

The Avocet

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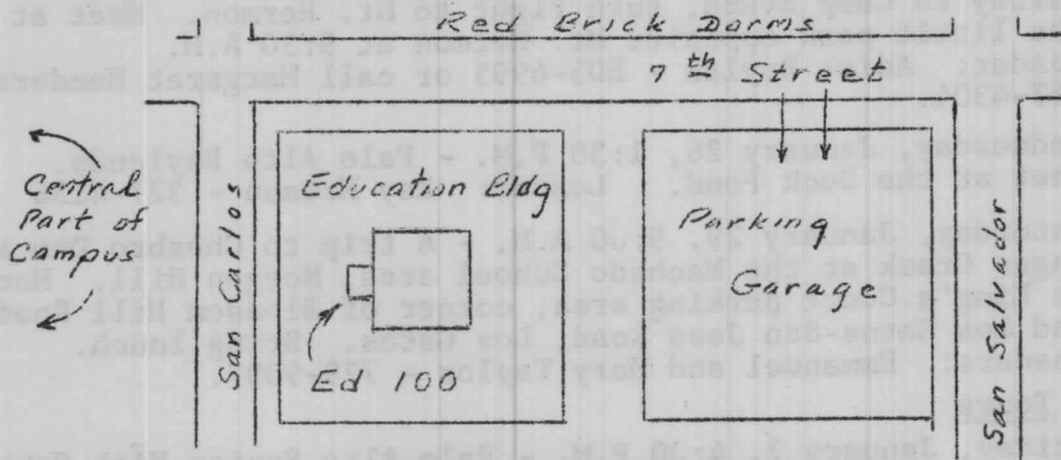
"THE RESTLESS VALLEY"

January 5, 1966
8:00 P.M.

Room 100, Education Bldg.
San Jose State College

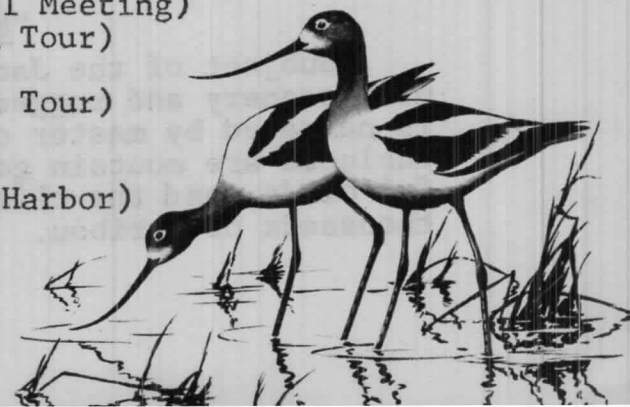
Santa Clara Valley, San Francisco Bay, the San Andreas Fault, and earthquakes will be the subject of our next meeting. Dr. Stanley Skapinsky, Associate Professor of Geology, will present a program involving videotape, lecture and question and answer periods. Many members have been asking for a program of this sort—so here is your chance. The videotape is excellent, Dr. Skapinsky is informative, entertaining, and well-versed in his field. Whether you are interested in the geology of the area, earthquakes in general, or such questions as "will earthquakes pose a problem to structures built on bayfill?", here is the opportunity of the year.

This meeting, (and only this meeting) will be held at San Jose State College. It will start at 8:00 P.M. in Room 100 of the Education Building, the new multistoried building on the corner of 7th Street and San Carlos. The Parking Garage is next to it, (south). If you park there (25¢) you will be within a very short distance of the Education Building. The room is on the ground floor on the side of the building facing San Carlos Street.



COMING EVENTS AT A GLANCE

Wed.,	Jan.	5	8:00 P.M.	S. J. (General Meeting)
Fri.,	Jan.	7	4:00 P.M.	P. A. (Screen Tour)
Sun.,	Jan.	9	9:30 A.M.	Marin County
Mon.,	Jan.	10	8:00 P.M.	S. J. (Screen Tour)
Wed.,	Jan.	12	9:30 A.M.	Mt. Hermon
Wed.,	Jan.	19	7:45 P.M.	S. J. (Board)
Wed.,	Jan.	26	1:30 P.M.	P. A. (Yacht Harbor)
Sat.,	Jan.	29	9:00 A.M.	Morgan Hill



January Calendar

General Meeting

Wednesday, January 5, 8:00 P.M. - San Jose State College
(See first page)

Board Meeting

Wednesday, January 19, 7:45 P.M. - At the Shellhammer's,
3722 Rosemar, San Jose. Directions will be sent.
Telephone 258-9552.

Field Trips

Sunday, January 9, 9:00 A.M. - Rodeo Lagoon-Richardson Bay.
Directions: North on Highway 101 - ½ mile after crossing
the Golden Gate Bridge take the Sausalito turn-off to the
right. Proceed to the second possible turn where there is
a sign reading "U.S. Army Ft. Baker, Ft. Barry, Ft. Cronkhite."
Make a left turn and wait at the tunnel for the green light.
Go through the tunnel and meet at the parking area on the
north side of the road shortly after leaving the tunnel.
The trip will be in two legs.- the first to Rodeo Lagoon and
the second to Richardson Bay and the Audubon Center where we
will eat. Bring lunch. Leader: Ralph Trullinger - 854-4201

Wednesday, January 12, 9:30 A.M. - Mt. Hermon. This is the
best time of year to see the Red Crossbills and Clark's
Nutcackers in this area. As this could be a very rewarding
day, do bring lunches. Take Freeway 17 through Scott's
Valley to Camp Evers, turn right to Mt. Hermon. Meet at
the little park opposite Mt. Hermon at 9:30 A.M.
Leader: Adist Boylan - ED5-4995 or call Margaret Henderson-
867-4304.

Wednesday, January 26, 1:30 P.M. - Palo Alto Baylands.
Meet at the Duck Pond. Leader: Kay McCann - 327-4136

Saturday, January 29, 9:00 A.M. - A trip to Chesbro Dam and
Lagas Creek at the Machado School area, Morgan Hill. Meet
at King's Court parking area, corner of Blossom Hill Road
and Los Gatos-San Jose Road, Los Gatos. Bring lunch.
Leaders: Emmanuel and Mary Taylor - 779-9097.

Screen Tours

Friday, January 7, 4:00 P.M. - Palo Alto Senior High School
Monday, January 10, 8:00 P.M. - San Jose State College
(See details below)

"Northwest to Alaska"

Subject of the January screen tours is Alaska - its spectac-
ular scenery and rugged inhabitants. The picture was produced and
is narrated by master cameraman Walter Berlet of Casper, Wyoming.
Included are moutain goats, dall sheep, wolves, wolverines, color-
ful birds, and the climas is the unforgettable migration of
thousands of caribou.

(continued)

"Northwest to Alaska" (continued from page 2)

The San Jose State showing is at 8:00 P.M. January 10 in the Morris Daily Auditorium. In Palo Alto, the program will be presented at 4:00 P.M. at the Palo Alto Senior High School Auditorium.

The "Paly High" Biology Club, under the direction of Mr. LeVan Shugart, is sponsoring the film series in Palo Alto. Biology students introduce the speakers and usher for their programs. All proceeds are used to send biology students on bussed field trips for special study in distant habitats.

Your support of this program not only insures the education of future conservationists, it also guarantees that we will have these wonderful Wildlife Films in Palo Alto next year! A few tickets are available, with the added bonus of plenty of parking space.

Board Meeting

SCVAS Board Meeting was held in November in the home of the Harveys.

Dr. Harvey brought up the matter of maintaining baylands for wildlife in the south bay. Mr. Case mentioned hopeful leads in this direction.

Mrs. LaRiviere noted in connection with the Citizen's Advisory Committee Report on the Bay Lands that some members of the Council are hoping to speed the progress of the report through the several committees to which it has been referred.

A roster of the SCVAS as of September, 1965 was mimeographed by Mr. Ted Wassam and is arranged according to Mrs. Cisne's geographical file of members.

It was voted that Mr. Case should purchase a spotting scope with tripod for use on educational field trips at a cost of around \$150 and that it should bein the care of Mrs. Conradson!

President Buchheister presented our cause at Santa Barbara on including the San Rafael primitive area of the Los Padres National Forest in a reclassified wilderness area under terms of the 1964 Wilderness Act. Mr. Case noted that this was the first test of the Wilderness Act. (CF his "Conservation Notes" in Dec. 1965 Avocet). The Forest Service has recommended exclusion of valuable Condor roosting areas in its proposal for establishment of the San Rafael Wilderness Area. The Sierra Club, Wilderness Society as well as Audubon Society and other conservationists urge inclusion of these additional areas as part of the ecologic complex of the diminishing Condor population. Following the hearings there will be no action until after the first of the year. Letters to Secretary of Agriculture, Orville Freeman, Secretary of Interior, Stewart Udall, The President and Congressmen should help.

Mr. Trullinger suggested a field trip to the Ft. Cronkhite area near Richardson Bay since the bay wildlife is presently disturbed by development of adjacent Strawberry Point.

Respectfully submitted,

Frances Felin,
Secretary

A New Approach

Wonderous things are happening in Conservation! Over the years, conservationists have, for the most part, "reacted" to matters of concern to them rather than trying to "enact" some definite program. For example, when a freeway "comes to town" we may react to a plan to cut a grove of Redwoods. The alternative would have been to foster legislation which forbids such desecration. Of course, as fast as California is growing we have little enough time to "react" much less "enact." But we're coming of age now!

An example of our maturing can be found in the newly-formed Planning and Conservation League for Legislative Action. This league was formed for the primary purpose of lobbying for state legislation in the fields of planning and conservation. The heart of the league's activities in the employment of a full-time legislative advocate (lobbyist, to be blunt) by the name of John Zerold. It seems crystal clear to me that we need a full-time person in Sacramento who knows our legislators, can furnish information to them, and will try to persuade them toward our viewpoint.

This program requires money! As a tax-exempt organization, we cannot directly help underwrite the expenses of the Planning and Conservation League for Legislative Action. As individuals, however, we can. I urge each of you to at least undertake a token membership (\$1.00 per year) in the league. More information on its structure, plans, and accomplishments can be found elsewhere in this Avocet. Any questions? Give me a call.

HERB GREINCH, President
321-7994

Meet Mr. Zerold

In March and April of 1965 the Planning and Conservation League for Legislative Action was formed. It was the god-child of the California Roadside Council which had become convinced that the way to win was through a lobbyist in Sacramento. The League is now supported by the American Institute of Architects, the Roadside Council, The California Freeway Association and many cities.

On December 6 Herb and I attended a dinner which included representatives from nearly every conservation organization in our area. Our purpose was to meet and hear Mr. John Zerold the League's advocate.

Mr. Zerold explained how the League helped win support for several of Assemblyman Z'Berg's highway reform bills during the past year. (These are listed elsewhere in the Avocet.)

(continued on page 5)

Meet Mr. Zerold (continued from page 4)

The League hopes to solicit funds through members and member organizations to fill a \$125,000 annual budget. This money would be used to pay Mr. Zerold and his expenses as well as maintaining statewide offices in San Francisco and Sacramento. Other expenses include travel allowances for people brought to Sacramento by the League to provide testimony at hearings and a system of communication to League members.

Mr. Zerold was previously an assistant to Senator Fred Farr of Monterey County, long known for his conservation activities in the Legislature. Just prior to his employment by the League, Mr. Zerold worked in public relations for the Hughes Aircraft's international offices. His home address is 1414 Sutterville Road, Sacramento.

NORMA GRENCHE

The League's Accomplishments and Hopes

The Planning and Conservation League for Legislative Action states its purpose...

"Until now the range of work in behalf of our scenic resources has had a vacant spot. The same vacant spot appears in the movement toward statewide and regional planning. Organized groups within these fields are plentiful; there is no lack of studies and publications and conferences. But when it comes to getting good planning or conservation legislation enacted into law, the most basic tool is lacking - a competent, professional advocate on the job every day of the year.

We write our letters; we testify at hearings. All this is good. But, having done these things, we leave the field in the hands of 'the enemy', whoever he may be. Then the enemy's lobbyist, working steadily around the clock and around the calendar, in the end secures the votes.

On the National level, Trustees for Conservation was organized to fill this vacant spot. For the conservation cause it has proven its worth conclusively. In relation to state legislation, however, California's need has not been met until now.

NOW WE PROPOSE TO MEET IT. THE PLANNING AND CONSERVATION LEAGUE FOR LEGISLATIVE ACTION HAS BEEN ORGANIZED FOR THIS SPECIFIC PURPOSE. It is composed of both organization and individual members. From the outset it shows potential of becoming a significant force in the State Capitol. Already the Legislature is watching it.

(continued on page 6)

The League's Accomplishments and Hopes (continued from page 5)

TWO THINGS IT NEEDS - and without them it cannot become fully effective - many thousands of members and an adequate budget. An estimated \$30,000 a year is needed to maintain a good legislative advocate constantly on the job and with the means of working effectively."

and accomplishments...

"THE FIVE SUCCESSFUL HIGHWAY REFORM BILLS were the following:

- AB 1430 - requires that on request from city or county, graphic portrayals shall be prepared to show the appearance of projected freeway segments in relation to their surroundings.
- AB 1431 - eliminates the requirement from the status that a freeway must be laid out "in the most direct and practicable location."
- AB 1433 - requires that public hearings on freeway location shall be conducted by a hearing officer from the Office of Administrative Procedure (at present it is by a State Highway Official.)
- AB 1435 - requires that upon determination of a freeway location, the Highway Commission shall publish a detailed report showing what consideration was given to driver benefits; community values; recreation, esthetic and park values; historical values; property and tax values; public facilities; street and other traffic; total projected regional transportation requirements.
- AB 1439 - requires that one member of the Highway Commission shall be a County Supervisor, and one a City Councilman."

The League's address is: 2636 Ocean Avenue, San Francisco, California 94132. Annual memberships are Regular - \$1.00; Contributing - \$5.00; Sustaining - \$10.00; Patron - \$50.00 and up.

A Bit of Our Society History

Historically, San Jose State College natural science professors have formed the back bone of the Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society.

So it is heartening to see the names of Dr. Thomas Harvey and Dr. Howard Shellhammer on the list of officers of the Society for 1965-66. Mrs. Eva McRae, now retired from San Jose State College, is a current member of the Board of Directors.

Permit me to document the opening statement above. All of the following names, in chronological order, have been members of the State College faculty.

At the organizing meeting of our Society on January 8, 1925, one of our present members, Miss Emily Smith, was elected "corresponding secretary". At the same meeting Dr. Karl S. Hazeltine was elected "Second Vice President".

Dr. Hazeltine was President of the Society for the fiscal year 1926-1927 and again for the years 1933-1934-1935. He gave much time and thought to carrying on the work of the Society until his death in 1949.

Dr. Gayle Pickwell began a love affair with the Society when he became President in June of 1928. His devoted service as president continued until June of 1931. He was again President from mid-1936 to mid-1942. All During these periods he found time to share with members of our Society his profound knowledge of birds and his delightful enthusiasm for bird warching, until his death in May of 1949.

Dr. Mathew F. Vessel, a current member of the Society, was President in 1942-43. He is often a member of present day field trips.

Dr. Ralph A. Smith guided our Society, as President, in 1946-1947-1948. During his administration the first Audubon Screen Tours were underwritten by the Society.

Elsie D. Hoeck assumed the presidency in mid-June 1953, and served until mid-1955. During her term the "AVOCET" was born; also the Society was incorporated. Miss Hoeck is now circulation manager of the Avocet.

In the early 1950's, Dr. Charles Sibley was very active in the work of the Society. Dr. Wilbur F. Luick was committee chariman for "By-laws" in 1953-54. Dr. Richard Mewaldt was appointed to the Board to fill a vacancy in 1954. His interest in the Society continues today, as a speaker and Christmas "Bird Count" summarizer.

Our Society History (continued from page 7)

Dr. John P. Harville was elected President for the 1955-1956 year. The nature area at Montalvo was established during his administration; also the wild-life sanctuaries of Greco Island and Dumbarton Bridge.

Dr. A. G. Applegarth has been in charge of the Audubon Wildlife Screen Tours at San Jose State College for several years past and this year Dr. Thaw is in charge for the first time.

Dr. Kenneth Hutton was a member of the Board of Directors for a three year period during 1960-1963.

Finally, Miss Emily Smith, whose name was the first one mentioned, is also the last one. Like the theme of a novel, every page of the Society history mentions some devoted service by "Miss Emily"; from corresponding secretary in 1925 to Wednesday field trip organizer and leader in 1965.

So isn't it grand for the Society that Drs. Harvey and Shellhammer are to carry on the San Jose State College tradition by giving their time and talent for our benefit.

My thanks to Mrs. Eva McRae for her help in the foregoing documentation.

WARREN M. TURNER,
Historian

Save the Bay

The Bay Conservation and Development Commission meets twice a month -- at 2:00 P.M. on the first Thursday and third Friday. The usual meeting place is the State Building, 455 Golden Gate Ave., San Francisco. The next meeting, however, is in Sausalito at the Army Corps of Engineers' Bay Model. If you are interested in attending this or any of the meetings, please call our "chief observer" to the BCDC, Miss Harriet Mundy, DA 5-1192.

Miss Mundy takes pride in reporting that at its last meeting the BCDC employed Dr. Thomas Harvey "to provide biological and ecological information and evaluation" for its future operations.

"Bay of Gold"

If you couldn't attend the last meeting of the Society, you missed a splendid movie, "Bay of Gold", made by the Fireman's Fund Insurance Company. Fascinating scenes were shown of the harbor during the goldrush, the earthquake, and the Pan-Pacific Exposition; these were followed by intimate glimpses of crab fishing, building the Golden Gate Bridge, and lighthouse tending, to name a few. The low-key message: the Bay is a thing of beauty, a source of livelihood and recreation -- don't spoil it.

Notes from Afield

Taylor Ranch, Santa Cruz Mountains - November 10-

Leader: Margaret Henderson with Mrs. Barbara Taylor

Approximately fifteen people enjoyed a clear, beautiful day walking through wooded and orchard lands. The spectacular Varied Thrush kept just ahead of us on the trail. Also seen were huge flocks of Pine Siskin emitting their own peculiar "schree", Hermit Thrush, Wrentit, Rufous-sided Towhee, California Thrasher, Bewick's Wren, Bluebird, and Hairy Woodpecker.

Total number of species: 25

Palo Alto Yacht Harbor - November 14 -

Leader: Ralph Trullinger

Although the weather was cold, windy, and raining on and off, fifteen people turned out. Nothing much out of the ordinary was seen. We did see a Whitetailed Kite sitting atop the reeds in the Baylands. It was so far away that it was barely recognizable. Unfortunately nobody had a scope. Among the 23 species seen were: Pied-billed, and Eared Grebe, Marsh Hawk, Glaucous-winged, Herring, and Bonapart's Gulls, Dowitcher, Avocet, Water Pipit, Loggerhead Shrike.

Foothills Park - November 17 -

Leader: Jill Cisne

"... And a Fox Sparrow sang in the rain..."

Despite a downpour, Jill Cisne, Jean Clark of Colorado, Virginia Puddecombe of Kentucky and Fanny Pargot of New York went up to the new Foothills Park. They were ignored by sleeping Pied-billed Grebes on the lake, scolded by a noisy mixed flock of birds trooping through the oaks, and finally blown out of the park by wind-driven rain. Total number of species: 18. The field trip continued on to the Stanford campus where a bedraggled Anna's Hummingbird serenaded them - nine species seen. After lunch at the Cisne's, the trip continued on out to the Baylands to show the newcomers shore birds - 20 species seen. The highlight of the day was a flock of 300 Black-crowned Night Herons flushed from the salt marsh.

Santa Cruz Beaches and Lakes - November 20 -

Leaders: Eve and Lloyd Case

An overcast, chilly day highlighted by the finding of many Monarch butterflies, some of which were tagged. Some of the interesting species seen along West Cliff Drive were: Brandt's and Pelagic Cormorants, Black-bellied Plover, Black Turnstone, Glaucous-winged and Heermann's Gulls, Brown Pelican, Western Grebe and Red-throated Loon. Along East Cliff Drive were numerous Marsh Wrens, Redheads, Buffleheads, Pintails, Shovelers and Horned Grebe. Green Heron and Eared Grebe were reported on a side trip.

EMELIE G. CURTIS,
Field Note Compiler

Audubon Camperships

Dr. Grench has received the following letter:

"Thank you for your part in my scholarship to Audubon Camp. My wife, Nancy, and I are looking forward to attending. We are registered for the second session, July 10-July 22, 1966. We hope to meet some of your Society members at camp so we may personally express our thanks.

Sincerely,

/s/ James R. Geary
P.O. Box 404
Cambria, California

New Members

We welcome the participation of these new members:

Mrs. Opal Bailey
155 North California Avenue
Palo Alto, California 94301

Mr. & Mrs. Robert G. Wilson
181 Coleridge Avenue
Palo Alto, California 94301

Mrs. Peter S. Houts
221 Kipling Street
Palo Alto, California 94301

A Note of Appreciation

Typing of this Avocet is the gift of Mr. Peter R. Holmes of Palo Alto and his secretary, Mrs. Ray Blow. The editor expresses her deep appreciation to both.

Avocet

Our publication appears monthly except July and August. It is \$2.00 a year for non-members.

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