoeck and Mrs. Fanny Zwaal (and maybe others who helped) for their work in the circulation department of the Avocet; Mr. and Mrs. Emmanuel Taylor for mimeographing the Avocet; and Mrs. Jane R. Castner and Miss Carol C. Rulofson, Avocet typists.

These are some of the members of the society who labor faithfully behind the scenes, and this is to let them know their work is appreciated.

Expressing Hope Department: That the first meeting of the year at Palo Alto will be as well attended as the San Jose meeting was; that the Audubon Wildlife Film series starting Friday, October 11, both at San Jose and Palo Alto will get off to a good start.

Department of Interesting Information: The latest directory issued from the office of the Western Representative of the National Audubon Society, Bill Goodall, shows that California has 18 branch Audubon societies and 24 affiliate organizations. Our nearest branch neighbors are the Golden Gate Audubon Society of San Francisco; Sequoia Audubon Society, San Mateo; and Monterey Peninsula Audubon Society. Our affiliate neighbor is the Santa Cruz Bird Club.

October Calendar

Board Meeting:

Monday, October 7, 8:00 P.M., at home of President J.R. Brokenshire, 102 So. 23rd Street, San Jose. Husbands, wives, committee chairmen urged to attend.

Regular Meeting:

Wednesday, October 9, 8:00 P.M., Room R, Palo Alto Community Center, 1305 Middlefield Road. Dr. L. Richard Mewaldt of our society will present illustrated talk on his current research. (See page 1.)

Field Trips:

Wednesday Morning, October 9. to Alum Rock Park to look for winter-visiting birds from the far north and possibly migrating warblers and others on their way farther south. Meet at the Youth Science Institute (formerly the Junior Museum) in time to start the trip at 9:00 A.M. The park is about seven miles east from the center of San Jose, out Alum Rock Avenue. Leaders: Mrs. Eva McRae (258-3011) and Miss Emily Smith (354-2494).

Saturday, October 12, a visit to the Isenberg Ranch. Meet behind Stanford at the intersection of Skyline Boulevard and Page Mill Road at 9:00 A.M. Bring lunch as there is a nice spot for a picnic. Carl Isenberg will be the leader.

Sunday, October 20, a visit to Palo Alto Yacht Harbor. Meet at the Yacht Harbor Duck Pond at 9:00 A.M. Leaders will be Bill and Bernice Fillow (948-1300). Bill, by the way, is the one who keeps the Bulletin Board at the Yacht Harbor up to date. He also keeps the sanctuary signs posted.

Wednesday, October 23, meet at Ladera Shopping Center between 8:45 and 9:00 A.M. Our trip to Marthen's Ranch will provide good birding. Come prepared to hike, too, and bring lunch if you wish. Leader: Carol Zobel (325-5939), or call Virginia Bothwell (322-1209).

Saturday, November 9, meet at 9:00 A.M. at the Palo Alto Post Office Area on Frontage Road, about 1000 feet north of Embarcadero Road. Cross Bayshore on Embarcadero, turn left on Frontage. We will observe birds along San Francisquito Creek. Leader: Ralph Trullinger (854-4201).

Screen Tours:

Friday, October 11, at 4:15 P.M. Chester P. Lyons will present "The Right to Live" at Cubberley Auditorium, Escondido and Lasuen Streets, Stanford University. Mr. Lyons of Victoria, British Columbia, takes you on a tour of the west coast of Canada. As the film depicts the colorful plants and animals in each of the five altitudinal "life zones" there is woven the story of how man should manage his domain for the benefit of all. Mountain lions, moose, caribou, and mountain goats vie with unusual close-ups of flowers, insects and small mammals in this kaleidoscope of Nature's wonders in British Columbia. Tickets are available at

Tresidder Ticket Office, Stanford University. Season tickets are \$3.00 for adults, or a ticket can be purchased at the door for any given performance if you come a bit early.

Friday, October 11, at 8:00 P.M., in the Men's Gym at San Jose State College, corner of 4th Street and San Carlos, Chester P. Lyons will show "The Right to Live". Season ticket of \$3.00 is available from Mrs. Fanny Zwaal, 478 Clifton Avenue, San Jose 28 (CY2-2060). Single tickets are available at the door. (Arnold G. Applegarth, Chairman, 18th Season San Jose Audubon Wildlife Film Series, finds we can no longer use the Morris Dailey Auditorium. All events except October 11 (Men's Gym) will be in the Main Gym on San Carlos Street.)

#### New Members

We are very glad to welcome the following new members:

Miss Aletha M. Powers	3489 Clifton Ave., Santa Clara
Mr. Garth M. Sibbald	Box 81621, Stanford
Miss Margaret M. Steil	1815 Crestfield Drive, San Jose 25
Captain R.P. Maurice, U.S.N.R.	5064 Kennedy Road, Los Gatos
	---Angelina Snow, Membership Chairman

TEACHING AIDS - BOOKS - GIFTS - FILMS - SLIDES - INFORMATION - EXHIBITS

Audubon Conservation Center, 2426 Bancroft Way, Berkeley, will be open Saturdays 11:00-4:00 through December 21. Many new educational items as well as gifts are available - all proceeds for conservation!  
---H. Van Gilder

#### Audubon Member Takes Palo Alto Post

Miss Lucy Evans, member of the Conservation Committee of Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society, a teacher at Mayfield School in Palo Alto, has been appointed to Palo Alto Mayor Cresap's Recreation and Parks Advisory Committee. She replaces a member who recently resigned. Miss Evans, who feels that most people do love natural beauty and don't want all of it destroyed, welcomes the support and ideas of Audubon members. Her address is 1440 California Avenue, Palo Alto (322-2986).

#### Look Forward to Next Summer

"THE AUDUBON CAMP OF THE WEST" is returning to Wyoming (Wild River Range) in 1964. There will be three (3) Sessions: June 21 to July 3, July 5 to July 17, July 19 to July 31. The Session fee is \$125 with a deductible Registration fee of \$25. EARLY requests for reservations are recommended. Address: P.O. Box 3666, El Monte, California.  
---Bill Goodall

#### New Audubon Center of Northern California

The following information will, I am sure, be of interest to your members, many of whom have visited our Sanctuary on Richardson Bay.

John Larson will be returning on September 30 for a permanent assignment at the Sanctuary. His official title will be "Manager,

Richardson Bay Wildlife Sanctuary". He will continue to engage and supervise our Warden at the South San Francisco Bay Sanctuary during the hunting season. This fall Mr. Elwood L. Bunting will again "watch over the Area" from October 15 to January 15.

This Office is now interviewing persons for the position of Program Naturalist at the Richardson Bay Sanctuary, which will also be known as "The Audubon Center of Northern California". Both operations are maintained by the National Audubon Society.

As soon as personnel becomes available, schools, youth organizations and other groups can telephone for field trip appointments. An announcement to this effect will be forthcoming at the proper time. The telephone at the Sanctuary is 388-9843 (area code - 415).

---Bill Goodall, Santa Clara  
Western Representative

#### Committee Chairman Appointed

New Social Chairman (North County) of Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society is Mrs. J.W. McBain, 220 Tennyson Avenue, Palo Alto (325-2887).

Listed with other Field Trip planners last month should have been: Dr. Eve Case, 2586 Homestead Road, Santa Clara (243-2467).

---J. Brokenshire

(Warren Turner was reluctant to write up his bird rescue, but it makes a fine tale. "Maybe it will give information of others," he says.)

#### To Fill a Mockingbird

A partly feathered baby Mockingbird was brought to our door on Sunday, July 7. It was a wilted little orphan, rescued from the clutches of a cat, and a torn neck could readily be seen. We guessed it to be four or five days old.

We knew nothing about baby-bird care; but, because our telephone number was listed under "Audubon" in the telephone book, we became willing-to-try parents.

A feeble begging note was nearly incessant. We started to fill the void with mashed, hard-boiled egg yolk, using a thin, flat stick of narrow wood. We added separately small amounts of water with an eye dropper. A little later, fresh fruit juice was also given. The feeding was every 20 minutes.

At bed time the little fellow was put into a cardboard box about 6"x6"x6", with a slightly open lid and soft paper for a nest lining. It was placed in the kitchen where it was warm. Next morning we held our breath as we approached the box, wondering if the baby was still with us. We were greeted with a wide-open, up-turned mouth and a stronger begging squeak.

That day mockingbird food was obtained from a pet store, and a bird cage was borrowed from a neighbor. The 20-minute feeding was continued, and the youngster dozed in between feedings. We wondered how a mother bird ever kept 3 to 6 of these up-turned mouths filled.

As the first week of care progressed, feathers increased, with some white mixed in with the grey. Feeding periods lengthened, first to 30 minutes, then an hour. We added greater variety to the feeding. Pappa was scolded when he added some left-over stew gravy and some sweet apricot jam to the dry pet store diet. Mama said that was not good for the little guy, but the little one did not complain. When we tried well ripened banana, Chirp (who had now acquired a name) begged and begged for more. During this time there were clumsy attempts to hop on the wooden perches of the cage. Also Chirp began to preen his growing feathers, making good use of his oil sack.

On Sunday, July 14, we took the cage and bird to our side lawn, opened the door and encouraged Chirp onto the lawn in warm sun. He trembled and floundered in the grass. Then to our amazement, he partly hopped, partly flew to the top of his cage. He poised there for a moment, then for the first time flew to the top of the privet hedge nearby. From there he made a short flight to a low branch of our redwood tree and hid from view in a thick growth of needles. Shortly we heard the familiar begging note, and he edged his way to where we could see and reach him. We lifted him on our finger to the cage, and his first venture into the world was over. How wonderful for a bird hardly two weeks old.

During the week of July 14 to 21, Chirp spent more and more of each day in the open, free to fly or search for food on the ground. By the end of the week he was out from 8 AM to 8 PM, but always came back to his cage at night and of course for feeding several times a day. He acquired a "territory" and chased brown towhees away in brave fashion. But always he insisted on being fed in "baby" style. During this week we felt inadequate and discouraged. How in the world could we wean Chirp and adequately prepare him to take care of himself? We should not have worried for Nature took care of his growth. Like the unfolding rose from the first tiny bud to the full blown flower, he developed understanding and adaptation.

By July 28, Chirp was nearly full grown and he looked handsome. He flew around the whole neighborhood. To our delight he began to eat out of a dish of food we left on the side porch and found his water from a bird bath in the yard. He supplemented his pet store diet with much food from his own searching. His baby begging gradually disappeared and at times, while resting, we heard him singing a quiet song. It was varied in nature and quite similar to the adult song. A sharp chirp developed and also a "chicking" note was used. The latter was sort of a conversation note when we were giving him a lot of attention.

On July 31, Chirp did not come to his cage to roost at the usual 8 to 8:30 PM. Usually we would leave the cage on the side porch while he was away during the day and he used it to perch on if he wanted food or to go to bed. We called that evening as usual, but no answer. We looked around in the dusk to see if he was perching on one of our numerous trees and sure enough, we saw him perched near the top of the orange tree. We wondered if that was the end. Would he be gone in the morning? There had been an inquiring look in his eye for some time and he had ~~been morayskating~~. Maybe, some of the other birds had been telling him he had some funny looking parents. But next morning we heard his call note at 6:00 AM and with delight we answered and rushed down to the porch to "baby-feed" him once more, at least. But it will not be long now!

Conservation Notes and Quotes

Once more it is fall, and Nature's signs of the changing seasons are all around us in the out-of-doors. One of the most exciting of these is the increasing number of Winter Migrants that we see as they pass through our area on their way to their wintering grounds. Not the least interesting of these are the Ducks, Geese and Sandhill Cranes.

Some of us may be lucky enough to be where we can thrill at the honking of the wild geese as they pass high overhead on a clear cold night and see the long thin lines or wavering V-formations in the chill of early morning. We can look forward with pleasure to the day when we can go afield to see and hear the Sandhill Cranes, who do sound more like frogs than birds!

In the far northern nesting areas the Fall Migration is now well along, for some species of Ducks are already crowding the northern portions of our great Pacific Flyway. Many of them will come directly south; many others will come by way of Bear River Refuge in Utah and thence to our northern refuges: Malheur and the Tule-Klamath Basin.

The Snow Goose is one of those that leave the rim of the Arctic in early September. The little Blue-winged Teal is the first of the ducks to start south. The Pintail is the first of the larger ones to start, often coming south in company with the Blue-winged Teal. Some of the brightly-colored Wood Ducks start south early in September, while others of this strictly North American species are content to dally until early October. The beautiful Cinnamon Teal, which, by the way, is unique in being the only member of the family to be found exclusively in the western part of the continent, with its center of abundance west of the Rockies, has been in our area all of the summer. Its migration is merely a shifting from the northern portion to the southern portion: from our western states to western Mexico.

While these migrants have left their breeding areas, we will not notice any great increase in their numbers until late in October or even November. They loiter along the way wherever they find resting places and food. Malheur and the Tule-Klamath Basin are the gathering points, and after a long stop-over they begin to pour into the Central Valley. Here, the managers of the wildlife refuges cooperate with the farmers by trying to hold the migrating birds on the ponds and feeding areas until the farmers in that region have harvested the greater portion of the rice or grain crops. In general, no hunting is allowed on refuges until this time.

And so, once again, we shall soon be able to go afield and enjoy the wonderful sight of huge flocks of wildfowl concentrated in relatively small areas.

What has all this to do with Conservation? MUCH!

The Tule Lake-Klamath Basin is NOT a permanent refuge at the present time. It CAN BE made such, and almost all of the necessary action has been taken by Congress. But "almost all" is not enough.

What we have at present has been made possible by the combined efforts of many organizations, in addition to the Audubon Society: The Sierra Club, Ducks Unlimited and several Canadian organizations. But we must realize that all can - and probably will - be lost if we become apathetic and indifferent to the situation. Rachel Carson shocked the world with her "Silent Spring". Have you thought of a "Silent Fall" on our ponds and marshes? It will come if the Tule-Klamath Basin is drained, or the water-level even lowered, for the "development" of agricultural areas and subdivisions.

See your last Avocet (September) for the details of this situation.

Theodore Roosevelt, then President of the United States, on February 16, 1899, wrote to Frank M. Chapman, then President of the Audubon Society, saying in part: "I do not understand how any man or woman who really loves nature can fail to try to exert all influence in support of such objects as those of the Audubon Society."

Can you?

#### Theodore Roosevelt, a Conservationist and Naturalist

Considering the high esteem in which Theodore Roosevelt held the Audubon Society, it seems quite fitting that we, in turn, should at least be aware of the great work that he did in the interest of conservation. Outstanding among the many measures for which he was responsible are:

First game laws for the Territory of Alaska, regulating export of heads as trophies and the slaughter of deer for hides (1902-09).

First appropriation for preservation of buffalo in Yellowstone National Park (1902).

First Federal Wildlife Refuge, Pelican Island, Florida. (1903).

Establishment of: fifty-one National Bird Reservations distributed in seventeen states and territories from Puerto Rico to Hawaii and Alaska; five National Parks; four big-game refuges. (1909).

Set aside: Baker City Forest of Oregon; the Fish Lake Forest Reservation of Utah; the Grantville Forest Reserve in Utah; the Wichita Game Preserve, the first National Game Preserve. (1904-05).

Set aside: the Plumas Forest Reserve in California; the Muir Woods National Monument; the Pinnacles National Monument in California; and the Olympic National Monument in Washington. There are important game refuges. (1906).

Established the Grand Canyon Game Preserve in Arizona, which contains almost one and a half million acres; set aside the Goose Lake Forest Preserve in Oregon; by presidential proclamation increased the National Forests by more than 43,000,000 acres; established the Lassen Peak National Monument. (1906-07).

Niobrara Military Reservation in Nebraska was made a bird reservation; convened the Joint Conservation Conference of Governors which



resulted in the appointment of 36 State Conservation Commissions; created the National Conservation Commission; established the National Bison Range in Montana, an area of about 18,000 acres. (1908).

Truly, Theodore Roosevelt did much for us!

But, just as truly, there is still much to be done, and some very important parts of it must be done quickly!!

### Wilderness, Wildlife and People

By reading our Audubon Magazine and the daily newspapers, we can keep track of the struggle in Congress over a wilderness preservation act. We should realize that, in this case, the issue is not only whether wilderness, as such, should be preserved, but also whether or not our present system is satisfactory. There are many indications that it is not, and that while we are aware of the values of natural areas and wilderness areas, we still have not done enough to preserve them. They are important because (to adapt a well known saying): as our wilderness goes, so goes our wildlife.

With our too rapidly increasing population, wilderness areas are becoming more and more difficult to protect and preserve. An excellent, or should I say "deplorable", example is the history of the Gila Wilderness Area in New Mexico. It was established in 1924, and in 1930 it was enlarged to nearly 700,000 acres. When, and as, established, it was to be let strictly alone, without roads or developments, "used only for wild country recreation and/or scientific study". Within two years, the management of the area decided that they needed a road cut through the middle, and the old area was cut in two. Next, necessity for fire control and access to private in-holdings resulted in more roads and loss of more acreage. Mining interests also succeeded in having another portion deleted, as a fluorspar mine. In the 1950's, the lumber interests made plans for further deletion of 188,000 acres of fine timber. This time conservationists got active, and their objections resulted in the postponement of any action.

Then, the State Fish and Game Department, acting with better intentions than foresight, introduced wild turkey and elk. The increase in elk resulted in overgrazing of the natural vegetation and necessitated the laying out of access roads for the removal of the excess elk. Hunters in jeeps and other four-wheel-drive vehicles so badly damaged an edge of the area that the boundaries had to be set back. Natural fires and their suppression caused further changes in vegetation.

Thus, even government conservation agencies have played a large part in the destruction, or at least dismemberment, of the Gila Wilderness Area; and now, plans for the construction of a Gila River dam will still further modify and invade the area.

If we set aside a Wilderness Area that can at some future time be exploited, let's not fool ourselves by calling it a wilderness - a wilderness ceases to be wilderness when people travel through it.

PLEASE, read Charles Callison's article on page 238 of July-Aug., 1963, Audubon Magazine. It concerns over a million of our ducks and geese.

Notes from Afield

Send your observations to the compiler listed below. Please include at least the following basic facts: species, quantity, location, date and observer. Your observations should be sent in time so that I may compile them and send them to the editor of the Avocet by the 20th of each month.

Compiler: Ralph R. Trullinger  
1960 Santa Cruz Avenue, Menlo Park (854-4201)

Waddell Beach, Hoover Ranch Trip, Sept. 7

This was a joint trip with the Santa Cruz Bird Club and the Monterey Audubon Society. The weather was warm and sunny. Thirty-one species were observed: Common Loon, Brown Pelican, Brandt's Cormorant, Surf Scoter, California Quail, American Coot, Killdeer, Long-billed Curlew, Willet, Sanderling, Band-tailed Pigeon, Belted Kingfisher, Red-shafted Flicker, Hairy Woodpecker, Ash-throated Flycatcher, Western Flycatcher, Steller's Jay, Chestnut-backed Chickadee, Wren-tit, Bewick's Wren, Swainson's Thrush, Wilson's Warbler, Redwinged Blackbird, Brewer's Blackbird, House Finch, Pine Siskin, Oregon Junco, Song Sparrow.

Alviso Trip, Sept. 11

Time 8:30 to 11:15 A.M. We birded at (1) a mud flat around a pool in what is left of the salt marshes west of town, (2) a dry field at a neighboring dairy, and (3) one of the Leslie Salt Works ponds. The day was very pleasant, slightly overcast early, but mostly clear afterwards. Twelve persons were on the trip, including Eve Case with a spotting scope and Emily Smith and Claude Smith, who aided in identification of birds: Eared Grebe (several on saltpond), White Pelican (dike some distance away was white with these birds, probably hundreds of them), Common Egret (1; also egrets on dike too far out to identify species), Ruddy Duck (3; also several flocks of ducks too far out on salt pond to identify), Ring-necked Pheasant (3), American Coot (several small groups), Killdeer (several at each stop), Willet (many), Greater Yellowlegs (several at both pool and salt pond), Least Sandpiper (an estimated flock of 200 on dike), Dowitcher, Short-billed? (many), Western Sandpiper (many), Marbled Godwit (5 flying by), American Avocet (a few noted at each stop), Wilson's Phalarope (small group, swimming in shallow water, seemed to be picking insects out of the air), Northern Phalarope (large flock on salt pond), Forster's Tern (at least one), Least Tern (at least 3), Caspian Tern (2 or 3), Burrowing Owl (6 on ground in dry pasture land; the day before there were twice as many), Black Phoebe (1), Horned Lark (several, same field as Burrowing Owl), Barn Swallow (many on telephone wire, some apparently still being fed), Water Pipit (one, early migrant?), Western Meadowlark (one singing), Redwinged Blackbird (small flock), Brewer's Blackbird (many in flocks), Song Sparrow (several).

Additional birds seen on scouting trips (Sept. 8 and 10): Snowy Plover (3 or 4 together among sandpipers on mud flat), Black-bellied Plover (one with Snowy Plovers and sandpipers), Dunlin (several among smaller sandpipers).  
Leader: Eva McRae

From Miss Emily Smith:

The young Vaux's Swifts in our chimney were apparently fledged July 17. That evening I banded one which missed its chimney and came

into our dark house through a small open door. After banding it, I opened the damper at the back of our fireplace; and the young swift entered its chimney by the back door, as it were.

The swift family, and apparently other Vaux's Swifts, have been entering our chimney after sunset every evening since. But it will not be long now before they are all on their way south for the winter.

From Herbert and Manette Wittgenstein:

We had excellent birding on our trip to the Tetons in August-September. Floating down the Snake River on a small rubber raft, we sighted a Bald Eagle as well as one of the eaglets just above the nest. Ospreys are common. We saw four pairs of Trumpeter Swans, of which one pair was in flight. They seem to increase in numbers. Sandhill Cranes were just returning to the Refuge in Jackson, Wyo. Three species of grouse seem common in Teton Park. One family of Ruffed Grouse stopped the traffic on the highway near Jackson Lodge, much as our quail would do.

In Nevada, Golden Eagles were sitting along Highways 6 and 25. We saw three on different spots.

At our return on 9/9/63, we were greeted by the calls of several Red-breasted Nuthatches. The next day we saw two of them. They are still around.

Sandhill Cranes: 20 at Elkhorn Slough Sept. 12. Howard Wolcott.

Moss Landing:

Forty-five members and guests met on Jetty Road north of Moss Landing on Sunday, September 22. Birds were checked on the mudflats of Elkhorn Slough, and the Salinas River mouth area was visited. Jaegers at the river mouth highlighted the trip. An immature bird, lacking the elongated pair of central tail feathers, was seen at close range harrying terns which were fishing. Later an adult Parasitic Jaeger created quite a disturbance among gulls and Brown Pelicans. Migrating terns were also identified.

The birds listed on the trip included: Pied-billed Grebe, Brown Pelican, Great Blue Heron, Black-crowned Night Heron, Black Brant (1), Ruddy Duck, Cooper's Hawk, Marsh Hawk, Sparrow Hawk, Coot, Snowy Plover, Black-bellied Plover, Long-billed Curlew, Whimbrel, Willet, Least Sandpiper, Dunlin, Long-billed Dowitcher, Western Sandpiper, Marbled Godwit, Sanderling, Avocet, Black-necked Stilt, Northern Phalarope, Parasitic Jaeger, Western Gull, California Gull, Ring-billed Gull, Heermann's Gull, Forster's Tern, Common Tern, Royal Tern, Elegant Tern, Caspian Tern, Mourning Dove, Black Phoebe, Barn Swallow, Meadowlark, Brewer's Blackbird, House Finch and Savannah Sparrow.

Leader: Viola Anderson, 1015 Connely, Salinas

Green Heron: Palo Alto Yacht Harbor, Sept. 22, Harriet Mundy. An immature bird seen (with his reflection) at distance of 15 feet on a log in a small pond. This is possibly a first sighting of the Green Heron here. Harriet also reports more filling done in a favorite birding area and model boats in the Duck Pond. We must try harder to save some natural areas there. I'm sure that a majority would vote for preservation if given a chance.

Red-breasted Nuthatch (1) first we've seen on Roble Ridge, 9/25, J. Todd.

White-crowned Sparrow: (1) first of season, Mrs. Ruth Paulus, 1/3 mile south of Vasona Reservoir, Los Gatos, 9/22.

SANTA CLARA VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY  
Branch of  
National Audubon Society  
1963 - 1964

<u>Name</u>	<u>Office</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Telephone</u>
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Mrs. Eva McRae	Secretary	55 Manning Ave., San Jose	258-3011
Mrs. Fanny Zwaal	Treasurer	478 Clifton Ave., San Jose	292-2060
Dr. H. T. Harvey	Director	716 Garner Court Santa Clara	243-6956
John Henderson	Director	20570 Canyon View Dr., Saratoga	867-4304
Kenneth A. Phelps	Director	1850 Willow Road, Palo Alto	325-5155
Claude Smith	Director	F.O. Box 489, Saratoga	867-3629
Wilma Thompson	Director	758 Pollard Road Los Gatos	378-4333
Joyce Todd	Director	945 Matadero Ave., Palo Alto	
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