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THE
MONTHLY



GULL
BULLETIN

VOLUME 16

SAN FRANCISCO, FEBRUARY, 1934

NUMBER 2

Report of the President for the Year 1933

This meeting (January 11, 1934) if held two weeks later would commemorate the Audubon Association's seventeenth birthday. The Association was organized January 25, 1917. Our present corresponding secretary, Mr. C. B. Lastreto, was the principal leader in organizing the Audubon Association of the Pacific.

In spite of this being the fourth year of the depression, our bank balance is the largest in several years. We have suffered a loss of but eight in our total membership, this including one life member by death.

Our junior members have maintained their interest in our monthly meetings and field trips.

With tireless effort and marked ability, Mrs. Laura Stephens has made "The Gull" a most interesting ornithological bulletin. Not only has she found time to edit "The Gull" and look after the Association's finances, but also to do a vast amount of work in compiling data for the Association's first publication in pamphlet form, "Birds of Marin County." In this work Mrs. Stephens had the able assistance of Miss Cornelia C. Pringle.

Our monthly field trips have been well attended and we hope to attract more members and guests during the coming year.

I am sure that we are most grateful to Mrs. H. P. Bracelin for providing our Association with such able speakers. Attendance at our meetings for the year averaged forty persons.

A committee from our Association has been successful in persuading the San Francisco Water Department to allow the tules and other cover favorable to bird life to grow again around Lake Merced.

The co-operation of our entire membership has been very much appreciated by me as President.

Respectfully submitted,

Chas. A. Bryant, President.



Report of Field Trips for 1933

The following report covers the results of the monthly field trips taken by the Audubon Association of the Pacific during the year 1933. Each trip was a day's journey by train and on foot in the San Francisco Bay region.

One was taken to each of the following: Lake Merritt, Oakland; Alameda and Bay Farm Island, University of California campus, all in Alameda County; St. Mary's, Contra Costa County; Burlingame, San Mateo County; Point Bonita and Tennessee Cove, Marin County; Land's End, Cliff House and Golden Gate Park, City and County of San Francisco.

Two trips were taken to each of the following: Ross to Fairfax, Marin County; Lake Merced, City and County of San Francisco.

Species totaling 164 were noted, with an average of forty-seven species per trip. The trip to Point Bonita in March, when eleven members braved a severe hail storm accompanied by lightning and thunder, produced the largest list of

birds, seventy-seven species. The November trip to Ross was second with a list of seventy-four. The May trip to St. Mary's was third with a list of fifty-nine.

Two new records were added to the Association's "Life-list": Marbled Murrelet and Pygmy Owl, making a total of 236 species noted by our Association on the field trips.

Attendance of members averaged eighteen per trip. Sixty-three members attended the various trips.

I wish to thank the members who so ably assisted in making the trips a success.

Chas. A. Bryant, Chairman.

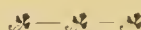


Treasurer's Report for 1933

Commercial Account:		
Balance January 2, 1933.....		\$ 46.22
Receipts:		
Dues for the year 1932.....	\$ 3.00	
Dues for the year 1933.....	300.25	
Dues for the year 1934.....	31.50	
Subscriptions to "The Gull".....	5.00	
Sale of back numbers of "The Gull".....	40.60	380.35
		<u>\$426.57</u>
Expenditures:		
Publishing "The Gull".....	\$226.50	
Envelopes and stamps.....	41.65	
Bill heads.....	5.25	
Rental of projector.....	2.50	
Christmas gift to janitor.....	5.00	
Miscellaneous expense.....	1.70	
Sales tax.....	1.80	
Federal tax.....	.32	
Placed in savings account.....	40.00	
		<u>\$324.72</u>
Balance in commercial account.....	101.85	\$426.57
Savings Account:		
Balance January 2, 1933.....	\$515.61	
Deposit in 1933.....	40.00	
Interest for 1933.....	17.58	\$573.19
Total Account:		
Balance Commercial Account.....	\$101.85	
Savings Account.....	573.19	<u>\$675.04</u>

Memberships: Honorary 10, Life 12, Active 119, total 141.

Laura A. Stephens, Treasurer.



Annual Census of Waterfowl at Lake Merritt, Oakland

The annual census of waterfowl on Lake Merritt was taken on Sunday, January 14, 1934, between the hours of 11 a. m. and 1 p. m. The day was cold and cloudy with a north wind.

It may be of interest to mention that the first census taken at Lake Merritt by the Audubon Association of the Pacific was on January 11, 1920, and with the exception of the following year, when it was omitted, on account of rain, it has been taken each year since between January 4 and 24.

This year ten species of ducks were present with a total of 2847 individuals, the second largest number since 1924, being exceeded only in 1931, when fourteen species and 4535 individuals were counted.

The Baldpates numbered 700 in 1926, decreasing in 1927 to 355 and remaining around that figure since except in 1931, when they increased to 640. Pintails have shown a very marked decrease in the last few years, the smallest count being made in 1932 when only ninety individuals were present. This year Canvas-backs showed the largest number since 1931. Scaup, both species, were noted in greater numbers than on any previous count. Ruddy Ducks also showed an increase.

Ducks		Other Species	
Mallard	20	Horned Grebe	2
European Widgeon	1	Eared Grebe	133
Baldpate	306	Western Grebe	4
Pintail	133	Pied-billed Grebe	21
Redhead	1	Black-crowned Night Heron	11
Canvas-back	1534	Canada Goose	9
Scaup (both species).....	482	Coot	314
American Golden-eye	40	Glaucous-winged Gull	46
Buffle-head	18	Western Gull	1
Ruddy Duck	312	Herring Gull	2
		California Gull	4
Total	2847	Ring-billed Gull	6
		Short-billed Gull	2
		Bonaparte Gull	60
		Forster Tern	1
		Total	616

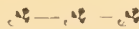
Census taken by Robert Taylor, Eddie McClintock, Vincent Mowbray and Chas. A. Bryant.

In addition to the above the following land birds were observed in Lakeside Park by members attending the regular field trip: California Jay; Bush-tit; Western Robin; Cedar Waxwing; Audubon Warbler; Brewer Blackbird; English, Golden-crowned, Nuttall and Song Sparrows.

Introduced species noted on the lake: Cackling Goose 2; Lesser Snow Goose 9; Ross Snow Goose 1; White-fronted Goose 2.



Special Trips: To ascertain whether there is a real demand for week-day trips, a walk will be taken on February 16, through Fort Mason and along the Marina. Take Municipal car H on Van Ness Avenue and get off at the station just inside of Fort Mason grounds, where party will meet at 9:30 a. m. East Bay members take D car at Ferry and transfer to H car at Van Ness Avenue and Union Street. Bring luncheon. Leaders, Miss Cornelia C. Pringle and Mrs. Albert B. Stephens.



December Field Trip: The regular monthly field trip was taken on Sunday, December 17, 1933, to the University of California campus. We shall place the blame for the scarcity of birds recorded to the exceedingly cold, damp weather of the day and not to the small number of interested observers, ten members and one guest making the trip.

The flock of Pivits, which the leader had staked out previously near the entrance for the party's first sight, ungraciously failed to put in an appearance. However, on the opposite side of the entrance Mr. Jas. R. Davis had arranged with the Varied Thrushes for our coming and we were rewarded by seeing large numbers.

The trip would not have been complete without a visit to the residence of Professor and Mrs. Allen, where the outing ended with interesting observations of the birds visiting the feeding table.

The following birds are those seen on the campus and in Strawberry Canyon:

California Gull	Dwarf Hermit Thrush	Spotted Towhee
California Quail	Varied Thrush	Brown Towhee
Red-shafted Flicker	Western Robin	Junco
California Jay	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	Nuttall Sparrow
Plain Titmouse	Audubon Warbler	Golden-crowned Sparrow
Bush-tit	Townsend Warbler	Song Sparrow

Bessie W. Kibbe, Historian.



Audubon Notes

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

The speaker of the evening will be Mr. Bert Harwell, Park Naturalist of Yosemite National Park, who will tell us about his experiences with the "Wild Life of the Yosemite Valley," illustrating his talk with personal motion pictures shown for the first time.



February Field Trip will be taken to Burlingame on Sunday, the 11th. Meet at stage depot, Fifth near Mission Street, San Francisco, to take bus at 8:55 a. m., leaving the bus at Easton Drive, where party will form at 10 o'clock.

East Bay members should reach Ferry not later than 8:30, taking car up Market to Fifth Street. Bring luncheon.

Leader, Mr. Joseph J. Webb.



1934 Dues: The annual dues for the year are now payable and all members are asked to make their remittances as early as possible to the Treasurer. It is requested that all checks be made in the name of the Audubon Association of the Pacific.



January Meeting: The 17th annual and the 198th regular meeting was held

on January 11th, room 19, Ferry Building, with forty-five members and guests present.

Officers and Directors for 1934 were elected as follows:

Joseph J. Webb.....	President
Robert Taylor.....	1st Vice-President
Mrs. Otis H. Smith.....	2nd Vice-President
C. B. Lastreto.....	Corresponding Secretary
Miss Cornelia C. Pringle.....	Rec. Secy.
Mrs. Albert B. Stephens.....	Treasurer
Mrs. H. P. Bracelin.....	Director
Miss Selma Werner.....	Director
Mr. B. K. Dunshee.....	Director

The speaker of the evening was Mr. Joseph Ewan, who spoke on "Mountain Birds of Southern California." From an expert knowledge of interrelated subjects he drew a map of and described the topography of the country surrounding the coastal plain of Southern California. In a nice use of words he painted vivid pictures of some of the birds found in the Southern California mountains: the Red-tailed Hawk trailing through the air a long snake in its talons; the abundance of Horned Owls: an owl for every canyon; White-headed Woodpeckers, cleaners of the bark, a Clark Nutcracker satisfying his thirst at a spring, and numerous other species.

Audubon Association of the Pacific

Organized January 25, 1917

For the Study and the Protection of Birds

President.....	Joseph J. Webb.....	590 California St., San Francisco
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.

Subscription to monthly Bulletin, \$1.00 per year. Single copies, 15c.

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