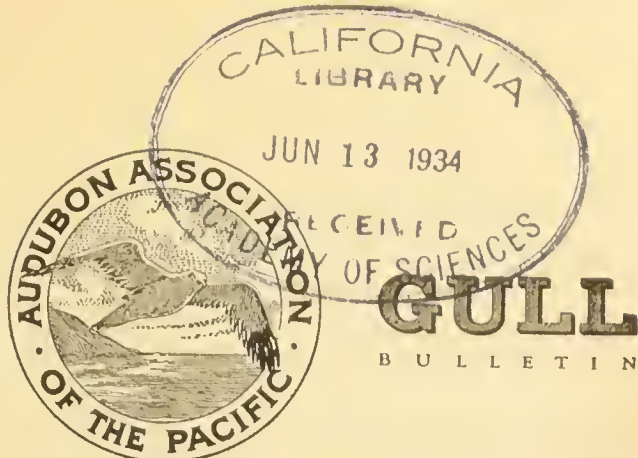


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Sparrow Hawk Kills Nuttall Sparrow

A Nuttall Sparrow (*Zonotrichia leucophrys nuttalli*), in immature plumage, caught in my W. B. B. A. bird-trap in Benicia, California, on the morning of January 11, 1934, attracted a male Sparrow Hawk (*Falco sparverius phalaena*), which killed the sparrow by grasping it with its claws through the bars of the trap. Mrs. Stoner frightened the hawk away three times, but it returned after each time and attempted to pull its victim through the bars. At the noon hour I left the door of the trap open with the dead sparrow in the back of the cage, and during the afternoon caught the hawk. The sparrow was gone when Mrs. Stoner noted the hawk's capture, it being evident that the little hawk, while in the trap, had eaten its prey with the exception of many feathers scattered in and about the trap.

My neighbors who were shown the hawk thought it should be killed, but my bird-killing tendencies being very dormant, I banded him and kept him in a cage until two days later, when I had an opportunity to take him a distance of six miles, where I released him, hoping that he would establish his headquarters elsewhere and not further interfere with my banding operations.

Emerson A. Stoner, Benicia, California. January 15, 1934.



Redhead Duck a Good Mother

On September 2, 1933, I made my first visit to the Bear River Sanctuary, accompanied by its Superintendent, George Mushback. I called his attention to a large Redhead Duck family. "Yes," he said, "they are all hers. At least she hatched them and hasn't lost one of the eighteen she brought off the nest. They are here every morning."

Mr. Mushback then related three other instances of outstanding broods they have on record. In 1932, they found one Redhead hen with thirty-one ducklings and in 1931 one hen had thirty-four. The third record is of the same species that brooded and hatched sixteen eggs and had twenty-six more eggs circled around on the outside of her nest. It is not thought, however, that in any of these instances one hen laid all the eggs. C. W. Lockerbie, Salt Lake City, Utah.

After reading the above, it is interesting to note the following from Dawson's "Birds of California": "It is not alone because of her skill as an architect nor yet because of her easy-going disposition, that the Redhead is imposed upon by her shrewder neighbors. She is such a motherly creature that she thinks nothing of raising a dozen or fifteen or even nineteen chicks, in her own right. . . . A Redhead's nest is the foundling asylum of the marshes. In it are found Ruddies' eggs, Mallards', or Teals'." And also Mr. Dawson says: "Eggs: 10 to 22 (the greater numbers represent the product of two birds)."

May Field Trip was taken on Sunday, the 13th, to Saint Mary's, Contra Costa County, by sixteen members and seven guests. The day was warm and pleasant except in the open spaces, where there was quite a brisk westerly wind.

At the starting point along the highway, we found Brewer Blackbirds and Bullock Orioles nesting in black walnut trees. Here also a Brown Towhee was observed perched about fifty feet up in a eucalyptus tree, repeating again and again his monotonous little song and matching its rhythm each time in an up-and-down movement of the tail. This performance was something new to most of us, who had never seen a Brown Towhee so high aloft, but always on the ground or in low shrubs, and never singing, if indeed this was singing.

We were sorry to find that the old barn so useful to Cliff Swallows, Linnets and Barn Owls had just recently, in the height of the nesting season, been torn down. Only a week ago some of our young members had found a nest there with seven young Barn Owls, a Linnet's nest with five eggs, and approximately 100 Cliff Swallows' nests under the eaves. We understand that four of the larger owls, which had been banded, were rescued, having been taken to Mr. E. L. Sumner Jr., of the University of California by Professor A. S. Campbell of Saint Mary's College, but the Linnet's nest and all the Swallows' nests were destroyed. We observed only about a dozen Cliff Swallows in the vicinity.

Crossing the railroad track and following a densely wooded road on private property, where on previous visits good results had been obtained, we were disappointed at the unusual scarcity of birds. However, a Great Blue Heron was seen flying high overhead and also two Red-tailed Hawks. A Sharp-shinned Hawk was observed by some of the group, a species not seen here before on Audubon trips.

Retracing our steps, we proceeded up Los Trampas Canyon to the picnic grounds, where we ate luncheon. Here birds were quite numerous, and an excellent opportunity presented itself for students to become acquainted with bird songs. The Cassin Vireo, Lazuli Bunting, Pileolated Warbler, Black-headed Grosbeak and Warbling Vireo were heard on every side. One observation of special interest at the grove was a Nuttall Woodpecker feeding its young at a hole in a dead tree stump.

We regretted not having with us some of our junior members who had recently reported finding numerous nests at Saint Mary's. Our own discoveries of nests for the day were quite meager—Nuttall Woodpecker, Black Phoebe, Vigors Wren, Bullock Oriole and Brewer Blackbird.

The following forty-eight species were recorded, this being the smallest list for the last four years. However, we added two species not previously noted: Sharp-shinned Hawk and Shrike. The total list for Saint Mary's compiled from ten trips is seventy-seven species, twenty-nine of which were found nesting.

Great Blue Heron	Violet-green Swallow	Pileolated Warbler
Sharp-shinned Hawk	Cliff Swallow	Meadowlark
Red-tailed Hawk	Coast Jay	Red-winged Blackbird
Sparrow Hawk	California Jay	Bullock Oriole
California Quail	Plain Titmouse	Brewer Blackbird
Killdeer	Bush-tit	Black-headed Grosbeak
Mourning Dove	Slender-billed Nuthatch	Lazuli Bunting
Anna Hummingbird	Wren-tit	House Sparrow
Flicker	House Wren	House Finch
California Woodpecker	Bewick Wren	Willow Goldfinch
Willow Downy Woodpecker	Russet-backed Thrush	Green-backed Goldfinch
Nuttall Woodpecker	Western Bluebird	Lawrence Goldfinch
Ash-throated Flycatcher	Shrike	Spotted Towhee
Black Phoebe	Warbling Vireo	Brown Towhee
Western Flycatcher	Cassin Vireo	Chipping Sparrow
Wood Pewee	Lutescent Warbler	Song Sparrow

Members attending: Mr. and Mrs. Dunshee, Mr. and Mrs. Stephens; Mrs. Stroke; Misses Berg, Cave, Cockefair, Mildred Dunshee, McConnell, Papina, Sterne, Walker; Messrs. Bizzell, Bunker, Davis. Guests: Mesdames Anabel, Bunker and Davis; Miss Knief; Messrs. Chase, Power, Thomas.

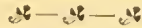
It is of interest to know that the Oakland Ornithological Club on May 6th had their trip to Saint Mary's, Moraga and Los Trampas Ridge, finding several birds which we did not observe.

At Moraga they found Rough-winged Swallows and Lawrence Goldfinches nesting, the latter very abundant (a total of eight nests), and in the nest of a Song Sparrow, two eggs of a Cowbird.

At Saint Mary's they observed the Yellow Warbler; on Los Trampas Ridge a Poor-will, Black-chinned and Golden-crowned Sparrows. Bell Sparrows were very numerous; two of their nests were found, one with four eggs and one with three young, which the boys banded.

On Tuesday, May 8th, Eddie McClintock saw a Road-runner on Los Trampas Ridge.

Laura A. Stephens, Historian.



The May week-day trip was taken on Thursday, the 17th, to the campus of the University of California at Berkeley, with Mrs. H. P. Bracelin as leader, and five members and three guests attending. The day was bright and warm, and the birds were quite plentiful.

In the inner court of the Life Science Building, a Junco had built its nest on the window sill of the ground floor and had raised a family of four. This nest was concealed under the frond of a large fern and would not have been discovered had the bird not been seen entering it. Later we found one of the young Juncos dead; evidently it had struck the building in flying across the court.

In the crotch of a small acacia growing in the court, a Robin had built her nest of twigs and grasses with its core of mud. The mother bird was feeding her young when we arrived. As we were watching her, she settled down on the nest for an instant, and then suddenly left and flew to the top of the building, when immediately the male bird arrived with a large worm. The group of observers later walked past within a foot of the nest while the father bird stood on the edge and watched us.

Twenty resident birds were observed as follows:

Valley Quail	Vigors Wren	Green-backed Goldfinch
Red-shafted Flicker	Western Robin	Spotted Towhee
Anna Hummingbird	Brewer Blackbird	Brown Towhee
Steller Jay	House Sparrow	Point Pinos Junco
California Jay	Purple Finch	Nuttall Sparrow
Plain Titmouse	House Finch	Song Sparrow
Bush-tit	Pine Siskin	

With the additional summer visitants of nine, the total for the day was twenty-nine.

Allen Hummingbird	Russet-backed Thrush	Lutescent Warbler
Western Flycatcher	Warbling Vireo	Pileolated Warbler
Olive-sided Flycatcher	Cassin Vireo	Black-headed Grosbeak

The following members attended: Mrs. H. P. Bracelin, leader; Mesdames Stephens and Strock; Misses Cohen, Pringle, Swasey. Guests: Mesdames Callow, Rocca and Schmidt.



Book Notice: The "Birds of Minnesota" is now out of print, but Dr. Roberts has prepared a new bird book to be published in June, viz.: "Bird Portraits in Color," two hundred ninety-five North American species. Text by Thomas S. Roberts, Director, Museum of Natural History, University of Minnesota. The ninety-two beautiful color plates are the same as were used in "The Birds of Minnesota," each plate being accompanied by a description of the birds depicted. Cloth \$3.50; limp cloth \$2.50; pictures in portfolio, with index but no text, \$1.50; obtainable from The University of Minnesota Press, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Audubon Notes

June Meeting: The regular meeting will be held on Thursday, the 14th, at 8 p. m., room 19, Ferry Building.

The theme for the evening will be "I would like to know."



June Field Trip will be taken Sunday, the 17th, to Ross, Marin County, visiting Phoenix Lake, thence to Lagunitas and Alpine Lakes, returning to the picnic place below Phoenix Lake for supper. Those so desiring may start from Fairfax. Purchase round-trip ticket to Ross or Fairfax, 60c. Take Sausalito Ferry at 8:45 a. m. Those desiring to remain for supper bring food for two meals. Mr. Webb, leader.



Spotted Owls: Mr. C. R. Thomas reported that on May 20th, near Phoenix Lake, he observed three Spotted Owls and also heard them give their call.



"**Birds of Marin County,**" a pamphlet published by the Audubon Association of the Pacific giving a complete list of birds found in Marin County, seasonally classified, with authentic records, dates and names of observers. Price, twenty-five cents. Copies may be obtained from members of the Association on field trip if desired.



June Week Day trip will be taken on June 20th to Golden Gate Park. Meet at the Haight Street entrance to the park at 10 a. m. Bring luncheon. Miss Pringle, leader.

1934 Dues: Members are responsible for dues until written notice of resignation is received by the Treasurer. If you have not paid your 1934 dues, kindly do so without further delay, thereby helping to keep the Association on a safe financial basis.



May Meeting: The 202nd regular meeting was held on May 11, in room 19, Ferry Building, with thirty-six members and guests present. First Vice-President Robert E. Taylor presiding.

The following observations were reported:

Mrs. Isabel P. Collins: Searsville cut-off, May 6, Avocets and Black-necked Stilts.

Commander and Mrs. Parmenter: San Mateo and Dumbarton Bridges: April 19, Knots in two groups of five and six and on May 8, four; April 19, 200+ Avocets, 100+ Forster Terns; Golden Gate Park, May 9, Cedar Waxwings 15+.

Carl Smith: Cliff House, April 15, Willets, and near Fleischhacker Pool, twelve Black-bellied Plovers.

Mrs. Albert B. Stephens: Tesla Canyon, April 29, Yellow-billed Magpie; Golden Gate Park, May 12, Cedar Waxwings 24+.

Robert Taylor: Oakland, May 10, Cedar Waxwings.

Dr. J. B. Bostick, a visitor, told of the large flock of Bonaparte Gulls in the cove at Yerba Buena Island and of the finding of a Kingfisher's nest on the island.

Audubon Association of the Pacific

Organized January 25, 1917

For the Study and the Protection of Birds

President.....	Joseph J. Webb.....	519 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.

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Life memberships, \$50.00

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