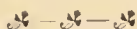




The Way of Disabled Birds

On March 29, 1941, while walking with a friend on the road at the north end of Mountain Lake in the Presidio, San Francisco, a Red Phalarope, *Phalaropus fulicarius*, flew across the road directly in front of us and alighted at the edge of a large puddle. A closer inspection showed the bird's breast feathers to be matted with crude oil. We watched it for some time attempting to clean its feathers with its bill. Then an automobile passed by very close to the phalarope, frightening it into flight. It flew in a large circle out over the golf course, and at a distance of about one hundred yards from where we were standing, a Sharp-shinned Hawk, *Accipter velox*, flew from its perch in a nearby tree, and caught the weakened phalarope with very little trouble. We watched the hawk until it flew out of sight over the golf course with the bird in its talons.

Robert Provo, San Francisco, California. April 1, 1941.



March Field Trip

The March field trip was taken to the East Bay Regional Park on the 16th under the leadership of Mr. Myer. As a result of the recent heavy rains, we were unable to venture far afield from the main paths and thereby missed various species which had been spotted the previous year. However, the attempt to identify certain birds, especially as to sub-species, brought out some differences of opinion which led to a lively discussion that was distinctly worthwhile; a good deal more important, in fact, than the gain or loss of a few items on the day's total list.

After luncheon, part of the group went on to the Claremont gardens and the Berkeley Aquatic Park. The suggestion was made that this trip should be dropped in ensuing years, but some of us feel it would be a mistake. With Lake Merced and other habitats practically gone, we need new places to go. The East Bay Regional Park is near and will probably develop as a bird refuge in the years to come. It most assuredly is one of the few remaining spots in the Bay region that will not be molested in the future.

The list of forty species seen in the East Bay Regional Park is as follows:

Farallon Cormorant	Coast Jay	English Sparrow
Turkey Vulture	California Jay	Western Meadowlark
Red-tailed Hawk	Plain Titmouse	Purple Finch
Sparrow Hawk	Bush-tit	House Finch
Valley Quail	Wren-tit	Pine Siskin
Killdeer	Bewick Wren	Willow Goldfinch
Spotted Sandpiper	California Thrasher	Green-backed Goldfinch
Band-tailed Pigeon	Western Robin	Brown Towhee
Anna Hummingbird	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	Spotted Towhee
Rufous Hummingbird	Cedar Waxwing	Junco
Allen Hummingbird	Lutescent Warbler	Nuttall Sparrow
Red-shafted Flicker	Audubon Warbler	Golden-crowned Sparrow
California Woodpecker	Pileolated Warbler	Song Sparrow
Black Phoebe		

Nine species in Claremont Gardens: Sparrow Hawk; California Jay; Plain Titmouse; Bush-tit; Myrtle Warbler; Pine Siskin; House Finch; Brown Towhee and Junco.

Fourteen species in Aquatic Park: Common and Red-throated Loons; Canvasback, and Scaup, American Golden-eye; Surf Scoter; Killdeer; Coof; Western Sandpiper; Sanderling; Glaucous-winged, Ring-billed and Bonaparte Gulls; Brewer Blackbird.

A total of fifty-four species for the day. Fourteen members attended, as follows: Mr. and Mrs. Stephens; Misses Blake, Danz, Johnson, MacIver, Paroni, Stanton, Stern; Messrs. Kirker, Leffler, Myer, Pike, Taylor; and nineteen guests: Mr. and Mrs. Landels, Mesdames Johnson and Rocco and sixteen Boy Scouts from troops 23 and 24.

Ivander MacIver, Historian.



An Armadillo in Napa County

The undersigned owns a piece of real property located six miles east of Napa City, California, with an elevation of about one thousand feet. This property is on Atlas Way Road, which leads to Milliken Dam, two miles distant. While visiting a neighbor some time ago, she told me that near the northern boundary of my property an armadillo family, consisting of parents and several young, had established a home. As these animals are inhabitants of the open plains or the forests of the tropical and temperate parts of South America with the exception of a few species which range as far north as Texas, I was a bit doubtful of finding this family, but assured her that I would keep a sharp lookout to find and identify the animals, if possible.

On Sunday morning, January 5, 1941, accompanied by a friend, I walked to the dam which creates an artificial lake or reservoir about a mile in length and of irregular width, which is the source of water supply for Napa City. The surrounding country is of volcanic origin with many cliffs, very rocky and quite warm from early spring to late fall. In passing it might be said that seldom would one see a more beautiful sight than that created by the water passing over the top of the dam, forming a number of waterfalls of various widths and volume which gradually lengthened into spray, and with the sun striking at an angle, it brought to mind Bridal Veil Falls, but with many of them to be seen in this picture.

Being on a pathway near the water's edge and desirous of reaching the road above which circles the western side of the lake, we took a trail leading to the road. About fifty yards away from the pathway, and on the edge of the chapparal, we found the skeleton of an armadillo, which looks like that of an adult. This skeleton was also seen by the keeper of the dam, Mr. Meachem.

"Armadillos are omnivorous, feeding on roots, insects, worms, reptiles and carrion, and are mostly nocturnal. They are harmless and inoffensive creatures, offering no resistance when caught, their principal means of escape being the extraordinary rapidity with which they burrow in the ground and the tenacity with which they retain their hold in their subterranean retreats. Notwithstanding the shortness of their limbs they run with great rapidity." (Encyclopaedia Britannica. Eleventh Edition.)

The animal recently must have strayed from its regular habitat to the dam, for it was not there during the late fall months. Why it wandered to the dam and the cause of death leads to speculation. Perhaps the protracted rainfall and the cold weather plus inability to obtain food were responsible for its death.

As to its being in this vicinity, I have since learned that an author living a short distance from my property, who travels extensively, has brought from tropical countries various animals and it may be that a pair escaped and reared a family free from captivity on my property.

Joseph J. Webb, San Francisco, California. March 12, 1941.

April Field Trip

The April field trip was held on the twentieth in the vicinity of Livermore in eastern Alameda County. Beautiful weather prevailed all through the day.

As usual, the morning hours were spent near the McCoy's ranch in Arroyo Mocho. The normal numbers of birds were present but Chats were not to be found. Many colorful Orioles flashing about in the sycamores, and equally brilliant Pileolated Warblers in the bountifully flowered golden currant below, provided plenty of color for the observers, however. A Warbling Vireo was seen singing from its nest, while Cassin and Hutton Vireos were also present in the trees about the ranch house. Both summer and winter visitors were there to swell our species total. Songs of the Audubon and Yellow Warblers merged, while Ruby-crowned Kinglets and House Wrens strove to outdo one another in their vocal efforts. Curiously enough the most interesting observation at this point was provided by a mammal rather than a bird. It was a beautiful Hoary Bat that was flushed from the brush and later caught by hand when rediscovered hanging in a shrub.

After luncheon the party moved up to the second bridge in an unsuccessful attempt to find the Phainopeplas. As on the previous field trip, we walked up the small side canyon that comes in at that point and found some interesting things. A Mourning Dove nesting on a bank led to the discovery, by the party, of three other nearby nests, one of a Brown Towhee, one of a Lawrence Goldfinch, and one of a Plain Titmouse. The last was in the same bank on which the Dove was nesting. A truly obliging Poor-will was seen by only nine of the party because many of the party were discouraged from too much activity by the hot sun. A Russet-backed Thrush in the canyon provided most observers with their first seasonal record for this species. A Tolmie Warbler singing from a chamise-covered slope seemed oddly out of place, and a Lincoln Sparrow appeared as though to equal its recording on last year's trip.

Mammals again provided an observation, the closing one it proved, when a colony of Pallid Bats was discovered in the timbers of the bridge near which we had stopped.

Thirty-four species were noted for the day:

Turkey Vulture	Yellow-billed Magpie	Pileolated Warbler
Red-tailed Hawk	Western Crow	English Sparrow
Golden Eagle	Plain Titmouse	Western Meadowlark
Marsh Hawk	Bush-tit	Red-winged Blackbird
Sparrow Hawk	Wren-tit	Bullock Oriole
California Quail	House Wren	Brewer Blackbird
Killdeer	Bewick Wren	Blackheaded Grosbeak
Mourning Dove	Western Robin	Purple Finch
Poor-will	Russet-backed Thrush	House Finch
Anna Hummingbird	Western Bluebird	Pine Siskin
Allen Hummingbird	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	Willow Goldfinch
Belted Kingfisher	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	Green-backed Goldfinch
Red-shafted Flicker	Cedar Waxwing	Lawrence Goldfinch
California Woodpecker	Loggerhead Shrike	Spotted Towhee
Nuttall Woodpecker	Hutton Vireo	Brown Towhee
Western Kingbird	Cassin Vireo	Lark Sparrow
Black Phoebe	Warbling Vireo	Rufous-crowned Sparrow
Say Phoebe	Lutescent Warbler	Oregon Junco
Western Flycatcher	Yellow Warbler	White-crowned Sparrow
Rough-winged Swallow	Audubon Warbler	Golden-crowned Sparrow
Barn Swallow	Tolmie Warbler	Lincoln Sparrow
Cliff Swallow	Yellow-throat	Song Sparrow
California Jay		

Fourteen members attended, as follows: Misses Blake, Cohen, Danz, Johnson, MacIver, Paroni, Stanton, Stern, Young; Messrs. Bolander, Lefler, Myer, Provoo, Taylor; and fourteen guests: Mr. and Mrs. Victor Johnson; Misses Albro, Coburn, Ruth, Strong; Messrs. McClintock, Mowbray; and six Boy Scouts.

Gordon Bolander, Leader and Historian.

Audubon Notes

May Meeting: The regular meeting will be held on Thursday evening, the 8th, at 8 o'clock, in the Old Mint Building, Fifth and Mission Streets.

The speaker will be Mr. Harold Kirker, who has just returned from Death Valley, and will take as his subject "Contrasts in the Bird Life of Death and the Imperial Valleys, California," illustrated with 35 m.m. Kodachrome slides.

Members may bring guests.



May Field Trip will be taken on Sunday, the 18th, to Saint Mary's, Contra Costa County. Take the Sacramento Northern train at 7:55 a.m. from San Francisco, purchase round-trip ticket, 75c. East Bay members can get the train at Fortieth and Shafter Streets.

Members driving meet the party at Saint Mary's Station at 9:30 a.m. Bring luncheon.

Note change of date. This change is made to permit as many of our members as possible to attend the first western meeting of the National Audubon Society to be held in Monterey, May 9, 10 and 11.

Miss Ellen A. Cockefair, member since 1925, passed on March 31, 1941.

Dr. Dudley Smith, member since 1926, passed on April 24, 1941.

April Meeting: The 284th regular meeting was held on Thursday, the 10th, in the Old Mint Building, with seventy-one members and guests present. President James Moffitt presiding.

The following were proposed for membership: Miss Alice Victoria Johnson of Berkeley, Miss Misaye Watanabe of Piedmont, Mrs. Alex. Rose and Herbert Salinger of San Francisco.

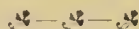
The following observations were reported:

Mrs. Courtright: Kentfield, 150 Cliff Swallows, March 12.

Mrs. Kelly: Claremont Hotel grounds, Anna Hummingbird feeding young perched on bare limb, and California Jays building nest, March 1; Wildcat Canyon, many Lutescent Warblers, 5th; Berkeley campus, Anna Hummingbird feeding two almost fully grown young in nest, 5th. This is the same nest first seen February 1. Bodega Bay: Many Black Brant, 100 Black Turnstones, one Ruddy Turnstone, three Long-billed Curlews, Godwits, Willets, 9th.

Robt. Provoo: Mountain Lake, Presidio, Red Phalaropes, March 2.

Mrs. Stephens: Broadway and Webster Streets, San Francisco, on telephone wires, 350 Cedar Waxwings, March 20th.



Observation: The following observations have been reported since the last meeting:

Mrs. Byrl Austin: Garden in Larkspur, Lutescent Warbler, March 8th; Pileolated Warbler, 10th; Warbling Vireo, 13th; 30+ Band-tailed Pigeons, 30th; Phoenix Lake, two male and four female Hooded Mergansers, March 9th.

Glenn Ensign: San Rafael, Black-headed Grosbeak, April 12th.

Mr. and Mrs. Stephens: Sears Point Cut-off, Pacific Loon in full summer plumage, 30+ Shoveller Ducks, a few Pintails, Greater Yellow-leg, April 20th; Lake Merced, Fox Sparrow, March 23rd.

Audubon Association of the Pacific

Organized January 25, 1917

For the Study and the Protection of Birds

President.....	Mr. James Moffitt.....	California Academy of Sciences, Golden Gate Park, San Francisco
Corresponding Secretary.....	Mr. Joseph J. Webb.....	519 California St., San Francisco
Treasurer and Editor.....	Mrs. A. B. Stephens.....	1695 Filbert St., San Francisco
Associate Editor.....	Mr. David G. Nichols.....	1713 Dwight Way, Berkeley

Monthly meeting second Thursday, 8 p.m., Little Theatre, Old U. S. Mint Building, Fifth and Mission Streets.

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.