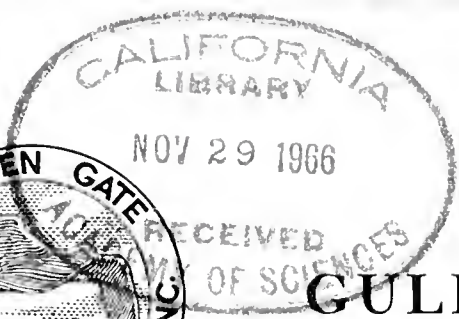


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# THE

MONTHLY



# GULL

BULLETIN

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## HEATON'S MICROPHOTOGRAPHS ON DECEMBER 8

Stennett Heaton, Oakland scientist and photographer, will be the guest speaker at the Golden Gate Audubon Society meeting on **Thursday, December 8**, at the Hall of Flowers, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco. Mr. Heaton will show us the "Relation of Design to Function in Nature." He uses three projectors and three screens to illustrate, through color microphotography, the structural beauty in nature.

The meeting will begin at **7:30 p.m.** The Hall of Flowers is just inside Golden Gate Park near Lincoln and Ninth Avenue. Visitors are welcome.

— MRS. PHYLLIS ZWEIGART, *Program Chairman*

## FIELD TRIPS FOR DECEMBER

**Saturday, December 10**, to the Richardson Bay Wildlife Sanctuary, Tiburon (Marin County). The Richardson Bay Sanctuary was established through the efforts of the Richardson Bay Foundation and the National Audubon Society. Mr. Fred Ross, Warden and Manager, will tell us about the history of the sanctuary and assist in identifying the wintering land and water birds. This is always an interesting trip for families as well as beginners. Also, there will be a briefing on how to count large numbers of birds — particularly the water birds — for those who wish to participate in any of the Audubon Christmas Counts, or in the Fish and Wildlife Census. Meet at **9 a.m.** in the parking area just north of Richardson Bay Bridge. (Driving north on U.S. 101, take the first exit after crossing the Richardson Bay Bridge.)

**Tuesday, December 13**. The above trip will be repeated, but will begin 1/2 hour later — at **9:30 a.m.** Bring lunch, binoculars, warm clothing, and interested friends. — MRS. VALERIA G. DaCOSTA, *Field Trips Chairman*

## CHRISTMAS COUNTS

This year's Tomales Bay Christmas Count will be held on **Saturday, December 31**, and the Oakland Christmas Count will be **Monday, January 2**. Last year the Tomales Bay Count recorded an all-time high of 194 species. For 36 birds Tomales Bay had the most individuals reported nationally and included all-time high counts for 5 species. The Oakland Count recorded 162 species — an unusual number for such a highly urbanized area. Paul Opler will be the compiler for the Oakland Count and also co-compiler

with Lynn Stafford for the Tomales Bay Count. If you can help on either or both of the above dates, please notify Paul Opler, 1131 E. 10th Street, Albany, Calif. 94710. Observers and recorders are needed for both Christmas Counts.

### COVEL'S CONSERVATION CORNER

The Annual Conference of the California Conservation Council was held October 28-29 in San Francisco. Friday afternoon was devoted to a field trip to the Eastbay Regional Parks. Your Conservation Chairman was able to attend only the Saturday afternoon and evening sessions. He did hear much praise for the Friday evening panel, "The Anatomy of Conservation Education," moderated by Chief Naturalist Chris Nelson of the Eastbay Regional Parks, and also for the Saturday morning panel on "Water Quality Control."

"Open Space" was the Saturday afternoon panel subject, with Hulet Hornbeck of the E. B. Regional Parks as moderator, and panelists representing the B.C.D.C., Sierra Club, a private land assessors firm, the U.S. Soil Conservation Service, the Resource Economics Bureau of the State of California, and a county supervisor. Alvin Baum for the Bay Conservation and Development Commission and the appraiser, Lester G. Brown, provided respectively the "neutral public commission" and private industry viewpoints during the session, while Attorney Phillip S. Berry for the Sierra Club and Supervisor Peter Behr of Marin County represented dedicated conservationists. Mr. Behr, a master strategist with delightful wit and a real friend of conservation for Marin, spoke critically of the proposed Bolinas harbor plan. Mr. Garlinghouse of Soil Conservation displayed colored charts to show graphically the alarming shrinkage of California farm lands — a prime threat to all of us! Mr. Menz described the work of his bureau in setting standards for acquisition and development of open space by local agencies and communities.

William E. Warne, Director of the State Dept. of Water Resources and long-famed water expert, spoke at the Awards Banquet Saturday evening. Mr. Warne emphasized the vast areas of new lakes and broad canals which would be opened to fishermen and other recreationists under this California Water Plan now one-half completed. He spoke of bringing power from the Columbia River, and later, use of a nuclear plant to lift the Feather River water over the Tehachapi to Los Angeles by 1971. He also described measures designed to minimize the impact of San Joaquin Valley waste waters on the Delta.

Dr. Armen Sarafian of Pasadena City College was elected President of the Council for 1967, succeeding Dr. Curtis L. Newcombe of San Francisco State College. The Council was invited to Pasadena College for its 1967 Annual Meeting, where Dr. Sarafian hopes to involve faculty and students.

While we found these Saturday sessions both enjoyable and profitable, we were disappointed in the light attendance and the absence of representation of some local youth groups. There is a feeling among some Council members that the Council should become more actively involved in issues.

The Western States Litter (Keep America Beautiful) Conference at the Sheraton-Palace on September 30 brought together representatives of business and industry and public agencies from the Pacific States — and some from the Southwest, Mid-West and Eastern U.S. The variety and ingenuity of slogans, methods and devices to curb litter-bugs is amazing — even to citing those offshore and along beaches in New Jersey by helicopter reporting- The absolute need of tough law enforcement was stressed by several speakers and in this respect some Coast cities lagged badly — including San Francisco and Oakland. The importance of bringing “outdoor good manners” programs into the public schools was also stressed. The popular “Lester Litterbug” puppet show from the E. B. Regional Parks put on by our own Josh and Pearl Barkin ended the conference with just the right touch.

— PAUL F. COVEL, *Conservation Chairman*

### GILLIAM'S COLUMN ON BOLINAS LAGOON

We are grateful to Harold Gilliam for his excellent column in the October 23rd *San Francisco Chronicle* on “Time of Reckoning for Bolinas Lagoon.” He discussed the hearings for a large-scale commercial development on Bolinas Lagoon, and wrote a timely warning against the possibility of “slurbanism” in this area, urging Marin residents to preserve this irreplaceable lagoon.

### NEW BOOKS FOR CHRISTMAS

**Birds in Our Lives**, an interesting new book published by the U. S. Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, gives a comprehensive survey of the many-sided relationship between birds and man. A major thesis of the book is that if we are to continue to have birds in abundance and variety, their future must be considered in land-use planning at all levels of government — local, state, national, and international. The Editors, Alfred Stefferud and Arnold L. Nelson, state in their preface: “We believe the best way to achieve public support for sensitive management and conservation of birds is through a widening of public understanding of birds.”

Specialists with a wide range of backgrounds wrote the 54 chapters covering such topics as *Literature and Arts*, *Sports and Recreation*, *Science and Husbandry*, *The Hand of Man*, *Answers to Conflicts*, and *For Their Survival*. The book begins appropriately with chapters by Peterson and Pettingill. Cruickshank contributed a chapter on bird photography, and Robbins covered the annual Christmas count. Audubon President Carl Buchheister wrote about conservation organizations. A chapter on the bald eagle as our national symbol mentions that the likeness of this endangered eagle has been carried to the most remote areas of the world on our coins and dollar bills. *The Hand of Man* section surveys the effects of pesticides and water pollution on birds, the intrusion of TV towers into the flyways, and other critical problems. A chapter on birds at airports points out that gull-attracting garbage dumps should be removed from the vicinity of airports.

Writing about refuges and sanctuaries, Philip A. DuMont describes Oakland's Lake Merritt wildlife refuge, which was established in 1870 — two years before Yellowstone National Park. The latter was “probably the second wildlife sanctuary following Lake Merritt.” Page 539 has a photo of Park Naturalist Paul Covel, Golden Gate Audubon's conservation chairman.

In the concluding chapter, John S. Gottschalk, Bureau Director, outlines private citizens' accomplishments in conservation and mentions, as an example, that concerned residents of the Bay Area worked to secure passage of the State law establishing the San Francisco Bay Commission. He concludes that people must accept responsibility to help with conservation problems — “We must be the ones willing to serve on a park board and gain a place for people to enjoy birds along with boardwalks, bandstands, and ball diamonds.”

**Birds in Our Lives** is a useful addition to the home library for both browsing and reference. It has a detailed index, biographical data on the authors with their book titles, drawings by Bob Hines, 372 photographs, and it is attractively bound in gold-stamped green cloth. The price is \$9.00 and it may be ordered from the National Audubon Center, 2426 Bancroft Way, Berkeley, Calif. 94704.

“The human citizens of Palo Alto have set aside a place for the natural citizens of its salt marsh community” — states the preface of a new book, **Exploring Our Baylands**, by Diane Conradson, Education Chairman of the Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society. “Palo Alto has within its boundaries the largest unspoiled expanse of baylands remaining in the south bay, about 1,500 acres.”

The Palo Alto Chamber of Commerce appreciates this area enough to publish this book about the plants, birds, and other life of the salt marsh. It is a good introduction to salt marsh ecology, and it has been adopted for use by the Palo Alto Unified School District. The 60-page paperbound book includes checklists with scientific names, suggested references, and interesting photographs. (Page 31 needs a corrected caption.) It may be purchased for \$2.00 from the Audubon Center, Berkeley.

An outstanding Christmas gift for ornitho-bibliophiles is the American Heritage two-volume boxed set of **The Original Water-Color Paintings by John James Audubon for the Birds of America**. The pre-publication price of \$55.00 still applies to the sets in stock in the Audubon Center, Berkeley.

**Birds of the Northern Forest** by James Fenwick Lansdowne and John A. Livingston is now available at the pre-publication price of \$17.50. It contains 56 full color reproductions of Lansdowne's beautiful paintings of land and water birds, plus informative text by Livingston, ornithologist and former Executive Director of the Audubon Society of Canada. Lansdowne's paintings have been exhibited in major galleries and museums, including the Royal Ontario Museum and the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts.

Among the gift books for children is a new one by Gladys Conklin, **The Bug Club Book**, a handbook for young bug collectors (\$2.95 hardbound).

This Holiday House Science Book has information on raising insects from the egg and larval stages, cocoons, galls, and insect anatomy. The author includes a note to parents and teachers and a list of supply houses. A retired Children's Librarian, Mrs. Conklin is president of the new Ohlone Audubon Society in the Hayward area.

The above titles and many other Christmas gifts may be ordered from the National Audubon Center, 2426 Bancroft Way, Berkeley, 94704. The Browsing Room is open from 12 to 5 on weekdays and 11 to 4 on Saturdays. You may order by mail or phone (848-4042).

### CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY'S SALE

The California Native Plant Society, dedicated to preservation of California native flora, offers its first fund-raising event on **December 3**. The Society, founded in 1965, has 5 chapters in Central California. It is perhaps the only organization devoted to conservation of plant-life smaller than redwoods; some smaller species exist in pockets of a few acres, and once bulldozed — are gone forever. The Society sponsors field trips, collects seed of endangered endemic plants, appeals to private owners to save rare endemic species, and makes contact with official agencies to do the same. They work with other conservation groups, as with Audubon, where their interest in saving marsh plants dovetails with interest in saving marsh birds. The Society offers a plant sale and auction, Saturday, December 3, at Lakeside Park Garden Center, 666 Bellevue Ave., Oakland, from 1 to 5 p.m. Native trees, shrubs, ground-covers, plus exotics, bonsai, rocks, living Christmas trees, and decorating materials will be on sale; some rarities will be auctioned. Materials are donated by individuals, groups, and commercial firms interested in conservation. — MRS. ELIZABETH C. GRANT, 525-9456.

### OBSERVATIONS

October 1 — When the pelagic birders returned from their boat trip they saw a **bobolink** and a **Blackburnian warbler** near *Monterey*.

October 15 — Val and Bob DaCosta found a spotted owl near Pt. Reyes Lighthouse.

In Mountain View Cemetery, Piedmont, Scott Terrill saw a yellow-shafted flicker.

October 16 — Near Drake's Beach, Pt. Reyes Seashore, Vi and George Homem found a tropical kingbird and a hybrid flicker (red-shafted wings, yellow-shafted tail, unmarked head).

October 22 — Val DaCosta, Alice Radcliffe, and Maxine Clason observed a **Lapland longspur** in a field near the road to Drake's Beach.

October 29 — A Clark's nutcracker appeared at Cobb and a dipper dipped into Big Canyon Creek in southern Lake County while Vi and George Homem were photographing fall color.

Behavior Observation — In October Josh Barkin watched a scrub jay playing the part of a tick bird pulling ticks off the back of a reclining deer in Tilden Park.

November 9 — A slate-colored junco visited the Oakland garden of Mrs. Albert G. Orr.



**AUDUBON CANYON RANCH, BOLINAS LAGOON**  
**Under joint sponsorship of Golden Gate and Marin**  
**Audubon Societies to protect a major rookery of**  
**Common Egrets and Great Blue Herons.**

The Audubon Canyon Ranch Board elected the following officers at its October 9th meeting: Chairman, Dr. L. Martin Griffin, Jr.; 1st Vice Chairman, Bertha S. Underhill; 2nd Vice Chairman, Dudley S. Hubbard; Secretary, Anita J. Parker; Treasurer, Erline Hevel. Two new Golden Gate representatives on the Board are William Hammerman and George Peyton. Robert DaCosta, Erline Hevel, Paul Covell and Tom Williamson are continuing their service. The Board thanked outgoing Chairman, William S. Picher, for his faithful and effective service since the beginning of Canyon Ranch.

The Ranch will belong, debt free, to Audubon Canyon Ranch, Inc. early in 1967, since arrangements have been made to complete the original 507 acre purchase by December 1. Pledges and current assets almost take care of money owing on the 60 additional acres purchased in 1965. A Maintenance and Building Fund will replace the Land Acquisition Fund.

Dr Griffin appointed a committee to submit recommendations relating to the wildlife refuge included in the proposed Master Plan for Bolinas Lagoon.

**MEMORIAL GIFTS.** The following gifts of remembrance were made to Audubon Canyon Ranch:

<i>In Memory of:</i>	<i>Gift of:</i>
Douglas Morrison .....	Marie D. Crosbie
Mrs. E. D. Woodruff .....	Dorothy and Gloyd Stankard
Mrs. J. N. Herwig .....	Mr. and Mrs. Lindsay Campbell
Mrs. George (Hope) Purmont .....	Mrs. Ann Follis, Dr. and Mrs. Carl Wintermitz, Mrs. John Gibbs, William Naulty, Admiral C. G. DeKay, Mr. and Mrs. Hubert Fry, Ann, Ed, Deanne, and Cody Gillette, Dale Clyde, Mr. and Mrs. Emil Reinhardt, and Golden Gate Audubon Society.
Myra Palache .....	Mrs. Thomas H. Palache
Mrs. William Pursell .....	Miss Margaret Simpson
Mrs. Margaret Best .....	Miss Margaret Simpson and California Alpine Club
Willard L. Hass .....	J. Ed McClellan, Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Montgomery, Mrs. Vera Ann Brill, Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Kumatat, Mrs. Alice Steele, Mr. and Mrs. John L. Morrill, Mary Ann Daniclson, Gertrude Medler, Mr. C. J. Daniels.
Charles G. Thompson .....	Mr. and Mrs. Leonard F. Fuller

Robert Lee Steele ..... Mr. C. J. Daniels  
 — DR. ALBERT BOLES, *Sanctuary & Memorial Fund Chairman*  
 854 Longridge Rd., Oakland, Calif. 94610.  
 Non-memorial donations may be sent to Canyon Ranch, Box 2113, San Francisco.

### THE CYGNET

Children like to receive their own magazines and bulletins. For a year's subscription to *The Cygnet*, Golden Gate Audubon's bulletin for children, please send \$1.00 to Mrs. Janet Nickelsburg, 2585 Union, San Francisco 94123.

### NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following new members to our Society: from *Berkeley* — Miss Ruth Goodsell, Mr. Charles Hancock; from *Lafayette* — Mr. and Mrs. Fletcher Young; from *Livermore* — Mrs. John H. Nuckolls; from *Martinez* — Edwin and Sheila Giltzow; from *Oakland* — Mrs. Judean Lake; from *San Francisco* — Mr. and Mrs. Graeme Keith; from *St. Helena* — Mr. Robert Patterson; from *Walnut Creek* — Mr. and Mrs. Sam Tanner.

— MRS. ZELLA CUSHMAN, *Membership Secretary*

### MRS. GLENN HOOVER ON OAKLAND LIBRARY PROGRAM

Mrs. Glenn Hoover, Golden Gate Audubon member, will be the guest speaker at the Oakland Public Library on Friday, December 9. The title of her program is "Cormorants, Condors, and Chickadees" and it will begin at 2 p.m. in the West Auditorium.

### ENDANGERED SPECIES BILL AND REFUGES

The following item is from the November issue of the Los Angeles Audubon *Western Tanager*:

The Endangered Species Bill was passed; but one feature of it is regrettable: the Secretary of the Interior is empowered to open 100% of any National Wildlife Refuge to the hunting of resident game birds, instead of the present 40% of the area of the "Refuge".

"Refuges?? An estimated fifty tons of shotgun pellets are deposited on the bottom of the shooting areas at Tule Lake Refuge alone, each year; for waterfowl that feed on the bottom of the ponds this is pretty near fatal — 4 pellets will make any duck sick when swallowed, 5 will sterilize it, and 6 will kill it! X-ray studies of a large number of waterfowl have shown that 65% of all waterfowl have an average of 9 pellets in their bodies; these pellets are poison and little if any research is being continued to determine the long-term bad effects! Are the people being unconscionably deceived by an official program to acquire 'Wildlife Sanctuaries' which are such in name only? The fact that 40% and more of these areas is open to shooting is shocking to those interested in the true conservation of wildlife."

The above is included in a communication from Henry M. Weber, M.D., Comdr., Med. Corps., USN Ret., the conservation chairman of California Garden Clubs, Inc.

The deadline for the January *Gull* will be December 1. Delays in the Post Office have forced us to set this earlier deadline.



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1966

T H E G U L L

DECEMBER

**GOLDEN GATE AUDUBON SOCIETY, INC.**

Established January 25, 1917 A Branch of the National Audubon Society since 1948

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Distribution Chairman .....	Mrs. Bonnie Smith .....	555 Dewey Blvd., San Francisco 94116	681-7635

Claims for missing numbers of THE GULL should be sent to the Editor. Changes of address should be sent to the Membership Secretary.

Monthly meetings second Thursday, 7:30 p.m. Joint Membership, Local and National \$8.50 per year, includes AUDUBON MAGAZINE and THE GULL. Subscription to THE GULL separately \$2.00 per year.

Visit the Conservation Center of the NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY  
 2426 Bancroft Way, Berkeley, California 94704 848-4042