

M&O  
Serials  
QL 671  
G84

THE  
MONTHLY



CALIFORNIA  
LIBRARY

JUN 9 - 1942

OF GULL  
BULLETIN

VOLUME 24

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA, JUNE, 1942

NUMBER 6

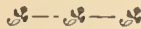
### Royal Ways

The teal's eggs are white,  
Her nest is in the grasses.  
Before she goes to feed—head submerged and tail up—  
She covers her eggs with the soft, the plucked breast feathers  
And goes quietly among the grasses  
Before she flies.

The snipe's eggs are green like the sedges.  
They are brown like the tussock that lifts her nest above brown water;  
She and they are of the marsh colors, and she rises in free zigzag upon quiet  
wings when the air is clear.

These are good ways to survive,  
One for the light snipe, one for the whirr-winged duck.  
Each in her way protects eggs and young from the stealthy coyote and the fierce-  
clawed enemies of the air.

They are common birds, but these are royal ways of securing the succession.  
Benjamin H. Lehman, Berkeley, California.



### Deer and Coyote Friends

It is the writer's good fortune to have the privilege of visiting a 2500 acre stock ranch situated in the foothills, about ten miles west of King City, Monterey County, California, not far from Santa Lucia and Pinyon Peaks in the Coast Range. One leaves the main highway (El Camino Real) at Greenfield, travels in a westerly direction about four miles, then in a southerly direction up what is known as "Reliz Canyon," very narrow with precipitous walls rising to a height of 750 to 1,000 feet. Driving along a winding country road for about three miles, "Shelter Rock Ranch" is reached. To the left of the road runs a creek, and after the ranch property is entered the road closely parallels the creek bed for approximately a mile through rolling foothills covered with oaks of various kinds. Near the creek bed are cascara, willows, alders and sycamores, the home of many species of land birds. At the base of limestone rocks rising to a height to 200 feet, facing east, stands the ranch house.

Through a part of this canyon Gaspar de Portola passed in 1779 when he made his famous expedition from San Diego to San Francisco in search of Monterey Bay.

Just as the gray dawn broke over the eastern hills the writer left the ranch house and crossed the creek not far distant to a small flat, probably 150 yards in length, which has a fairly steep side hill rising along its easterly side. Hearing the sound of feet treading the leaves, the writer knew that a deer was approach-

ing, but also hearing another and lighter tread, thought that a fawn was following its mother. It was apparent that the animals were coming down the hill and out upon the flat. Looking through the open spaces between the trees, what was taken to be a doe and its fawn were seen, but as they came into full view, not more than seventy-five yards distant, a doe and a coyote appeared.

Dropping behind a small bush and remaining motionless, the writer watched, for perhaps two minutes, the friendly animals playing together. The coyote at first was playfully following the doe, and then the order was reversed, the doe playfully following the coyote. Finally the coyote started toward the writer's place of concealment, but as it approached, evidently a suspicious scent was caught by this wary animal, for it suddenly turned toward the hillside, running rapidly in that direction. The doe without hesitation followed the coyote's lead and both disappeared from view.

It might be suggested that the doe was attempting to lead the coyote away from young fawns, but after watching them gamboling about upon the flat for a couple of minutes, it was evident that this was not the case, but rather that they were merely in a playful mood enjoying the company of each other on this beautiful and peaceful morning.

Joseph J. Webb, San Francisco, California. March 20, 1942.



### Point Lobos — Lest We Forget

What has happened to the enthusiasm with which Californians established their great system of State Parks? Only a little more than ten years ago large numbers of persons were active in the selection of many parcels of land to be set aside for some special use and protected by the State. Point Lobos Reserve was singled out for extra effort and it was nurtured with so much care and study that it came to be recognized by thousands of persons as the most valuable bit of land in California. But not everyone recognizes at a glance the need for constant vigilance if this value is to be preserved. In the past five years schemes for economy or opportunity for harmful activity in the Reserve have been discovered by so many persons and groups of people as nearly to smother the working of the plan originally adopted as essential to the preservation of the peculiar values of the area for visitors. One person has struggled to carry out the provisions of this plan. But this is not a task for one person. Every person who appreciates the ideals represented by the maintenance of Point Lobos needs to revive his interest or this spot will soon again be just another weed-filled, track-scarred, picnic ground, too far away to invite a visit. How can we expect to combat forces in remote places, that worship only power and materials, without first making an effort to keep our own ideas of worth in good order? The least that any person can do to maintain this symbol of our appreciation of Nature is to acquaint himself with the injuries it is receiving and then to encourage its most active sponsor, the Save-the-Redwoods League, to maintain its guard and see that the harm is warded off.

Jean M. Linsdale, Monterey County, California. Reprinted from THE CONDOR, March-April, 1942.



### May Field Trip

It was a very dark, gray day, quite cool, when a group of seventeen members and guests met at the end of the carline at Leimert Street in Oakland, May 17th, for the field trip to the Dimond Canyon District. Mrs. Kelly and Mrs. Austin had first scouted the park at its entrance. Our party divided, the machines going back to the entrance while fourteen of the group crawled down the side to reach the bottom of the canyon. Once down there the cool, dark canyon with only the sound of the water falling along the creek bed made us feel we were far from

a city. Time and again we were happy to just stand and listen to bird calls and songs. Mrs. Kelly was constantly in demand for instruction. Although it was too dark to see the birds clearly, it proved an excellent opportunity for listening—and the canyon was so full of song! At the recreational section of the park the birds were easily seen, and the day was growing lighter. Our first unusual bird was a Cowbird (*Molothrus ater*), new to quite a few of the group present. The highlight of the trip was a pair of Arizona Hooded Orioles (*Icterus cucullatus*) and their nest of palm fibres fastened to the under side of a Washington palm leaf. A ground squirrel was causing quite a commotion, but the nest was out too far on the leaf for danger from such an attack.

Pleasure was expressed by many that it is gratifying in these days of gasoline and tire rationing to have a place so accessible where birds may be studied. It is fortunate indeed that a city can and does maintain within its corporate limits such a natural haven for birds as well as a recreational park for its citizens.

The group had lunch in Dimond Park and then a vote decided that the rest of the day be spent in taking a trip to St. Mary's. Arriving there about two p. m. we were not greeted with so many species, nor so much song, but everyone profited by watching and listening to the Lazuli Bunting (*Passerina amaena*). The species of birds seen and heard practically duplicated those at Dimond Canyon. Some of the members stopped at Mr. Nordquist's on Moraga Highway and enjoyed watching House Wrens and a Yellow-billed Magpie, a pet on the place.

Thirty-four species seen at Dimond Park:

Sparrow Hawk	Bush-tit	Brewer Blackbird
Valley Quail	Wren-tit	Black-headed Grosbeak
Anna Hummingbird	Bewick Wren	Lazuli Bunting
Allen Hummingbird	Western Robin	Purple Finch
Hairy Woodpecker	Russet-backed Thrush	House Finch
Downy Woodpecker	Cedar Waxwing	Green-backed Goldfinch
Olive-sided Flycatcher	Warbling Vireo	Spotted Towhee
Western Flycatcher	Cassin Vireo	Brown Towhee
Western Wood Pewee	Lutescent Warbler	Nuttall Sparrow
California Jay	Yellow Warbler	Song Sparrow
Plain Titmouse	Pileolated Warbler	English Sparrow
	Arizona Hooded Oriole	

Twenty-seven species seen at Moraga:

Cooper Hawk	Wren-tit	Pileolated Warbler
Red-tailed Hawk	Bewick Wren	Red-winged Blackbird
Valley Quail	House Wren	Purple Finch
Anna Hummingbird	Russet-backed Thrush	House Finch
Black Phoebe	Western Bluebird	Green-backed Goldfinch
Western Flycatcher	Warbling Vireo	Spotted Towhee
Cliff Swallow	Lutescent Warbler	Brown Towhee
California Jay	Junco	Brewer Grosbeak
Bush-tit	Song Sparrow	

Members present: Mrs. Junea Kelly, Mrs. Enid Austin; Misses Blake, Danz, Roscoe, Webb, and Werner; Messrs. Fischer, Leffler, and Meyer. Seven guests attended.

Christine Danz, Historian.



### Audubon Notes

**June Meeting:** The regular meeting will be held on Thursday, the 11th, at 8 p. m., in the Assembly Room, San Francisco Public Library, Larkin and McAllister Streets, San Francisco.

Dr. Robert C. Miller, Director, California Academy of Sciences, will lecture on "Birds of China," illustrated by lantern slides.

Members may bring guests.

**June Field Trip** will be taken on Sunday, the 14th, to Kentfield (Marin County) and Kent Woodlands. Members take the Greyhound bus at 5th and Mission Streets, at 8:40 a. m. Buy a round trip ticket to Kentfield. Those coming by automobile should meet the party at the station. Bring luncheon. This promises to be a delightful trip and will be led by Mrs. M. Courtright.



**May Meeting:** The 296th regular meeting was held on the 14th in the Assembly Room of the San Francisco Public Library, with forty-seven members and guests present. President Mrs. Harold C. Austin presided.

Mrs. Junea W. Kelly gave a most interesting account of her early birding experiences and told of unusual species found in her garden and in the Bay region. She presented a challenge to those who have felt that birding starts on some distant shore or inaccessible location.

The following observations were reported:

Northern Phalaropes, San Mateo Bridge, May 3rd, Mrs. Austin.

Lazuli Bunting, Mrs. Millard's garden, San Francisco, May 14th.

Fox Sparrows (3), April 4th, Pileolated Warbler, Russet-backed Thrush, April 11th, Olive-sided Flycatcher, May 2nd and 3rd, Golden Gate Park; pair of Killdeer with one young not yet able

to fly, Sunset Boulevard near Ortego Street, San Francisco, April 19th; Least Sandpipers (27), Lake Merced, April 18th; Golden-crowned Sparrows, last seen in San Francisco garden May 5th; Cedar Waxwings, San Francisco, May 8th; Audubon Warbler in full plumage and singing, Los Altos, May 16th—all by Mrs. Stephens.

Golden-crowned Sparrows departed last year on May 4th, this year on May 2nd; Ash-throated Flycatcher arrived last year on April 27th, this year on April 26th, Napa—Mr. Webb.

Yellow-headed Black-bird, Berkeley, May 20th, Alice Victoria Johnson.

Western Tanagers, Warbling Vireos, and Wood pewee, Golden Gate Park, May 21st, Harold Kirker.

The following have been elected to membership: Mrs. Scott Newhall and Mrs. Ethel E. Richardson, Berkeley; Miss Edith Jamieson and Dr. J. B. Bostick, San Francisco.



The Educational Committee visited the Sunnyhills Orphanage at San Anselmo on Sunday, May 17th, where a talk on birds and wild flowers was given and colored motion pictures were shown. At the conclusion of the meeting the children were presented with Peterson's "Field Guide to Western Birds," which was generously donated by Mr. B. C. Cain.

---

## Audubon Association of the Pacific

Organized January 25, 1917

### For the Study and the Protection of Birds

President.....	Mrs. Harold C. Austin.....	541 Boulevard Way, Piedmont
Corresponding Secretary.....	Mr. Joseph J. Webb.....	519 California St., San Francisco
Treasurer.....	Miss Ivander MacIver.....	2414 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley
Editor.....	Mrs. T. Eric Reynolds.....	140 Estates Drive, Piedmont

Monthly meeting second Thursday, 8 p.m.

Assembly Room, San Francisco Public Library, Larkin and McAllister Streets, 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.