

The Avocet

Volume XI Number 7

September, 1964

"WELCOME BACK" ALL SANTA CLARA VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY MEMBERS

"...Who doth ambition shun
and loves to live i' the sun..."

--William Shakespeare

and go birding?

Summer vacation nears an end and a new year starts for the Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society. Some of us have spent our vacations near home and others have travelled far. All of us have bright memories of our birding experiences wherever we may have been. It will be our pleasure to share these with each other as the year unfolds.

The welcoming event of our new year will be a wonderful program, "America the Beautiful," in sound and color by two of our own talented members, Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Kendall. Many of the sights and sounds presented by the Kendalls were recorded at their home, "Singing Hill," in Saratoga.

See you all on September 14, at the Rosegarden Branch of the San Jose Library, Dana and Naglee Streets.

Mrs. Jill Cisne
President

Annual Meeting

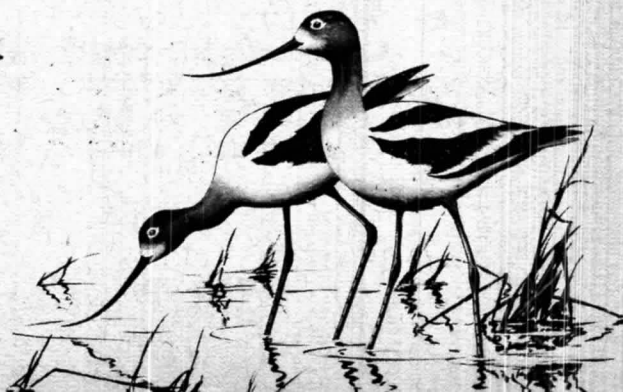
Our annual meeting was held this year at Alum Rock State Park. Members came early to watch birds and to enjoy a picnic dinner together. Robert Nolls of San Mateo showed his colored movies of birds in this area, and sea-birds of the Farallons and off-shore at Santa Cruz. Diane Conradson, our Education Chairman, brought a colored movie of Anna's Hummingbirds. This movie, which was made in Burlingame, has been purchased by the Encyclopedia Britannica, and by our Education Committee. It will certainly be in great demand by interested clubs and schools.

During the Annual Meeting the board of the Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society sat for a short session. President John Brokenshire presided.

Lloyd Case, Howard Wolcott and Herbert Wittgenstein were appointed to follow retiring directors, Claude Smith, John Brokenshire, and Warren Turner. Jill Cisne was appointed to fill the unexpired term of Wilma Thompson, who

Coming Events At a Glance

Wed.	Sept. 9	8:00 P.M.	Claude Smith's (Board)
Mon.	Sept. 14	8:00 P.M.	S. J. General Meeting
Wed.	Sept. 16	8:30 A.M.	Alviso
Wed.	Sept. 23	8:00 A.M.	P. A. Baylands
Sun.	Sept. 27	8:30 A.M.	Moss Landing



resigned in May.

Fanny Zwaal and Warren Turner were instructed to present a proposed budget at the September board meeting.

Warren Turner, chairman of the nominating committee presented the following slate: President, Mrs. Luther E. Cisne; Vice-President, Mr. Herbert Wittgenstein; Secretary, Mrs. Eva Mc Rae; Treasurer, Mrs. John Todd.

It was authorized that 100 copies of the "History of the Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society" written by Warren Turner be printed.

Claude Smith invited the directors and committee chairman up to the "Eyrrie," above Saratoga for our first board meeting, September 9th. It was heartily accepted.

A Gift for the Society

The Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society extends a vote of appreciation to Mr. Robert A. De Cou, a friend of our former president, Mr. Charles D. Williams, for making and presenting to the Society a beautiful walnut gavel and pounding block, and a grey zipper carrying case.

The gavel was presented to Mrs. Luther E. Cisne, incoming president, by Mr. John R. Brokenshire, retiring president. The gavel block was first struck to declare the highly successful 1963-64 year, and the Annual Meeting of the S.C.V.A.S. adjourned.

Bayland Booklet

Diane Conradson's "An Introduction to the Palo Alto Baylands" will be published by the Chamber of Commerce of Palo Alto as a companion booklet to the "Trees of Palo Alto." Diane hopes to acquaint the people of Palo Alto and surrounding areas with their unique heritage in the Baylands, and to encourage their wise use as a wildlife refuge and Nature Study Center as part of our City Park System. Any one having good black and white photographs of plants or birds of this area that could be used to illustrate the Bayland booklet, please contact Diane.

Our History

Warren Turner, past president and director of our Society, has written the history of our organization from its founding on January 8, 1925 up to the present time. It will be available soon.

A Sound of Bugles!

A very special fanfare of "Thank You" go to our retiring editor, Joyce Todd, and to our two typists, Carol Rulofson and Jane Castner for seven years of devoted service to our Avocet. Joyce will continue on as our treasurer. It is time and talent such as this, and so freely given, that is the mainstay of our Society.

September Calendar

Board Meeting

Wed., September 9, 8:00 P.M. Claude Smith's. Further details by mail.

General Meeting

Mon., September 14, 8:00 P.M. "America the Beautiful," Rosegarden Branch of the San Jose Public Library, Dana and Naglee Streets. See details below.

Field Trips

Wed., September 16 to marshes and salt ponds of Alviso where fall migration of shore birds is at its peak. Meet at 8:30 A.M. in front of the George Mayne School on San Jose-Alviso Road which is an extension of San Jose North First Street. Leaders: Miss Emily Smith (354-2494) and Miss Alberta Edell (354-4979).

Wed., September 23. Low tide at the Palo Alto Baylands. Meet the leader, Mrs. Bernice Pillow (948-1300) at the Duck Pond near the Yacht Harbor at 8:00 A.M.

Sun., September 27. Time for returning migrants--mud flats and beaches are full of interest. For this trip to Moss Landing and the mouth of the Salinas River meet at Jetty Road at 9:00 A.M. Bring lunch. Leader Viola Anderson will arrive before 8:30 A.M. for any early comers. The tide will be coming in; so the earlier the better. For information call 243-2467.

General Meeting

"America, the Beautiful" will be the theme of the opening meeting of the year at 8 o'clock Monday evening, September 14, in the Rosegarden Branch of the San Jose Public Library, Dana and Naglee Streets.

The theme will be portrayed in a happy combination of sound and colored slides assembled by two members of the Society. They are Gerald H. S. Kendall whose hobby for years has been nature photography and whose work is of professional quality and his wife, who for several years has worked with Dr. Kellogg of Cornell University recording bird calls from all over the world.

In the springtime the Kendalls have promised to play hosts to the Society for a field trip to the trees and meadows of the several acres around their home in Saratoga.

Not Piggy-back

Take a turn! Drive a carload to a meeting in San Jose or Palo Alto. Get acquainted on the drives to and from our meetings! Meet at one home, leave extra cars, and come on. Some of our members can't drive at night who would like very much to come. It's a lot of fun! Worth any inconvenience of the moment.

N O T I C E

Garden notes . . versus . . Field notes! Do we see more species at our window and garden feeders than we do in the field? Possibly, if we exclude a few of the less common shore birds. Shall we give it a try? Call your friends--compare notes. Let us see what we find when we are not on a scheduled field trip.

Send your lists on cards to:

Miss Francis Felin		Mrs. J. R. Masson
2250 Amherst, Palo Alto	or	2230 Amherst, Palo Alto
322-0207		321-8413

See what results a periodic check-up will show. It will be a lot of fun. Mr. Ralph Trullinger, 1960 Santa Cruz Avenue, Menlo Park compiles our mid-week and week-end field notes. Now is the time to send him your exciting vacation field notes.

New Members

We are glad to welcome the following new members:

Miss Sigrid Clauson	14544 Ramstad Dr., San Jose 12, Cal.
Mrs. Emilie B. Sandoval	96 Almond Ave., Los Altos, Calif.
Mr. Kirke W. Comstock	265 Coleridge Ave., Palo Alto, Cal.
Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Shroeder	1235 McIntosh Street, Sunnyvale, California

---Angelina Snow, Membership Chairman

Nature Study Class

A class in "Nature Study in the Bay Area," with field trips, slides, and guest speakers will be offered by the Menlo-Atherton Adult Education Department. Taught by Mrs. Diane Conradson, the class will meet Tuesdays from 9:30-11:00 A.M. at the Menlo Park Recreation Building, beginning September 15. If you know anyone who might be interested in attending, call 322-8352 for further information or enroll at any class meeting. Enrollment fee is \$1.00 for a quarter.

Slides ?

The Education Committee members are embarrassed at being unable to show slides of ANY species of swallows, the Chestnut-backed Chickadee, or the California Quail. If you know where to obtain good slides of those birds or are willing to have duplicates made of your own, please call Mrs. Conradson, 327-2512.

Cookies Anyone?

Don't be bashful! Don't wait to be asked. Call one of our Social Chairmen and offer. Whip up a batch of your "old standbys," or we'll all be most happy to "test" a new recipe. Our men are among the best of "cookie dusters" (those who can polish off a dozen cookies at one sitting).

Conservation Notes

Much has happened since the last issue of THE AVOCET, and since your Conservation Chairman took off on a five-week trip which included two weeks at the Audubon Camp of Wisconsin, without newspapers, radio, or television, it was a wonderfully restful "brief interlude" during which we learned, oh, SO MUCH about the workings of Nature, and heard, oh, SO LITTLE, about the current blunderings of mankind!

Since our return, the "Office Mail" is giving overwhelming competition to the "Conservation Mail" so that a full conservation report must await later issues. One thing is quite obvious: if we who are concerned with the conservation of our wildfowl, shorebirds, and animal wildlife wish to accomplish anything in the way of securing protective legislation on any of the controversial issues that pertain to the future existence of many species, WE MUST HAVE A PREDOMINANCE OF NUMBERS!

Our National President, Carl Buckheister, has often stressed the importance of a large membership. That definitely makes sense in a nation where "the voice of the people" influences governmental policy! The more members that we, The Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society, have on our local membership roll, the more "voices" President Buckheister and any of our local committees can quote in any correspondence or statements.

PLEASE do all that you can to increase our membership by telling people that the NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY is an organization that is dedicated to the conservation of the best of what man has left in our United States of its original wildlife, timber, soil, and water.

The old and trite saying that "THE MORE, THE MERRIER" can become a truism for the future generations of our exploding population, but only on the basis that the MORE OF NATURE that we can leave for them, THE MERRIER will be their existence.

--Lloyd N. Case

Game Law Violations

The Santa Clara County game warden, via the Mercury News, has requested citizens to report violations to them. The Hendersons of Saratoga finally called him recently after they repeatedly warned two boys who were shooting in their neighborhood. With the feet of quail shot out of season as evidence, the warden cited and fined the older of the boys and confiscated their guns.

Songbirds are protected as well as hawks and owls. There is a \$500 fine and 6 months in jail possible for killing the Redtail Hawk. The game wardens have proved that they are anxious to enforce the laws with the help of the public. The Santa Clara County warden is Charley Harris (377-4971); Morgan Hill's is John Carlton (FR 9-3458).

Notes from Afield

Pike Estate Trip -- May 24

This trip was attended by 26 people. We met in Saratoga and then drove a short distance through the hills to the estate. We birded first around the

buildings, then through the orchard and back along the road. Some of us stayed and enjoyed our lunch under a large oak.

A total of 18 species were identified:

California Quail	Hairy Woodpecker	Western Bluebird
Mourning Dove	Violet-green Swallow	House Sparrow
Anna's Hummingbird	Scrub Jay	Black-headed Grosbeak
Allen's Hummingbird	Plain Titmouse	House Finch
Red-shafted Flicker	Wren tit	Rufous-sided Towhee
Acorn Woodpecker	Mocking bird	Brown Towhee

The estate covers 28 acres including orchards and heavy woods. The Normandy-style main building was constructed in 1928. There is a stately Sequoia Gigantea on the grounds almost 120 years old.

Following the death of Mr. Pike last year, the estate passed into the trusteeship of Stanford University. It will be used for weekend seminars by students and faculty.

--Leaders: Mr. and Mrs. Henderson

Duveneck Ranch Trip -- May 27

The trip was attended by only three of us and Mr. Duveneck--no rain while there. We saw five nests with parents feeding: Bewick's Wren, House Wren, Violet-green Swallow, Warbling Vireo, Western Flycatcher. We also saw Black-headed Grosbeak feeding young on branches in two places. We saw seven baby California Quail with parents. Also, we saw an Oriole nest--not the birds. There were 33 species seen and heard.

Birds observed:

Band-tailed Pigeon (26)	Mourning Dove	Anna's Hummingbird
Allen's Hummingbird	Ash-throated Flycatcher (2)	Black Phoebe
Western Wood Pewee	Scrub Jay (30+)	Olive-sided Flycatcher
Steller's Jay	Wren tit	Common Bush tit
Chestnut-backed Chickadee	California thrasher	Mocking bird
Western Bluebird (2)	Hutton's Vireo	Robin
Yellow Warbler	Wilson's Warbler	Solitary Vireo
MacGillivray's Warbler	Bullock's Oriole	Orange-crowned Warbler
House Finch	Gold Finch	Brewer's Blackbird
Brown Towhee	Oregon Junco	Brown-headed Cowbird (1)
Chipping Sparrow	Song Sparrow	Rufous-sided Towhee

--Leader: Kay Mc Cann

La Honda -- Al Wool Ranch Trip -- June 7

After meeting in La Honda we first went to a spot a couple of miles further down the road. Here among other things we saw several Quail eggs (that apparently had been stolen and opened by a Jay) and the abandoned nest of a Wrentit. We next went back to La Honda for a short stop and then proceeded to the Al Wool ranch. Here we first ate lunch along the trail overlooking a creek and had the opportunity to watch a Red-shafted Flicker, Downy Woodpeckers, and Chickadees feeding young. After lunch as we proceeded down the trail, we saw the abandoned nest of a Rufous-sided Towhee, a Western Wood Pewee sitting on a nest, and the nest of an American Goldfinch ready for use. The outstanding bird

of the trip to most of us was the Lazuli Bunting of which we had many fine observations. The trip was attended by 30 people who saw a total of 41 species of birds and many interesting plants.

Birds observed:

California Quail	Swainson's Thrush	Band-tailed Pigeon
Western Bluebird	Mourning Dove	Warbling Vireo
Anna's Hummingbird	Orange-crowned Warbler	Allen's Hummingbird
Yellow Warbler	Red-shafted Flicker	Yellowthroat
Downy Woodpecker	Wilson's Warbler	Black Phoebe
Redwinged Blackbird	Western Flycatcher	Brewer's Blackbird
Western Wood Pewee	Black-headed Grosbeak	Olive-sided Flycatcher
Lazuli Bunting	Violet-green Swallow	Purple Finch
Rough-winged Swallow	House Finch	Cliff Swallow
Pine Siskine	Steller's Jay	American Goldfinch
Chestnut-backed Chickadee	Brown Towhee	Common Bushtit
Oregon Junco	Pygmy Nuthatch	Chipping Sparrow
Brown Creeper	White-crowned Sparrow	Wren-Tit
Song Sparrow	Robin	

--Leader: Al Wool

Castle Rock Ridge Trip -- June 10

Ten people came for a cold, damp day of birding, but 27 species were seen:

Band-tailed Pigeon	Orange-crowned Warbler	Mourning Dove
Audubon's Warbler	Red-shafted Flicker	Hermit Warbler
Ash-throated Flycatcher	Western Tanager	Olive-sided Flycatcher
Black-headed Grosbeak	Violet-green Swallow	Lazuli Bunting
Steller's Jay	Purple Finch	Scrub Jay
Pine Siskin	Lesser Goldfinch	Chestnut-backed Chickadee
Common Bushtit	Rufous-sided Towhee	Red-breasted Nuthatch
Brown Towhee	Wrentit	Oregon Junco
Robin	Chipping Swallow	Western Bluebird

--Leaders: Margaret Henderson
Catherine Lintott

Stanford Trip -- July 11

This trip was attended by 14 people. We birded first at Lake Lagunita where we saw several Coots and Pied-billed Grebes with young. We then proceeded down Governors Lane and along a couple of roads to an open field with a few oak trees on it. The weather was very warm. A total of 32 species were observed.

Pied-billed Grebe	Plain Titmouse	White-breasted Nuthatch
Mallard	Calif. Quail	Mockingbird
American Coot	Calif. Thrasher	Killdear
Robin	Starling	Band-tailed Pigeon
Mourning Dove	House Sparrow	White-throated Swift
Western Meadowlark	Anna's Hummingbird	Redwinged Blackbird
Red-shafted Flicker	Brewer's Blackbird	Acorn Woodpecker
House Finch	Violet-green Swallow	Lesser Goldfinch

Rough-winged Swallow	Rufous-sided Towhee	Cliff Swallow
Brown Towhee	Scrub Jay	Chestnut-backed Chickadee
Oregon Junco		

--Leader: Joe Greenberg

Mt. Madonna County Park Trip -- August 9

Sixteen people enjoyed beautiful weather and a fine day of birding in which 21 species were observed. After meeting at the park entrance on Highway 152, we proceeded to the intersection of the road to Grand View. Here we left the cars and went on a walk for a couple of hours. We then drove to the Deer Pen Area where we had lunch under the trees.

Birds observed:

Band-tailed Pigeon	Wrentit	Red-shafted Flicker
Bewick's Wren	Acorn Woodpecker	Western Kingbird
Robin	Hutton's Vireo	Violet-green Swallow
Warbling Vireo	Steller's Jay	Warbler-Yellow or Wilson's ?
Scrub Jay	Pine Siskin	Chestnut-backed Chickadee
Lesser Goldfinch	Common Bushtit	Rufous-sided Towhee
Pygmy Nuthatch	Oregon Junco	Brown Creeper

--Leader: Fanny Zwaal

Observations:

White-crowned Sparrow - August 4 - Saratoga. Mr. and Mrs. Taylor.

From John Cisne:

On the 16th of June, Jill Cisne and her son, John, went on a "grind" of this area from Dumbarton Bridge to San Gregario, to Moss Landing, Los Banos and Mt. Hamilton. All total, 143 species were seen. Among the highlights of the trip were Grasshopper Sparrows singing along Highway 84, 3.4 miles from California Highway 1, a Fulmar and Glaucous Gull at San Gregario, a pair of Blue-winged Teals at the marsh at Pescadero, three Marbled Murrelets and a female Common (Black American) Scoter in breeding plumage at Pigeon Point, and a Traill's Flycatcher in Del Puerto Canyon.

On June 27th, there were six Ruddy Turnstones on Sand Point at the Palo Alto Yacht Harbor. These are recorded on the monthly summer survey for the Department of Fish and Game.

In July the Cisne family birded 1200 miles of the Colorado Plateau and the Basin and Range Province from Las Vegas, to the North Rim of the Grand Canyon, and south to Tucson. They saw 152 species (22 of these are new to their life lists) including Rivoli's and Broad-billed Hummingbirds; Sulphur-bellied, Coues', Buff-breasted, and Beardless Flycatchers, Brown-throated Wren, Olive Warbler, Painted Redstart, Varied Bunting, Mexican Junco, and Rufous-winged and Botteri's Sparrows . . . and, of course, the Roadrunner.

Please send your summer observations to Field Notes Compiler: Ralph R. Trullinger
1960 Santa Cruz Avenue, Menlo Park, California, 94026. Phone: 854-4201.

Editor's Note

It may not be possible to include complete bird lists in the Avocet. However, since they are of special value to new residents and of interest to all, it is planned to compile and publish them separately from time to time. Field trip notes and other observations will continue to appear. Please make known your wishes. F. LaRiviere, 327-2854.

Field Notes	Mr. Ralph Trullinger	1960 Santa Cruz Ave. Menlo Park	854-4201
Finance & Auditing	Mr. Warren Turner	646 Alvarado Row Stanford	325-7777
Historian	Mr. Warren Turner		
Librarian	Mr. & Mrs. Lloyd Case	2586 Homestead Road Santa Clara	243-2467
Publicity	Mr. John Brokenshire	102 South 23rd St. San Jose	293-6289
	Mrs. L. E. Cisne	1868 Bret Harte Palo Alto	321-3195
Sanctuary	Mr. & Mrs. W. H. Pillow	675 Orange Ave. Los Altos	948-1300
Screen Tours	Dr. Arnold G. Apple- garth	2928 Lansford Ave. San Jose	269-3662
Social--North	Mrs. Carol Zabel	225 Marmona Drive Menlo Park	325-5939
South	Mrs. Caroline Davis	104 Winslow Court, Apt. 4, Campbell	378-1603

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

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

There are twenty-four wonderful people who call lists of others interested in conservation whenever it is advisable for citizens to appear at City Hall in Palo Alto to defend our Bayland project.

Six of our members are working with the Chamber of Commerce Area Beautification Committee.

Eve Case and her committee are working with Earl Lauppe of the State Fish and Game Department to make a survey of Bayland shore birds from Dumbarton Bridge south to Guadalupe Slough. The surveys have been made once a month through the summer, but will be twice a month through the fall, winter, and spring.

SANTA CLARA VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY
BRANCH OF
NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY

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Conservation	Mr. Lloyd Case	2586 Homestead Road Santa Clara	243-2467

Field Trips

Week-end	Mr. Howard Wolcott	26511 Altamont Road Los Altos Hills	948-6821
	Dr. Evelyn Case	2586 Homestead Road Santa Clara	243-2467
Mid-week	Mrs. Ray McCann	783 Garland Drive Palo Alto	327-4138
	Mrs. John Henderson	21215 Sullivan Way Saratoga	867-4304
	Mrs. Catherine Lintott	17150 Buena Vista Ave. Los Gatos	356-4264

Directors

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Cisne, Jill	Hutton, Dr. Kenneth	Wittgenstein, Herbert
Harvey, Thomas	Todd, Joyce	Wolcott, Howard

Avocet

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