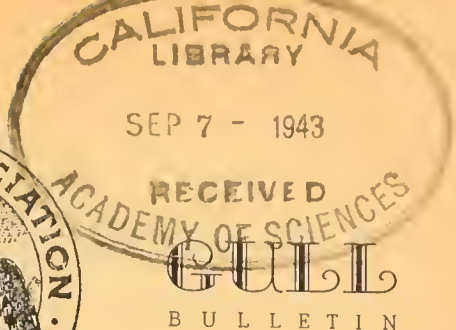


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Hilda Wood Grinnell

On August 12, 1943, Hilda Wood Grinnell (Mrs. Joseph Grinnell) was elected an Honorary Member of the Audubon Association of the Pacific, in recognition of her outstanding achievement in the field of ornithology and her sympathy with the principles for which this Association stands.

Dr. Alden H. Miller, Director of the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology at the University of California in Berkeley, wrote on August 24:

"I mention various items that come to mind indicative of Mrs. Grinnell's contributions to the field of natural history and her services to organizations in this line of work. The principal papers which she has written are: *The Reptiles of Los Angeles County*, 1907, in co-authorship with Joseph Grinnell; *Three New Races of Vespertilionid Bats from California*, Univ. Calif. Publ. Zool., 1914; *A New Bat of the Genus Myotis from the Sierra Nevada of California*, Univ. Calif. Publ. Zool., 1916; *Notes on Some Bats from Alaska and British Columbia*, Univ. Calif. Publ., Zool., 1918, a 170-page treatise; *Biography and Bibliography of Joseph Grinnell*, Condor, 1940.

"Twenty years of service as Secretary of the Northern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club has entailed constant development of the program of the Division and participation as a member of the Board of Governors in the business activities of the Club.

"Through the years of Dr. Grinnell's life much aid was given to preparation of manuscripts written by him, especially with respect to bibliographical references. Such type of aid is specifically acknowledged in Joseph Grinnell's third installment of the *Bibliography of the Ornithology of California*. She also participated in the final editing of this work published after his death.

"For the last three years Mrs. Grinnell has held an honorary appointment in the Museum as Bibliographer. Since 1939 she has kept bibliographic record of all publications on California birds, continuing the system of records maintained since the beginning of the century by Dr. Grinnell. She has prepared a bibliography of the late C. Hart Merriam for publication in the *Journal of Mammalogy*.

"She has worked constantly in the last three years, assembling certain categories of information in connection with the state list of birds, begun by Dr. Grinnell, which we are endeavoring to bring to completion. Her part has involved checking literature, all museum catalogs, and listing the vernacular synonyms of the birds of the state. Also, she has aided extensively in reading copy.

"As an example of the many ways in which she is helpful to students of natural history, she has organized three field parties for women graduate students, designed to give them special training in the technique of field observation and collecting."

Mrs. Grinnell is always ready to give understanding guidance and enthusiastic service to those who seek her wise counsel, especially if, by so doing, she can help to deepen the interest of young people in their environment. This summer she was head of the nature department of the San Francisco Girl Scout Camp, Sugar Pine, in Calaveras County. Her camp name was *Pipistrelle*, "piping to the stars", in honor of our western bat. Indifference to the wonders of the natural world and fear of strange creatures and their habits were quickly dispelled in the presence of her intelligent leadership. From ten-year-old girls, with wiggling "bugs", to the handyman with a White-footed mouse — all called on *Pipistrelle*, whose never-waning patience and wisdom met the need of every situation. She revealed to the campers the fact that we were the intruders in the woodland home of the birds and animals, and they found new joy in the discovery of their ways of living.

Camp Sugar Pine is fortunate in having Mrs. Grinnell as their nature leader, and the Audubon Association of the Pacific is privileged to have her as a valued Honorary Member.

—Dorothy Dean Sheldon, Berkeley, Calif.

The War and the Audubon

Several of our members who are in military service have taken time out of their busy lives to send us news about themselves and their interesting experiences. We hope that we may hear from others in order that we may print their letters in THE GULL, and that those who have already written will send us more news from time to time, as they go on to other places in their great adventure. We who are at home appreciate having our horizons broadened — even if vicariously.

It has been reported to us that Robert Taylor is an Ensign in the Navy, Jack Wolff is in the Merchant Marine, and James Selvester is in the Ordnance Division of the Aviation Branch of the army overseas. Among other members who are in the service are Edwin Pike and Ed. Greenwood. We would like to hear from each of them. Three of our members have been receiving training as Ski-troopers at Camp Hale, Colorado, Don Heyneman, Gerald Sedgewick, and Harold Kirker. We have already enjoyed hearing from Harold Kirker in our June issue, and we are pleased to have a more recent letter from him under date of June 15th:

"Our hills are just coming into a fresh green. The once lemon-trunked aspen leaves are turning white, and the branchlets spreading out in the most delicate shades. The mountains owe half their color to these trees. The aspen groves weave in and across the mountainside a pattern of pale yellow-green against the black shadow of the spruce and fir. Under their trembling branches, as in the willows along the California stream-beds, the Pileolated Warbler, Traill's Flycatcher, and Warbling Vireo sing. The Fox Sparrow and the Pewee can slip almost unobserved among their shielding foliage, while the Purple Finch, White-crowned Sparrow, Red-backed Junco, and Lark Sparrow prefer the isolated pine groves near camp."

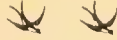
It is appropriate to give news of our member, Miss Misaye Watanabe, whose absence is a distinct loss to the monthly field trips. Many will remember her delightful enthusiasm and her uncanny ability to locate nests and birds. She is at the Relocation Center at Amache, Colorado, and has adjusted herself to the life of the camp in a very admirable manner. Her interest in birds has continued, in spite of very limited opportunities to pursue her hobby. Under date of June 12th, she wrote

"I am sending you a box containing a nest and eggs — three Lark Sparrow eggs and two Cowbird eggs. The boys found it in the onion-patch, where they were cultivating. It had been deserted by the owners and the nest itself would have been destroyed if the boys had not brought it to me, knowing my interest in birds. It was very exciting to me to see it, the first nest I have ever seen with eggs of two species. Lark Sparrows and Cowbirds are greatly in evidence here. The Red-headed Woodpecker is here also. What a highly colored bird! The red, white, and blue-black colors are so distinct. Many birds have come with the greens on the grasses and the trees. It is decidedly encouraging."

Commander T. E. Reynolds has been in the South Pacific area for more than a year. He has made the most of his opportunities to study the birds of several islands. In March two events transpired which were of great advantage to him in following his favorite avocation. Dr. Hannibal Hamlin, formerly of the American Museum of Natural History, New York, and a member of the Whitney Expedition which studied the fauna of the South Pacific Islands some years ago, became a member of the surgical staff of the base hospital to which Dr. Reynolds was attached (until his recent transfer to a new assignment). They used all their available spare time observing and identifying birds, and in making a museum collection. Dr. Hamlin was an invaluable aid in this work. The other event was a trip to Australia. Upon his arrival in Sydney, Dr. Reynolds went immediately to the Museum, where he met Mr. Neville Cayley, ornithologist, artist, and author of numerous books regarding Australian birds. The following is an excerpt from one of Dr. Reynolds' letters:

"When I wrote those notes before, I had nothing but two eyes and one meager reference. That reference, by the way, has a history. It is Neville Cayley's "What Bird is That?" My copy is thumb-worn, soiled by mud and water and jungle mildew (all books get mildew here), and has a neat shrapnel hole in it as a memento of that time when my camp was hit by a bomb in October. Fortunately, I was out on a ship that day. (And when my ship was sunk, I was at the camp!) Well, anyway, they all wanted to see that copy in Australia, and the author and several others autographed it. Since it is out of print I have a collector's item in no uncertain terms — thanks to John Brock, who gave it to me in the first place."

A recent letter from David Nichols reports his present location as Quantico, Va. Like John Roush, he has discovered that he is a good shot, having had the best score out of 600 marines in the officers' candidates class at Parris Island, Ga. A good after-the-war feature of an Audubon field trip would be to have John Roush and David Nichols "shoot it out" at a target in some deserted quarry. If any of our other members have discovered they possess this latent talent, we might add their names to the list of contenders for the title of "Best-Shot-Among the Bird-Lovers."



A Few General Observations

This season, in the immediate Bay Region, the Olive-sided Flycatcher (*Nuttallornis mesoleucus*) seems to have been more numerous than usual. Beginning in the latter part of April this species has been observed in several sections of Golden Gate Park, Lake Merced, Fleishhacker Zoo, Berkeley Campus, Strawberry Canyon, Piedmont, Claremont, Diamond, Mills College, several parts of the East Bay Regional Park, and in various parts of Marin County where members of the Association have had an opportunity of being. I cannot help feeling that if this flycatcher has been observed in the above localities there must be many more individuals in other favorable places from which no reports have come to my attention. Is it too much to assume that as the cultivated trees of our region become taller this bird finds here a more suitable environment than formerly, and hence more individuals stay to nest?

The Bush-tit (*Psaltriparus minimus*) is always a source of interest. In early winter this species begins to pair off and nest building often starts in January. There are records of nests begun as early as December, in which successful broods were raised. Beginning so early, there can be several broods before summer, so a few dates as to when these birds form their flocks again may be timely. Reports are at hand that flocks were observed July 6th in San Francisco and Piedmont, July 8th in Oakland and Alameda.

Where do the woodpeckers go to nest? Even flickers are rare in the sections where one would expect to find them. Looking over the lists of birds seen on Audubon field trips during the spring, this group of birds is noticeably lacking. The same is true concerning my field trips taken regularly in this section. I suggest that our members keep careful notes on their observations of woodpeckers so that we might learn more about their movements.

—Junea W. Kelly, Alameda, Calif.



August Field Trip

A small but most enthusiastic group of Audubonites met at the Chain of Lakes in Golden Gate Park for the August trip of the Society. The day was dull and cold, but when a couple of *Eucalyptus ficifolia* in full bloom came into sight the weather was forgotten. A Pied-billed Grebe with two babies appeared near a Coot and two of her young, giving us a marvelous chance to compare the two species. Nothing unusual was seen, but it did seem strange not to hear a woodpecker of any kind. A flock of Pine Siskins was observed feeding on acacia seeds — a hint of summer's end. From the Park, a walk to the Cliff House gave us the shore birds, which Mrs. Kelly helped to identify.

Following is the list of thirty birds observed:

Pied-billed Grebe	California Gull	Hutton's Vireo
Calif. Brown Pelican	Heermann's Gull	Warbling Vireo
Brandt's Cormorant	Anna's Hummingbird	Yellow Warbler
Mallard	Allen's Hummingbird	Pileolated Warbler
California Quail	Belted Kingfisher	Brewer's Blackbird
Coot	Black Phoebe	Cal. Purple Finch
Surf-bird	Chestnut-backed Chickadee	House Finch
Ruddy Turnstone	Bewick's Wren	Pine Siskin
Black Turnstone	Robin	Nuttall's Sparrow
Western Gull	Russet-backed Thrush	Song Sparrow

Fourteen members were in attendance: Misses Cohen, Elwonger, Kirk, MacIver, Paroni, Roscoe, Werner, and Young; Mesdames Dickman, Kelly, Kilham, and Zinke; Messrs. Kilham and Kwasky. Four guests brought the total to eighteen.

—Selma Werner, Acting Historian

Audubon Notes

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

Mrs. Junea W. Kelly, Lecturer on Natural Science, University of California Extension Division, will be the speaker, her subject being "Birds and Their Habitats". It is always stimulating to hear Mrs. Kelly. Her boundless enthusiasm and her extensive knowledge and experience in the field of natural science make her a speaker who never fails to hold the attention of her audience.

Members are privileged to bring guests.

SEPTEMBER FIELD TRIP will be taken on Sunday, the 12th, to Alameda to observe shore birds. Time of high tide at Alameda will be about noon, and height is 5.1 feet. Members and friends will meet

at Liberty and Fernside at 1:30 p.m. San Francisco members take the "O" Santa Clara bus from the terminal. These run every twenty minutes. The one leaving at 12:47 reaches High and Santa Clara at 1:28. The Alameda bus No. 58 from 14th and Broadway, Oakland, also goes to this point. From High and Santa Clara walk around Lincoln Park to the meeting place. Some members may want to come earlier and eat lunch at the foot of Liberty Street. Leader, Junea W. Kelly.

AUGUST MEETING: The 311th meeting was held on Thursday, August 12th, in the Assembly Room of the San Francisco Public Library, President Mrs. Harold C. Austin presiding.

Mrs. T. Eric Reynolds showed several reels from her colored motion picture, "Fun with Birds".



Observations

Edited by Junea W. Kelly

The following observations have been reported:

10 American Egrets, July 9, and 5 Egrets, Aug. 12, Lagoon north of Richardson Bay, Highway 101; 1 Egret, July 24, South of Novato; White-tailed Kite, often seen three miles south of Healdsburg; Mary L. Courtright.

15 American Egrets, Aug. 8, Greenbrae, Kentfield Marsh, Marin Co.; Anna M. Smith.

25 Northern Phalaropes, Aug. 12, east end of San Francisco Bay Bridge, Amy Rinehart.

Mr. Herman Leffler reports good birding at Lake Temescal, Oakland. Here, in spite of large numbers of people, Mallards and Coots successfully raised families, while Russet-backed Thrushes, Warblers and other species allow close approach.

Large numbers of Northern Phalaropes, Willets, Avocets and Least Sandpipers; several hundred White Pelicans; fair numbers of Pintails; one each Black and Ruddy Turnstones, Semipalmated and Snowy Plovers; few Long-billed Curlews, Aug. 10, Dumbarton Bridge approaches; Junea W. Kelly.

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 10
Corresponding Secretary.....	Mr. Joseph J. Webb.....	519 California St., San Francisco 4
Treasurer.....	Miss Ivander MacIver.....	2414 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley 4
Editor.....	Mrs. T. Eric Reynolds.....	140 Estates Drive, Piedmont 11

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.