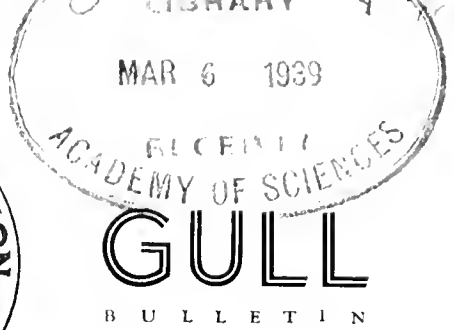


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GULL
BULLETIN

VOLUME 21

SAN FRANCISCO, MARCH, 1939

NUMBER 3

Report of the President for the Year 1938

As I look over the Audubon year I feel that 1938 has been a most uneventful year. We had a joint field trip with the San Jose Audubon Society to Lake Merced in April which eleven of their members attended.

On behalf of conservation we gave Hugh Worcester, Chief of the Biological Survey in our district, the sum of \$25.00 toward a fund that was being raised to further the work of prosecuting certain market hunters.

We have continued to cooperate with The National Association of Audubon Societies in forwarding the work of Junior Audubon. The number of children enrolled in Junior Audubon clubs has dropped very noticeably not only in California but all over the country. This has happened in spite of the fact that the leaflets published by the Association have improved and include more western birds.

The attendance at our monthly meetings has been the lowest in the last eight years, averaging only thirty persons a meeting. We have had excellent programs. I thank Mrs. Bracelin for her fine work in arranging the programs and the speakers for giving us of their knowledge and time. Less than 50% of our membership attend any lectures or field trips.

Our membership has also dropped. We now have 113 active, seven junior, eleven life and eight honorary members. Through the death of Mrs. Ynes Mexia, we lost one of our life members.

Our debt to Mrs. Stephens grows steadily as year after year she edits *The Gull*. This is no easy task and I wish to take this occasion to say that we appreciate her faithful work.

I sincerely thank my fellow officers for their splendid cooperation during the past year. In closing I would like to remind the members that no matter how hard officers work no society can be a success unless its members take an interest in the activities of that society.

Respectfully submitted,

JUNEA W. KELLY, President.



Report of the Outing Committee for 1938

Twelve regular monthly trips in the Bay Region and the annual Christmas census were taken in 1938.

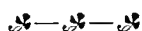
During the year 171 species of birds were seen. Our life-list total is now 243, two new species having been added this year: the Black Brant and the Ferruginous Roughleg Hawk.

Fifty-one members attended the monthly walks, which means the average was about four per trip. Forty-seven guests attended, eleven of whom were members of the San Jose Audubon Society. One guest became a junior member and one an active member.

For the last two years we have had no regular leader of the trips. I have performed the duties of this position during most of that time. Occasionally there

has been some one good enough to help lighten the burden. Requests have been made repeatedly for a permanent leader but as yet no one has responded to the call. There is opportunity for some good work in this activity. New walks could be planned and perhaps over-night trips by automobile could be arranged. It is hoped that something may be accomplished along this line to make our field trips more attractive and consequently produce better results in bird observations, but it will require a real leader to do it.

Respectfully submitted,
LAURA A. STEPHENS.



Treasurer's Report for 1938

Commercial account.

Balance January 2, 1937..... \$170.12

Receipts:

Dues for the year 1937.....	\$ 3.00	
Dues for the year 1938.....	302.00	
Dues for the year 1939.....	20.00	
Overpayment in dues.....	2.00	
Junior members for 1938.....	9.00	
Junior members for 1939.....	3.00	
Subscription to The Gull for 1937.....	1.00	
Subscription to The Gull for 1938.....	9.00	
Sale of back numbers of The Gull.....	14.20	
Sale of booklets "Birds of Marin County".....	1.75	
Sale of Wildlife stamps.....	6.30	371.25
		<u>\$541.37</u>

Expenditures:

Publishing The Gull.....	\$228.50
Stamped envelopes.....	33.92
Stamps, paper, envelopes, etc.....	10.89
Repairing typewriter.....	5.00
Ledger cards for accounts.....	.82
Annual dues notices.....	5.25
Notices of September speaker.....	2.75
Wildlife stamps.....	1.00
Mrs. Bracelin's expenses re lectures.....	1.75
Refund overpayment of dues.....	2.00
Janitor's Christmas gift.....	5.00
Hugh M. Worcester for Duck Conservation.....	25.00
Sales tax.....	7.10

	\$328.98	
Balance commercial account.....	212.39	\$541.37

Savings account:

Balance January 3, 1938.....	\$723.80	
Interest for 1938.....	14.54	\$738.34

Total accounts:

Commercial account.....	\$212.39	
Savings account.....	738.34	\$950.73

LAURA A. STEPHENS, Treasurer.

February Field Trip

On February 12, sixteen members and one guest met at Easton Drive, Burlingame, for the monthly field trip. The unsettled weather notwithstanding a few showers did not at all spoil our splendid day of birding.

The shriek of a Sparrow Hawk and the gentler song of a Hutton Vireo greeted us as we stepped from the cars. We spent a pleasant morning along Easton Drive, Baileyana, Oakdale and Summit Roads, where we noted the following twenty-five species:

Cooper Hawk	Vigors Wren	Townsend Warbler
Sparrow Hawk	Western Robin	Purple Finch
Anna Hummingbird	Varied Thrush	San Francisco Towhee
Allen Hummingbird	Hermit Thrush	Brown Towhee
Red-shafted Flicker	Ruby-crowned kinglet	Junco
Chickadee	Cedar Waxwing	Nuttall Sparrow
Plain Titmouse	Hutton Vireo	Golden-crowned Sparrow
Bush-tit	Audubon Warbler	Song Sparrow
Creepers		

After lunch we drove to Mountain View marshes and other spots along the Bayshore Highway to see shore birds. The sight of a few hundred Avocets changing into their beautiful spring plumage was a treat. There were also Plovers, Dowitchers, and Curlews flying and circling and turning in close formation over the marsh. Out on the water Shovellers and Scaup Ducks were drifting, while from the air Forster Terns dived for their dinner.

The following thirty-nine species were seen along the Bayshore Highway and Mountain View marshes:

Eared Grebe	Surf Scoter	Red-backed Sandpiper
Western Grebe	Ruddy Duck	Long-billed Dowitcher
Pied-billed Grebe	Red-breasted Merganser	Western Sandpiper
Farallon Cormorant	Sparrow Hawk	Marbled Godwit
California Heron	Clapper Rail	Avocet
American Egret	Coot	California Gull
Black-crowned Night Heron	Killdeer	Forster Tern
Pintail	Black-bellied Plover	Horned Lark
Shoveller	Black Turnstone	Meadowlark
Canvas-back Duck	Long-billed Curlew	Pipit
Scaup	Willet	Brewer Blackbird
American Golden-eye	Greater Yellow-leg	Savannah Sparrow
White-winged Scoter	Least Sandpiper	Song Sparrow

Members attending were Mr. and Mrs. B. K. Dunshee; Mesdames Baer, Kelly, Saunders; Misses Blake, Cohen, Danz, Dunshee, Giddings, MacIver; Messrs. Berliner, Holmes, Kirker, Millard and Pike with a guest Mrs. Book.

HAROLD KIRKER, Leader and Historian.



Wild Geese Migration

Palm Springs on the desert is at the eastern end of the San Gorgonio Pass nestled under the slope of San Jacinto Mountain, which towers ten thousand feet above the level plain. This Pass is on the line of flight of water-fowl and other bird life going north and south between Imperial Valley, the Salton Sea, the Colorado River Delta and the San Joaquin and Sacramento Valleys.

The ducks probably pass during the night but the geese are heard and seen during the day and create quite a little excitement among the people of Palm Springs.

This week flocks of *Branta canadensis hutchinsi*, or Hutchins Goose, passed. These can be told by their call "good luck, good luck, luck, luck, luck," which is plainly heard in the still, clear desert atmosphere. The long V shape of the flocks

averaged perhaps fifty geese to each arm or $100\pm$ to a flock. The first flock was noted about 8 a.m. on January 30, 1939, and two days later, February 1, two flocks passed. On the fourth during the entire morning the clarion calls were heard and we counted twenty-two flocks in all, making a total of twenty-five flocks or about 2500 geese for this migration.

Palm Springs is a great aviation center and one of the flyers states he has flown alongside such flocks and they average forty miles an hour. They fly very high, 10,000 feet or two miles.

An observer states that when the geese fly south in the fall, October and November, they are quite silent, but on the way north in the early spring the desert resounds to their clarion calls.

M. Hall McAllister, Palm Springs, California, February 6, 1939.



Audubon Notes

March Meeting: The regular meeting will be held on Thursday, the 9th, in room 19, Ferry Building, at 8 p.m.

The speaker will be Mr. James E. Cole, Junior Park Naturalist, whose subject will be "Yosemite National Park in Natural Color," showing some studies of trees, flowers, birds and mammals in Kodachrome.

Members may bring guests.



March Field Trip will be taken on Sunday, the 12th, to East Bay Regional Park above Berkeley. Take the Shattuck Avenue Southern Pacific car from the San Francisco Terminal at 8:25 a.m. and get off at Berkeley Station. Walk one block to University Avenue and take the No. 67 bus line at 9:05 (20-minute service). Get off at entrance to park by the reservoir and go down road past CCC camp to boundary of park (small pond). After lunch we may go to the Grizzly Peak end of park. Bring luncheon. Those going by machine may park beyond CCC camp. Leaders Misses Frances J. Blake and Ivander MacIver.



February Meeting: The 258th regular meeting was held on the 9th in room 19, Ferry Building, with twenty-two members and guests present. President

Junea W. Kelly presided.

Edwin Pike of San Francisco was proposed for membership by Harold Kirker.

The following observations were reported:

Mrs. Courtright: Larkspur, a pair of Allen Hummingbirds, January 28th.

Harold Kirker: Lake Merced, Bush-tits lining nest, February 4th.

Mrs. Otis H. Smith: San Anselmo, White-throated Sparrow, January 15, 16, 17, 18 and 23rd.

Mrs. Stephens: Golden Gate Park, Pygmy Nuthatches, October 20th, November 8th and January 22nd; Lake Merced, Gadwell, January 22nd. (Teal, Florida Gallinules still present.)

Mr. Webb: Presidio, Horned Owl, January 7th; Mountain View marshes, Least Bittern, January 20th.

Members are asked to turn in monthly reports of birds seen giving dates and locations; also observations of White-tailed Kites, White-throated Sparrows, and of Bank Swallows nesting in California.

The following chairmen of committees were appointed:

Miss Frances J. Blake, Field Trips.

Miss Christine Danz, Reception.

Miss Ivander MacIver, Book Reviews.

Mr. Joseph J. Webb, Conservation.

Audubon Association of the Pacific

Organized January 25, 1917

For the Study and the Protection of Birds

President.....Mrs. G. Earle Kelly..... 1311 Grand St., Alameda, Calif.
 Corresponding Secretary..... C. B. Lastreto..... 260 California St., San Francisco
 Treasurer.....Mrs. A. B. Stephens..... 1695 Filbert St., San Francisco

Monthly meeting second Thursday, 8 P. M., Room 19, Ferry Building.

Address Bulletin correspondence to Mrs. A. B. Stephens, Editor, 1695 Filbert St., San Francisco.

Membership dues, payable January 1st, \$3.00 per year.

Student memberships, \$1.50 per year. Life memberships, \$50.00.

Members are responsible for dues until written notice of resignation is received by Treasurer.