

SANTA CLARA VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY, Inc.

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The Avocet

TIME VALUE



Volume 19, Number 4

April, 1972

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Apr. 4 Bird Discussion Group, North County, Tuesday, 9:30A.M. at the home of Mary Virginia Ulrich, 65 Granada Ct., Portola Valley, 851-0742. The group may meet at Eve Case's home, 20537 Verde Vista Lane, Saratoga, at 8:30 A.M., to reduce the number of cars. Topic: "Hummingbirds"
- Apr. 6 San Jose Audubon Wildlife Film, Thursday, 8 P.M., Morris Dailey Auditorium, San Jose State College. "Journey in Time" by Robert Davison. See Sept. Avocet for more information.
- Apr. 11 Board of Directors Meeting, Tuesday, 8 P.M., at the home of Harriet Mundy, 775 Tennyson Ave., Palo Alto. Meeting open to all members. Please phone in advance if you plan to attend.
- Apr. 12 Field Trip South, Coyote River Park, Wednesday, 9 A.M., Take Monterey Rd. (U.S. 101) south to Morgan Hill. Turn east on Main Ave. (first stop light) and go just one block. Meet in the parking lot at the intersection of Main and the S.P. tracks. Leaders: Emmanuel and Mary Taylor, (408) 779-9097.
- Apr. 16 Bay Ecology and Bird Trip, Sunday, 8:30 A.M. Departure will be from the Port of Redwood City (Harbor Blvd.) on the oceanographic laboratory ship "Inland Seas", and return about 1 P.M. A - 1.4 low tide will afford an excellent opportunity to see birds on the mud flats as the ship is outbound to the bay. All on board will participate in gathering ecological data on water physics, water chemistry, bottom sediments, and plankton hauls as part of the regular data gathering operation of the 85 ft. vessel. Cost of the trip is \$6/person and reservations will be limited to the first 45 people who call the Marine Ecological Institute (415) 364-2760. Bring a lunch and your own cup - coffee and tea will be provided.

- Apr. 21 Bird Discussion Group, North County, Friday 9 A.M. at the home of Evelyn Radcliffe, 2930 Alexis Dr., Palo Alto, 948-1237. Enter the Palo Alto Golf Club from Page Mill Road and you will be on Alexis Dr. Refreshments will be served after the area has been birded.
- Apr. 22 Gilroy Hot Springs Field Trip, Saturday. South on Highway 101 and turn east on San Martin Ave. travel to its end and turn right on New Ave., go 4 miles to Roop Rd., and stay on it until it becomes Gilroy Hot Springs Rd. Meet on Gilroy Hot Springs Rd. at the first available large parking space on left side of the road after its intersection with Coyote Reservoir Rd., which goes off to the left. Trip leader will be there at 5:30 A.M. for any hardy souls interested in owls. The remainder of the trip will restart at 8 A.M. Leader: Emelie Curtis, (408) 779-2637.
- Apr. 26 General Meeting, Wednesday, 8P.M., Homestead High School, Rm. 5, Building C. See notes on page 3 on "Nature Touring in the Galapagos".
- Apr. 26 Field Trip North, Wednesday, 9 A.M. to 3 P.M. San Francisco Watershed to Stone Dam where we eat sack lunch. Take Route 280 North to Milbrae Avenue Exit. Leave going north beside 280 to a Chevron Gas Station (Pass Shell Station). Meet there to car pool into the watershed. You must stay with the group all day. You will be inside locked gates. Bring lunch. Leader: Kay McCann - 327-4138
- Apr. 29 Wool Ranch Bird Migration Study Area Field Trip, Saturday, 9 A.M. Meet at the parking lot near the pond in Ed Levin Park. Because of limited parking facilities at the ranch, car pools will have to be formed. The trip will be limited to the first 25 people who phone 948-3262. Leader: Dick Mewaldt.

YOUTH SCIENCE INSTITUTE

Anyone wishing to volunteer for the Youth Science Institute's interpretive program (see March Avocet) can obtain further information by phoning Aletha Powers, 243-3416 or Youth Science Institute, 358-4322.

Training will be Saturday and Sunday, April 15 & 16, 10AM to 3PM at the Youth Science Institute building in Alum Rock Park. Bring a sack lunch, coffee will be provided. The training program will consist of discussions on interpretation, the history, natural life and geology of the park, park use regulations, and trail familiarization. Scheduling of the public walks will be discussed at the last session.

NATURE TOURING IN THE GALAPAGOS

April 26, Wednesday, 8 p.m.
Public invited - no charge

Homestead High School
Room 5, Building C

A visit to the islands Darwin made famous is relatively quick and easy in this jet age. And especially now that tour services are available in the Galapagos. So, if you went on a tour of the Galapagos Islands, what would you most likely see? Iguanas, of course! But lots of other things too. Many kinds of exotic animals, birds, fishes, insects and plants are there for the viewing.

For those who haven't visited this fascinating archipelago - or have been there and would like to see if you missed anything--come with us on a guided, armchair, nature tour of the Galapagos via color slides and the commentary of Bill Ferguson.

Dr. Ferguson, Professor of Entomology at San Jose State, is well qualified to be our "tour guide" as he was a consultant to the organization which opened the Galapagos to tourism. He will show us the characteristic flora and fauna of the life zones the tourist can expect to see.

THANK YOU, BETTY

Betty Stoops, who has been doing the typing for THE AVOCET the last several months has been forced to retire from the job because of conditions beyond her control. SCVAS extends its thanks to Betty for her work -- she did a great job for us.

A NEW FIELD GUIDE

Autographed, first editions of the "THE LEAF BOOK, A Field Guide of plants of Northern California", \$4.75, by Ida Geary, author of "Marin Trails", are being sold for the benefit of Audubon Canyon Ranch. THE LEAF BOOK is illustrated with 360 of what John Thomas Howell calls "your wonderful prints", the plant prints which have appeared in Audubon Magazine, Pacific Discovery, etc. The prints, like the book itself, combine scientific accuracy and artistic beauty. THE LEAF BOOK covers Marine Algae; fungi, Lichens and Mosses; ferns and Fern Allies; Grasses, Sedges and Rushes; Wildflowers; Shrubs and Trees. It is an original and effective guide for students and naturalists of all ages.

Signed Copies will be sent post-free to our members or as gifts to their friends by Audubon Canyon Ranch, Coast Highway 1, Stinson Beach 94970. Only orders accompanied by a full payment at the rate of \$4.75 plus 24¢ tax (\$4.99) per copy will be accepted.

BOARD NOTES

The Board of Directors heard an interesting presentation by Mrs. Jo-Ann Gholson on the natural beauty and value of Regnart Canyon near Cupertino. She and her neighbors are seeking support from SCVAS in their battle to limit development in the canyon area. Articles concerning the area have been published in a Sierra Club feature for April 1972, the Cupertino Courier of Feb. 16, 1972 and the San Jose Mercury of Jan. 4 and March 13, 1972. See article on page 5 for more information on Mrs. Gholson's work.

The Board designated May 24 for the Annual Meeting and election of officers. The new officers will take charge and plan next years activities at the June 6 Board Meeting.

The Board charged Ron Stecker and R. Hassur to re-work a letter authorized by Kay McCann to National Headquarters regarding the general lack of quality and poor subject selection of some recent Audubon Wildlife Films.

The Board empowered the President to send a telegram to Secretary of the Interior Morton stating our position in favor of setting aside at least 80 million acres of Alaska wildlands as public lands not subject to development.

The Board made the following new appointments:

Mr. Frank Farran will take over as Field Trip Chairman when Joe Greenberg leaves in June. Dorothy Miner will replace Dianne Conradson as secretary this month.

The Board thanks Dianne and Joe for their past work.

PROPOSED ENDANGERED SPECIES

The U.S. Department of the Interior has issued a proposed list of 8 big cat species, and their sub species, to be added to the list of endangered species whose hides and furs may not be imported into the U.S. They are the Cheetah, Leopard, Tiger, Snow Leopard, Jaguar, Ocelot, Margay, and Tiger Cat.

PRESIDENT HASSUR GOES TO AFRICA

Dr. Robert Hassur, Associate Professor of Biology at San Jose State College, and SCVAS President, is conducting a 6 week, 6 college unit, study tour on the Ecology of Tropical East Africa this summer. Trip departure will be June 23, and will include biotic community studies in the major game reserves, Tropical Forests, Lakes, Rivers, and Indian Ocean seacoasts of Tanzania, Uganda, and Kenya. For information call 277-2359.

REGNART CANYON PHOTOGRAPHER NEEDED

Mrs. Gholson is presently compiling slides for her Regnart Canyon work and is in need of a photographer with a telephoto lens and lots of time necessary to do justice to the project.

Anyone interested in helping or seeing the canyon should call Mrs. Gholson at 252-3606.

FIELD TRIP REPORTS

Frank Farran states 34 species of birds were counted on the Santa Teresa Park trip. There were a number of Red-tailed Hawks and Kites flying the updrafts along the crest of the hills, but no eagles this year. Thrashers and Hermit Thrushes were seen feeding on Toyon berries. A California Purple Finch, and a Varied Thrush were observed: and there was a male Common Goldeneye, a Ruddy Duck, and a Pied-billed Grebe on the pond.

Les and Nell Sleeper report 31 birders for the Calaveras Reservoir trip. The first stop at Sandy Wool Lake turned up a pair of Gadwall Ducks, Pied-Billed Grebes, Eared Grebes, and a Cormorant. A group of Black-crowned Night Herons were spotted at Ed Levin Park.

At Calaveras Lake about 400 Canada Geese, along with several Hawks and Woodpeckers were spotted. The surprise of the day was a mature Bald Eagle and a darker eagle, possible an immature Bald, perched in the same tree.

Virginia Bothwell reports 46 species seen on the Palo Alto Foothills trip. The group of 20 cars spotted Band-tailed Pigeon, Kingfisher, White-tailed Kite, Nuttals' Woodpecker, Pied-billed Grebe, and Ruddy Duck.

Joe Greenberg states about 30 persons made Merced-Los Banos Refuge Trip in February. Over 65 species were observed including 2 nesting Great Horned Owls, 200 or more Sandhill Cranes, Mountain Plovers, a Prairie Falcon, and 2 Ferruginous Hawks. In the Los Banos area many White-faced Ibis and Common Bitterns were seen.

About 30 species were seen during the Regnart Canyon Trip. Red-tail Hawks, Red-Breasted Sapsuckers, Meadowlarks, Scrub and Stellar Jays, and Brown Thrashers were among those spotted. Although White-tailed Kites were not observed this day, 5 were seen several days earlier.

HELP!!

The Avocet needs someone to type copy for the paper. The job takes a couple of hours, once a month. Typing must be done on a carbon ribbon or electric typewriter. Anyone interested in the job should contact Dick Knoetzsch.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Los Altos - Palo Alto Area

Dr. Richard Alexander	12085 Fallen Leaf Lane	Los Altos, Calif. 94022
C. Bailey	1020 California Ave.	Palo Alto, Calif. 94306
Anne Berry	Dept. of Geology	Stanford, Calif. 94305
Miss Nancy Bock	914 Odell Way	Los Altos, Calif. 94022
David Boissevain	27181 Sherlock Rd.	Los Altos Hills, Calif.
Mrs. Keith Boyle	515 Newell Rd.	Palo Alto, Calif. 94303
Mr & Mrs J. Breslin	23351 Camino Hermosa	Los Altos Hills, Calif.
Lynday & Kenneth Cooper	3195 Alma St.	Palo Alto, Calif. 94303
Mr & Mrs J. R. Dalziel	418 Coleridge Ave.	Palo Alto, Calif. 94301
Richard Epstein	2329-B Princeton St.	Palo Alto, Calif. 94306
Dr. William Foster	1200 Windemere Dr.	Los Altos, Calif. 94022
Mr & Mrs Aaron Green	201 Mt. Hamilton	Los Altos, Calif. 94022
Dr. Dexter Hake	12830 Viscaino Rd.	Los Altos Hills, Calif.
Mr & Mrs G.W. Jackson	1159 Fulton	Palo Alto, Calif. 94301
Mr. Brent Lahner	1548 Canterbury Way	Los Altos, Calif. 94022
Dr. Donald Lathrop	10364 Kenbar Rd.	Los Altos, Calif. 94022
E. Loebner Family	293 Alexis Dr.	Palo Alto, Calif. 94304
Jean A. Long	321 Yerba Buena Ave.	Los Altos, Calif. 94022
D. Marquarot	954 Van Auken	Palo Alto, Calif. 94303
Richard McKinney	3440 Tappawingo	Palo Alto, Calif. 94306
Dr. John J. Miller	275 Silvia Ct.	Los Altos, Calif. 94022
Dr. & Mrs A. R. Norris	220 Ventura Ave. #15A	Palo Alto, Calif. 94306
Barbara Olsen	3688 Bryant St.	Palo Alto, Calif. 94306
Mr. Allan Perry	3855 Mumford Pl.	Palo Alto, Calif. 94306
Richard H. Pettit	1028 Bryant St.	Palo Alto, Calif. 94301
Andrew P. Pmann	12795 Alto Verde La.	Los Altos Hills, Calif.
J. Price	22151 Berkeley Ct.	Los Altos, Calif. 94022
Mrs. Frank C. Pundt	850 Webster St.	Palo Alto, Calif. 94031
Boyd Richmond	515 Pine Lane	Los Altos, Calif. 94022
Mrs. Phyllis Rokita	271 Carolina Lane	Palo Alto, Calif. 94306
Mr & Mrs R. Smallwood	1795 Hamilton Ave	Palo Alto, Calif. 94303
Mrs. Dan T. Smith	175 Alta Vista Dr.	Atherton, Calif. 94025
L. E. Stafford	972 Ilima Way	Palo Alto, Calif. 94306
Mrs. Mary Louise Tanner	435 Coleridge Ave.	Palo Alto, Calif. 94301

Los Gatos - Saratoga - Campbell

Mrs. L.A. Anderson	13124 Via Ranchero	Saratoga, Calif. 95070
Dr. D. B. Greer	310 Sunberry Dr.	Campbell, Calif. 95008
Dr. Hal Hart	14529 S. Bascom Ave.	Los Gatos, Calif. 95030
Mr & Mrs R. G. Luke	1845 Bascom Ave	Campbell, Calif. 95008
Mr. D. G. Shaw	12088 Carol Lane	Saratoga, Calif. 95070
Howard & Betty Smith	1360 El Solyo Ave.	Campbell, Calif. 95008
Lawrence H. White	140 Wood Rd.	Los Gatos, Calif. 95030

San Jose - Santa Clara

Mr. & Mrs. M. Anthony	1369 Pacheco	Santa Clara, Calif. 95051
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Mr. A. A. Blash	1134 Pomeroy W.	Santa Clara, Calif 95051
D. B. Dakin	2490 Ross Ave	San Jose, Calif 95124
Dr. K. Dunn	1746 Lorenzen Dr.	San Jose, Calif 95124
Theo & Margaret Graf	1050 N. Redwood Ave.	San Jose, Calif 95128
R. C. Hock	4660 Mossbrook Cir.	San Jose, Calif 95130
Mrs. C. V. Hotron	#2-4-h 390 N. Winchester Blvd.	Santa Clara, Calif. 95050
R. & K. Lafferty	2007 Halford Ave. #6	Santa Clara, Calif. 95051
F. Lepori Jr.	431 Curie Dr.	San Jose, Calif 95123
M.B. Marlow	2483 Gallup Dr.	Santa Clara, Calif. 95051
Mr. C.L. Mehl	4850 Winton Way	San Jose, Calif. 95124
Mr. David Nauer	P.O. Box 4501	San Jose, Calif. 95126
Mr. Michael Neel	14593 Holly Dr.	San Jose, Calif 95127
Mrs. Phyllis H. Pingree	1677 Bel Air Ave.	San Jose, Calif 95126
Mrs. E. P. Stapp	Bldg 9 Apt B 390 Winchester Blvd.	Santa Clara, Calif. 95051
Miss Lauren C. Stringer	1108 Pmeroy	Santa Clara, Calif. 95051

Cupertino - Sunnyvale

Dr. R. Greeley	868 Somerset Dr.	Sunnyvale, Calif 94087
Maria Ludemann	10870 N. Stelling Rd	Cupertino, Calif. 95014
Mrs. K. D. Lynan	925 Eton Way	Sunnyvale, Calif. 94087
Mrs. W. B. Moody	10151 Amelia Ct.	Cupertino, Calif. 95014
Miss Jodi Morgan	175 Calvert Dr. #G303	Cupertino, Calif. 95014
Miss G. Samoluk	21326 Rumford Dr.	Cupertino, Calif 95014
Donal Rutherford	10619 S. Blaney Ave.	Cupertino, Calif 94014

Other Areas

Mr & Mrs D. Scarbrough	718 Floresta Dr.	Palm Bay, Florida
Cliff Ellyn	246 St. Francis Dr.	Boulder Creek, Calif.
Mr & Mrs D. Geoffroy	20964 Eastcliff Dr.	Santa Cruz, Calif.
Prof. C. S. Hall	1310 W. Cliff Dr.	Santa Cruz, Calif.
David Mustart	20209 Skyline Blvd.	Woodside, Calif.

CONDOR SEEN AGAIN

During midmorning of March 4, 1972 a California Condor was observed flying over the College Terrace of Stanford University headed toward Frenchmans Hill. The bird, in adult plumage, was spotted by Dr. George S. Myers, Professor Emeritus of Biology at Stanford, and his wife.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The following letter was recently sent to The Avocet. Those people interested in trying to get something done can follow the suggestions in the Upchurch's letter:

575 E. Remington Apt 6-C
Sunnyvale, Calif. 94087
March 1, 1972

Dear Mr. Knoetzsch:

On Feb. 27, my husband and I were over at the Baylands Interpretive Center and the duck pond. We have noticed that as more people come to the area they are bringing their dogs to the duck pond and turning them loose. On this particular day, there was a lady, 4 girls and 4 dogs at the pond. The dogs were chasing the ducks, jumping in the water after them, and even got in the area where the fountain is located. Soon there will be baby ducks that will need more protection than their parents from these dogs. This whole problem caused us enough concern to try and figure out some way of putting a halt to this problem.

To make a long story short, I talked to Lucy Evans who told me about previous efforts to try and get a sign put up about the leash law and the lack of concern by the members of the Palo Alto City Council. My husband and I are in the process of writing the City Manager, Mayor, and a letter to the editor of the San Jose and Palo Alto Newspapers. I was wondering what you thought about putting some type of article in the next issue of the Avocet and trying to get as many of our members as possible to write a short letter to the City Manager and Council asking for signs, enforcement of the leash law, and improvements on the fountain area to make it dog proof? While one or two letters from several individuals may not cause enough concern, dozens of letters might prompt some action.

If we can be of help in this matter, please call us. Our phone number is unlisted - xxx-xxxx.

Sincerely,

Mrs. John P. Upchurch
(signed)

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