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GULL  
BULLETIN

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Volume 55

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Number 2

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### SLIDE SHOW ON SCAMMON'S LAGOON

DR. WILLIAM BURNS, Director of the San Diego Museum of Natural History, will present at the February general meeting of the Golden Gate Audubon Society a lecture and slide show on Scammon's Lagoon, the Mexican wildlife sanctuary in Baja California famed as the spawning grounds for the Gray Whale. Dr. Burns' presentation will feature the wildlife of this unique area, including sea lions, Osprey, other resident birds, and of course the Gray Whale. The meeting will be held at **7:30 P.M.** on **Thursday, February 8** at the Rotary Natural Science Center, Bellvue and Perkins in Oakland. PETER WHITE, *Program Chairman*.

### FEBRUARY FIELD TRIPS

**Sunday, February 4:** A short walk (9 A.M. - noon) to HEERDT MARSH, an area that Marin conservationists are working to save. We should see Short-eared Owls and White-tailed Kites in addition to ducks and shorebirds. Drive north on 101 just past Corte Madera; exit on Lucky Drive, immediately turn right, and park near the Golden Gate Trailer Court. We will walk on dirt roads for about two miles into the marsh.

**Saturday, Sunday, February 10-11:** LOS BANOS. Meet both days at 9 A.M. at the Los Banos State Refuge on Henry Miller Rd. Arrive early to register. Make overnight reservations at La Casa Motel, (209-826-0682), or the Canal Farm Inn (209-826-5121). Notify leader before February 6 if you wish to join the group for Saturday night dinner. For further details, see January *Gull*. Leader: Marie Mans, 3713 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette 94549 (284-7681).

**Wednesday, February 14:** COYOTE HILLS REGIONAL PARK. Take Nimitz Freeway south to Jarvis exit. Drive west on Jarvis to Newark Blvd.; turn right, drive about a mile, and turn left on Patterson Rd. to the big parking lot in the park. Meet at 9 A.M. Leader: Alice Mericourt (525-7703).

**Saturday, February 17:** GRIZZLY and JOICE ISLANDS in Solano County. Take Interstate 80 to Fairfield. Meet in the parking lot at Fairfield City Park on West Texas St. at 9 A.M. We will caravan to Grizzly Island. Leader: Warren Larson (525-9149).

**Sunday, February 25:** Bus trip to the SACRAMENTO-SAN JOAQUIN DELTA to see Sandhill Cranes and Whistling Swans. San Franciscans should meet no later than **7 A.M.** in front of the Civic Auditorium at Grove and Larkin. The bus will leave promptly at **7:10 A.M.** East Bay residents should be at the Rotary Natural Science Center, Bellvue and Perkins in Oakland, by **7:30 A.M.** The bus will leave at **7:40.** Make reservations, preferably by mail, with Pat Triggs, Field Trips Chairman, 2038 33rd Ave., San Francisco 94116. Send a check for \$5 made out to the Golden Gate Audubon Society. Be sure to include your telephone number in case of last-minute changes. **Deadline: February 1.** Space limited to 43 persons. For those who prefer to drive, meet the bus at **9:15** at the south end of town in Thornton (Note new meeting place). Leader: Paul Covel (536-4120).

The usual no-leader field trips will be held at Tilden Park on Thursday, February 8 (Meet at 9 A.M. at the Little Farm) and at Golden Gate Park on Wednesday, February 28 (Meet at 9 A.M. at the Academy of Science).

**Saturday, Sunday, March 3-4:** To HONEY LAKE in Lassen County to see Sage Grouse and other Great Basin birds. Drive to Reno; then take U.S. 395 north to Litchfield. Make reservations at the Sierra Vista Downtowner Motel in Susanville (916-257-2164) or at the small Seven Acres Motel in Litchfield (916-257-6711). Meet at the state game refuge headquarters at **6 A.M.** both mornings to see the Sage Grouse and at **9 A.M.** for later bird walks. To get to the headquarters (note revised directions) drive about three miles beyond Litchfield. At Mape's Ranch, look for the inconspicuous state game refuge sign. Turn right, drive approximately two miles and take the first left turn (no sign). For additional details, see the *January Gull*. Leader: Ted Chandik (493-5330).

Dates to hold: March 10—Drake's Estero; March 18—Shadow Cliffs and Del Valle Regional Parks; April 21-22—Caswell Memorial State Park; May 5-6—Pinnacles National Monument; May 19-20—Hetch Hetchy; June 2-3—Yosemite; June 17-18—Yuba Pass. PAT TRIGGS, *Field Trips Chmn.*

### FIELD OBSERVATIONS

*Yellow-billed Loon*, Jan. 1, Drake's Bay—JH.

*Red-necked Grebe*, Dec. 17, Alameda Naval Air Station; Dec. 26, Bodega Bay.

*White Pelicans*, 350, Dec. 19, Drake's Estero, Pt. Reyes—SY.

*Green Heron*, Dec. 16-Jan. 1, Berkeley Aquatic Park—JH.

*Cattle Egret*, Dec. 16, Inverness—PRBO Christmas count.

*Wood Duck*, 3, Dec. 27-30, Jewel Lake, Tilden Park.

*Barrow's Goldeneye*, 4, Dec. 6, Pt. Molate, Richmond—GZ; also Lake Merritt through December.

*Rough-legged Hawk*, 2, Dec. 25, Año Nuevo State Reserve—L & FN.

*Bald Eagle*, Dec. 17, San Pablo Dam—Oakland Christmas Count; Dec. 26, Bodega Bay—WMP, AM.

*Pigeon Hawk*, 4, Dec. 17, San Pablo Dam, Oakland Christmas Count;

- one, Dec. 26, near Nike missile site, Tilden Park—JC; Jan. 1, Jewel Lake—NS.
- Clapper Rail*, 14, Nov. 23, Bay Park Refuge, Oakland—VH.
- Rock Sandpiper*, 3, Dec. 26, Bodega Head—JWMP, AM.
- Saw-whet Owl*, Dec. 16, Higgins-Purissima Rd., San Mateo Co.—MZ.
- Yellow-shafted Flicker*, Nov. 29, University Village, Albany—JH; Dec. 9, Sawyer Camp Rd., San Mateo Co.—L & FN.
- Dipper*, Dec. 2, Jewel Lake, Tilden Park—JH.
- Northern Shrike*, Dec. 26, Doran Park, Bodega Bay—WMP, AM.
- Western Tanager*, Dec. 7, 17, Berkeley garden—BSU; Dec. 17, 21, El Cerrito garden—JB; Dec. 29, Golden Gate Park Arboretum—DS.
- Evening Grosbeak*, 3, Dec. 15, Oakland garden—FF.
- Red Crossbill*, Dec. 10, Laurel Canyon near Nimitz Way, Tilden Park—JH.
- Vesper Sparrow*, Jan. 1, near Drake's Beach—JH.
- Slate-colored Junco*, pair, Dec. 8, Tilden Park Golf Course—JM; Dec. 21, Berkeley feeder—JRa; Dec. 30, 31, University Village, Albany—JH.
- Tree Sparrow*, Nov. 17, 25, Inverness Motel—GB.
- White-throated Sparrow*, Dec. 6, UC Tree Farm, Lafayette—IT; two, Nov. 23-Dec. 7, Mill Valley garden—VL.
- Lincoln's Sparrow*, Dec. 8, upper Laurel Canyon, Tilden Park—JM.
- SNOW BUNTING, Dec. 2, Bay Farm Island, Alameda—JM, BF.

Observers: Gerard Brady, Joyce Burr, Jim Clayton, Florence Fisher, Bud Fry, John Hollis, Volna Losh, Alice Mericourt, Joe Morlan, Leroy & Fran Nelson, Wm. M. Pursell, Jim Rasmussen, Dixie Sperling, Nick Story, Inez Troxell, Bertha S. Underhill, Scott Youngman, Gary Zamzow, Mark Zumsteg. VI HOMEM, *Observations Chairman* (339-1886).

### COVEL'S CONSERVATION CORNER

PROTECTION OF THE CALIFORNIA COASTLINE under the provisions of proposition 20, which we hailed so triumphantly after passage last November, will only be as effective as the 84 citizens appointed to serve on the Coastal Zone Conservation Commission and the six regional commissions. Governor Reagan's appointment of Melvin B. Lane, former chairman of BCDC, to the statewide commission, and two professional environmentalists, Ellen J. Johnk and Kenneth M. Stocking, to the North Coast commission are gratifying. Vice Mayor Lenard Grote of Pleasant Hill and Councilwoman Ilene Weinreb of Hayward were selected for the North Coast and Central Coast commission by President Don Dillon of ABAG, who believes "inlanders" should exercise some voice in decisions affecting their nearby coast counties. The Governor's appointments are subject to Senate confirmation.

Subdivisions near Sunol, on Bay Farm Island, in the Oakland Hills, and on Albany Hill continue to be subjects of litigation, petitions and various hearings. The cause of conservationists would benefit immeasurably if GGAS and your Conservation Chairman could recruit more representatives to attend hearings and participate in on-site inspection trips.



While the several developments briefly mentioned would contribute to air, noise, and visual pollution and traffic congestion, the proposed residential tracts near Sunol Regional Park are especially serious because they threaten one of the few "little wilderness parks" so near to home. At the time of this writing (January 3) Bay Alert of the Sierra Club was urging conservationists to express their concern about Sunol's future to Overview, the East Bay Regional Park master planners, at the Hotel Claremont, Berkeley 94705 and to regional park directors. Remember that Sunol Regional Park and adjacent San Francisco watershed and grazing lands constitute one of the few remaining habitats for the Golden Eagle and Prairie Falcon in Alameda County. Cougar and coyote still roam there as well.

An important new source of money to establish special trails for off-road vehicles, which threaten many wilderness areas of California, has been disappointingly slow in materializing. The Chappie-Z'berg Off-Highway Vehicle Act of 1971 provided for registration and a \$6 fee for such vehicles, 50% of which funds would be used by cities, counties and park districts to provide better facilities for these vehicles. This would improve hiking and equestrian trails by getting these putt-putts off them. But the first few weeks of 1972 saw only some 20,000 of an estimated 1.5 million off-road vehicles in the state being registered. So if one of these contraptions bugs you during a hike or bird walk, look for the operator's sticker. If he doesn't have one, ask him why, or tell the nearest officer or ranger.

Attention, all bird rescuers! If you would treat those bird victims brought to you for oil, poisoning or physical injuries—you cannot afford to miss the spring semester class in such treatment scheduled by the International Bird Rescue Research Center and the University Extension. For information call the Berkeley Center (841-9086) or University Extension offices. The course would also qualify you to lend competent assistance in the next bird disaster.

PAUL COVEL, *Conservation Chairman.*

### SPRING ADVENTURES IN URBAN ECOLOGY

You are invited to join Audubon Nature Training's spring adventures in urban ecology. Except for "Further Adventures in Urban Ecology" courses, there are no prerequisites. All people interested in nature are welcome to participate. Class sizes are limited; therefore *registration must be made in advance*. Directions to class locations and suggestions for clothing will be sent with enrollment confirmation. To enroll, or to request more information, simply call 843-2222 weekdays between 10 A.M. and 4 P.M. (All courses sponsored by Golden Gate Audubon Society; courses at Aquatic Park given in cooperation with Berkeley Recreation and Park Department.)

### ADVENTURES IN URBAN ECOLOGY FOR EVERYBODY

Four weekly meetings. Taught by Aida Brenneis, Pinky Carus, Louise Dutton, Mary Lawton, Phyllis Simon, Adelaide Tolberg, Molly Reeves and Sally Wilt. Fee \$5.

*Course #1:* ALAMEDA, McKinley Park, Tuesdays, 10 - 11:30 A.M., Jan. 16, 23, 30, Feb. 6 (Simon). For Further Adventures, see Course #20.

*Course #2:* LAFAYETTE, Fairview School, Tuesdays, 9:45 - 11:15 A.M., Feb. 6, 13, 20, 27 (Tolberg). For Further Adventures, see Course #21.

*Course #3:* MARTINEZ, John Muir N.H.S., Wednesdays, 10 - 11:30 A.M., Feb. 7, 14, 21, 28 (Carus). Offered in cooperation with the National Park Service.

*Course #4:* LARKSPUR, Redwood High School, Weekdays 9 - 12 noon, Feb. 7, 8, 9, 12, 13 (Lawton). Designed for high school students.

*Course #5:* NAPA, Junior Museum Bldg., Wednesdays, 10 - 12 noon, Feb. 21, 28, March 7 (Brenneis). Three 2-hour meetings.

*Course #6:* BERKELEY, Aquatic Park, Thursdays, 1 - 2:30 P.M. March 8, 16, 22, 29 (Wilt).

*Course #7:* ALAMEDA, Bay Refuge Park, Wednesdays, 12 - 1 P.M., March 28, April 4, 11, 18, 25, May 2, 9 (Brenneis). Seven one-hour meetings.

*Course #8:* BERKELEY, Aquatic Park, Saturdays, 10 - 11:30 A.M. April 28, May 5, 12, 19 (Instructor to be announced).

*Course #9:* FREMONT, Mattos School, Mondays, 1:30 - 3 P.M., April 30, May 7, 14, 21 (Tolberg).

*Course #10:* LAFAYETTE, Twin Canyon, Thursdays, 1 - 2:30 P.M., May 3, 10, 17, 24 (Dutton).

*Course #11:* MARTINEZ, John Muir N.H.S., Fridays, 1 - 2:30 P.M., May 4, 11, 18, 25, June 1, 8 (Reeves). Especially appropriate for pre-school teachers and volunteers. The fee for this 6-session course is \$7.50. Offered in cooperation with the National Park Service.

*Course #12:* NEVADA CITY, Camp Fire Camp, Saturday, Sunday, Monday, May 26, 27, 28 (Instructor to be announced).

## ADVENTURES IN URBAN ECOLOGY FOR TEACHERS

Eight weekly meetings. In-service or college credit available. Taught by Judy Donaghey, Margaret Lacrampe, Mary Lawton, Marie Lowell, Alice Michael and Karyn Stafford. Fee \$10 (college credit \$9 extra).

*Course #13:* OAKLAND, Mosswood Park, Wednesdays, 3:30 - 5 P.M., March 14, 21, 28, April 4, 11, 25, May 2, 9 (Lowell).

*Course #14:* BERKELEY, Aquatic Park, Thursdays, 10 - 11:30 A.M., March 22, 29, April 5, 12, 26, May 3, 10, 17 (Donaghey).

*Course #15:* BERKELEY, Aquatic Park, Thursdays, 4 - 5:30 P.M., March 29, April 5, 12, 26, May 3, 10, 17 (Lacrampe).

*Course #16:* SAN FRANCISCO, Ft. Point N.H.S., Thursdays, 3:45 - 5:15 P.M., March 29, April 5, 12, 26, May 3, 10, 17, 24 (Lawton). Offered in cooperation with the National Park Service.

*Course #17:* FREMONT, Lake Elizabeth, Mondays, 3:30 - 5 P.M., April 2, 9, 23, 30, May 7, 14, 21, June 4 (Stafford).

*Course #18:* RICHMOND, Stege Elementary School, Wednesdays, 3:30 - 5 P.M., April 4, 11, 25, May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 (Lawton).

*Course #19:* SALINAS, Bardin School, Friday, Saturday, Sunday, April 6, 7, 8 (Brenneis and Michael).

### FURTHER ADVENTURES IN URBAN ECOLOGY FOR EVERYBODY

Four weekly meetings. Specific presentations for the elementary level are taught to equip participants to fill program requests from local classrooms. Anyone who has ever taken an ANT course is automatically eligible to take one of the following courses. Taught by Louise Dutton, Phyllis Simon and Marge Watt. Fee \$5.

*Course #20:* ALAMEDA, McKinley Park, Tuesdays, 10 - 11:30 A.M., Feb. 13, 20, 27, March 6 (Simon). May be preceded by course #1.

*Course #21:* LAFAYETTE, Fairview School, Tuesdays, 9:45 - 11:15 A.M., March 6, 13, 20, 27 (Simon). May be preceded by course #2.

*Course #22:* BERKELEY, Aquatic Park, Thursdays, 12:30 - 2:30 P.M., April 5, 12, 26, May 3 (Watt).

*Course #23:* LAFAYETTE, Twin Canyon, Thursdays, 1 - 2:30 P.M., March 15, 22, 29, April 5 (Dutton). This course offers a new series of presentations entitled "Observations."

### GGAS DOWN UNDER NATURE TOUR

IMAGINE YOURSELF peering through the forest growth at the magnificent finery of a Prince Albert Lyrebird or watching a Regent Bowerbird constructing its intricate bower of sticks and ornaments to attract a mate. Or picture a duck-billed platypus swimming past as a koala bear munches eucalyptus leaves overhead.

You can experience these unusual sights and other natural wonders on the first Golden Gate Audubon Ecological Tour departing for Australia and New Zealand in late September, 1973. Patterned closely after a very successful Australian bird tour conducted by the Los Angeles Audubon Society in November, 1971, on which over 300 species of birds were identified, the Golden Gate trip is scheduled at the peak of the "Down Under" spring, when bird activities and blooming flowers are at their maximum.

George Peyton, former GGAS vice-president, who led a successful ecological safari to East Africa this past summer, will act as tour leader. He will be assisted along the entire route by local bird experts and naturalists. Although primary emphasis will be placed on birds, the plants, animals, and ecology of the area will also be covered.



A maximum of 15 persons (plus the leader) has been placed on the tour to ensure more personalized attention to each tour member. Several informal orientation meetings to fully brief tour members on the birds, landscape, and ecology of Australia and New Zealand will be given prior to departure. If you are interested in more information, write to Golden Gate Audubon 1973 Tour, c/o Siemer and Hand Ltd., One Embarcadero Center, San Francisco 94111 or call Bud Simon at (415) 788-7186.

### A FIELD STUDY OF ISLANDS AND LAGOONS OF BAJA CALIFORNIA

A NATURAL HISTORY field study program of the western coast and islands of Baja California will be conducted from aboard a 105-foot deluxe charter vessel out of San Diego. Visits will be made to Guadalupe, San Benito, Cedros, and San Martin Islands and San Ignacio Lagoon. The week of the trip (March 24-31) coincides with the blooming of many plants and with the breeding activities of many birds and marine mammals. Studies will include geology, flora, seashore life, birds, and marine mammals. Emphasis will be placed on birds with special efforts made to observe many unique pelagic species and endemics such as Belding's Yellowthroat, McGregor's and Guadalupe House Finches, and Guadalupe Junco.

Expenses covered by the \$410 fee include round trip air fare from the Bay Area to San Diego, transportation to and from the ship, accommodations and meals for seven days on board, and natural history instruction.

Reservations for the tour can be made with Lightlyn Travel Counselors, 200 3rd. Street, Los Altos, Calif. For further information, contact the above or Glenn Moffat, biology instructor at Foothill College, or Terrence Murphy, Office of Community Services, Foothill College, Los Altos (948-3523, ext. 521), or Ted Chandik (493-5330).

### MEMORIAL GIFTS

Gifts of remembrance were made to Audubon Canyon Ranch:

<i>In Memory of:</i>	<i>Gift of:</i>
Frank Belotti .....	Margaret Macormack
Jefferson Doolittle .....	Margaret Macormack
Earl Conrad .....	Margaret Macormack
Herman L. Reid .....	Mac & Marion McDonald

A gift was made to Audubon Canyon Ranch:

<i>In Honor of:</i>	<i>Gift of:</i>
Myra Browne .....	Lolita Peterson

Gifts were made to the Golden Gate Audubon Society:

<i>In Honor of:</i>	<i>Gift of:</i>
Dr. Albert Boles .....	Boy Scout Troop 254
Laurel Reynolds .....	Hillside Gardeners of Montclair

DR. ALBERT BOLES, Sanctuary and Memorial Fund Chairman, 854 Longridge Rd., Oakland 94610 (451-6267).



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January

THE GULL

1973

**GOLDEN GATE AUDUBON SOCIETY, INC.**

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

President .....	Mrs. Richard F. Johnson .....	1127 El Centro Ave., Oakland 94602	530-7118
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Editor .....	Steve Whitney .....	6718 Heartwood Dr., Oakland 94611	339-1059
Program Chairman .....	Peter White .....	24900 Santa Clara Ave., Hayward 94544	782-3505
Observations Chairman .....	Mrs. George Homem .....	6911 Armour Dr., Oakland 94611	339-1886
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Wildlife Chairman .....	Mrs. Frances Ellen Fallgatter .....	406 El Cerrito, Piedmont 94611	655-9582
Conservation Chairman .....	Paul F. Covel .....	2860 Deleware St., Oakland 94602	536-4120
Publicity Chairman .....	Ms. Dolores Johnson .....	425 Lee Street #34, Oakland 94610	832-6504
BAAC Delegate .....	Mr. Joshua Barkin .....	Tilden Park Nature Area, Berkeley 94708	524-2495

Send address changes to Membership Secretary promptly; Post Office does not forward *THE GULL*. Monthly meetings—second Thursday 7:30 p.m. Joint membership—Local & National \$12 per year, (individual); \$15 (family); includes *AUDUBON MAGAZINE* and *THE GULL*. Subscriptions to *THE GULL* separately \$2 per year. High school & college student membership \$6 per year.

The *Gull* deadline is the first of the month for the following month.