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### CALIFORNIA AUDUBON CONVENTION

The sixth State Convention of the National Audubon Society and its California branches and affiliates was held at Asilomar April 5 - 8, 1952. The hosts were Monterey Peninsula Audubon Society and Museum of Natural History, Pacific Grove.

Many enthusiastic representatives from groups throughout the State and from Seattle, Washington brought messages and reports of their activities and methods of solving problems in relation to disseminating knowledge and building attitudes toward "Conservation, the wise use of Natural Resources."

Mr. John H. Baker, president of the National Audubon Society, presided and introduced the various Panel chairmen.

"Enriching the Lives of Our Young People" was a vital theme for Youth Leaders, bringing experiences, methods and suggestions for presenting the Natural Sciences and enlisting the enthusiasm and cooperation of Youth.

Dr. Carl D. Duncan, Head of Natural Sciences, San Jose State College, was the speaker at the banquet and gave statements and examples of Man, who too oftn disturbs natural processes, which by maturing in their own time, bring benefits to him; he also condemned the use of agricultural land for industries, thus restricting and losing food production, an absolute essential for any generation.

The waterfowl film of "The Rainey Wildlife Sanctuary, Louisiana", an Audubon sanctuary, and "Coast Range Wildlife" by Mr. Albert J. Wool, with its close-ups of the seldom-seen Condor were rare treats.

The field trips on this Monterey Peninsula, always refreshing and inspiring; the ocean trip's, black-footd albatross, glaucous gull and rhinoceros auklet; the hospitable Hatton Ranch's exquisite migrating rufous humming-bird flashing his flaming gorget, were all outstanding events.

Nature's display of rolling surf, green velvety hills and budding trees, blossoming orchards and brilliant wildflower carpets brought inspiration and refreshment to the Conservation Pilgrim.

#### APRIL — ALAMEDA — TRIP

The April Field Trip was taken to Alameda on Saturday, April 19. A cool and brisk wind was blowing off shore. The sky was clear. About forty members and guests were present. A pair of Black Brant proved the outstanding attraction. They were first observed by the Alameda Bay Farm Island Bridge and later off shore at the western end of McCartney Drive.

The following thirty-nine species were observed:

Double-cr. Cormorant Great Blue Heron Black Brant Lesser Scaup Duck Ping-necked Pheasant Semipalmated Plover Black Turnstone Long-billed Curlew Willet Least Sandpiper Red-backed Sandpiper Long-bill. Dowitcher

Western Sandpiper Marbled Godwit Sanderling Avocet Glaucous-winged Gull Western Gull Herring Gull California Gull Ring-billed Gull Bonaparte Gull Forster Tern Caspian Tern Darn Swallow

Cliff Swallow Scrub Jay Robin American Pipit House Sparrow Western Meadowlark Red-wing. Blackbird Brewer Blackbird Cal. Purple Finch House Finch Spotted Towhee Savannah Sparrow Nuttall Sparrow

- Harold G. Peterson, Leader and Historian

#### MARCH — TILDEN PARK — TRIP

Thirty-five people met at Spruce Street Reservoir on Saturday, March 22nd at nine a.m. The sky was blue and there was a cool breeze. Most of the party walked down the hill to Indian Camp and the Nature Area.

The high lights of the trip were the Lincoln Sparrow and the Great Horned Owl. On the South side of Jawell Lake, Wild Current, Trilliams, Direa Palustris and Osaberry were in bloom.

The following total list of 34 species were identified:

Turkey vulture; red-tailed hawk; coot; mourning dove; great horned owl; Allen hummingbird; red-shafted flicker; red-breasted sapsucker; black phoebe; Stellar and scrub jay; chestnut-backed chickadee; plain titmouse; bush-tit; red-breasted nuthatch; wren-tit; Bewick wren; robin; harmit thrush; rubycrowned kinglet; orange-growned and Audabon warbler; house finch; pine siskin; American and lesser goldfinch; spotted and brown towhee; slatecolored and Oregon junco; white-crowned, fox, Lincoln and song sparrow.

- Alice B. Leet, Historian.

CONSERVATION BY PUBLIC UTILITY. The article "To Perpetuate the Timber Lands" appearing in the April P. G. & E. Progress, announces the purpose of the Company in joining the tree farm program to protect and perpetuate forests in over 4½ million acres in California and other western states. Such activities scientifically directed under a long range program should insure permanent habitats for existing species of plants and wildlife, a main purpose for which Aud bon Societies strive with ever increasing emphasis and importance. You are urged to read it.

— Edward A. Mayers

AUDUBON CAMP AT NORDEN, Donner Summit, starts the first twoweeks session June 15th. Here among the high peaks of the Sierra are thrilling experiences in natural science, social conta ts and good fellowship. Mr. Vaughan MacCaughey, our president, will be in charge with an experienced staff of teachers. Units of credit may be secured if desired. Make arrangements with National Audubon Society, 693 Sutter St. Room 201. Pros. 5-4042. The Golden Gate is awarding one full scholarship and two half scholarship.

BENEFIT PERFORMANCE. Thru the efforts of Mrs. T. Eric Reynolds and her staff of energetic workers it was possible for the Golden Gate Auduben Society to present a check for \$1255.54 to the Brighton C. Cain Memorial Fund, for use in the construction of a Nature Study Center at the Waterfowl Refuge at Lake Merritt, Oakland.

# MARCH DUMBARTON BRIDGE — SUNOL — CALAVERS RESERVOIR TRIP

The March 30 field trip was attended by about 45 people. We met at the east end of Dumbarton Bridge, but it was cloudy and a bit windy so not many birds were seen. Most notable were the hundreds of avocets in breeding plumage. En route to Niles mockingbirds were seen, and in Niles Canyon a kingfisher. The water temple area at Sunol was explored more thoroughly than in previous trips. A Nuttall woodpecker was observed for some time by many of the group; other interesting birds included a Lewis woodpecker, white-throated swifts and singing house wrens. At the bridge over Alameda Creek we saw a male Bullock oriole and numerous magpies. At the Calaveras Reservoir the Lewis woodpeckers seen in previous years were absent, but we did see a western kingbird, rock wrens, golden eagle, five American mergansers, and chipping, rufous-crowned and lark sparrows. To top it off,

while leaving the reservoir, some of the group saw a road-runner.

The following 75 species were seen: double-crested cormorant; great blue heron; Am. egret; mallard; shoveller; greater and lesser scaup duck; Am. merganser; turkey vulture; golden eagle; red-tailed and sparrow hawk; Calif. quail; coot; killdeer; willet, red-backed and w. (?) sandpiper; dowitcher; avocet; Calif. gull; mourning dove; road-runner; white-throated swift; Allen hummingbird; belted kingfisher; red-shafted flicker; Calif., Lewis, downy and Nuttall woodpecker; w. kingbird; black phoebe; violet-green, tree, roughwinged, barn and cliff swallow; Steller and scrub jay, yellow-billed magpie; crow; chestnut-backed chickadee; plain titmouse; bush-tit; white-breasted nuthatch; house, Bewick and rock wren; mockingbird; robin; hermit thrush; w. bluebird; water pipit; loggerhead shrike; orange-crowned and Audubon warbler; house sparrow; w. meadowlark; red-winged and Brewer blackbird; Bullock oriole; purple and house finch; lesser goldfinch; spotted and brown towhee; savannah, lark, rufous-crowned sparrow; Oregon junco; chipping, white-crowned, golden-crowned and song sparrow.

- A. Laurence Curl, Leader and Historian.

"THE BIRDS OF THE SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO BAY REGION" by Dr. Charles G. Sibley, a fifty-two page mimeograph publication, with map of localities and an index to common names, is now available at \$1.50, which just covers cost of production. Also included is an analysis of bird habitats and of species breeding there. A scientific and valuable compilation by a well-known ornithologist. Order from Dr. Sibley, Rt. 1, Box 241, Los Gatos, Calif. or thru National Audubon office, 693 Sutter St., San Francisco.

SAN FRANCISCO BAY REGION NESTING SURVEY sponsored by the Northern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club and the Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society, invites your cooperation. Records of past years are welcome. Forms may be obtained from Frank Pitalkz Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, U.C., Berkeley, or Charles Sibley, San Jose State College, San Jose.

NATURAL HISTORY LECTURE—May 11, Sunday, 3:00 p.m. Brazillian Room, Tilden Regional Park. "Pre-Historic Mammals of the San Francisco Bay Region" by Ruben Stirtin, Prof. of Paleontology, Univ. of California.

NEW MEMBERS; We welcome the following; from San Francisco, Miss Jean Brice, Mrs. Sidney Byers, Miss Ruth Kapelsky, Mr. Wm. J. Losh, Mrs. Myron W. Neal, Mr. Roger Sober, Dr. A. L. Ward; from Oakland, Mr. & Mrs. Heber James Brown, Mrs. Mabel Carley, Mr. Richard Miller Jr., Don Savant; from Berkeley, Mrs. J. N. Bowman, Mrs. O. L. Granicher, Mrs. L. L. Lindley, Mrs. Robert L. Lipman, Miss Mabel Warewell; from Piedmont, Mrs. L. W. Stettner; from Alameda, Mrs. Thos. Corder; from Orinda, Mr. T. G. Cullen, Mr. Peter A. Veitch; from San Carlos, Mrs. B. E. Austin; from Stinson Beach, Mrs. Geneva Reinhardt; from Woodside, Miss June Ledig; from Millbrae, Mrs. Edw. I. Sconberg.

#### MAY MEETING

The 416th meeting of the Golden Gate Audubon Society, Inc. will be held in the Story-Hour Room of the Oakland Public Library, Oak and 14th Streets (entrance on Oak St.), on May 8th, at 7:30 P.M.

After the business meeting, Mr. William Penn Mott, Jr., Oakland's Superintendent of Parks, will speak on "The Oakland Park Department Interprets Wildlife to City Folks". The public is invited.

No-host dinner at Zerikote's on Lake Merritt at 6 o'clock.

— Dorothy Dean Scott, Program Chairman.

#### MAY McCOY RANCH TRIP

On Sunday, May 4, to the McCoy Ranch and Arroyo Mocho south of Livermore. This is a good place to see the phainopepla and other birds of the inner coast range such as western kingbird and yellow-billed magpie. From San Francisco take 7:40 "E" train to the end of the line at the Hotel Claremont, Berkeley. Meet here at 8:15 and proceed to Livermore by private car; meet at the flagpole on First Street at 9:15, then go south on S. Livermore Ave., Tesla Road and Mines Road to the McCoy Ranch. Leader, Carl Carson, OL-2-2585. Bring lunch and interested friends.

— C. Laurence Curl, Field Trip Chairman

#### MAY ST. MARY'S COLLEGE TRIP

On Saturday, May 17, to St. Mary's College east of Moraga, Contra Costa County. On this trip a number of birds are usually seen which are seldom found in the Berkeley Hills, such as the Lawrence goldfinch, chipping sparrow, and white-breasted nuthatch. From San Francisco take 7:58 "E" train to end of the line at the Claremont Hotel. Meet here at 8:30 and proceed by private car to Orinda, turn right to Moraga, then left to the college. Meet here at junction with Rheem Boulevard. Leader, Arthur Myer. Bring lunch and interested friends.

#### MEMORIAL DAY YOSEMITE TRIP

On Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, May 30, 31 and June 1, to Yosemite National Park. This will be our second trip to the Sierra Nevada. Birding both in the valley and at higher altitudes. The waterfalls should be exceptionally good this year. Trips will start from the Post Office in Yosemite Valley at 8:30 nad 2:30 on Friday, 8:30 Saturday and 8:30 Sunday. Leaders, Walter Fitzpatrick (who lives there), Harry Adamson and Larry Curl. It is suggested that campers try to get together on the far side of Camp 11.

— A. Laurence Curl, Chairman, Field Trips.

#### GOLDEN GATE AUDUBON SOCIETY, Inc.

Organized January 25, 1917

## For the Study and the Protection of Birds Branch of National Audubon Society

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Monthly meetings second Thursday, 7:30 p. m.

Joint Membership, Local & National \$5.00 per Year, includes Audubon Magazine
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