



The QUAIL

BULLETIN OF THE MT. DIABLO AUDUBON SOCIETY
P. O. BOX 53
WALNUT CREEK, CALIFORNIA 94596
(415) AUD-UBON

Pres.: Jimm Edgar
3611 Chestnut St.
Lafayette, CA 94549
283-3510

January 1982
Vol. 28, No. 6

Next deadline: January 10

Meeting: Thurs., Jan. 7. Doors open 6:30 p.m. Birdinformation: 7:00; business: 7:30; social time: 8:00; program: 8:30. Buena Vista School, 2355 San Juan Ave., Walnut Creek. The public is cordially invited to attend.

Field Trips: TRIPS OPEN, members, non-members alike; bring lunch, binocs, field guide. RAIN on trip day? Call leader--trip may be cancelled or put off a week. Carpool TIME is departure time. Carpool EXPENSE: 5¢ per mile per rider suggested; entry fees or tolls shared equally among driver and riders.

Wed., Jan. 6, 9:00 a.m., Bay Bridge Toll Plaza marsh; carpool: Pleasant Hill Rd. just north of Fwy 24, 8:30. Leader: Elizabeth Dickey (254-0486).

Sat., Jan. 9, 9:00 a.m., Putah Creek and Lake Solano; carpool: southwest corner Sun Valley Center, 7:30. Leader: Jean Richmond (837-2843).

Thurs., Jan. 21, 8:30 a.m., Lafayette Reservoir. Leader: Norah Bain (254-4516). Have a dollar for the entrance gate.

Sat., Jan. 23, 7:45 a.m., Clifton Court Forebay; carpool: by Burger King, Ygnacio Valley & Clayton Rds., 7:00. Leader: Bob Richmond (447-0248).

Sat.-Sun., Feb. 6-7, Los Banos & Merced wildlife refuges, Panoche Valley. Make motel reservations now. Leader: Jean Richmond (837-2843).

CHRISTMAS COUNT: Sat., Jan. 2; compiler: Kent Fickett, 5270 Concord Blvd., Concord 94521; 798-7421. If unable to contact him, call Jimm Edgar, 283-3510, or Jean Richmond, 837-2843. Count period: Dec. 30-Jan. 5, inclusive.

Board Meeting: Thurs., Jan. 14, 7:30 p.m., home of Jimm Edgar, 3611 Chestnut St., Lafayette; 283-3510. Board meetings are always open to members.

Conservation Mtg: No regular, formal meetings - phone discussions of issues are held among committee members. To become involved, contact Ed Hase, 933-4292.

BIRDINFORMATION will be the NAS film, "How It All Started," about why and how NAS was formed and its early development. The **PROGRAM**, "Audubon Kenya Safari," will be presented by our own Tom Lee. He and Elaine made the 3-week trip in Africa last July with a National Audubon tour.

BAY BRIDGE TOLL PLAZA MARSH is excellent for waterfowl, shorebirds, gulls, terns. Approaching the toll plaza keep to the far right lane, take offramp marked "last Oakland exit, Oakland Army Base", follow small signs toward radio stations. Meet a short distance along that road where there is room to park off the pavement.

PUTAH CREEK/LAKE SOLANO have Wood Ducks and other waterfowl, Dipper, Rock & Canyon Wren, Phainopepla, possibly Osprey, Lewis' Woodpecker. Take I-680 north then I-80 east to Cherry Glen exit, cross the freeway, go 1 mile then left on Pleasant Valley Rd. 14 miles to the picnic area on the right just before the SR-128 junction.

LAFAYETTE RESERVOIR has a wide assortment of water and landbirds in varied habitats along the trail. Go west on Mt. Diablo Blvd. from downtown Lafayette to the well marked turnoff, meet at the top of the dam. To carpool up the hill, meet at the wide gravel area immediately west of the turnoff at 8:20.

At **CLIFTON COURT FOREBAY** we walk the levee to see waterfowl, possibly Wood Duck, gulls, perhaps Thayer's, among many species. Carry lunch, liquids. Wear layered

warm clothing - it could be cold - and walking shoes; bring rain gear as drizzle does not cancel trip. Short distance walkers can turn back as desired. From Ygnacio Valley Rd. go east through Clayton, continue on Marsh Creek Rd., follow signs on Camino Diablo to Byron Hwy, go right 2½ miles then left to the end of Clifton Rd.

The WEEKEND at Los Banos and Merced refuges and Panoche Valley will have bitterns, many waterfowl, hawks, shorebirds, Lewis' Woodpecker, magpie, Phainopepla, blue-birds, hopefully White-Faced Ibis, Ross' Goose, Mountain Plover. Suggested motels, Los Banos 93635: Stardust Motel, 2169 E. Pacheco Blvd., (209) 826-5016, rate for 2, \$22 up; Bonanza Motel, 349 W. Pacheco Blvd., (209) 826-3871, rate for 2, \$25 up; coffeeshop adjacent to each. To join the group at Woolgrowers Restaurant in Los Banos on Saturday evening for family-style Basque dinner, call Winnie Orcutt (944-0593) by January 30 so she can make the necessary reservations.

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Our CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT will be Saturday, January 2, rain or shine. To take part, contact compiler Kent Fickett immediately if you have not yet done so (Jimm Edger or Jean Richmond if unable to reach Kent). If you have a feeder in our circle and will count birds there, or allow someone else, contact Kent for instructions. See the December Quail for details. If you find a rarity that day or during our count period, write down complete details then promptly call Kent, Jimm or Jean.

The \$1.50 per person COST of participating will be paid by MDAS for students, if necessary. Non-subscribers to American Birds may order the CBC issue for \$5.50. All fees are to be paid to the leader of the party with whom you work the count.

The post-count POTLUCK and compilation will be that evening at 6:30 at San Ramon Valley Methodist Church, 902 Danville Blvd., Alamo (1.4 miles south of Stone Valley Rd.). Bring utensils, dishes, server plus food for AT LEAST 4-5 times the number in your family attending. Call Mary Jane Culver (682-0509) or Ruth Stewart (671-7226) about food assignment and how many in your family are coming.

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FIELD TRIP REPORTS.

The trip to MT. VIEW SANITARY DISTRICT and WATERFRONT ROAD on November 18 was made by 20 members on a warm, mostly clear day with occasional gentle wind. Found were American Bittern, Common Gallinule and Thayer's Gull among these 54 species seen or heard (including White-Tailed Kite and Cooper's Hawk in Martinez at lunch):

Pied-Billed Grebe, Dbl-Crested Cormorant, Great Blue Heron, Great & Snowy Egret, Amer Bittern, Mallard, Pintail, Cinnamon Teal, Northern Shoveler, Ruddy Duck, Turkey Vulture, White-Tailed Kite, Cooper's, Red-Tailed & Marsh Hawk, Amer Kestrel, Com Gallinule, Amer Coot, Killdeer, Black-Bellied Plover, Com Snipe, Greater Yellowlegs, Dunlin, Long-Billed Dowitcher, Amer Avocet, Black-Necked Stilt, Glaucous-Winged, Herring, Thayer's, Calif & Ring-Billed Gull, Rock & Mourning Dove, Anna's Hummingbird, Com Flicker, Black Phoebe, Marsh Wren, Water Pipit, Loggerhead Shrike, Starling, "Audubon's" Warbler, Com Yellowthroat, West Meadowlark, Red-Winged Blackbird, House Finch, Amer & Lesser Goldfinch, Savannah, Lark, White-Crowned, Lincoln's & Song Sparrow.

At FALO ALTO BAYLANDS on November 21 it was calm, cool and overcast with scattered sprinkles or light rain. The 10 members found 300 White Pelicans, 40 Blue-Winged Teal, 35♂, 8♀ Redheads, Clapper Rails but no Thayer's Gulls. One group came home via Fremont where they saw a Burrowing Owl, the other group via San Mateo where they saw 15 Hooded Mergansers, The following 74 species were seen or heard:

Horned, Eared, West & Pied-Billed Grebe, White Pelican, Dbl-Crested Cormorant, Great Blue Heron, Great & Snowy Egret, Black-Crowned Night Heron, Amer Bittern, Mallard, Gadwall, Pintail, Green-Winged, Blue-Winged & Cinnamon Teal, Amer Wigeon, Northern Shoveler, Redhead, Ring-Necked Duck, Canvasback, Greater & Lesser Scaup, Surf Scoter, Ruddy Duck, Red-Breasted Merganser, Turkey Vulture, White-Tailed Kite, Red-Tailed & Marsh Hawk, Amer Kestrel, Ring-Necked Pheasant, Clapper Rail, Amer Coot, Killdeer, Black-Bellied Plover, Com Snipe, Willet, Least Sandpiper, Dunlin, Long-Billed Dowitcher, Marbled Godwit, Amer Avocet, Black-Necked Stilt, Glaucous-Winged, West, Herring, Calif, Ring-Billed & Bonaparte's Gull, Forster's & Caspian Tern, Rock & Mourning Dove, Anna's Hummingbird, Black Phoebe, Com Raven, Marsh Wren, Ruby-Crowned Kinglet, Water Pipit, Loggerhead Shrike, Starling, "Audubon's" Warbler, Com Yellowthroat, House Sparrow, West Meadowlark, Red-Winged & Brewer's Blackbird, House Finch, Savannah, White-Crowned, Golden-Crowned & Song Sparrow.

On December 2 at LAKE MERRITT it was clear and cool with some light wind. The 12 members saw several Redheads, many Barrow's Goldeneyes and a Golden-Crowned Kinglet among the following 57 species seen or heard:

Com Loon, Eared, West & Pied-Billed Grebe, Brown Pelican, Dbl-Crested Cormorant, Great Egret, Black-Crowned Night Heron, Pintail, Amer Wigeon, Northern Shoveler, Redhead, Canvasback, Greater & Lesser Scaup, Com & Barrow's Goldeneye, Bufflehead, Surf Scoter, Ruddy Duck, Sharp-Shinned Hawk, Amer Coot, Killdeer, Glaucous-Winged, West, Calif, Ring-Billed, Mew & Bonaparte's Gull, Rock & Mourning Dove, Anna's Hummingbird, Black Phoebe, Scrub Jay, Chestnut-Backed Chickadee, Plain Titmouse, Bush-tit, Winter & Bewick's Wren, Mockingbird, Amer Robin, Golden-Crowned & Ruby-Crowned Kinglet, Cedar Waxwing, Starling, "Myrtle", "Audubon's" & Townsend's Warbler, House Sparrow, Red-Winged & Brewer's Blackbird, Brown-Headed Cowbird, Rufous-Sided & Brown Towhee, White-Crowned, Golden-Crowned, Fox & Song Sparrow.

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A VERY SPECIAL NOTE to VERY SPECIAL FRIENDS. I extend most sincere thanks to all of MDAS for the delicious and beautiful cake decorated with a quail and inscription "It's in The Quail", the mounted Mono Lake poster, and the tape recorder to replace my ailing one. I was so flustered by the presentation at the December meeting that about all I remember saying was to mutter, "Oh, no," at the beginning of Jimm's introduction. I will never understand how so many could be in on a secret with not a bean spilled beforehand. Actions such as this from our marvelous membership during 9 1/2 years and 104 issues make it a pleasure to serve you as editor. Please accept my heartfelt thanks to each and every one of you! Sincerely, Jean Richmond

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Michigan recently became the 8th state to enact a BOTTLE BILL requiring deposits on beer and soft drink cans and bottles. State Senator Omer L. Rains has tried for seven years to get such a bill through our legislature but each time was defeated by various brewers, soft drink manufacturers, container companies and grocers. Now we have an opportunity for a ballot initiative bypassing the lobby-dominated legislature. A non-partisan poll by the Department of Consumers Affairs in 1979 found that over 84% of the people support a deposit system. Deposits on bottles and cans would mean tremendous conservation of resources, energy and water, to say nothing of saving millions of dollars annually for medical bills and litter pickup. To help with the Beverage Containers Initiative, contact Californians Against Waste (CAW), P O Box 289, Sacramento, CA 95802; (916) 443-5422. Circulate a petition, or at least sign one circulated by someone else, and do so before March 15.

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POACHING takes twice the deer annually as the legal kill, keeps young striped bass in the Bay and Delta at dangerously low levels, and takes tons of salmon from north coast streams while runs are markedly declined and falling. Thus CalTIP was formed by our Department of Fish & Game. To report poaching of any wildlife, call toll-free (800) 952-5400, 8-5 weekdays. Given a code number for identification if your information leads to an arrest (a conviction is not necessary), you remain anonymous and are not required to testify. When a reward is authorized, the information and the caller's code number will be publicized and you may claim your cash reward. No public funds are used for CalTIP rewards. To help end poaching, send a check, payable to CalTIP, to P O Box 1678, Sacramento, CA 95808.

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SUBSCRIBERS (& LOCAL memberships), check your label for expiration month--MDAS does not mail you a renewal notice. Your cancelled check is your receipt.

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CLASSES and EXCURSIONS -- your editor has more details.

Why Birds Sing, Marie Mans, Jan. 28, Feb. 4, evenings, with tapes, slides, 2 Sat. Field trips, \$15. To register: Albany Adult School, 526-6811, or Marie, 284-7681. Natural History, California Birds, Phil Gordon, Wed., 7:30-9:30 pm, Jan. 6-Mar. 10, Acalanes High School, Rm. 307, \$22. Info: Acalanes Adult School, 935-0170. Alexander Lindsay Junior Museum, nature classes, preschool to adult, most local, some more afield. Winter brochure: 1901 First Ave., Walnut Creek 94596; 935-1978. PRBO. Gray Whales & Natural History, Baja's west coast, Feb. 11-19, Ron LeValley, Ronn Storro-Patterson, \$895. Birding Palenque & Catemaco, Feb. 19-29, Bill Clow, \$800-950. Info: Linda Parker, 4990 Shoreline Hwy, Stinson Beach 94970; 868-1221.

BIRDING VACATION? Many companies run tours -- your editor has info on several, some with full details for 1982. Most I have birded with or another member has done so, thus they are known to MDAS members firsthand. Popular tours fill early--act soon!

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Bring rinsed, flattened ALL-ALUMINUM CANS (no bimetal) to meetings, field trips.

OBSERVATIONS: November 11-December 8. Also see field trip reports.

Common Loon, 2-3, Clifton Court Forebay (CCF), Nov. 14-29--BR. Red-Throated Loon, 2, CCF, Nov. 14--BR. Red-Necked Grebe, Bodega Bay, Dec. 8--A&WG, AM, JR. Horned Grebe, CCF, Nov. 14-19--BR. White Pelican, 4, Mt View San Dist, Oct. 30, E&H. Cattle Egret, CCF, Nov. 12-14--BR. Green Heron, CCF, Nov. 19--BR.

Whistling Swan, 2 ad, 3 imm, Bodega Bay, Dec. 8--JR, AM. "Black" Brant, 5, Bodega Bay, Dec. 8--JR, AM, A&WG. European Wigeon, ♂, Lake Solano, Solano Co., Nov. 9--MS, BG; ♂, Bolinas Lagoon, Nov. 11-Dec. 2--RBA, NB; 2♂, Gray Lodge WMA, Dec. 5--m.ob; ♂, Sacramento NWR, Dec. 6--m.ob. Wood Duck, 2♂, CCF, Nov. 14--BR; ♀, CCF, Nov. 19-28--BR.

Redhead, 3♂, Rodeo Lagoon, Nov. 17--JR; 2♂, 2♀, CCF, Nov. 14, 1♂, Nov. 21--BR; 15, Berkeley Aquatic Park, many, Berkeley waterfront, Nov. 28--RBA. Greater Scaup, up to 4♂, CCF, Nov. 19-28--BR. TUFTED DUCK, 2♂, Muddy Hollow Pond, Pt Reyes, at least thru Dec. 5--m.ob. Barrow's Goldeneye, many, Lake Merritt, thru period--m.ob; up to 4♂, 9♀, CCF, Nov. 12-28--BR. Hooded Merganser, 2♂, 5♀, 5--Brooks Pond, Pt Reyes, Nov. 22--NB; ♂, CCF, Nov. 28--BR; ♂, Berkeley Marina, Nov. 30--G&WY; 48+, Lakeshore Aquatic Park, San Mateo, Dec. 1--JR, et al. Common Merganser, up to 4♀, CCF, Nov. 19-21--BR. Red-Breasted Merganser, up to 4♀, Nov. 14-29--BR.

California Condor, 2, Edmonston pump stn, Kern Co., Oct. 9--WO, MO, EE, BH. Rough-Legged Hawk, CCF, Nov. 14--BR; several, including dk-phase, N. & S. Flynn Rds., thru Nov. 19--m.ob. Ferruginous Hawk, dk-phase, Armstrong Rd., Nov. 12-14--BR, DS; lt-phase, Highland Rd., south C.C.Co., Nov. 12--BR; several, including dk-phase, N. & S. Flynn Rds., thru Nov. 19--m.ob; Kirker Pass, Nov. 25--GF; Valley Ford, Sonoma Co., Nov. 28--GC, FB. Golden Eagle, imm, Lake Solano, Nov. 9--MS, BG; Shell Ridge, Nov. 24--GF; Black Diamond Mines Reg Pk, Nov. 29--GF. Osprey, Lake Solano, Nov. 9, --MS, BG; Lafayette Reservoir, Nov. 24-29--GF, H&NB, J&ES. Prairie Falcon, Nov. 25 & Dec. 1. Merlin, 2, Nov. 19; 1, Dec. 8.

Virginia Rail, Little Frank's Tract, 10 on Nov. 21, 15 on Dec. 6--PG. Sora, Little Frank's Tract, 15 on Nov. 21, 5 on Dec. 6--PG. Semipalmated Plover, several, Martinez Reg Sh, Nov. 18--JSh. Common Snipe, 40, Pescadero Marsh, Dec. 1--JR, BF, et al; 40, pond on Chileno Valley Rd., Marin Co., Dec. 8--JR, AM. Long-Billed Curlew, 98, Dougherty Rd., Dublin, Nov. 28--JB. Lesser Yellowlegs, 4+, Pescadero Marsh, Dec. 1--JR, BF, et al; 1 there, Dec. 5--RBA. ROCK SANDPIPER, Pebble Beach, San Mateo Co., Dec. 1--JR. Red Phalarope, CCF, Nov. 18--BR, DS; Pescadero Beach, Dec. 1--JR; 20, inside Bodega Harbor, Nov. 28--GC, FB; 8 there, Dec. 8--JR, AM, A&WG.

Glaucous-Winged Gull, ad, imm, CCF, Nov. 19-29--BR. Western Gull, 1st-yr, CCF, Nov. 28--BR. Thayer's Gull, ad, imm, CCF, Nov. 21-29--BR; imm, Stockton oxidation ponds, Nov. 30--BR, DS. BLACK-HEADED GULL, Stockton oxi ponds, at least thru Dec. 4--m.ob. FRANKLIN'S GULL, up to 5 imm, Stockton oxi ponds, at least thru Dec. 4--m.ob. LITTLE GULL, Stockton oxi ponds, at least thru Dec. 1--m.ob.

Burrowing Owl, CCF, Nov. 12-28--BR. Lewis' Woodpecker, up to 24, Kellogg Valley, along Vasco Rd., thru period--BR; 1, Green Valley pond, Danville, Nov. 14-19--JB; 1, S. Flynn Rd. at Patterson Pass Rd., Nov. 19--JR, WO, MM. COMMON SKYLARK, Hall Reh, Pt Reyes, thru Dec. 5--m.ob. Tree Swallow, 200+, Little Frank's Tract, Nov. 21--PG. Barn Swallow, Little Frank's Tract, Nov. 21 (late)--PG. Common Raven, 2, Las Trampas Reg Pk, Nov. 12--BR. DIPPER, Donner Cyn, Mt Diablo, Nov. 1, HD. House Wren, CCF, Nov. 28--BR. Ruby-Crowned Kinglet & Chestnut-Backed Chickadee eating bird cake off her finger, in her Orinda garden, Nov. 29-30--NB.

Varied Thrush, Black Diamond Mines Reg Pk, Nov. 25--GF; 3, her Alamo garden, Nov. 25--JR; 1, their Concord garden, Dec. 1--B&JK. MOUNTAIN BLUEBIRD, 10♂, 2♀, Camino Diablo Rd., east C.C.Co., Nov. 19--WO, JR; up to 11, Kellogg Valley, Dec. 1-3--BR, DS. Golden-Crowned Kinglet, many, all over the area, thru period--m.ob.

Yellow-Headed Blackbird, 8, Little Frank's Tract, Dec. 6--PG. Lawrence's Goldfinch, 3 singing ♂, her Alamo garden, Dec. 2--JR. VESPER SPARROW, CCF, Nov. 14--BR. Sage Sparrow, Black Diamond Mines Reg Pk, Nov. 29--GF. "Slate-Colored" Junco, Kellogg Valley, Nov. 20-Dec. 3--BR. BREWER'S SPARROW, CCF, Nov. 29--BR. White-Throated Sparrow, Athenian School, Danville, Nov. 18--JB. Lincoln's Sparrow, his Walnut Creek garden, Nov. 25-Dec. 2--GF.

ADDENDA: "BLACK" ROSY FINCH, ♀, imm, Mt Pinos, Ventura Co., Oct. 9--1st record west of the Sierras, reported in October, finally confirmed mid-November--WO, MO, EE, BH.

OBSERVERS: Hugh & Norah Bain, Joe Broyles, Glenn Coleman, Bob Doyle, Edith Evans, George Finger, Al & Wilma Ghiorso, Phil Gordon, Bill Gottfried, Bill & Mary Jane Greene, Bev Hatstrup, Erling & Irene Hellekson, Bob & Jackie Knisley, Alice Meri-court, Marietta Miller, Marilyn O'Connor, Winnie Orcutt, Bob Richmond, Jean Richmond, Don Schmoldt, Joy Shreyer, Jim & Bessie Smyth, Maury Stern, Gifford & Winnie Young, NoCal Rare Bird Alert, many observers.

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We are happy to greet these new members of MDAS and hope to meet them at meetings and on field trips:

Alamo: Mary S. Goddard, Barbara J. Holmes, Jane Kerlinger, Walter Welch; Concord: William D. Chilson family, David W. Jewell family, Mr. Bud Scanlan family, Danielle Marie Burns, Mrs. James A. Burris, Mr. & Mrs. Hooker Howard, Mr. Rand Yazzolino; Pleasant Hill: Mrs. P. C. Gallatin, B. P. Harpole, MD, Marianne McClintock; Walnut Creek: Beth Boardman, William G. Chapel, Iva DeWitt.

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CONSERVATION COMMITTEE UPDATE.

Central Arizona Project (CAP). Interior Secretary Watt told Arizona congressmen of some preliminary decisions encouraging CAP, final decisions await completion of the environmental impact statement. If CAP is authorized, Orme Dam will be built, destroying a major part of the habitat of the world's only desert-nesting Bald Eagles. Completion of this dam will encourage development of the others which will destroy most of the few remaining fragments of Sonoran Desert riverine ecosystem, and with them, most of the Gray Hawks and Beardless Flycatchers in the United States.

If this doesn't disturb you, consider this: CAP is one of the primary reasons Southern California wants northern water from wild rivers and/or Peripheral Canal to replace water lost to them when Arizona diverts Colorado River water to CAP. The saddest fact: Arizona has enough water for growth and could benefit by selling its Colorado River entitlement to California. This plus minimal water conservation and ground water management in California could eliminate the need for all these costly projects. As usual, powerful interests seeking personal financial gain are not interested in the welfare of ecosystems or alternatives which might reduce profits, although the same result can be gained another way with less environmental impact.

Write Robert A. Witzeman, Conservation Chairman, Maricopa Audubon Society, P O Box 15451, Phoenix, AZ 85060-5451, to find out how you can effectively participate. Maricopa needs money for legal battles -- send what you can to Mr. Witzeman, payable to CAP Fund. Contributions are tax-deductible.

1982 Update, State Park System Plan. A draft of the 1982 Update has been completed and the Dept. of Parks & Recreation seeks your evaluations. The Update spells out the direction the park system will take, and how to deal with changes of the 80's. For a plan summary call Ed Hase (933-4292), complete document available for review at State Park System regional and area offices. Send written comments before January 15 to Ross Henry, Chief, Planning Division, P O Box 2390, Sacramento, CA 95811.

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National Audubon's CITIZEN MOBILIZATION CAMPAIGN now underway is a huge effort to unite those concerned about the fate of our land and its wildlife and are willing to become involved in the effort to protect them. If large numbers of concerned citizens speak out strongly, those in power will listen. We must act to make the voices of our more than 450,000 members heard at the highest levels of government.

Changes in the Congress and the Administration since the 1980 election have given resource-exploitation-minded people such as Interior Secretary James Watt power over our environment and natural resources. Already Watt and other top Administration officials have taken actions that are damaging our national parks, destroying valuable wildlife habitat, opening up wilderness areas, and weakening environmental laws, thus reversing hard-won environmental gains of the past 20 years.

You can help by writing to your national and state representatives about environmental issues. To keep informed, attend our meetings and/or join the Mobilization Campaign - there is no cost to do so - and receive current info on the issues. Forms are available from Jimm Edgar, 3611 Chestnut St., Lafayette, CA 94549; 283-3510.

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THE QUAIL, published monthly except a combined July-August issue, is sent without additional charge to National Audubon Society members in the Mt. Diablo chapter. To join NAS: \$25 per year, family \$32, others available; check payable to National Audubon Society, to Membership Chairman, MDAS, P O Box 53, Walnut Creek, CA 94596. Address change (send also to NAS): Mrs. Winnie Orcutt, 30 Iris Ln., Walnut Creek, CA 94595. Change of chapter affiliation is only upon specific request by member. Subscription: \$4 per year, payable to Mt. Diablo Audubon Society, to Treasurer, F. G. Bennett, P O Box 5428, Walnut Creek, CA 94596. First Class mailing in envelope: \$2.25 per year, payable to Mt. Diablo Audubon Society, to Treasurer, address above.

Jean Richmond, Editor, 125 Via Serena, Alamo, CA 94507; phone 837-2843
(Exchange bulletins for MDAS to this address, please.)

GREATER BAY AREA SITE GUIDE: Altamont Pass Area - wintering hawks.

Access: Go south on I-680 then east on I-580 to Vasco Road, cross the freeway and turn right on the frontage road to Laughlin Road.

Laughlin Road. Ferruginous Hawks are sometimes here, on the ground, atop poles or trees; Golden Eagles may soar over the hills to the east; Bald Eagle has been at Frick Lake, the large pond on the right which often has many gulls, some shorebirds.

Greenville Road. Return to the frontage road, turn east then south on Greenville Road. Bald Eagles are sometimes among raptors found near the end of this road.

Flynn Road. Return north, turn right on Patterson Pass Road then left on S. Flynn Road which becomes N. Flynn Road in about 3 miles. Along both N. and S. Flynn Roads many hawks soar above the hills or perch atop trees, utility poles or fence posts. About 1/2 mile south of I-580, from a turnout on the west side of the road, is a good view of raptors on and over the hill across the freeway - a scope is helpful here.

Altamont Pass Road. Cross I-580 at the north end of N. Flynn Road which becomes Carroll Road on the north side of the freeway. In a mile or so turn right on Altamont Pass Road and watch for hawks above the hills or atop poles. Mountain Bluebirds may be along here - between MP 5.17 and 5.22, Nov. 1975.

Midway Road. At Grant Line Road turn left 0.8 mile then right on Midway Road. Check cottonwoods for owls; watch the sky and perches for hawks.

Patterson Pass Road. From Midway Road turn right onto Patterson Pass Road. Along this road look for Mountain Bluebirds as well as raptors. From the west end of Patterson Pass Road, return home via Flynn Road or Greenville Road to I-580.

Facilities: none other than at a service station at Grant Line Road and I-580 or in the nearby city of Livermore. Good birding: late fall through early spring.

Birds include: Turkey Vulture, White-Tailed Kite, Red-Tailed, Rough-Legged & Ferruginous Hawk, Golden & Bald Eagle, Northern Harrier, Prairie Falcon, Merlin, American Kestrel, occasional owls, Black & Say's Phoebe, Horned Lark, Common Raven, Mountain Bluebird, Loggerhead Shrike, American & Lesser Goldfinches, several sparrows.

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IDEOLOGICAL EUNUCHS?? An old memo being circulated in Washington indicates the attitudes of the new chief of conservation for the U.S. Geological Survey, the Interior Department Office which regulates oil and mineral development on federal lands, Andrew V. Bailey, who in a lower post in that agency in 1976 signed a memo chiding its environmental section for using "disturbed" to describe strip-mined lands:

"Inflammatory words such as disturbed, devastated, defiled, ravaged, gouged, scarred, destroyed, should not be used. These are words used by Sierra Club, Friends of the Earth, environmentalists, homosexuals, ecologists, and other ideological eunuchs opposed to developing mineral resources...Certainly there should be a better word than 'disturbed' to describe land utilized and altered in production of coal."

Most people who have seen unreclaimed strip-mines will agree there are better words than "disturbed" to describe them!!!

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OUTDOOR CALIFORNIA, published by California Department of Fish & Game, is a bi-monthly publication with excellent, informative articles about fish and wildlife in our state. Send \$2.00, payable to Outdoor California, to Publications Section, P O Box 1015, North Highlands, CA 95660.

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Pres.: Jimm Edgar
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283-3510

February 1982
Vol. 28, No. 7

Next deadline: Feb. 8

Meeting: Thurs., Feb. 4. Doors open 6:30 p.m. Birdinformation: 7:00; business: 7:30; social time: 8:00; program: 8:30. Buena Vista School, 2355 San Juan Ave., Walnut Creek. The public is cordially invited to attend.

Field Trips: TRIPS OPEN, members, non-members alike; bring lunch, binocs, field guide. RAIN on trip day? Call leader--trip may be cancelled or put off a week. Carpool TIME is departure time. Carpool EXPENSE: 5¢ per mile per rider suggested; entry fees or tolls shared equally among driver and riders.

Feb. 6-7. Sat.: Los Banos & Merced Wildlife Refuges, meet 8:45 a.m., Shell Station, east side of I-5, SR-140 interchange; Sun.: Panoche Valley, meet 8:00 a.m., Little Panoche Reservoir on Rd. J-1 west of I-5. Leaders: Florence Bennett & Jean Richmond (837-2843). One-day trippers, call them.

Wed., Feb. 10, 9:00 a.m., Bayfront, Berkeley to Pt. Molate; carpool: Pleasant Hill Rd. at Fwy 24, 8:30. Leader: Elizabeth Dickey (254-0486).

Sat., Feb. 20, 10:00 a.m., Thornton area; carpool: Southwest corner Sun Valley Center, 8:30. Leader: Winnie Orcutt (944-0593).

Thurs., Feb. 25, 9:45 a.m., Bolinas Lagoon & 5-Brooks; carpool: Acalanes Rd. just north of Fwy 24, 8:00. Leader: Norah Bain (254-4516).

Board Meeting: Thurs., Feb. 11, 7:30 p.m., home of Jean Richmond, 125 Via Serena, Alamo; 837-2843. Board meetings are always open to members.

BIRDINFORMATION, by Bob Richmond, will be another informative illustrated discussion of several gulls. The PROGRAM, an excellent Nature Conservancy film on Santa Cruz Island, will be presented by Bob Jasperson, a Walnut Creek attorney. The island, a Nature Conservancy refuge off the Santa Barbara coast, was purchased in 1978.

LOS BANOS/MERCED WILDLIFE REFUGES and PANOCHE VALLEY have Bittern, White-Faced Ibis, Ross' Goose and other waterfowl, hawks, shorebirds in the refuges, Mountain Flower, Lewis' Woodpecker, Phainopepla, bluebirds in Panoche Valley. Make motel reservations immediately (see Jan. Quail). To join in Saturday dinner call Winnie Orcutt at once (944-0593). Walnut Creek to I-5, SR-140 junction is 82 miles, 1½ hours (longer if foggy). Sun. meeting spot: take SR-165 south from Los Banos, continue south 12 miles on I-5, go west 4½ miles on Rd. J-1 to the parking area on the left.

Along the BAYFRONT we bird Berkeley Marina, Pts. Isabel, Richmond & Molate for waterbirds, waterfowl, shorebirds, gulls, some landbirds. Near the Bay Bridge go north on I-80 ½-mile to Powell St., go left under the freeway then right 2 miles on W. Frontage Rd., left on University Ave. Meet a short distance out University.

Around THORNTON should be Whistling Swans, geese, ducks, Sandhill Cranes, many land and waterbirds, perhaps Green Heron or Bittern, and some cranes may be doing their courtship dance. Go north on SR-24, east on SR-4, cross Antioch Bridge, continue on SR-160 to SR-12. Turn right 16 miles to Thornton Rd., then left 3 miles and meet at the junction with Woodbridge Rd.

We will bird at STINSON BEACH then proceed to BOLINAS LAGOON to look for rarities among water and shorebirds. After lunch we will seek landbirds at 5-BROOKS on a good trail. From US-101 in Mill Valley follow signs to Stinson Beach and meet at the north end of the National Seashore parking lot. Be prepared for cold and wind.

Our CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT on January 2 was another record-breaker, thanks to Kent Fickett and his crew. Weather was cold and windy but clear-rain quit before dawn. Snow on Mt. Diablo created problems for counters there and kept area temperatures low. There were 79 observers in 17 parties, 2 at feeders. Last year's high of 137 fell to our total of 140 species, plus 3 additional races. The 41,497 individuals seen is low: waterfowl, while low, was double the 1981 count, gulls were very low, blackbirds were half the 1981 high number. We added 3 new species: Surf Scoter, Mountain Bluebird, Phainopepla. Other good finds include Wood Duck, Hooded Merganser, Prairie Falcon, Black Rail, Glaucous Gull, Burrowing Owl, Townsend's Solitaire, Orange-Crowned & Townsend's Warbler, White-Throated Sparrow. Among the missing were Whistling Swan, geese of any kind, Redhead, Long-Billed Curlew, Long-Billed Dowitcher, Screech Owl, Horned Lark. The following were found on the CBC:

Grebe, Horned 1, Eared 1, West 55, Pied-Billed 35; Dbl-Crested Cormorant 121; Heron, Great Blue 24, Green 3; Egret, Great 36, Snowy 90; Black-Crowned Night Heron 15; Amer Bittern 7; Mallard 244; Gadwall 428; Pintail 408; Teal, Green-winged 52, Cinnamon 39; Amer Wigeon 103; Northern Shoveler 4103; Duck, Wood 2, Ring-Necked 3; Canvasback 99, Scaup, Lesser 5, sp 1; Com Goldeneye 36; Bufflehead 26; SURF SCOTER 21; Ruddy Duck 169; Merganser, Hooded 3, Com 10; duck sp 60; Turkey Vulture 106; White-Tailed Kite 70; Hawk, Sharp-Shinned 8, Cooper's 5, Red-Tailed 104; Golden Eagle 4; Marsh Hawk 44; Prairie Falcon 1; Amer Kestrel 126; Calif Quail 178; Ring-Necked Pheasant 6; RAIL, Virginia 21, Sora 3, BLACK 3; Com Gallinule 7; Amer Coot 813; Killdeer 201; Black-Bellied Plover 3; Com Snipe 43; Spotted Sandpiper 2; Willet 9; Greater Yellowlegs 53; Least Sandpiper 76; Dunlin 3; West Sandpiper 103; peep sp 40; Amer Avocet 13; Black-Necked Stilt 22; GULL, GLAUCOUS 1, Glaucous-winged 91, Western 3, Herring 72, Thayer's 10, Calif 1448, Ring-Billed 1026, Mew 236, Bonaparte's 30, Glaucous-winged X Herring hybrid 20, sp 1165; Band-Tailed Pigeon 854; Dove, Rock 424, Mourning 313; Owl, Barn 1, Great Horned 5, Burrowing 2, Short-Eared 1; White-Throated Swift 78; Anna's Hummingbird 97; Belted Kingfisher 9, Flicker, "Yellow-Shafted" 1, "Red-Shafted" 241; Acorn Woodpecker 25; "Red-Breasted" Sapsucker 6; Woodpecker, Hairy 3, Downy 13, Nuttall's 34; Phoebe, Black 33, Say's 23; Tree Swallow 125; Jay, Steller's 34, Scrub 401; Com Raven 2; Com Crow 24; Chestnut-Backed Chickadee 60; Plain Titmouse 201; Bushtit 499; Nuthatch, White-Breasted 60, Red-Breasted 2; Wrentit 19; Wren, Bewick's 38, Marsh 35; Rock 4; Mockingbird 86; Calif Thrasher 14; Amer Robin 1767; Thrush, Varied 47, Hermit 125; BLUEBIRD, West 350, MOUNTAIN 24; TOWNSEND'S SOLITAIRE 7; Kinglet, Golden-Crowned 21, Ruby-Crowned 149; Water Pipit 423; Cedar Waxwing 777; PHAINOPEPLA 24; Loggerhead Shrike 72; Starling 5036; Hutton's Vireo 4; Warbler, Orange-Crowned 1, "Myrtle" 5, "Audubon's" 242, Yellow-Rumped 151, Townsend's 1; Com Yellowthroat 21; House Sparrow 72; West Meadowlark 920; Blackbird, Red-Winged 2681, Tricolored 3, Brewer's 2868, sp 2863; Brown-Headed Cowbird 5, Finch, Purple 1, House 896; Pine Siskin 217; Goldfinch, Amer 790, Lesser 749; Towhee, Rufous-Sided 118, Brown 205; Sparrow, Savannah 87, Lark 88, Rufous-Crowned 2, Sage 1; Junco, "Slate-Colored" 1, "Oregon" 1109; Sparrow, White-Crowned 1146, Golden-Crowned 1116, White-Throated 1, Fox 42, Lincoln's 12, Song 164.

Seen during COUNT PERIOD but not on Count Day: Long-Billed Dowitcher, Winter Wren.

Our sincere THANKS to all who participated, those who assisted with the potluck (especially Ruth Stewart and Mary Jane Culver who were in charge), and most of all, to our compiler, Kent Fickett! Our goal used to be 140, our sights are now on 150.

SPECIAL THANKS go to Assemblyman Bill Baker for participating in our pre-count publicity pictures. The accompanying owl picture brought a number of owl reports from residents in the area.

* * * * *

FIELD TRIP REPORTS.

At LAFAYETTE RESERVOIR on December 5 it was foggy and cold but calm. The 16 members and guests found Band-Tailed Pigeon, Varied Thrush and Lincoln's Sparrow among the following 44 species seen or heard:

Pied-Billed Grebe, Dbl-Crested Cormorant, Great Blue Heron, Great Egret, Canvasback, Ruddy Duck, Amer Kestrel, Calif Quail, Amer Coot, Killdeer, Calif Gull, Band-Tailed Pigeon, Rock & Mourning Dove, Great Horned Owl, Anna's Hummingbird, Com Flicker, Downy & Nuttall's Woodpecker, Black Phoebe, Steller's & Scrub Jay, Chestnut-Backed Chickadee, Plain Titmouse, Bushtit, White-Breasted Nuthatch, Wrentit, wren sp, Amer Robin, Varied & Hermit Thrush, West Bluebird, Ruby-Crowned Kinglet, Water Pipit, Cedar Waxwing, Hutton's Vireo, House Finch, Amer & Lesser Goldfinch, Rufous-Sided & Brown Towhee, Dark-Eyed Junco, White-Crowned, Golden-Crowned, Lincoln's & Song Sparrow.

The December 12 trip to NILES CANYON GRAVEL PITS was on a cold, cloudy day, showery until mid-morning. The 12 intrepid members found Green Heron, many Snipe, Spotted Sandpipers among these 71 species heard or seen:

Horned, Eared, West & Pied-Billed Grebe, Dbl-Crested Cormorant, Great Blue & Green Heron, Great & Snowy Egret, Black-Crowned Night Heron, Mallard, Gadwall, Ring-Necked Duck, Canvasback, Ruddy Duck, Com Merganser, Turkey Vulture, accipiter sp, Red-Tailed & Marsh Hawk, Amer Kestrel, Com Gallinule, Amer Coot, Killdeer, Com Snipe, Spotted & Least Sandpiper, dowitcher sp, Black-Necked Stilt, Herring, Calif, Ring-Billed & Mew Gull, Rock & Mourning Dove, White-Throated Swift, Anna's Hummingbird, Belted Kingfisher, Com Flicker, Nuttall's Woodpecker, Black Phoebe, Violet-Green Swallow, Scarub Jay, Com Crow, Plain Titmouse, Bushtit, Bewick's Wren, Mockingbird, Amer Robin, Hermit Thrush, Ruby-Crowned Kinglet, Water Pipit, Cedar Waxwing, Loggerhead Shrike, Starling, Orange-Crowned & "Audubon's" Warbler, Com Yellowthroat, House Sparrow, West Meadowlark, Brewer's Blackbird, House Finch, Amer Goldfinch, Rufous-Sided & Brown Towhee, Dark-Eyed Junco, White-Crowned, Golden-Crowned, Fox, Lincoln's & Song Sparrow.

The trip to BAY BRIDGE TOLL PLAZA, EMERYVILLE MARINA & AQUATIC PARK on January 6. was on a clear, cold day with cold wind. Eight members were treated to Barrow's Goldeneye, Hooded Merganser, Snowy Plover, Short-Eared Owl among these 74 species:

Com & Red-Throated Loon, Horned, Eared, West & Pied-Billed Grebe, Brown Pelican, Dbl-Crested Cormorant, Great Blue Heron, Great & Snowy Egret, Black-Crowned Night Heron, Pintail, Amer Wigeon, Redhead, Canvasback, Greater & Lesser Scaup, Com & Barrow's Goldeneye, Bufflehead, White-Winged & Surf Scoter, Ruddy Duck, Hooded & Red-Breasted Merganser, Red-Tailed Hawk, Amer Coot, Semipalmated & Snowy Plover, Killdeer, Black-Bellied Plover, Ruddy & Black Turnstone, Long-Billed Curlew, Whimbrel, Willet, Greater Yellowlegs, Least Sandpiper, Dunlin, Short-Billed & Long-Billed Dowitcher, West Sandpiper, Marbled Godwit, Sanderling, Amer Avocet, Glaucous-Winged, West, Herring, Calif, Ring-Billed, Mew & Bonaparte's Gull, Forster's Tern, Rock & Mourning Dove, SHORT-EARED OWL, Anna's Hummingbird, Belted Kingfisher, Com Flicker, Bushtit, Mockingbird, Amer Robin, Water Pipit, Starling, "Audubon's" Warbler, Red-Winged & Brewer's Blackbird, House Finch, Brown Towhee, White-Crowned, Golden-Crowned & Song Sparrow.

THE QUAIL NEEDS HELP! A couple of hours a month is all it takes 4-5 people to prepare The Quail for mailing but I need a larger group from whom to draw. A group of 15-18 will make it easy to assemble a crew each month. Contact your editor to help.

Winnie Orcutt would like help with the labels. If you have a typewriter and can help, contact her at 944-0593. She would appreciate it if someone would donate a good, working typewriter for use with the labels - hers is difficult to use.

An ARSON FIRE gutted Audubon House, headquarters of Los Angeles Audubon Society, in November. The devastation to the office, bookstore, library, museum, etc., will take time and much money to restore. Insurance will help but donations are badly needed. Please send a tax-deductible donation to LAAS, 7377 Santa Monica Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90046. This active, effective Audubon chapter deserves your help!!

A RARE BIRD NETWORK has been set up to notify birders of the appearance of unusual birds in the area (such as the SMEW). All that is needed is willingness to phone a few others and a desire to look for rare or unusual birds seen by, or reported to, a member of the network. To become a part of this alert, contact your editor.

CLASSES and EXCURSIONS -- your editor has more details.

NATURAL EXCURSIONS, new joint education program by NAS & PRBO, birding and natural history courses, strong emphasis on current issues; trips include Hawaii, Alaska, Mexico, specialization on California and the West. Info/brochure: Western Education Center, 376 Greenwood Beach Rd., Tiburon, CA 94920; 388-2524.

NAS, Sea to Sierra Workshops, 1 post-Asilomar, Apr. 6-11, \$275; also July 25-31, Aug. 1-7, \$350; focus on issues across Calif., study in Bay Area, Delta, Yosemite. Info, itinerary: Western Education Center, address as above.

OBSERVATIONS, December 9-January 13. Also see CBC and field trip reports.

Common Loon, CCF, Jan. 1--BR. Red-Necked Grebe, Monterey, Dec. 12--FB, GC. Cattle Egret, Discovery Bay, San Joaquin Co., Dec. 4--B&MJG; RCA Station, Pt Reyes, Dec. 24--FB, B&MJG, GC. American Bittern, field near his San Ramon home, Dec. 9--KH.

European Wigeon, ♂, Mendoza Ranch pond, Pt Reyes, Dec. 16-28--ED, MP, RS, DB, JG. Wood Duck, 2 pr., Lake Solano Co. Pk, Dec. 19--FB, B&MJG, GC. Redhead, 2♂, 1♀, Lake Merritt, Dec. 15--JR, et al; 4, Foster City, Dec. 21--GC, KH, MP, JR. Ring-Necked Duck, 4♂, Heather Farms, Dec. 15--NB, FB, GC, et al; ♂, Boundary Oaks golfcourse, Dec. 25--FB, GC. TUFTED DUCK, 1-2♂, Muddy Hollow pond, Pt Reyes, thru Jan. 2--m.ob.

Common Goldeneye, ♀, Boundary Oaks golfcourse, Dec. 31--FB, GC. Barrow's Goldeneye, 15♂, 10♀, Lk Merritt, Dec. 15--JR, et al; up to 6, Foster City, Dec. 21-30--m.ob. Surf Scoter, ♀, pond near Camino Diablo, east C.C.Co., Dec. 14-18--BR. Black Scoter, up to 12--FishDocks, Pt Reyes, Dec. 24-27--m.ob; 4, Marshall, Tamales Bay, Marin Co., Dec. 24--GC, FB, B&MJG. Hooded Merganser, 2♂, Lk Merritt, Dec. 15--JR, et al; up to 14, Foster City, Dec. 20-28--m.ob; ♀, Boundary Oaks golfcourse, Dec. 31--FB, GC; 2♂, 1♀, 5--Brooks pond, Pt Reyes, Jan. 1--B&MJG, FB, GC; ♀, No. Bruns Rd., east C.C.Co., Jan. 5--BR; pair, Berkeley Aquatic Pk, Jan. 13--MM, et al. SMEW, ♂, Foster City, Dec. 19 thru period--BS, m.ob; 1st West Coast record south of B.C.

California Condor, 2, I-5 near Gorman, Ventura Co., Dec. 21--JE. Rough-Legged Hawk, near his San Ramon home, Dec. 11--KH; SR-4 near Old River, Dec. 30--RS, DB; CCF area, thru period--BR; Jersey Island, Jan. 1--BR. Ferruginous Hawk, 1-2, CCF area, thru period--BR, RS, DB. Golden Eagle, Black Diamond Mines Reg Pk (BDM), thru period--GF, et al; his San Ramon home, Dec. 11--KH; 6, Calaveras Reservoir, Dec. 13--JB. BALD EAGLE, 2 ad, Calaveras Res, Dec. 13-28+, JB, et al; 2 ad, Flynn Rd., Jan. 2--AE; 1 ad, Friok Lk near Livermore, Jan. 8-9--ML, et al; ad, Vasco Rd. near Livermore, Jan. 14--BR. OSPREY, Lafayette Res., Dec. 10--MS. Prairie Falcon, Yolo Co., Jan. 9.

Black Rail, 2, Benicia SRA, Dec. 27--JR, KH, MP, MS; up to 3, Palo Alto Baylands, Jan. 9-12--m.ob. Golden Plover, 20, near Spaletta Rch, Pt Reyes, Dec. 24--Jan. 1--B&MJG, FB, GC. Wandering Tattler, Emeryville Marina, Dec. 27--RS, JG, DB; Pt Isabel, Jan. 3--BR. Lesser Yellowlegs, 2, near Byron Hot Springs, Dec. 18--BR; 3, SF Bay NWR, Jan. 10--BR. Pectoral Sandpiper, Antelope Valley, Los Angeles Co., Dec. 19--JE, et al. Wilson's Phalarope, 4, SF Bay NWR, Dec. 27 & 2 there, Jan. 10--BR.

GLAUCOUS GULL, imm, CCF, Jan. 5--BR. BLACK-HEADED GULL, Stockton oxidation ponds, at least thru Dec. 30--m.ob. FRANKLIN'S GULL, Stockton oxi ponds, at least thru Dec. 30--m.ob. Black-Legged Kittiwake, imm, Drake's Beach, Pt Reyes, Dec. 16--ED, MP; Foster City, Dec. 21--m.ob; Carmel River mouth, Jan. 1--H&NB.

Short-Eared Owl, 2, near his San Ramon home, Dec. 11--KH; 1, Grizzly Island NWR, Dec. 28--TEMP; 1, Byron Hot Springs Rd., Dec. 18-Jan. 14--BR. Allen's Hummingbird, ♂, returned to her Alamo garden, Jan. 13--JR. Lewis' Woodpecker, Vasco Rd., Jan. 8--BR. COMMON SKYLARK, Hall Ranch, Pt Reyes, thru period--m.ob.

Winter Wren, BDM, Dec. 27-Jan. 1--GF, et al. Rock Wren, BDM, Dec. 31-Jan. 2--GF, et al; 2, Putah Creek, Jan. 13--WO, MP. MOUNTAIN BLUEBIRD, 8-35, between Vasco & Armstrong Rds., Dec. 16-Jan. 12--BR; 25, near Camino Diablo Rd., Dec. 24--BR; 44, Paterson Pass Rd., Jan. 10--AE. TOWNSEND'S SOLITAIRE, up to 4, BDM, Dec. 20-Jan. 2--GF, et al; 3, Morgan Territory Reg Pk, Jan. 7--BR; 1, Putah Creek, Jan. 13--WO, MP.

Golden-Crowned Kinglet, many, thru period--m.ob. SPRAGUE'S PIPIT, Antelope Valley, Dec. 12--BR, m.ob. Phainopepla, BDM, Dec. 31-Jan. 2--GF, et al. Orange-Crowned Warbler, Civic Pk, Walnut Creek, Dec. 30--WO, MP. Palm Warbler, Coyote Hills, Dec. 27--TS.

Vesper Sparrow, 4, Camino Diablo at Camino Vaqueros, east C.C.Co., Dec. 17-Jan. 12--BR, et al. SHARP-TAILED SPARROW, 1-3, Palo Alto Baylands, Jan. 9-12--m.ob. Sage Sparrow, BDM, thru Jan. 2--GF, et al. "Slate-Colored" Junco, Kellogg Valley, Dec. 9-23--BR; Morgan Territory Reg Pk, Jan. 7--BR. White-Throated Sparrow, his Lafayette garden, thru period--LF. Lincoln's Sparrow, his Walnut Creek garden, thru period--GF; BDM, thru Jan. 2--GF, et al; 41, Benicia SRA, Dec. 27--JR, KH, MP, MS. Chestnut-Collared Longspur, Antelope Valley, Dec. 12--BR, m.ob.

OBSERVERS: Hugh & Norah Bain, Florence Bennett, Dennis Bromley, Lynne Bromley, Joe Broyles, Maxine Clason, Glenn Coleman, Elizabeth Dickey, Jimm Edgar, Art Edwards, Lynn Farrar, George Finger, Bill & Mary Jane Greene, Jeff Greenhouse, Kevin Hintsa, Manfred Lindner, Marietta Miller, Molly Monheit, Marilyn O'Connor, Ted & Marjorie Plant, Bob Richmond, Jean Richmond, Barry Sauppe, Rich Sintchak, Tom Steller, Sally Steller, Maury Stern, NoCal Rare Bird Alert, many observers.

* * * * *

We warmly welcome these new members of MDAS and hope to meet them at our meetings and on field trips:

Alamo: Frank Cuzzillo, Ruth Feldman, Ruth Foster, Brian D. Thiessen; Antioch: Kristin Leanne Henoch; Brentwood: Ms. Carolyn Carpenter; Concord: Viola O. Aliferis, Kathleen Baird, Rosemary Clark, Charles Johnson, Mildred Lipton, Ann Lockyer-Cotter, Victoria Mallary, Kathleen F. McGuira, Neal L. Smith, Michael A. Tischler, Gary S. Williams; Danville: Dr. & Mrs. Lewis M. Chasin, David M. Devoe, James S. Felton, John S. Hartwell, Miss Roslyn Hendry, Kathy Rothstein, E. W. Thomson; Lafayette: Jessie W. Goepfert family, Charles M. Greene, Philip A. Johnson, J. Kennedy, Kathleen Bryan Lemos, Ellen E. Reintjes, Charles L. Rodier, Mrs. W. B. Scarborough, Mr. & Mrs. Scott A. Sommer, Donald P. Whyte; Martinez: B. Djajadi, Daniel McNaughton, Jerry L. Robinson, Allan Parker Scott; Orinda: William G. Gottfried, MD; Pittsburg: Mr. Duane A. Beddoes, James A. Erickson; Pacheco: Amelia Wright; Pleasant Hill: Mr. Louis Dolliver, Mrs. Barbara Raab Hall, Michael H. Karoly, Andy Marker, William J. McCarthy, Gladys I. Westenhouse; Rancho Mirage: Mrs. Quentin Reynolds; San Ramon: Mr. & Mrs. H. C. Luehrs & family, Steven L. Magri; Walnut Creek: Mary Anne Adamson, Jean Ballenger, Philip Bancroft, Jr., D. A. Clark, Jr., James L. Dennis, Mrs. Charles W. Doe, Mrs. Eugene Fletcher, Eric Frank & family, Mr. G. P. Fritzsche, Mr. & Mrs. W. A. Garard, Mrs. Peter Hallas, Howell, Michael G. Herbert, Mr. & Mrs. James H. Jeffery, Rev. Robert M. Kidd, E. LaBoyteaux, Philip M. Mulvihill, Mr. W. C. McManus, Mrs. George Rathmell, Petey Schmidt, Mrs. Maurice D. Smith, Mildred M. Taylor, Mr. & Mrs. Richard F. Thomas, Jr., Miss Ynez Yna Whilton, Mrs. Donald P. Winsor.

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CONSERVATION COMMITTEE UPDATE.

WILDERNESS LEASES. Congress and the Administration reached a truce on oil and gas leases in wilderness areas. Interior Secretary Watt agreed not to issue any leases until June 1 and to give Congress 30 days notice of leases after that date. The compromise was prompted by a proposal by Rep. Manual Lujan, Jr. (R-NM) to ban all leasing for 3 years thus locking up wilderness due to a December 31, 1983, deadline for exploration. Watt has said wilderness areas should be open for development but fierce local opposition has led normally staunch Republican industry supporters to back off. Before the end of 1983, when oil and gas access to wilderness areas ends, Watt will have 70-80 discrete decisions to make. Each will bring a blowup, and those announcements will start just before the elections.

On the other side, Rep. James Santini (D-Nev) introduced HR 3364 to extend mineral access to wilderness for 10 years. Watt has spoken approvingly of 20 years, the American Mining Congress wants permanent access. Watch carefully the proposal which will come from Sen. James McClure (D-ID).

Wilderness areas contain only 1.4% of the nation's producible oil reserves and 1% of natural gas, a draft Wilderness Society study indicates.

HYDRO DEVELOPMENT. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission is weakening regulations which require small hydro plants to be constructed in the way least harmful to fish and wildlife. A recent rule would allow FERC to license development under 15 megawatts without consideration of the effect on wildlife and limit input from federal and state fish and wildlife agencies. The Endangered Species Act allows FERC to grant licensing procedure exemptions if they follow terms and conditions set by state and federal fish and wildlife agencies. The new rules would treat terms and conditions as non-binding recommendations.

CONDOR HABITAT. California has moved to acquire and protect a 590-acre tract just outside Sequoia National Forest that is the only known major roosting area of California Condors in the northern part of their range. The state had frozen spending for such land acquisition but made an exception after Tulare County Audubon Society and others brought the importance of the roosting area to official attention.

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THE QUAIL, published monthly except a combined July-August issue, is sent without additional charge to National Audubon Society members in Mt. Diablo chapter. To join NAS: \$25 per year, family \$32, others available; check payable to National Audubon Society, to Membership Chairman, MDAS, P O Box 53, Walnut Creek, CA 94596. Address change (send also to NAS): Mrs. Winnie Orcutt, 30 Iris Ln., Walnut Creek, CA 94595. Change of chapter affiliation is only upon specific request by member. Subscription: \$4 per year, payable to Mt. Diablo Audubon Society, to Treasurer, F. G. Bennett, P O Box 5428, Walnut Creek, CA 94596. First Class mailing in envelope: \$2.25 per year, payable to Mt. Diablo Audubon Society, to Treasurer, address above.

Jean Richmond, Editor, 125 Via Serena, Alamo, CA 94507; phone 837-2843
(Exchange bulletins for MDAS to this address, please.)

GREATER BAY AREA SITE GUIDE: San Leandro Bay Regional Shoreline.

Access: Going south on SR-17 near the Oakland Coliseum, exit at High St., proceed straight across High St. on Oakport St. to the parking area on the right on the south side of the East Creek Slough bridge. From the south, exit at 66th Ave., go west then turn right on Oakport St.

Oakport Trail (new), Damon Marsh. Walk the paved trail along tidal East Creek Slough to the Bay. Many grebes, ducks, gulls are on the water. As high tide ebbs, many shorebirds come to emerging mudflats of the slough and Bay to feed. The trail goes south along the Bay then turns away from the shore at Damon Marsh near 66th Ave. and ends just north of Damon Slough. In a year or two, hopefully, there will be a crossing over the slough to the rest of the Shoreline but for now retrace the trail - different tides/times produce different birding. Morning light is best.

Bay Refuge Park. Go south on Oakport St. beyond Damon Slough, right on Hassler Way, right again on Edgewater Dr. to the end then continue north on the narrow access road to the parking lot on the left. After winter rains, gulls and some shorebirds gather in standing water along the east side of the access road. The northeast area of the park overlooks Damon Slough, Damon Marsh and the bayshore. Shorebirds rest in the marsh at high tide then hordes of them appear on mudflats as the tide ebbs. Rails may be along the far edge of the slough. Some waterbirds are on the slough at high tide, many are on the open water of the Bay. To the west across San Leandro Channel, 70-acre Arrowhead Marsh refuge is cut off from the rest of the Shoreline by a deep channel and thus is safe for resting and nesting birds. The paved trail goes south along the shore of the Bay and San Leandro Creek all the way to Hegenberger Rd. with access between the trail and Edgewater Dr. near Hassler Way and also Pardee Dr. Morning is best here also.

Doolittle Beach. Go south on Edgewater Dr., turn right on Hegenberger Rd., right again on Doolittle Dr. to the entrance north of the boat launch area. Arrowhead Marsh is closer to this shore. Gulls, terns fly over Airport Channel between the park and marsh; shorebirds feed on mudflats along the shores; herons, egrets are in the marsh, rails may possibly be seen there at high tide. Afternoon is best here.

Doolittle Pond (added to the Shoreline in 1980) is just to the north, Alameda South Shore is not far away at the foot of Broadway. (See The Quail, Nov. 1976.)

Facilities: tables, barbecues, restrooms in several places; the paved hiking/biking trail through these areas will eventually circle all of San Leandro Bay. Birdlife varies with the tides. Best birding is fall thru spring, but good in summer also

Birds include 3 loons, 5 grebes, both pelicans, cormorants, herons, egrets, Night Heron, Canada Goose, Brant has been seen, many ducks in winter (European Wigeon, Barrow's Goldeneye possible), White-Tailed Kite, Golden Eagle has been seen, Clapper & Virginia Rail, Sora, many shorebirds (include Red Knot, Baird's Sandpiper), many gulls, several terns (include Common, Least), hummingbirds, both phoebes, swallows, Mockingbird, Water Pipit, Loggerhead Shrike, goldfinches, several sparrows.

The position of RESIDENT NATURALIST/BIOLOGIST at Audubon Canyon Ranch is open as of April 1. Required are education, experience, ability to work with teaching and research projects, ability to work with people. More details from your editor or Audubon Canyon Ranch, Jane Ferguson, 76 Eldridge Ave., Mill Valley, CA 94941.

WILDLIFE COORDINATOR, a new position for MDAS, will be Bill Chilson who will participate with NAS on the Environmental Protection Act reauthorization.

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The QUAIL

BULLETIN OF THE MT. DIABLO AUDUBON SOCIETY
P. O. BOX 53
WALNUT CREEK, CALIFORNIA 94596
(415) AUD-UBON

Pres.: Jimm Edgar
3611 Chestnut St.
Lafayette, CA 94549
283-3510

March 1982
Vol. 28, No. 8
Next deadline: March 10

Meeting: Thurs., March 4. Doors open 6:30 p.m. Birdinformation: 7:00; business: 7:30; social time: 8:00; program: 8:30. Buena Vista School, 2355 San Juan Ave., Walnut Creek. The public is cordially invited to attend.

Field Trips: TRIPS OPEN, members, non-members alike; bring lunch, binocs, field guide. RAIN on trip day? Call the leader--trip may be cancelled or postponed. Carpool TIME is departure time. Carpool EXPENSE: 5¢ per mile per rider suggested; entry fees or tolls shared equally among driver and riders.

Sat., Mar. 6, 8:45 a.m., Dillon Beach; carpool: northwest corner Sun Valley Center, 7:00. Leader: Mary Louise Rosegay (386-1640). Entrance fee.

Wed., Mar. 10, 9:00 a.m., Hayward Regional Shoreline; carpool: El Cerro Blvd. at I-680, Danville, 8:15. Leader: Elizabeth Dickey (254-0486).

Sat., Mar. 20, 8:00 a.m., Upper San Leandro Reservoir. Leader: Tom Lee (934-5475). Wear boots, carry lunch, liquids.

Wed., Mar. 24, 9:30 a.m., Lake Lagunitas; carpool: Pleasant Hill Rd. just north of Fwy 24, 8:30. Leader: Jimm Edgar (283-3510). Note date change.

Board Meeting: Thurs., Mar. 11, 7:30 p.m., home of Norah Bain, 32 Via Farrallon, Orinda; 254-4516. Board meetings are always open to members.

BIRDINFORMATION will be "Habitats," part 1 of a 3-part series by Jimm Edgar, Kent Fickett, Bob Richmond and Tom Steller. Illustrated with slides, various habitats and their birdlife will be discussed. The PROGRAM will be a presentation, "Birds of Central Florida," by Neal Welsh, a relative newcomer to MDAS.

At DILLON BEACH are many loons, grebes (may include Red-Necked), Brant, waterfowl, shorebirds (Snowy, Golden Plovers possible), gulls. Go north on US-101 to Petaluma, follow Bodega Bay signs from Washington St. exit to Two Rock, turn left to SR-1, turn right to the Bank of America in Tomales. Bring warm clothes, rain gear.

At HAYWARD REGIONAL SHORELINE are ducks, shorebirds, some landbirds. From Nimitz Fwy (SR-17) in Hayward take Winton Ave. west to the parking lot at the end of the road. It could be windy, trails may be muddy--come prepared.

At UPPER SAN LEANDRO RESERVOIR is a 3-mile trail past wintering waterfowl (Ring-Necked Duck, perhaps Wood Duck, Redhead, Osprey), thru pines (White- & Red-Breasted Nuthatch), grassland, evergreen woodland. Meet at the EBMUD Valle Vista staging area on Canyon Rd., 1 mile west of Moraga. wear boots, carry lunch, liquid.

At LAKES LAGUNITAS & BON TEMPE are some waterbirds but mostly woodland birds, hopefully Pileated Woodpecker. Cross San Rafael Bridge, north 0.6 mile on US-101, take San Rafael exit 2 blocks, turn left. In downtown Fairfax turn left, then right on Broadway ½ block, left on Bolinas Ave., left on Old Bolinas-Fairfax Rd. to Lake Lagunitas parking lot at the end of the road. \$2 fee/car.

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With STORM DAMAGE from all this rain, road work could cause last minute changes in some trips planned to western Sonoma, Marin and San Mateo Counties. (Dillon Beach replaces Limantour as the Limantour Road will be closed most of this year!) Check with the trip leader or our activity phone, AUD-UBON, if any doubts in those areas.

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FIELD TRIP REPORTS:

The trip to PUTAH CREEK and LAKE SOLANO on January 9 was on a clear day, cold in the morning, cool in the afternoon with light breezes except windy at Monticello Dam. The 15 members found Green Heron, 35 Common Mergansers, Red-Shouldered Hawk, Osprey, Canyon (but no Rock) Wren, and Phainopepla among these 81 species

Com Loon, West & Pied-Billed Grebe, Dbl-Crested Cormorant, Great Blue & Green Heron, Great & Snowy Egret, Mallard, Amer Wigeon, Lesser Scaup, Bufflehead, Ruddy Duck, Com Merganser, Turkey Vulture, white-Tailed Kite, Red-Tailed, Red-Shouldered & Marsh Hawk, Osprey, Amer Kestrel, Amer Coot, Killdeer, Greater Yellowlegs, Herring, Calif, Ring-Billed & Mew Gull, Band-Tailed Pigeon, Rock & Mourning Dove, White-Throated Swift, Anna's Hummingbird, Belted Kingfisher, Com Flicker, Acorn Woodpecker, "Red-Breasted" Sapsucker, Downy & Nuttall's woodpecker, Black Phoebe, Steller's & Scrub Jay, Yellow-Billed Magpie, Com Raven, Plain Titmouse, Bushtit, white-Breasted Nuthatch, Brown Creeper, Bewick's & Canyon Wren, Mockingbird, Amer Robin, Varied & Hermit Thrush, West Bluebird, Golden-Crowned & Ruby-Crowned Kinglet, Water Pipit, Phainopepla, Loggerhead Shrike, Starling, Hutton's Vireo, Orange-Crowned, "Myrtle" & "Audubon's" Warbler, House Sparrow, West Meadowlark, Red-winged & Brewer's Blackbird, House Finch, Pine Siskin, Amer & Lesser Goldfinch, Rufous-Sided & Brown Towhee, Savannah & Lark Sparrow, Dark-Eyed Junco, white-Crowned, Golden-Crowned, Fox & Song Sparrow.

At LAFAYETTE RESERVOIR on January 21 it was cold and windy, mostly sunny. Fourteen members saw 50+ Common Mergansers, Osprey, courting flights of Anna's & Allen's Hummingbirds, many Hermit Thrushes among these 47 species seen or heard:

Pied-Billed Grebe, Dbl-Crested Cormorant, Great Blue Heron, Canada Goose, Mallard, Pintail, Bufflehead, Ruddy Duck, Com Merganser, Turkey Vulture, Sharp-Shinned & Red-Tailed Hawk, Osprey, Amer Coot, Ring-Billed Gull, Band-Tailed Pigeon, white-Throated Swift, Anna's & Allen's Hummingbird, Com Flicker, Scrub Jay, Chestnut-Backed Chickadee, Plain Titmouse, Bushtit, white-Breasted Nuthatch, Wrentit, Bewick's Wren, Mockingbird, Amer Robin, Hermit Thrush, Ruby-Crowned Kinglet, Cedar Waxwing, Starling, Hutton's Vireo, Red-winged & Brewer's Blackbird, House Finch, Amer & Lesser Goldfinch, Rufous-Sided & Brown Towhee, Dark-Eyed Junco, white-Crowned, Golden-Crowned, Fox & Song Sparrow.

After a short stay at CLIFTON COURT FOREBAY the trip on January 23 shifted to YOLO COUNTY. The day was cold, mostly clear, windy at times. Seen by 17 members and guests were 3 Cattle Egrets, Rough-Legged & Ferruginous Hawks, Gyrfalcon, 65 Mountain Flowers, Glaucous & Thayer's Gulls, among these 60 species seen or heard:

West & Pied-Billed Grebe, Dbl-Crested Cormorant, Great Blue Heron, Cattle & Great Egret, White-Fronted Goose, Mallard, Pintail, Amer Wigeon, Com Goldeneye, Ruddy Duck, white-Tailed kite, Red-Tailed, Rough-Legged, Ferruginous & Marsh Hawk, Gyrfalcon, Amer Kestrel, Ring-Necked Pheasant, Amer Coot, Killdeer, Mountain & Black-Bellied Plover, Long-Billed Curlew, Willet, Glaucous, Glaucous-winged, West, Herring, Thayer's, Calif, Ring-Billed & Mew Gull, Rock & Mourning Dove, Burrowing Owl, Belted Kingfisher, Say's Phoebe, Horned Lark, Tree Swallow, Scrub Jay, Yellow-Billed Magpie, Com Raven, Com Crow, Mockingbird, Amer Robin, Water Pipit, Loggerhead Shrike, Starling, "Audubon's" Warbler, West Meadowlark, Red-winged & Brewer's Blackbird, House Finch, Savannah, Lark, white-Crowned & Song Sparrow.

The LOS BANOS/MERCED NWR and PANOCHE VALLEY weekend February 6-7 was attended by 22 members. It was cold early but warming somewhat by midmorning both days. Saturday was clear with light wind, Sunday mostly overcast with variable winds. The refuges were rather dry (!) this year but extensive wet areas along Santa Fe Grade produced excellent birding. Found were 133 White Pelicans, White-Faced Ibis, 20 Whistling Swans, Ferruginous Hawk (including a stunning dark-phase), Mt. Plover, Ruff, Mt. Bluebird, Vesper Sparrow among these 109 species (85 Saturday, 61 Sunday):

Lared, West & Pied-Billed Grebe, White Pelican, Dbl-Crested Cormorant, Great Blue Heron, Great & Snowy Egret, Black-Crowned Night Heron, Amer Bittern, White-Faced Ibis, Whistling Swan, Canada, White-Fronted, Snow & Ross' Goose, Mallard, Gadwall, Pintail, Green-winged & Cinnamon Teal, Amer Wigeon, Northern Shoveler, Redhead, Ring-Necked Duck, Canvasback, Lesser Scaup, Ruddy Duck, Turkey Vulture, white-Tailed Kite, Sharp-Shinned, Cooper's, Red-Tailed & Ferruginous Hawk, Golden Eagle, Marsh Hawk, Merlin, Amer Kestrel, Calif Quail, Ring-Necked Pheasant, Sandhill Crane, Virginia Rail, Com Gallinule, Amer Coot, Killdeer, Mountain & Black-Bellied Plover, Com Snipe, Long-Billed Curlew, Willet, Greater Yellowlegs, Least Sandpiper, Dunlin, Long-Billed Dowitcher, West Sandpiper, Ruff, Amer Avocet, Black-Necked Stilt, Calif, Ring-Billed & Mew Gull, Rock & Mourning Dove, Roadrunner, Barn & Great Horned Owl,

Com Flicker, "Red-Breasted" Sapsucker, Nuttall's Woodpecker, Black & Say's Phoebe, Horned Lark, Tree Swallow, Scrub Jay, Yellow-Billed Magpie, Com Raven, Com Crow, Plain Titmouse, Bewick's, Marsh & Rock Wren, Mockingbird, Calif Thrasher, Amer Robin, Hermit Thrush, Mountain Bluebird, Ruby-Crowned Kinglet, Water Pipit, Loggerhead Shrike, Starling, Orange-Crowned & "Audubon's" Warbler, Com Yellowthroat, House Sparrow, West Meadowlark, Red-Winged & Brewer's Blackbird, Brown-Headed Cowbird, House Finch, Pine Siskin, Amer & Lesser Goldfinch, Brown Towhee, Savannah, Vesper & Lark Sparrow, Dark-Eyed Junco, White-Crowned & Song Sparrow.

Some changes have been made in the FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE: April 3, Black Diamond Mines Regional Park; April 17, Audubon Canyon Ranch.

Hand-screened limited edition RARE BIRD T-SHIRTS: "I Saw the Smew...in (before) '82" white on heavyweight 100% cotton black T-short; Gyrfalcon "Free as a Bird" tan on white with gold trim, 3/4 length raglan sleeve. No orders after March 25. Sizes S, M, L, XL, \$9 each, postpaid. Send check, name/address, note size, Smew ("before" or "in") or Gyrfalcon, to Labour of Love Graphix, P O Box 2372, Martinez, CA 94553.

A BAY CRUISE BENEFIT for MONO LAKE on Sunday, April 18, will go into regions of the north Bay to see and learn about those important areas and get an update on Mono's ultra-crisis. Aboard will be experts on ornithology, marine mammalogy, estuarine ecology, Bay geography. The trip, from Berkeley Marina at the foot of University Ave., 8:30-5:00, goes rain or shine. Bring lunch (sandwiches, snacks may be purchased aboard), binocs, camera, warm clothes. Non-refundable tickets are \$31 on or before March 27, then \$34, mail reservations only. Send check payable to Mono Lake Committee (not tax-deductible) or Golden Gate Audubon Society (tax-deductible) ear-marked MLC, with self-addressed stamped envelope, to Bay Cruise, G.G. Audubon Society, 2718 Telegraph Ave., #206, Berkeley 94705. Info: Chris Swarth, 849-2053, eve.

WILDLIFE RESCUE TEAM. Distressed wildlife may be taken to Alexander Lindsay Junior Museum, 1901 First Ave., Walnut Creek, Monday-Friday, 9-5, Saturday, 11-3. Nights and weekends take wildlife to Veterinary Emergency Clinic, 1410 Monument Blvd., Concord, 798-2904, for care until sent to the museum. The museum cannot send someone to pick up wildlife but can answer questions at 935-1978 during open hours.

THE NATURE CONSERVANCY film on Santa Cruz Island at our February meeting showed a beautiful island which we are fortunate to have preserved. TNC has a vital "California Critical Areas Program" which urgently needs help. Scattered throughout the state, each of the eleven areas is unique and needs protection. Send contributions to The Nature Conservancy, 156 Second St., Fifth Floor, San Francisco, CA 94105.

CLASSES and EXCURSIONS -- your editor has more details.

BIRDING WORKSHOP, Apr. 7-11; field & classroom, headquartered at NAS western Education Center, sections for beginners, more experienced; instructors: Rich Stallcup, Jon Dunn, Kenn Kaufman, Will Russell; \$60 (\$15 deposit holds a space). For info or reservations: Wings, P O Box 287, Seal Harbor, ME 04675; (207) 276-5077. If going, contact Florence Bennett or Jean Richmond (837-2843) to arrange carpooling.

Richardson Bay Sanctuary. Bird Banding Demonstration, Mar. 7, 2 pm, Bob Yutzy. Ring Mountain Wildflower Hunt, Mar. 14, 2 pm, Eva Buxton. Flora & Fauna of Marin, Tues., Mar. 16-Apr. 13, 10-2, \$30 for Auduboners. Gathering of Bird Paraphernalia, learn about books, binocs, scope, cameras, lenses, recorders, Mar. 21, 1-4. Close-up of Nature Photography, Mar. 28, 9-4, \$20, reservations needed. Info: NAS Western Education Center, 376 Greenwood Beach Rd., Tiburon, CA 94920; 388-2524.

U.C., Berkeley. The University Research Expedition Program has no special academic or field experience requirements for most projects. For brochure, contact UREP, University of California, Desk NR, Berkeley, CA 94720; 642-6586.

Bay Adventures Seminars, natural history, education and the arts, college credit available. Info: Bay Adventures, P O Box 524, Newark, CA 94560; 792-3271 (8-4:30).

Attu, Alaska (accomodations much improved now), May 15-June 7. Wings, Inc., and Attour share air charter and accomodations. Your editor has info, addresses.

SUBSCRIBERS (& LOCAL memberships), check your label for expiration date--MDAS does not mail you a renewal notice. Your cancelled check is your receipt.

OBSERVATIONS, January 14-February 12. Also see field trip reports.

Common Loon, Clifton Court Forebay (CCF), Feb. 6--BR. YELLOW-BILLED LOON, Berkeley Marina, Jan. 17-Feb. 12--GH, m.ob. Cattle Egret, up to 5, Rd. 102 near Rd. 27 near Davis, Jan. 18-Feb. 3--JR, et al; 1, Davis dump, Feb. 3--OH, JR, MC, et al.

Whistling Swan, est. 75, Frick Lake, Laughlin Rd., Jan. 7--ML; 3 there, Jan. 8-Feb. 6--m.ob. Ross' Goose, 2, Frick Lake, Jan. 27-Feb. 6--JR, BR, et al. Wood Duck, ♀, CCF, Feb. 6--BR. Greater Scaup, 6♂, CCF, Feb. 6--BR. Barrow's Goldeneye, 7♂, 2♀, Foster City, Feb. 8--JR, ED, MC. Bufflehead & 2 Ruddy Ducks, diving in a rain pool near his San Ramon home, Jan. 27--KH. Surf Scoter, 16, over Davis dump, Jan. 26--AEn, JR, et al. Hooded Merganser, near Armstrong Rd., east C.C.Co., Jan. 21--BR. SMEW, ♂, now in breeding plumage, Foster City, thru period--m.ob.

White-Tailed Kite, over Orindawoods, Orinda, Feb. 5--NB. Red-Shouldered Hawk, over his Lafayette home, Feb. 3--MS. Rough-Legged Hawk, up to 4, near Davis, Jan. 18-Feb. 3--m.ob; dark-phase there, Jan. 26--JR, et al; Frick Lake, Jan. 27--JR & Feb. 2--BR; 2, near Thornton, Feb. 2--MP, JR, et al; CCF area thru period--BR. Ferruginous Hawk, near Davis, Jan. 18--JR; Jarvis Rd., Newark, Jan. 19--JR; Frick Lake, Jan. 24 & Feb. 2--BR; CCF area, thru period.

Bald Eagle, 3 imm, Bethany Res., near CCF, Jan. 19--BR; imm, Morgan Territory Pres, Jan. 25--BR; imm, Frick Lake, Jan. 27--JR; ad, imm, Bethany Res., Feb. 4--BR; ad, Calaveras Res., Feb. 9--CH, JR, BF, et al. Osprey, Lafayette Res., Feb. 5--NB. Prairie Falcon, Yolo Co., Feb. 3; Alameda Co., Feb. 9; C.C.Co., Feb. 11. Peregrine Falcon, C.C.Co., Jan. 27. Merlin, Yolo Co., Feb. 3.

Mountain Plover, 15, Rd. 104 near Davis, Jan. 26--JR, et al; 18+, Rds. 102 & 27, near Davis, Feb. 3--MC, JR, OH, et al; 32, CCF, Feb. 6--BR; 600+, Panoche Valley, Feb. 6--Golden Gate Aud Soc (MDAS had 59+ on Feb. 7). RUFF, 2, Merced NWR, Jan. 26-Feb. 7--RBA, m.ob. Thayer's Gull, imm, Coyote Hills, Jan. 22--BR; up to 9, Frick Lake, Jan. 24-Feb. 6--BR. FRANKLIN'S GULL, imm, Stockton oxi ponds, Feb. 2--JR, MP.

Burrowing Owl, 1, CCF, 9, Camino Diablo, Feb. 6--BR. Short-Eared Owl, 3, near his San Ramon home, Jan. 28--KH; Sutter Buttes, Sutter Co., Feb. 2--GF; Coyote Hills, Feb. 2--BR. SAW-WHET OWL, Coyote Hills, Jan. 20-Feb. 12--m.ob.

Lewis's Woodpecker, near Vasco Rd., thru period--BR. Yellow-Billed Magpie, near Armstrong Rd., Jan. 21--BR; Byron Hot Springs Rd., Feb. 3--BR. DIPPER, 2, Sunol Park, Feb. 9--JR, BF, et al. Varied Thrush, CCF, Feb. 6--BR. MOUNTAIN BLUEBIRD, up to 8, Vasco Rd., Feb. 3, 9, 10--BR; 19, Bethany Res., Feb. 4--BR. TOWNSEND'S SOLITAIRE, 2, Morgan Territory Pres., Jan. 25, 1 there, Feb. 8--BR; 2, Black-Diamond Mines Park, Jan. 31--GF; 1, CCF, Feb. 6--BR; 1, her Walnut Creek garden, Feb. 7--WO; 1, Sunol Park, Feb. 9--JR.

Golden-Crowned Kinglet, at least 8, still around her Alamo home, thru period--JR. BOHEMIAN WAXWING, 160, Yreka, Siskiyou Co., Jan. 17--RBA, BR, KH. Starling, 1,000's, flying west over her Orinda home near dusk, Feb. 1-4--ED, settled into trees on Terra Rd., Orinda--JE. SHARP-TAILED SPARROW, Palo Alto Baylands, at least thru Feb. 6--RBA. "Slate-Colored" Junco, Morgan Territory Pres., Jan. 25, Feb. 8--BR. Lapland Longspur, Rd. 104 near Davis, Jan. 23--AEn, JR, et al.

In Los Angeles Co., Jan. 30-31: Louisiana Heron, 16 Blue-winged Teal, Least & Coues' Flycatchers, Black-Tailed Gnatcatcher, 3 Sprague's Pipits, worm-eating, Bay-breasted & Mourning Warblers--BR, KH.

OBSERVERS: Norah Bain, Florence Bennett, Maxine Clason, Elizabeth Dickey, Jimm Edgar, Andy Engilis, George Finger, Bud Fry, Claire Hellman, Kevin Hintsa, George Hugenberg, Owen Hughes, Manfred Lindner, Marilyn O'Connor, Winnie Orcutt, Marjorie Plant, Bob Richmond, Jean Richmond, Meury Stern, NoCal Rare Bird Alert, many observers.

Have observations to me BY the deadline on page 1 for inclusion in this column. Last minute sightings may be phoned within 2-3 days after that deadline. PLEASE NOTE: Observations do not have to be of rare or exotic species! Please report common birds in uncommon places, at uncommon times, or doing uncommon things.

MDAS tape, AUD-UBON, including upcoming meetings and trips, is changed regularly. Northern California Rare Bird Alert, 843-2211, is changed weekly.

Wonder if SIGHTINGS are unusual? See "Birds of Northern California" available from Golden Gate Audubon Soc., The Nature Company, Alexander Lindsay Junior Museum.

It is with great pleasure that we greet these new members of MDAS and hope to meet them at meetings and on field trips:

Concord: P. A. Campbell, Timothy J. Coffey, Mary L. Graff, Wayne Klingstedt family, Mr. M. P. McGarvey, Joseph Stark; Pleasant Hill: Eleanor Glorioso; San Ramon: Mr. J. E. Clark, Martin E. Marks; Walnut Creek: Mr. & Mrs. V. Baigent, Mary L. Cooley, Melvin A. Gadd family, Mrs. George Gerdes, David Gutru family, Max Hortons, Everette James, Nancy Kerins, Mrs. James McKay, Dr. Grace Lee Nute.

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MATAGORDA TRANSFER. Interior Secretary James Watt is pressing ahead with his plan to give Texas that area of Matagorda Island which is part of Aransas NWR, but is getting resistance from Congress. On the 50,000-acre island, offshore from the main part of Aransas NWR, the federal government owns 19,000 acres in the refuge, Texas owns 17,500 acres of wetlands and has long hoped to acquire the federal land as it is dry land that could be developed for public recreation. The remaining acreage is in private ownership and includes a 4,000-acre NAS sanctuary.

John D. Dingell, chairman of the House Committee on Energy and Commerce, has asked embarrassing questions about the legitimacy of the proposed transfer and the speed with which it is being pursued. He asked that Interior not fund any environmental assessment of the plan until those questions are answered, but so far his request has been ignored. Silvio O. Conte, ranking Republican member of the Committee on Appropriations, has introduced HR 5219 which could prevent the transfer to the State of Texas of this invaluable federally owned area without the benefit of an environmental impact statement. It is uncertain whether Interior has the legal right to give Texas the property without the consent of Congress.

The island, critical habitat for Whooping Cranes and six other endangered species, is one of only two remaining barrier islands off the Texas coast without a causeway or other direct public access. Transfer to state ownership would not assure the lasting protection required of national wildlife refuges.

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OF RABBITS AND COYOTES. The National Woolgrowers Association, claiming losses of over \$100 million a year, wants to bring back Compound 1080 to poison coyotes. Meanwhile, there have been giant roundups of rabbits in Idaho where farmers have suffered multi-million-dollar losses of grain to increased rabbit populations.

Rabbits and grass-eating rodents are favorite prey of coyotes. The coyotes -- and Golden Eagles -- some sheepland want to kill are ready and able to help other ranchers control periodic rabbit outbreaks. Farmers and ranchers have a right to protect themselves against damage from animals, but policies that ignore the value of natural balances between predator and prey are not in any rancher's best interest!

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SNOWMOBILES IN LASSEN PARK. The Interior Department eased the snowmobile ban in national parks by allowing their use in Lassen on a trial basis. Deputy Secretary of Interior Ray Arnett, director of Calif. Fish & Game under then-Governor Reagan, initiated the move. When hearings were held in September, opposition was overwhelming. Those infernal machines damage or kill plants, disturb or kill hibernating animals, and destroy the peace and quiet of other people. There are already snowmobile trails in national forest areas near the park, and off-road vehicles also have use of more than 8 million acres of national forest land in this state. California Resources Director Huev Johnson plans a court challenge of the ruling.

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THE QUAIL, published monthly except a combined July-August issue, is sent without additional charge to National Audubon Society members in Mt. Diablo chapter. To join NAS: \$25 per year, family \$32, others available; check payable to National Audubon Society, to Membership Chairman, MDAS, P O Box 53, Walnut Creek, CA 94596. Address change (send also to NAS): Mrs. Winnie Orcutt, 30 Iris Ln., Walnut Creek, CA 94595. Change of chapter affiliation is only upon specific request by member. Subscription: \$4 per year, payable to Mt. Diablo Audubon Society, to Treasurer, F. G. Bennett, P O Box 5428, Walnut Creek, CA 94596. First Class mailing in envelope: \$2.25 per year, payable to Mt. Diablo Audubon Society, to Treasurer, address above.

Jean Richmond, Editor, 125 Via Serena, Alamo, CA 94507; phone 837-2843 (Exchange bulletins for MDAS to this address, please.)

GREATER BAY AREA SITE GUIDE: Redwood Regional Park.

Access: From Lafayette go south on Moraga Rd., which becomes Canyon Rd. beyond Moraga, to Pinehurst Rd., go left to Redwood Rd., turn right 1/4 mile then right again into the park. Or take SR-24 toward Oakland, go south on Warren Fwy (SR-13), turn left from Redwood Rd. exit, go 2 1/2 miles beyond Skyline Blvd. to the park entrance.

Willows along the creek by the parking lot have flycatchers, warblers and other species in spring. Bird along the road back toward the entrance, checking oaks and creekside vegetation. Near the service yard cross the creek to Stream Trail, turn left to the area of the entrance. Watch overhead for hawks, Band-Tailed Pigeons.

Retrace your path and continue along Stream Trail checking riparian growth in the creek and upslope woodland. (Turn right on Orchard Trail to your car to make this a short walk.) When Stream Trail reaches the paved road bear left, check redwood groves which have few birds but do have species such as Winter Wren. Saw-whet Owls have been in this area in the past. The trail follows the creek through several small redwood groves then climbs up the hill through woodlands to Skyline Gate at Pine Hills Rd. and Skyline Blvd. if a long walk interests you.

Return along the paved road to the parking area. Around the open area of the play fields check vegetation along the creek, trees along the road, the old fruit trees.

At the parking area turn left up Canyon Trail where chaparral soon gives way to woodland. Climb as far as you wish before returning to your car.

Facilities: tables, barbecues, latrines.

Birds include several hawks, California Quail, Band-Tailed Pigeon, Screech, Great Horned, Pygmy & Saw-whet Owl, White-Throated Swift, Anna's, Rufous (migrant) & Allen's (summer) Hummingbird, several woodpeckers, flycatchers (include Ash-Throated, willow, western, Pewee, Olive-Sided), several swallows, white-Breasted & Red-Breasted Nuthatch, Brown Creeper, Wrentit, wrens, California Thrasher, thrushes, both kinglets possible, Hutton's, Solitary & Warbling Vireo, warblers (Orange-Crowned, Yellow, Yellow-Rumped, Black-Throated Gray, Townsend's, Hermit, McGillivray's, wilson's), Northern Oriole, Black-Headed Grosbeak, Purple & House Finch, Pine Siskin, goldfinches, both towhees, several sparrows (including Lincoln's).

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AUDUBON CANYON RANCH is open to the public March 1-July 4, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., weekends, holidays, and during Easter week; no charge. Parking, picnic tables available. For public transportation call Golden Gate Transit, 453-2300, for schedule.

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WATT WHAT?? Congress voted to acquire Sweeney Ridge on the San Mateo coast and appropriated \$9.6 million for the purchase, but Interior Secretary James Watt refuses to add the area to the National Park System saying the money would be better spent on outstanding claims against the National Park Service for other acquisitions!!! An angry Tom Lantos, D-San Mateo, said, "This country is beginning to get a taste of the imperial secretaryship under James Watt."

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A free NUCLEAR FORUM will be held by The Athenian School, 2100 Mt. Diablo Scenic Blvd., Danville, on Thursday, March 11, 7:30 p.m., and Friday, March 12, 9-3. The conference will consist of speakers, films, and small discussion groups. For more information call the school at 837-5375 during school hours.

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MT. DIABLO AUDUBON SOCIETY
P. O. Box 53
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Pres.: Jimm Edgar
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April 1982
Vol. 28, No. 9

Next deadline: April 12

Meeting: Thurs., April 1. Doors open 6:30 p.m. Birdinformation: 7:00; business: 7:30; social time: 8:00; program: 8:30. Buena Vista School, 2355 San Juan Ave., Walnut Creek. The public is cordially invited to attend.

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Sat., Apr. 3, 8:00 am, Black Diamond Mines Park; carpool: by Burger King, Ygnacio Valley & Clayton Rds., 7:30. Leader: George Finger (933-2468).

Wed., Apr. 14, 9:00 am, Lake Merced/Ft. Funston; carpool: El Nido & Acalanes Rds. at Fwy 24, west Lafayette, 8:15. Leader: Elizabeth Dickey (254-0486).

Sat., Apr. 17, 9:45 am, Audubon Canyon Ranch; carpool: El Nido & Acalanes Rds. at Fwy 24, west Lafayette, 8:00. Leader: Norah Bain (254-4516).

Thurs., Apr. 22, 8:30 am, Las Trampas Regional Park. Leader: Jean Richmond (837-2843). Early birders meet at 7:30.

Sat., Apr. 24, 8:00 am, Briones Reg. Park. Leader: Merv Ortez (283-3072).

Wed., Apr. 28, Mt. Diablo State Park; carpool: El Cerro Blvd. at I-680, Danville, 8:00 am. Leader: Jimm Edgar (283-3510).

Sat.-Sun., June 19-20, Yuba Pass & Sierra Valley. Leader: Sally Steller (837-9061). Primarily a camping trip, non-campers make reservations soon. Sierra City: Herrington's Sierra Pines (916) 862-1151 or Sierra Chalet (916) 862-1110; Sierraville: Canyon Ranch (916) 944-3340.

Board Meetings: Thurs., Apr. 15, 7:30 pm, home of Winnie Young, 1451 Janet Ct., Benicia; (707) 745-4134. Board meetings are always open to members.

BIRDINFORMATION, part 2 on "Habitats," will be a discussion of riparian areas by Kent Fickett. The PROGRAM will be a slide presentation on "Whales" by Joyce Babin, a naturalist with the Regional Park District. This program is presented regularly at Crab Cove in Robert Crown State Beach, Alameda.

BLACK DIAMOND MINES REGIONAL PARK, with oak woodland, chaparral and grasslands, has varied birds including Rock Wren, Blue-Gray Gnatcatcher, perhaps Phainopepla; Townsend's Solitaires wintered there. Go east out Ygnacio Valley & Kirker Pass Rds., east on SR-4, south on Somersville Rd. to the parking lot at the end of the road.

At LAKE MERCED and FORT FUNSTON are waterbirds, some ducks (possibly Black Sooter), landbirds including Bank Swallow, sometimes Red Crossbill. From the Bay Bridge go south via US-101 & I-280 past Geneva Ave., take next exit (S.F. State Univ.) about a block, right on Sagamore St., right on Brotherhood Way, right on Lake Merced Blvd. At Sunset Blvd. turn left into the parking lot.

AUDUBON CANYON RANCH offers great views of nesting herons and egrets. After lunch we bird Ranch trails and Bolinas Lagoon. From US-101 in Mill Valley north of the Golden Gate Bridge follow SR-1 and Panoramic Way to Stinson Beach, go north 3 miles to the wide turnout across from the Ranch. Weather is variable, come prepared.

At LAS TRAMPAS PARK we look for Grasshopper Sparrows and other grassland species, hawks, woodland birds. Go south on I-680 to Crow Canyon Rd., west 1 mile to Bolinger Canyon Rd., then right about 5 miles to the parking lot at the end of the road.

BRIONES PARK has a wide variety of woodland birds, some of them nesting. From Fwy 24 in Lafayette take Upper Happy Valley Rd. to Happy Valley Rd., left 2 miles to Bear Creek Rd., right $\frac{1}{2}$ mile, right again into the park to the last parking lot. On MT. DIABLO are hawks, hummingbirds, woodpeckers, flycatchers, Blue-Gray Gnat-catcher, warblers, Lazuli Bunting, Rufous-Crowned, Sage and Black-Chinned Sparrows.

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FIELD TRIP REPORTS.

Along the BAYFRONT on February 10 it was clear and cold with light wind but warming a bit by noon. Seven members found a YELLOW-BILLED LOON, 14 Redheads, ♀ Barrow's Goldeneye and ♀ Hooded Merganser among these 68 species seen or heard.

Com, YELLOW-BILLED & Red-Throated LOON, Horned, Eared, West & Pied-Billed Grebe, Brown Pelican, Dbl-Crested & Pelagic Cormorant, Great Blue Heron, Great & Snowy Egret, Bl-Cr Night Heron, Mallard, Pintail, Redhead, Canvasback, Greater & Lesser Scaup, Com & Barrow's Goldeneye, Bufflehead, Wh-Winged & Surf Scoter, Ruddy Duck, Hooded & Red-Br Merganser, Amer Kestrel, Amer Coot, Killdeer, Black-Bellied Plover, Black Turnstone, Willet, Least Sandpiper, Dunlin, dowitcher sp, West Sandpiper, Marbled Godwit, Sanderling, Amer Avocet, Gl-Winged, West, Calif, Rg-Billed, Mew & Bonaparte's Gull, Forster's Tern, Rook & Mourning Dove, Anna's Hummingbird, Belted Kingfisher, Com Crow, Chestnut-Backed Chickadee, Plain Titmouse, Bushtit, Amer Robin, Water Pipit, Starling, "Myrtle" & "Audubon's" Warbler, West Meadowlark, Red-Winged & Brewer's Blackbird, House Finch, Brown Towhee, Savannah, White-Cr & Song Sparrow.

Around THORNTON and STOCKTON OXIDATION PONDS on February 20 it was very foggy early, with hazy sunshine by late morning, and gentle breezes. Twelve members had Green Heron, Sandhill Crane, Red-Shouldered Hawk and Burrowing Owl among these 62 species:

Eared & Pied-Billed Grebe, Dbl-Crested Cormorant, Great Blue & Green Heron, Great Egret, Mallard, Northern Shoveler, Lesser Scaup, Bufflehead, Ruddy Duck, Turkey Vulture, Wh-Tailed Kite, Red-Tailed, Red-Shouldered & Marsh Hawk, Amer Kestrel, Ring-Necked Pheasant, Sandhill Crane, Amer Coot, Killdeer, Least Sandpiper, dowitcher sp, Bl-Necked Stilt, Calif, Rg-Billed & Bonaparte's Gull, Forster's Tern, Rook & Mourning Dove, Burrowing Owl, Belted Kingfisher, Com Flicker, Acorn & Nuttall's Woodpecker, Black Phoebe, Cliff Swallow, Scrub Jay, Com Crow, Plain Titmouse, Bushtit, Bewick's & Marsh Wren, Mockingbird, Amer Robin, Ruby-Cr Kinglet, Water Pipit, Loggerhead Shrike, Starling, "Audubon's" Warbler, House Sparrow, West Meadowlark, Red-Winged & Brewer's Blackbird, Brown-Headed Cowbird, House Finch, Rufous-Sided Towhee, Savannah, White-Crowned, Golden-Crowned & Song Sparrow.

The trip to BOLINAS LAGOON and 5-BROOKS on February 25 was on a warm, sunny day with little wind. The 14 observers found Green Heron, Hooded Merganser and a Red-Shouldered Hawk eating a snake, like a robin eats a worm, among these 82 species:

Com Loon, Horned, Eared, West & Pied-Billed Grebe, Dbl-Crested Cormorant, Great Blue & Green Heron, Great & Snowy Egret, Bl-Cr Night Heron, Canada Goose, Mallard, Gadwall, Pintail, Gr-Winged & Cinnamon Teal, Amer Wigeon, Canvasback, Greater & Lesser Scaup, Com Goldeneye, Bufflehead, Wh-Winged & Surf Scoter, Ruddy Duck, Hooded & Red-Br Merganser, Turkey Vulture, Sharp-Shinned, Red-Tailed & Red-Shouldered Hawk, Amer Kestrel, Calif Quail, Com Gallinule, Amer Coot, Killdeer, Black-Bellied Plover, Black Turnstone, Lg-Billed Curlew, Willet, Least Sandpiper, Dunlin, dowitcher sp, West Sandpiper, Marbled Godwit, Amer Avocet, West, Ring-Billed & Mew Gull, Mourning Dove, Anna's & Allen's Hummingbird, Com Flicker, Acorn Woodpecker, Black Phoebe, Steller's & Scrub Jay, Com Crow, Chestnut-Backed Chickadee, Plain Titmouse, Bushtit, Wrentit, Winter Wren, Mockingbird, Amer Robin, Varied & Hermit Thrush, West Bluebird, Ruby-Cr Kinglet, Water Pipit, Starling, "Myrtle" & "Audubon's" Warbler, Red-Winged & Brewer's Blackbird, Purple & House Finch, Brown Towhee, Dark-Eyed Junco, White-Crowned, Golden-Crowned, Fox & Song Sparrow.

At DILLON BEACH and BODEGA BAY on March 6 it was sunny with moderate wind. The 19 members found Red-Necked Grebe, at least 4 Golden Plovers, and a Townsend's Solitaire (Bodega Head) among these 87 species heard or seen:

Com, Arctic & Red-Thr Loon, Red-Necked, Horned, Eared, West & Pied-Billed Grebe, Dbl-Cr, Brandt's & Pelagic Cormorant, Great Blue Heron, Snowy Egret, "Black" Brant, Cinnamon Teal, Lesser Scaup, Bufflehead, Wh-Winged & Surf Scoter, Ruddy Duck, Red-Br Merganser, Turkey Vulture, Red-Tailed & Marsh Hawk, Osprey, Amer Kestrel, Calif Quail, Virginia Rail, Sora, Amer Coot, Black Oystercatcher, Semipalmated & Snowy Plover, Killdeer, Golden & Black-Bellied Plover, Surf-bird, Ruddy & Black Turnstone, Whimbrel, Willet, Red Knot, Least Sandpiper, Dunlin, dowitcher sp, West Sandpiper, Marbled Godwit, Sanderling, Gl-Winged, West, Herring, Calif, Rg-Billed, Mew & Bonaparte's Gull, Forster's Tern, Com Murre, Rook & Mourning Dove, Burrowing Owl, Anna's

& selasphorus sp Hummingbird, Com Flicker, Black Phoebe, Horned Lark, Tree & Barn Swallow, Sorub Jay, Com Raven, Com Crow, Amer Robin, West Bluebird, TOWNSEND'S SOLITAIRE, Ruby-Cr Kinglet, Water Pipit, Loggerhead Shrike, Starling, House Sparrow, West Meadowlark, Red-Winged & Brewer's Blackbird, House Finch, Brown Towhee, Savannah, White-Crowned, Golden-Crowned and Song Sparrow.

Around HAYWARD REGIONAL SHORELINE on March 10 it was cloudy with a few showers early, the winds were light. Five observers found many ducks and shorebirds, and a Short-Eared Owl among these 64 species seen or heard:

Eared & West Grebe, Dbl-Crested Cormorant, Great & Snowy Egret, Mallard, Gadwall, Pintail, Cinnamon Teal, Amer Wigeon, Northern Shoveler, Canvasback, Lesser Scaup, Com Goldeneye, Bufflehead, Surf Scoter, Ruddy Duck, Turkey Vulture, Red-Tailed & Marsh Hawk, Rg-Necked Pheasant, Amer Coot, Killdeer, Bl-Bellied Plover, Lg-Billed Curlew, Willet, Greater Yellowlegs, Least Sandpiper, Dunlin, Lg-Billed Dowitcher, West Sandpiper, Marbled Godwit, Amer Avocet, Bl-Necked Stilt, West & Rg-Billed Gull, Forster's & Caspian Tern, Rock & Mourning Dove, Short-Eared Owl, White-Thr Swift, Horned Lark, Violet-Green, Barn & Cliff Swallow, Com Crow, Mockingbird, Amer Robin, Hermit Thrush, Water Pipit, Starling, "Audubon's" Warbler, House Sparrow, West Meadowlark, Red-Winged & Brewer's Blackbird, House Finch, Rufous-Sided & Brown Towhee, Savannah, White-Crowned, Golden-Crowned & Song Sparrow.

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With ELECTION OF OFFICERS to be held at our May meeting, a Nominating Committee is working on a slate to present at that time. Plan to attend on May 6.

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Last month JOAN EDGAR won the annual Cabaret Gold Award as the outstanding musician accompanist. A talented pianist, she richly deserves this award which is sponsored by the San Francisco Council on Entertainment. Our heartiest congratulations, Joan!

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APRIL ON THE MOUNTAIN. Hike, picnic, camp on our island mountain, learn about the birds and other animals of the area. The many, varied activities, begun in March, continue into May. Hikes, of varied pace and steepness, focus on different aspects of nature. Copies of the detailed schedule are at Lindsay Museum, libraries, or call Gen and Bill Sattler at 685-5315.

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The ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT will be the focus of the April Golden Gate Audubon Soc. meeting. Special guest speaker will be Mr. Ken Berlin of NAS, Chairman, Endangered Species Act Reauthorization Committee. Mr. Mark Palmer, Regional VP of the Sierra Club, will also speak. The meeting will be held Thursday, April 8 at 7:30 pm, at 941 The Alameda, Berkeley. For further information call GGAS at 843-2222.

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SAVE MT. DIABLO, an organization working hard to improve and enlarge our State Park, has a fund-raising campaign underway to purchase several small parcels which they can then deed to the park. Due to state fiscal problems, money for land purchase has been eliminated from tidelands oil funds. Please aid the drive by sending your tax-deductible contribution to them at P O Box 25, Concord, CA 94522.

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Audubon and other groups support the WATER INITIATIVE being circulated for the Nov. ballot. The act would ensure maintenance of sufficient instream water, protect underground water, establish pricing and conservation patterns to stop water waste, thus bringing long-needed water reform to supply our water needs while protecting natural resources. Information and petitions are available from California Water Protection Council, 401 San Miguel Way, Sacramento, CA 95819; (916) 453-0443.

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SANDERLINGS have been color-banded at Bodega Bay and a program starts this fall in Peru and Ecuador in a project to determine how far from Bodega local birds go and if South American birds come to our coast. The left leg has 2 color bands, the right has 1-2 color bands over an aluminum one. If you see banded Sanderlings away from Bodega, note, if you can, which colors are where, top and bottom, on which leg, and send the info to Bodega Marine Laboratory, P O Box 247, Bodega Bay, CA 94923.

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The EUCALYPTUS TREES on the back trail at Richardson Bay Sanctuary in Tiburon were cut down to protect neighbors during storms and will be replaced with sturdy native trees. To donate a memorial tree or help with the project, contact the Sanctuary, 376 Greenwood Beach Rd., Tiburon, CA 94920; 388-2524.

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OBSERVATIONS, February 13-March 13. Also see field trip reports.

YELLOW-BILLED LOON, Berkeley Marina, at least thru Feb. 25--m.ob. Red-Necked Grebe, Bodega Bay, Feb. 20--JR, FB; Richardson Bay, Feb. 25--JR. Northern Fulmar, 75, Monterey harbor, Feb. 20--BR; 4, Cliff House, SF, Feb. 28--JR, FB. Flamingo, escape, very pink, near Dumbarton Bridge, Feb. 25--MMi.

"Black" Brant, 3, Bodega Bay, Feb. 20--JR, FB. Snow Goose, 2, Monterey, Feb. 20--BR. Blue-Winged Teal, ♂, off Byron Hot Springs Rd., Feb. 16-18--BR; ♂, North Lake, Golden Gate Park, Feb. 28--FB, JR; 2♂, I-680 at Waterfront Rd., Martinez, Mar. 13--BB. European Wigeon, ♂, I-680 at Waterfront Rd., Mar. 13--BB. Wood Duck, 7♂, 5♀, Elk Glen Lake, Golden Gate Park, Feb. 28--FB, JR.

Ring-Necked Duck, ♂, 2♀, Cascade Lake, Orinda, Mar. 12--NB. TUFTED DUCK, ♂, with very long tuft, Richardson Bay, at least thru Mar. 10--m.ob. Bufflehead, 2000+, Laguna Lake, Marin Co., Feb. 20--JR, FB. Harlequin Duck, 2♂, Año Nuevo, Feb. 19--BR.

Black Scoter, Bodega Bay, Feb. 20--FB, JR; 3, Cliff House, SF, Feb. 28--FB, JR; 15+, Fish Docks, Pt. Reyes, Mar. 2--JR, et al. Hooded Merganser, ♀, Boundary Oaks golf-course, thru period--JE. SMEW, ♂, Foster City, thru Feb. 18--m.ob. Common Merganser, 10♂, 27♀, Heather Pond, Feb. 13--EH.

Ferruginous Hawk, Chileno Valley Rd., Marin Co., Feb. 20--JR, FB. Bald Eagle, 3 imm, Sunol Reg. Pk., Feb. 14--BR; Bruns Rd., east C.C.Co., Feb. 17--BR; Delta pumping station, Alameda Co., Mar. 8--BR. Prairie Falcon, North Lake Tahoe, Mar. 3--SE.

Common Gallinule, Middle Lake, Golden Gate Park, Feb. 28--FB, JR. MOUNTAIN PLOVER, up to 41, Clifton Court Rd., Feb. 16 thru period--BR, et al. Golden Plover, up to 23, Spaletta Ranch, Pt Reyes, thru period--m.ob.

GLAUCOUS GULL, imm, Frick Lake & Livermore dump, Feb. 13-27--BR, AE, PW. Western Gull, 1-2, Livermore dump, Feb. 14-28--BR. Thayer's Gull, up to 100, Frick Lake & Livermore dump, thru period--BR. XANTUS' MURRELET, from shore, Monterey, Feb. 20--BR. Ancient Murrelet, from shore, Monterey, Feb. 20--BR.

Pygmy Owl, Sunol Reg. Pk., Feb. 14--BR. BARRED OWL, Prairie Creek, Humboldt Co., Mar. 12--DE. Long-Eared Owl, Coyote Hills Reg. Pk., Feb. 11 thru period--RBA, m.ob. Saw-Whet Owl, 1-2, Coyote Hills Reg. Pk., thru period--m.ob. Vaux's Swift, Pescadero marsh, San Mateo Co., Mar. 13--GF, KH.

Rufous Hummingbird, returned to her Lafayette garden, Feb. 20--MMo. YELLOW-BELLIED SAPSUCKER, eastern race, imm, his Athenian School garden and area, Jan 23, Feb. 27--Mar. 6--K&JB, JR, BR. WILLIAMSON'S SAPSUCKER, ♂, her Mill Valley garden, Feb. 28--Mar. 2--DS, m.ob. Red-Breasted Nuthatch, her Lafayette garden, Feb. 20--MMo.

Dipper, Sunol Reg. Pk., Feb. 14--BR. TOWNSEND'S SOLITAIRE, Bings' Livermore garden, Feb. 13--GB, AE, BR; Sunol Reg. Pk., Feb. 14--BR; his Fairfax garden, Feb. 14--BP; Bodega Bay, Feb. 20--Mar. 6--JR, FB, m.ob; 2, Black Diamond Mines Reg. Pk., Mar. 6--GF. Golden-Crowned Kinglet, 6-8, still around her Alamo home, thru period--JR.

SUMMER TANAGER, SF Zoo, thru period--m.ob. White-Throated Sparrow, their Martinez garden, thru period--B&JS; Lafayette Reservoir, Feb. 28 at least thru Mar. 5--RBA.

OBSERVERS: Hugh & Norah Bain, Florence Bennett, Kay & Joe Broyles, Bill Betts, George Bing, Mary Jane Culver, Elizabeth Dickey, Jimm Edgar, Shimi Edmondson, Art Edwards, Dick Erickson, George Finger, Ed Hase, Kevin Hintsa, Ralph Hudgins, Carol Lewis, Gloria Markowitz, Marietta Miller, Molly Monheit, Winnie Orcutt, Bill Purcell, Bob Richmond, Jean Richmond, Dianne Sierra, Bessie & Jim Smyth, NoCal Rare Bird Alert, many observers.

Have observations to me BY the deadline on page 1 for inclusion in this column. Last minute observations may be phoned in within 2-3 days after that deadline.

The AUDUBON ARK, a traveling mini museum devoted to informing people of the plight of endangered birds and other animals, will be at Richardson Bay Sanctuary, Tiburon, in May. Volunteers are needed to help staff the display and greet the public. If you can spare a few hours May 5-9, call Meryl Sundove at the Sanctuary, 388-2524.

DR. RUSSELL PETERSON, NAS president, will speak at the Bay Model in Sausalito on April 1 at 7:30 pm. There will be wine and cheese and a chance to meet Dr. Peterson before the talk. This event is co-sponsored by Western Regional Center and the Marin Environmental Education Round Table. Call the Sanctuary, 388-2524, for more information and reservations (required).

It is with great pleasure that we greet these new members of MDAS and hope to meet them at our meetings and on field trips:

Alamo: Jack Jamieson; Concord: Jon Bridges, Susan L. Choy, Dr. & Mrs. Arthur Glaser, Mr. H. C. Lum, Jr.; Danville: Mr. & Mrs. Oscar Erstro, Ernest Hill; Diablo: D. Schaufler, Glacier Tozer; Lafayette: Mrs. Donald DuPont, Lorna Maslenikov, Miss June Richard, M. J. Sonderleter, Anita Turre; Los Banos: Arthur S. Harrison; Martinez: Vicki Huber, Joy Mauzey, Mr. W. H. Silva; Orinda: Mr. & Mrs. Victor Benn; Pleasant Hill: Claus L. Engelhardt, Mrs. Deborah F. Gottfried, Mr. & Mrs. Joyce Mason & family, Mr. & Mrs. J. Morris; Walnut Creek: Mr. & Mrs. Robert E. Allen, John Cerruti, Brian Donahoe & family, Mr. & Mrs. Alister B. McNabney, M. J. Morgan, Anne Rankin, Richard Rutherford & family, Kathy Ryan, C. Wolfson & P. Bittenbender.

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CONSERVATION COMMITTEE UPDATE.

Environmental Dialogue (or lack of it). A look at natural resources reveals our quality of life declined again last year, National Wildlife Federation said of its 13th Environmental Quality Index. Soil, water, living space and wildlife conditions slipped, forests, air and minerals stayed even. NWF warned about problems from "conflict between the conservation community and the Administration." NWF joined National Audubon and Sierra Club as representatives met with Presidential Advisor Edwin Meese to complain about James Watt's policies. Sierra Club's Michael McCloskey, saying Meese listened but "didn't give an inch" on Watt, came away feeling the vague hope of a line of communication had withered away to nothing.

On the other side, "The Specter of Environmentalism" looms over the land, a Republican Study Committee charges. Distinguishing between "balanced" and "extremist" environmentalists, they put NWF, League of Women Voters, NAS, Sierra Club, Natural Resources Defense Council, Environmental Defense Fund, and National Wilderness Society on the negative side, charging them with, among other sins, "thwarting efforts to restore a judicious balance between energy development, economic vitality, and environmental protection." Worse, there is a "new revolutionary stream" in the movement "seeking to cultivate a liberal, almost counter-culture view of the world," meaning that some environmental groups oppose some land-intensive energy-development moves and support solar power.

The MDAS Conservation Committee is concerned about apparent increasing polarization between federal government and leadership of conservation groups with neither willing to negotiate points of dispute to balance environmental protection with human needs. If we choose to ignore the concept of "balancing needs" and to arbitrarily ignore or radically alter the direction of this society established by previous commitments, both sides will sustain heavy losses sooner or later. One could speculate that if the problem isn't resolved in a responsible, balanced manner, we may find ourselves governed under a system much less desirable than the current one.

Thus it appears chapter members must search their conscience and determine if they want to just follow dictates of a political party or national conservation groups, or to express an independent, responsible, "balanced" point of view for consideration by Congress. If you have ideas, express them to your congressmen even if you disagree with his past stand or party affiliation. For sure, if reasonable alternatives aren't suggested to solve current impasses, some important resources (human and environmental) may be irreparably damaged. Write elected officials and present your point of view as a responsible citizen urging a balanced approach to managing this country's human and environmental resources.

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Donations for Lindsay Museum's PACK RAT SALE are accepted Saturdays, 10-12, at Burton School, 500 St. Mary's Rd., Lafayette; bulky item pickup: 935-5116 or 934-2785.

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THE QUAIL, published monthly except a combined July-August issue, is sent without additional charge to National Audubon Society members in Mt. Diablo chapter. To join NAS: \$25 per year, family \$32, others available; check payable to National Audubon Society, to Membership Chairman, MDAS, P O Box 53, Walnut Creek, CA 94596. Address change (send also to NAS): Mrs. Winnie Orcutt, 30 Iris Ln., Walnut Creek, CA 94595. Change of chapter affiliation is only upon specific request by member. Subscription: \$4 per year, payable to Mt. Diablo Audubon Society, to Treasurer, F. G. Bennett, P O Box 5428, Walnut Creek, CA 94596. First Class mailing in envelope: \$2.25 per year, payable to Mt. Diablo Audubon Society, to Treasurer, address above.

Jean Richmond, Editor, 125 Via Serena, Alamo, CA 94507; phone 837-2843
(Exchange bulletins for MDAS to this address, please.)

GREATER BAY AREA SITE GUIDE: Redwood Regional Park.

Access: From Lafayette go south on Moraga Rd., which becomes Canyon Rd. beyond Moraga, to Pinehurst Rd., go left to Redwood Rd., turn right 1/4 mile then right again into the park. Or take SR-24 toward Oakland, go south on Warren Fwy (SR-13), turn left from Redwood Rd. exit, go 2 1/2 miles beyond Skyline Blvd. to the park entrance.

Willows along the creek by the parking lot have flycatchers, warblers and other species in spring. Bird along the road back toward the entrance, checking oaks and creekside vegetation. Near the service yard cross the creek to Stream Trail, turn left to the area of the entrance. Watch overhead for hawks, Band-Tailed Pigeons.

Retrace your path and continue along Stream Trail checking riparian growth in the creek and upslope woodland. (Turn right on Orchard Trail to your car to make this a short walk.) When Stream Trail reaches the paved road bear left, check redwood groves which have few birds but do have species such as Winter Wren. Saw-Whet Owls have been in this area in the past. The trail follows the creek through several small redwood groves then climbs up the hill through woodlands to Skyline Gate at Pine Hills Rd. and Skyline Blvd. if a long walk interests you.

Return along the paved road to the parking area. Around the open area of the play fields check vegetation along the creek, trees along the road, the old fruit trees.

At the parking area turn left up Canyon Trail where chaparral soon gives way to woodland. Climb as far as you wish before returning to your car.

Facilities: tables, barbecues, latrines. Park map available at the Environmental Center in Tilden Park or from East Bay Regional Park District, 11500 Skyline Blvd., Oakland, CA 94619.

Birds include several hawks, California Quail, Band-Tailed Pigeon, Screech, Great Horned, Pygmy & Saw-Whet Owl, White-Throated Swift, Anna's, Rufous (migrant) & Allen's (summer) Hummingbird, several woodpeckers, flycatchers (include Ash-Throated, Willow, Western, Pewee, Olive-Sided), several swallows, White-Breasted & Red-Breasted Nuthatch, Brown Creeper, Wren-tit, wrens, California Thrasher, thrushes, both kinglets possible, Hutton's, Solitary & Warbling Vireo, warblers (Orange-Crowned, Yellow, Yellow-Rumped, Black-Throated Gray, Townsend's, Hermit, MacGillivray's, Wilson's), Northern Oriole, Black-Headed Grosbeak, Purple & House Finch, Pine Siskin, goldfinches, both towhees, several Sparrows (including Lincoln's).

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CLASSES and EXCURSIONS - your editor has more details.

Nature Class thru Amador Adult Ed, start Mar. 26, 10 weeks, Fri., birds 9-12, wildflowers 1-4, 2 weekends, local areas; Pat Jacobson, instructor. Register at 1st meeting, Cultural Arts Center, 4477 Black Ave., Pleasanton. Info: 846-2022 (Pat).

Alexander Lindsay Junior Museum, classes and trips, preschool-adult. Info and registration from the museum, 1901 First Ave., Walnut Creek, CA 94596; 935-1976.

Natural Excursions catalogue: 30 birding, natural history tours by NAS' West. Educ. Cent. & PRBO. Contact NAS, 376 Greenwood Beach Rd., Tiburon, CA 94920; 388-2524.

Free at PRBO. Bird Migration, Sat., Apr. 10, 11 am; Bob Yutzy; Palomarin. Heronry Census, Sun., Apr. 18, 9-2, study herons, help with census; Helen Pratt. Info from PRBO, Education Coordinator, 4990 Shoreline Hwy, Stinson Beach, CA 94970; 868-1221.

Field Seminars, Trogon Ecology, 3 sessions Ariz., May-June, \$125; 3 sessions Mexico, Apr.-May, \$360-775; Richard Taylor (assisted MDAS on 1977 Ariz. trip). Info/forms from your editor or Richard Taylor, P O Box 122, Portal, AZ 85632; (602) 588-2352. Help support his research while studying trogons and other regional specialties.

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MT. DIABLO AUDUBON SOCIETY
P. O. Box 53
Walnut Creek, CA 94596

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BULLETIN OF THE MT. DIABLO AUDUBON SOCIETY
P. O. BOX 53
WALNUT CREEK, CALIFORNIA 94596
(415) AUD-UBON

Pres.: Jimm Edgar
3611 Chestnut St.
Lafayette, CA 94549
283-3510

May 1982
Vol. 28, No. 10
Next deadline: May 1

Meeting: Thurs., May 6. Doors open 6:30 p.m. Birdinformation: 7:00; business: 7:30; social time: 8:00; program: 8:30. Women's Club, 1224 Lincoln Ave., Walnut Creek. (We are back!) The public is cordially invited to attend.

NOTE: →

Field Trips: TRIPS OPEN, members, non-members alike; bring binocs, lunch, field guide. Carpool TIME is departure time. Carpool EXPENSE: 5¢ per mile per rider suggested; entry fees or tolls shared equally among driver and riders.

Sat., May 1, Mines Road; meet: El Cerro Blvd. at I-680, Danville, 6:30 am. Leader: Jean Richmond (837-2843). Carpool imperative; have full gas tank.

Thurs., May 6, 8:30-11:00 a.m., Mitchell Canyon wildflower walk. Leader: Joy Meagher (685-5702). Birders can continue up the canyon if they wish.

Sun., May 16, 7:00 a.m., Morgan Territory Road; meet near Burger King, Ygnacio Valley & Clayton Rds. Leader: Ed Hase (933-4292).

Wed., May 19, 8:45 a.m., east Contra Costa County; carpool: near Sears Automotive, Sun Valley Center, 8:00. Leader: Elizabeth Dickey (254-0486).

Sat., May 29, 8:00 am, Glen Ellen & 3-Springs Ranch; carpool: near Sears Automotive, Sun Valley Center, 6:45. Leader: Jean Richmond (837-2843).

Sat.-Sun., June 19-20, Yuba Pass & Sierra Valley. Leader: Sally Steller (837-9061). Non-campers make motel reservations now -- see April Quail.

Sat.-Sun., July 10-11, Yosemite. Leader: Jean Richmond (837-2843). Motels: Yosemite Park & Curry Co. (209) 373-4171; motels in El Portal: see AAA book or Dell-Hart Lodge (209) 379-2451. Camping at Hodgdon Meadow.

Board Meeting: Thurs., May 13, 7:30 p.m., home of Elizabeth Dickey, 113 Hillcrest Dr., Orinda; 254-0486. Board meetings are always open to members.

BIRDINFORMATION, part 3 on "Habitats," will be a discussion by Bob Richmond of oak woodland and chaparral. The PROGRAM will be a presentation about Mt. Diablo by Bob Doyle. Bob, who grew up in this area, is Trails Coordinator for the Regional Parks District and is president of "Save Mt. Diablo." ELECTION OF OFFICERS will be held.

On MINES ROAD and DEL PUERTO CANYON ROAD are eagles, Lewis' Woodpecker, flycatchers, swallows, magpie, Canyon & Rock Wrens, Phainopepla, warblers, Lawrence's Goldfinch. **NOTE:** Safe parking is limited plus in a long caravan those in back miss many birds, so we must take as few cars as possible!!! Fill your gas tank for this long trip.

In MITCHELL CANYON are numerous wildflowers. The canyon is gently sloping, with riparian, oak woodland, chaparral, and is rich in birds as well as flowers. Go east on Ygnacio Valley Rd., right on Clayton Rd., right on Mitchell Canyon Rd. to the end. Carry lunch, liquid, if you would like to spend more time in the canyon.

MORGAN TERRITORY ROAD has warblers, other migrants, summer visitors; possibly Lawrence's Goldfinch. Bring lunch, liquids, wear hiking shoes. Carpooling necessary.

Around EAST CONTRA COSTA COUNTY are hawks (Swainson's possible), shorebirds, hummingbirds may include Black-Chinned, flycatchers, swallows, Chat among warblers, Tricolored Blackbird, orioles, Black-Headed and possibly Blue Grosbeak. Go east on SR-4 to just beyond Oakley to the Short Stop Market parking lot at Cypress Road.

At GLEN ELLEN and nearby 3-SPRINGS RANCH are Yellow-Breasted Chat, woodpeckers,

flycatchers, warblers, etc. From I-80 east of Vallejo go west on SR-37, north via SR-121 and SR-116, follow signs to El Verano and Glen Ellen. Meet in the parking lot just across the bridge near Jack London Lodge.

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FIELD TRIP REPORTS.

The UPPER SAN LEANDRO RESERVOIR trip on March 20 was on a mostly clear day with comfortable temperature and light wind. The 27 members found Wood Ducks, Osprey, and Rufous Hummingbird among these 50 species seen or heard:

Pied-Billed Grebe, Dbl-Crested Cormorant, Great Blue Heron, Canada Goose, Mallard, Wood & Ruddy Duck, Turkey Vulture, Cooper's & Red-Tailed Hawk, Osprey, Amer Kestrel, Calif Quail, Amer Coot, Killdeer, Spotted Sandpiper, Band-Tailed Pigeon, Mourning Dove, Great Horned Owl, Anna's, Rufous & Allen's Hummingbird, Com Flicker, Nuttall's woodpecker, Steller's & Scrub Jay, Chestnut-Backed Chickadee, Plain Titmouse, Bushtit, Wrentit, Bewick's wren, Calif Thrasher, Amer Robin, Hermit Thrush, West Bluebird, Ruby-Crowned Kinglet, Starling, Hutton's Vireo, Orange-Crowned & Townsend's Warbler, West Meadowlark, Red-winged & Brewer's Blackbird, Lesser Goldfinch, Rufous-Sided & Brown Towhee, Dark-Eyed Junco, White-Crowned, Golden-Crowned & Fox Sparrow.

At LAKES LAGUNITAS and BON TEMPE on March 24 it was clear and cool, breezy in some spots. One of the 24 members and guests saw a Pileated Woodpecker which eluded the others, and a breeding plumaged Common Loon was among these 53 species:

Com Loon, Pied-Billed Grebe, Dbl-Crested Cormorant, Mallard, Turkey Vulture, Cooper's, Red-Tailed & Red-Shouldered Hawk, Amer Kestrel, West & Calif Gull, Band-Tailed Pigeon, Anna's & Allen's Hummingbird, Com Flicker, Pileated & Acorn Woodpecker, "Red-Breasted" Sapsucker, Nuttall's Woodpecker, Black Phoebe, Violet-Green & Tree Swallow, Steller's & Scrub Jay, Com Raven, Com Crow, Chestnut-Backed Chickadee, Plain Titmouse, Bushtit, White-Breasted & Red-Breasted Nuthatch, Brown Creeper, Wrentit, Bewick's Wren, Amer Robin, Varied & Hermit Thrush, West Bluebird, Golden-Crowned & Ruby-Crowned Kinglet, Starling, Hutton's & Warbling Vireo, Orange-Crowned & "Audubon's" Warbler, House Finch, Pine Siskin, Rufous-Sided & Brown Towhee, Dark-Eyed Junco, White-Crowned, Golden-Crowned & Song Sparrow.

The BLACK DIAMOND MINES REGIONAL PARK trip April 3 was cancelled due to rain & mud.

The trip to LAKE MERCED, FT. FUNSTON and GOLDEN GATE PARK on April 14 was on a day mostly clear, cold early then comfortable by noon, windy in places. The 4 members studied both light and dark phase Western Grebes; Green Heron, many Bank Swallows, and several warblers were among these 74 species seen or heard:

Red-Throated Loon, Eared, West & Pied-Billed Grebe, Dbl-Crested & Brandt's Cormorant, Green Heron, Mallard, Pintail, Amer Wigeon, Ring-Necked Duck, white-winged & Surf Scoter, Ruddy Duck, Amer Kestrel, Calif Quail, Virginia Rail, Amer Coot, Killdeer, Willet, Marbled Godwit, Sanderling, Glaucous-Winged, West, Calif, Ring-Billed & Bonaparte's Gull, Forster's & Caspian Tern, Band-Tailed Pigeon, Rock & Mourning Dove, Anna's & Allen's Hummingbird, Com Flicker, Downy Woodpecker, Black Phoebe, Violet-Green, Tree, Bank, Rough-Winged, Barn & Cliff Swallow, Steller's & Scrub Jay, Com Raven, Chestnut-Backed Chickadee, Bushtit, Pygmy Nuthatch, Bewick's & Marsh Wren, Amer Robin, Hermit Thrush, Ruby-Crowned Kinglet, Cedar Waxwing, Starling, Hutton's Vireo, Orange-Crowned, "Myrtle", "Audubon's" & Townsend's Warbler, Com Yellowthroat, wilson's Warbler, House Sparrow, Red-winged & Brewer's Blackbird, Brown-Headed Cowbird, House Finch, Pine Siskin, Lesser Goldfinch, Brown Towhee, Dark-Eyed Junco, White-Crowned, Golden-Crowned & Song Sparrow.

At AUDUBON CANYON RANCH on April 17 weather was perfect - clear, sunny, warm. The 21 members and guests watched egrets display their magnificent plumes, and a Canada Goose with identity problems accompanying Great Blue Herons, even trying to enter their nests! The following 60 species were seen or heard:

Horned, Eared, West & Pied-Billed Grebe, Dbl-Crested Cormorant, Great Blue Heron, Great & Snowy Egret, Canada Goose, Mallard, Cinnamon Teal, Amer Wigeon, scaup sp, Bufflehead, Surf Scoter, Ruddy Duck, Red-Breasted Merganser, Turkey Vulture, Red-Tailed Hawk, Osprey, Amer Coot, Killdeer, Black-Bellied Plover, whimbrel, willet, Greater Yellowlegs, Least Sandpiper, dowitcher sp, Marbled Godwit, Amer Avocet, West, Ring-Billed & Bonaparte's Gull, Forster's & Caspian Tern, Anna's & Allen's Hummingbird, Belted Kingfisher, Com Flicker, Hairy Woodpecker, Violet-Green, Barn & Cliff Swallow, Steller's & Scrub Jay, Com Crow, Chestnut-Backed Chickadee, Bushtit, Wrentit, Bewick's Wren, Hutton's Vireo, Orange-Crowned Warbler, Red-winged & Brewer's Blackbird, Black-Headed Grosbeak, Purple & House Finch, Amer Goldfinch, Brown Towhee, Dark-Eyed Junco.

* * * * *

ELECTION of OFFICERS will be held at our May meeting. Offered by the nominating committee is this slate: president, Jimm Edgar; vice-president, programs, Maury Stern; secretary, Winnie Young; treasurer, Florence Bennett. The post of vice-president, conservation, is still open. Nominations will be accepted from the floor.

To AVOID DISTURBING BIRDFORMATION sessions, latecomers please be seated in back near the door, then later move elsewhere if you desire. Earlier arrivals please leave ample seating near the door to accommodate those who have been delayed.

A WATER RESOURCES INITIATIVE fund-raiser will be held 7-9 p.m. on May 5 at the home of Palmer Madden, Las Trampas Rd., Alamo. Guest speaker Senator John Nejedly will make an excellent presentation. Donations are \$25/person, \$40/couple, \$10/student. The initiative, approaching 450,000 signatures which easily qualify it for the fall election, is intended to force cost-effective water conservation for agriculture, industry and urban uses, and make positive changes to appropriate water for public recreation and resources uses. It is quite possibly the most significant environmental initiative we have seen in years. For information/reservations, contact Dov Grunschlag in Walnut Creek at 938-9463, evenings. See you there.....Kent Fickett.

Former member, now subscriber, ANN CAVANAGH has been quite ill for some time. Help brighten her life with a card and/or cheery note to 3255 NW Johnson, Corvallis, OR 97330. We all send our collective get-well wishes to you, Ann!!!

Many THANKS to hostesses Ruth Stewart and Mary Jane Culver for herculean efforts in providing so well the refreshments at our meetings held at Buena Vista School. They served both cold and hot beverages although conditions were quite difficult. Personal thanks - as well as this collective one - should be given these dedicated women!

To Auduboners the oil glut has a SPECIAL MESSAGE, starting with the Audubon Energy Plans: conservation and renewable energy sources are a less costly, safer way to meet energy needs than development of nuclear power or more oil/gas drilling. The basic reason for the glut is conservation. The Arab embargo sent prices up, owners insulated homes, drivers bought cars using less gasoline, industry found ways to save. From 1977 to 1981, U.S. imports fell 33%, recession deepened, and glut developed.

The U.S. cut fuel use by (to use scientists' measure), 6 quads of energy a year. Nuclear power, after billions in subsidies over 3 decades, provides only 3 quads. Conservation does twice as much as nukes to meet energy needs. If temporarily "cheap" gas leads many to forget what reduced prices, the glut won't last long!!!

The biennial AUDUBON CANYON RANCH DOCENT training course, including much natural history, will be given Wednesdays, September through February. For information call the Ranch (383-1644) or Norah Bain (254-4516) who took the class 2 years ago.

CLASSES and EXCURSIONS.

Free at PRBO. Territoriality, how, why birds choose, defend, claim territories; Sat., May 15, 11 am; Bob Yutzzy; Palomarin near Bolinas. Bird Song Workshop, learn skills to remember what you hear; Sun., May 16, 9-2; Ron Arps, Bob Yutzzy; PRBO HQ near Stinson Beach. Pt. Reyes Peninsula Spring Bird Census, census breeding birds within Christmas Count circle; Sun., May 23, 7-4. Details: PRBO, Education Coordinator, 4990 Shoreline Hwy, Stinson Beach, CA 94970; 868-1221.

Free 1/2-day & full-day weekend field trips, South Fork Kern River Valley 50 mi. NE of Bakersfield, Apr. 17-June 27; birds (Cuckoo), flowers, natural history; various excellent leaders; motels, campgrounds, restaurants nearby; many recreational opportunities in area. Contact Jean Richmond, 837-2843, for info/schedule, or Bob Barnes, So. Fork Watershed Assn, P O Box 749, Porterville, CA 93258; (209) 784-4477.

Please ask for an extra copy of any BIRD LISTS or CHECKLISTS when visiting parks, refuges and sanctuaries as you travel and pass the extra along to your editor to place in the chapter's files. When planning a trip contact me as I may have information on the area you plan to visit and you can learn what birds to expect there.

OBSERVATIONS, March 15-April 15. Also see field trip reports.

Common Loon, Briones Res, Apr. 11--BR. Pink-Footed, 3, & Sooty, 30, in huge shearwater flock, off Pigeon Pt, San Mateo Co., Apr. 13--JR, BF, et al. Green Heron, 3, 5--Brooks, Marin Co., Mar. 23--JR, BF, et al; 1 there, Apr. 8--m.ob; 1, by neighbors' swimming pool, San Ramon, Apr. 12--KH. Cattle Egret, 28+, Jersey Island Rd., Apr. 3 B&MJG. Little Blue Heron, Crescent City, Del Norte Co., thru Mar. 27--RBA, BR, JG.

"Black" Brant, 4, Bodega Bay, Mar. 13 & 62 there Mar. 20--FB, GC; 3 there, Apr. 10--m.ob. White-Fronted Goose, 2500, Little Frank's Tract, Apr. 3--BR. Blue-winged Teal, up to 30, 1♀, Waterfront Rd./I-680, Martinez, thru Apr. 4--BR, JR. European Wigeon, ♂, Waterfront Rd./I-680, thru Mar. 3--BR, JR; Fortuna, Humboldt Co., Mar. 20--BR, JG. Wood Duck, 5 pr, Castlewood Country Club, Alameda Co., Apr. 4--BR.

Ring-Necked Duck, 75, Laguna Lake, Chileno Valley Rd., Marin Co., Mar. 20 & 80 there Mar. 27--FB, GC; 60 there, Apr. 10--FB, GC, LM, MP, JR. Barrow's Goldeneye, ♂, off Byron Hot Springs Rd., Mar. 26--BR. Black Scoter, 25, Bodega Bay, Mar. 20--FB, GC. Hooded Merganser, 2♀, off Byron Hot Springs Rd., Mar. 26--BR.

Red-Shouldered Hawk, over his San Ramon home, Mar. 24--KH; Castlewood Country Club, Apr. 4--BR. Rough-Legged Hawk, Bixler Rd., east C.C.Co., Apr. 3--BR. Ferruginous Hawk, Chileno Valley Rd., Mar. 20--FB, GC. Golden Eagle, Chileno Valley Rd., Mar. 20--FB, GC; 2, Sunol Reg Pk, Apr. 3--FB, GC. Osprey, 5--Brooks, Apr. 8--m.ob; off Grizzly Peak Blvd., Apr. 13--BR. Merlin, Humboldt Co., Mar. 20; east C.C.Co., Apr. 3.

SNOWY PLOVER, Waterfront Rd./I-680, Mar. 16--JR; Mt. View San. Dist., Mar. 18--BR.

MOUNTAIN PLOVER, 7 still on Clifton Ct. Rd., Mar. 15, only 1 there Mar. 19--BR.

GLAUCOUS GULL, imm, Waterfront Rd./I-680, Mar. 18--BR. Marbled Murrelet, 2, off Pescadero Beach, & 7, off Pigeon Pt., San Mateo Co., Apr. 13--JR.

Roadrunner, MP 9.74, Mines Rd., Mar. 27--B&MJG. BARRED OWL, Jedediah Smith Redwoods St Pk (not Prairie Creek - see Apr. Quail), thru Mar. 28--DE, BR, JG, m.ob. Long-Eared Owl, Coyote Hills Reg Pk, at least thru Apr. 4--m.ob. Saw-whet Owl, 1-2, Coyote Hills Reg Pk, at least thru Apr. 4--m.ob; Crescent City, Mar. 21--BR, JG; 1 calling, Lake Anza, Tilden Reg Pk, Apr. 13--BR. POOR-WILL, Briones Rd. ½ mi. below the trailhead, Mar. 23--T&ML. Vaux's Swift, near her Alamo home, Mar. 22--JR.

Pileated Woodpecker, Bothe-Napa St Pk picnic area, Sonoma Co., Apr. 6--B&MJG. YEL-LOW-BELLIED SAPSUCKER, eastern race, ad ♂, Fortuna, Mar. 18-20--RBA, BR, JG. Common Raven, 2, Athenian School Danville, Mar. 16--JB; Las Trampas Reg Pk, Mar. 23--KH. Varied Thrush, betw. Vasco & Armstrong Rds., Apr. 17--BR. TOWNSEND'S SOLITAIRE, Black Diamond Mines Reg Pk, at least thru Mar. 27--m.ob; their Rossmoor garden, Mar. 18--A&AB; Barlett Pk, Porterville, Tulare Co., Mar. 27 (1st rec.)--BR, JR.

Blue-Gray Gnatcatcher, 5, Black Diamond Mines Reg Pk, Mar. 27--GF, KH. Golden-Crowned Kinglets, still at her Alamo home, thru Apr. 4--JR; Bartlett Pk, Mar. 27 (1st rec.)--JR, BR. Black-Throated Gray Warbler, Coyote Hills Reg Pk, Apr. 3-6--JR, BR. HERMIT WARBLER, Battery Wallace, Apr. 9--JR. NORTHERN WATERTHRUSH, Bolinas Lagoon, Mar. 9-23--RBA, JR, m.ob.

Hooded Oriole, returned to her Alamo garden, Mar. 18 (snow on Mt. Diablo!)--JR; ♂, Coyote Hills Reg Pk, Apr. 3--MC, JR. "Bullock's" Oriole, returned to her Alamo garden, Mar. 24--JR. Red Crossbill, 2 at Fortuna, 6 at Patrick's Pt, Humboldt Co., Mar. 20--BR, JG. Grasshopper Sparrow, betw. Vasco & Armstrong Rds., Apr. 8--BR.

OBSERVERS: Florence Bennett, Al & Ann Boileau, Joe Broyles, Maxine Clason, Glenn Coleman, Diok Erickson, George Finger, Bud Fry, Bill & Mary Jane Greene, Jeff Greenhouse, Kevin Hintsa, Tom & Maryanne Lambert, Lorraine Moeller, Marjorie Plant, Bob Richmond, Jean Richmond, NoCal Rare Bird Alert, many observers.

An injured SAW-WHET OWL found by Jerry & Helen Gentile in December and taken to the Lindsay Museum was thought to be too badly hurt to be returned to the wild. However, on March 10 the Gentiles watched Museum staffers release the little owl near San Pablo Reservoir and it flew off to resume its life as a wild creature. Hooray!!

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LOS ANGELES AUDUBON BOOKSTORE is back in full swing after the disastrous arson fire halted sales for a while. Phone or mail orders are quickly and accurately filled then shipped to the purchaser. Proceeds from sales benefit Audubon activities. Los Angeles Audubon Society, 7377 Santa Monica Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90046; phone (213) 876-0202, 10-3, Tues.-Sat. Their catalogue list is varied and excellent.

* * * * *

Our MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS are once again held at the Walnut Creek Women's Club.

We extend a warm welcome to these new members of MDAS and hope to meet them at our meetings and on field trips:

Alamo: Joel G. Goldman; Antioch: B. R. Wright; Concord: David Allen, Lynne Dobson Keeble, Mrs. J. Latendresse; Danville: Mrs. D. J. Evans, Kay Romero; Lafayette: Ms Wilma Witmer; Martinez: Deborah & Norman Kirshen; Orinda: Jane Lawson; Pittsburg: Margot Estes, Robert Monk, Miss Violet A. Witze; Pleasant Hill: Mr. & Mrs. J. K. Paackwood, Mr. J. Palmer, Mrs. James Phelps, J. Sheveland; San Rafael: Ronald Dawson, Walnut Creek: Ms Judith Y. Campbell, Mary J. Clark, Arnold Crompton, Mrs. Violet C. Giles, Lloyd Gowen, John W. Huffman, Mrs. Louisa Jones, I. E. Kahre, Susan Nelson, Karen A. Prill, Janet Reinstra, Pam Russell, Dr. & Mrs. Leonard R. Schaer, Florence Speak, George W. Yeoman.

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE UPDATE.

Water conservation devices could save MONO LAKE! According to state Dept. of water Resources studies, installation of water-saving toilet dams, low-flow showerheads, and flow restrictors in every California home would save about 800,000 acre-feet of water annually...enough to save Mono Lake 9 times over! Saving in Los Angeles alone would exceed 100,000 acre-feet per year--more than the average amount diverted from Mono's tributary streams!!!

Water-saving devices would save energy used in water heating equivalent to about 5.5 million barrels of oil worth over \$221 million at conservative current prices. Installing such devices in all California homes would cost about \$8 per person (\$160 million), but would pay for itself in under nine months. This cost includes purchasing and installing the devices, related publicity, and program management. For about \$25 million, water-saving devices could be installed in every Los Angeles household, reducing demand by more than enough to save Mono Lake.

What are these devices? Toilet dams are flexible plastic that are wedged into the tank on either side of the flush valve, holding back "reservoirs" of water. Most water-wasteful toilets flush efficiently on a gallon or two less water. Low-flow showerheads create aerated spray and reduce flow rates to as low as 1/2 gallon per minute, 10% that of some models. Low-flow showerheads pay for themselves in water-heating energy savings. Flow restrictors, inexpensive valves easily installed in flow lines behind faucets and showerheads, reduce water use by up to 50%!!

These devices are available at most plumbing supply stores.

JAMES WATT has a right to his views but not to deceive us. The Interior Secretary has every right to try to convince Congress and the public that wilderness should be open to mining and drilling. Until last winter he honestly presented this view.

Then - on nationally televised "Meet The Press" - he said he was proposing legislation to "prohibit mining and drilling in wilderness until the end of the century." Lawyers studying the fine print and exceptions discovered the legislation would drastically weaken the wilderness protection begun by the Wilderness Act of 1964 which has had bipartisan support of all previous administrations. There's no doubt about what Watt's bill would do. The inescapable conclusion is that a member of Reagan's cabinet, on network television, deliberately tried to mislead the American people!

Hand-screened BIRD T-SHIRTS: "Free as a...Gyrfalcon" tan/white, gold trim, 3/4 length raglan sleeve; "I Saw The Smew...in (or before) '82" white/black, T-shirt; S, M, L, XL; \$9 each postpaid. Deadline extended to May 26. Check, name/address, size, Smew (in or before) or Gyrfalcon, to Labour of Love Graphix, P O Box 2372, Martinez, CA 94553.

THE QUAIL, published monthly except a combined July-August issue, is sent without additional charge to National Audubon Society members in Mt. Diablo chapter. To join NAS: \$25 per year, family \$32, others available; check payable to National Audubon Society, to Membership Chairman, MDAS, P O Box 53, Walnut Creek, CA 94596. Address change (send also to NAS): Mrs. Winnie Orcutt, 30 Iris Ln., Walnut Creek, CA 94595. Change of chapter affiliation is only upon specific request by member. Subscription: \$4 per year, payable to Mt. Diablo Audubon Society, to Treasurer, F. G. Bennett, P O Box 5428, Walnut Creek, CA 94596. First Class mailing in envelope: \$2.25 per year, payable to Mt. Diablo Audubon Society, to Treasurer, address above.

Jean Richmond, Editor, 125 Via Serena, Alamo, CA 94507; phone 837-2843 (Exchange bulletins for MDAS to this address, please.)

GREATER BAY AREA SITE GUIDE: Morgan Territory.

Access: From Walnut Creek go east on Ygnacio Valley Road, turn right about 6 miles on Clayton Road which becomes Marsh Creek Road beyond the city of Clayton. Turn right again onto Morgan Territory Road, watch and listen for birds along the road.

Morgan Territory Road begins in a residential area with grassland, scattered oaks in a broad valley. At Curry Creek Park turnoff in about 2 miles park off the pavement, walk along the road checking trees, thick vegetation. Red-Shouldered Hawk, Lawrence's Goldfinch are among many species seen in the oak woodland and riparian. Less than 2 miles beyond, the valley narrows, the road becomes narrow and winding.

In another mile at a corral and windmill and along the road in the vicinity birding is often quite good: many woodland species, warblers, Lawrence's Goldfinch can be found. Around a bridge another 1/2 mile up the road, habitat is varied (riparian, creek, oak woodland, chaparral), birding is also quite varied, often excellent. Beyond here the canyon is often narrow, roadside trees offer good views of birds, especially on the downslope side where "warbler neck" is less of a problem.

Morgan Territory Regional Preserve, MP 10.3. Park in the parking lot on the left. Many trails meander throughout rolling hills, oak woodlands, meadows of this large undeveloped park; vernal ponds are in scattered spots. Wander as the spirit moves you to explore this area but make note of landmarks to avoid getting lost. The fireroads are easy walking, the many foot trails somewhat less so.

Open grasslands beyond the park may have wintering Rough-Legged & Ferruginous Hawks.

Return by retracing the road north or continue south to the "T" intersection. Turn left to Livermore Ave. then head south to I-580 in Livermore, or turn right and go west via Highland, Tassajara and Sycamore Valley Roads to I-680 in Danville.

Facilities: a latrine at the Preserve parking lot; no water, carry your own. Best birding is in spring; migrants pass through in fall also; summer is hot; trails in the park are very muddy after rains. Wildflowers are varied, can be fabulous in spring along the road and especially in the park.

Birds include Turkey Vulture, White-Tailed Kite possible, hawks (Sharp-Shinned, Cooper's, Red-Tailed, Red-Shouldered, Rough-Legged, Ferruginous, Golden Eagle, Northern Harrier, Prairie Falcon possible, Kestrel), California Quail, Band-Tailed Pigeon, Screech, Great Horned and possibly Pygmy Owl, Vaux's (migrant) and white-throated Swift, Anna's, Rufous (migrant) & Allen's (summer) Hummingbird, woodpeckers (Flicker, Acorn, Sapsucker, Hairy, Downy, Nuttall's), flycatchers (Western Kingbird, Ash-Throated, both phoebes, western, Western Pewee, Olive-Sided, California Thrasher, 3 thrushes, Western Bluebird, Townsend's Solitaire has wintered, Blue-Grey Gnatcatcher, both kinglets possible, Phainopepla has been seen, 3 vireos, the "western" warblers, Tricolored among blackbirds, Northern Oriole, Western Tanager, Black-Headed Grosbeak, Lazuli Bunting, 3 goldfinches, sparrows (Savannah, Lark, Rufous-Crowned, Sage, Chipping, possibly Black-Chinned.

MDAS member JOY HALL has a one-woman show of fantasy colorist paintings at Allstate Savings on Main Street in Martinez through May 12. Drop in and take a look.

YOUR TRASH --- MUSEUM TREASURE. Please do not throw it away, toss it the museum's way. These are needed for display: aquariums that will, as the saying goes, "hold water;" wildlife: strings of Christmas tree lights to use in incubators, cloth diapers, sheets, receiving blankets, towels and blankets without loose strings. Take them to Alexander Lindsay Junior Museum, 1901 First Ave., Walnut Creek.

MT. DIABLO AUDUBON SOCIETY
P. O. Box 53
Walnut Creek, CA 94596

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The QUAIL

BULLETIN OF THE MT. DIABLO AUDUBON SOCIETY

P. O. BOX 53

WALNUT CREEK, CALIFORNIA 94596

(415) AUD-UBON

Pres.: Jimm Edgar
3611 Chestnut St.
Lafayette, CA 94549
283-3510

June 1982

Vol. 28, No. 11

Next deadline: June 15

Meeting: Thurs., June 3, 6:30 p.m., Women's Club, 1224 Lincoln Ave., Walnut Creek, annual POTLUCK DINNER; coordinators: Mary Jane Culver (682-0509) and Ruth Stewart (671-7226).

Field Trips: TRIPS OPEN, members, non-members alike; bring binocs, lunch, field guide. Carpool TIME is departure time. Carpool EXPENSE: 5¢ per mile per rider suggested; entry fees or tolls shared equally among driver and riders.

Sat., June 5, 8:30 a.m., Chabot Regional Park; carpool: El Cerro Blvd. at I-680, Danville, 8:00. Leader: Jean Richmond (837-2843).

Wed., June 9, 8:30 a.m., Briones Reg. Park. Leader: Merv Ortez (283-3072).

Sat.-Sun., June 19-20, Yuba Pass & Sierra Valley. Leader: Sally Steller (837-9061). Make motel reservations immediately-- see April Quail. Camping: Yuba Pass. Call leader if going.

Thurs., June 24, 8:30 a.m., Joaquin Miller Park; carpool: Pleasant Hill Rd. just north of Fwy 24, 8:00. Leader: Winnie Orcutt (944-0593).

Sat.-Sun., July 10-11, Yosemite. Leader: Jean Richmond (837-2843). Non-campers make motel reservations now-- see May Quail. Details next month.

Sat.-Sun., July 31-Aug. 1, Gualala Pt. County Park. Details next month.

Board Meeting: Thurs., June 17, 7:30 p.m., home of Jimm Edgar, 3611 Chestnut St., Lafayette; 283-3510. Outgoing and incoming officers requested to attend.

The POTLUCK DINNER is our last formal meeting of the year. Bring dishes, utensils, serving spoon, and food for 4 times the number in your family attending. Coffee, tea, punch provided. Call Mary Jane Culver, 682-0509, or Ruth Stewart, 671-7226, by May 31 as to what you will bring and the number coming. The PROGRAM will be slides by members. Limit slides (birds, mammals, flowers, scenery, etc.) to about a dozen, commentary to reasonable length. Members may also show photographs and exhibits of anything relating to nature, thus all may participate.

At CHABOT PARK are many woodland species, hopefully several warblers. From I-580 in Castro Valley take Castro Valley Blvd. to Redwood Rd., turn north to Proctor Gate Staging area at Camino Alta Mira.

BRIONES PARK has a wide variety of woodland birds, many of them nesting. From Fwy 24 in Lafayette take Upper Happy Valley Rd. to Happy Valley Rd., left 2 miles to Bear Creek Rd., right $\frac{1}{2}$ mile, right again into the park to the last parking lot.

YUBA PASS WEEKEND. Meet at 8:30 a.m. Sat., 8:00 Sun., at Yuba Pass (SR-49, between Sierra City and Sierraville) in the parking lot, south side of the road. We bird Saturday morning at Yuba Pass, afternoon at nearby Clark's Station, for mountain birds (Mountain Quail, White-Headed & Black-Backed 3-Toed Woodpeckers, Townsend's Solitaire, Evening Grosbeak, Red Crossbill). Sunday we drop down to Sierra Valley for sagebrush species (Sage Thrasher, Brewer's & Vesper Sparrows) and marsh birds (Wilson's Phalarope, Black Tern). Motel info in April Quail. Camping: Yuba Pass.

At JOAQUIN MILLER PARK, a new area for us, are birds of woodlands and chaparral. From Fwy 24 in Oakland go south on SR-13, east over the freeway on Joaquin Miller Rd., left on Skyline Blvd. then right to the Roberts Recreation Area parking lot.

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FIELD TRIP REPORTS.

The LAS TRAMPAS PARK trip on April 22 was on a sunny, warm and calm day. Although Grasshopper Sparrows were not yet in, seven members did find Golden Eagle, Golden-Crowned Kinglet and MacGillivray's Warbler among these 51 species seen or heard:

Turkey Vulture, Red-Tailed Hawk, Golden Eagle, Am Kestrel, Calif Quail, Band-Tailed Pigeon, Mourning Dove, Anna's Hummingbird, Com Flicker, Acorn & Nuttall's Woodpecker, Ash-Throated Flycatcher, Black Phoebe, Hammond's/Dusky & West Flycatcher, swallow sp, Steller's & Scrub Jay, Com Crow, Chestnut-Backed Chickadee, Plain Titmouse, Bushtit, Wren, House & Bewick's Wren, Am Robin, Hermit Thrush, West Bluebird, Golden-Crowned Kinglet, Starling, Hutton's, Solitary & Warbling Vireo, Orange-Crowned, Nashville, MacGillivray's & Wilson's Warbler, West Meadowlark, Red-winged Blackbird, "Bullock's" Oriole, West Tanager, Black-Headed Grosbeak, Lazuli Bunting, House Finch, Lesser Goldfinch, Rufous-Sided & Brown Towhee, Lark Sparrow, Dark-Eyed Junco, Chipping & White-Crowned Sparrow.

The trip to BRIONES PARK on April 24 was on a sunny, mild day with light breezes. The 12 members saw Varied Thrush, Solitary Vireo and Black-Throated Gray Warbler among the following 45 species seen or heard:

Turkey Vulture, Sharp-Shinned, Cooper's & Red-Tailed Hawk, Calif Quail, Band-Tailed Pigeon, Mourning Dove, Anna's & Rufous/Allen's Hummingbird, Acorn, Downy & Nuttall's Woodpecker, Ash-Throated Flycatcher, Black Phoebe, West Flycatcher, Violet-Green Swallow, Steller's & Scrub Jay, Chestnut-Backed Chickadee, Plain Titmouse, White-Breasted Nuthatch, Brown Creeper, Wren, Bewick's Wren, Mockingbird, Am Robin, Varied Thrush, West Bluebird, Hutton's, Solitary & Warbling Vireo, Orange-Crowned, Black-Throated Gray & Wilson's Warbler, "Bullock's" Oriole, Black-Headed Grosbeak, Lazuli Bunting, House Finch, Lesser Goldfinch, Rufous-Sided & Brown Towhee, Lark Sparrow, Dark-Eyed Junco, White-Crowned, Golden-Crowned & Song Sparrow.

At MT. DIABLO STATE PARK on April 29 it was sunny and warm, although cool early, with wind in spots. Our 16 members found Golden Eagle, Blue-Gray Gnatcatcher, Golden-Crowned Kinglet, several warblers and several sparrows among these 64 species:

Turkey Vulture, Sharp-Shinned, Cooper's & Red-Tailed Hawk, Golden Eagle, Calif Quail, Band-Tailed Pigeon, White-Throated Swift, Anna's & Allen's Hummingbird, Com Flicker, Acorn, Downy & Nuttall's Woodpecker, Ash-Throated Flycatcher, West Wood Pewee, Olive-Sided Flycatcher, Violet-Green Swallow, Steller's & Scrub Jay, Com Crow, Chestnut-Backed Chickadee, Plain Titmouse, Bushtit, White-Breasted Nuthatch, Brown Creeper, Wren, Bewick's Wren, Calif Thrasher, Am Robin, Hermit & Swainson's Thrush, West Bluebird, Blue-Gray Gnatcatcher, Golden-Crowned & Ruby-Crowned Kinglet, Starling, Hutton's & Warbling Vireo, Orange-Crowned, "Audubon's", Black-Throated Gray, Townsend's, Hermit, MacGillivray's & Wilson's Warbler, West Meadowlark, Red-winged Blackbird, West Tanager, Black-Headed Grosbeak, House Finch, Pine Siskin, Am & Lesser Goldfinch, Rufous-Sided & Brown Towhee, Lark, Rufous-Crowned & Sage Sparrow, Dark-Eyed Junco, Chipping, Black-Chinned, white-Crowned & Golden-Crowned Sparrow.

The MINES ROAD-DEL PUERTO CANYON trip on May 1 was on a clear, comfortable day with wind in some areas. The 18 members and guests saw Wood Duck, Turkey, Vaux's Swift, Lewis' Woodpecker, Purple Martin (pair), Blue-Gray Gnatcatcher, Yellow-Breasted Chat, Lawrence's Goldfinch, and heard Pygmy Owl among these 90 species:

Great Blue Heron, Mallard, Wood Duck, Com Merganser, Turkey Vulture, Red-Tailed Hawk, Golden Eagle, Am Kestrel, Calif Quail, Wild Turkey, Am Coot, Killdeer, Forster's & Caspian Tern, Band-Tailed Pigeon, Rock & Mourning Dove, Barn & Pygmy Owl, Vaux's & White-Throated Swift, Anna's & probable Black-Chinned/Costa's Hummingbird, Com Flicker, Acorn, Lewis' & Nuttall's Woodpecker, West Kingbird, Ash-Throated Flycatcher, Black Phoebe, West Wood Pewee, Horned Lark, Violet-Green, Tree, Rough-winged, Barn & Cliff Swallow, PURPLE MARTIN, Steller's & Scrub Jay, Yellow-Billed Magpie, Com Raven, Com Crow, Plain Titmouse, Bushtit, White-Breasted Nuthatch, Wren, House, Bewick's, Canyon & Rock Wren, Mockingbird, Calif Thrasher, Am Robin, Swainson's Thrush, West Bluebird, Blue-Gray Gnatcatcher, Cedar Waxwing, Phainopepla, Loggerhead Shrike, Starling, Hutton's, Solitary & Warbling Vireo, Orange-Crowned, Nashville, Yellow & "Audubon's" Warbler, Yellow-Breasted Chat, Wilson's Warbler, House Sparrow, West Meadowlark, Red-winged Blackbird, "Bullock's" Oriole, Brewer's Blackbird, Brown-Headed Cowbird, West Tanager, Black-Headed Grosbeak, Lazuli Bunting, House Finch, Pine Siskin, Lesser & Lawrence's Goldfinch, Rufous-Sided & Brown Towhee, Savannah, Lark, Rufous-Crowned, Chipping & Lincoln's Sparrow.

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Bring rinsed, flattened ALL-ALUMINUM CANS (no bimetal) to meetings, field trips.

EDITOR, ANYONE? This issue closes my 10th year as editor and I would like to do other things. I will stay on no more than one more year, but would prefer to step aside sooner to Observations Editor. NO experience is necessary - I had none when I began - and I can help my replacement get started. It is enjoyable, rewarding and not as difficult as presumed. Calendar page, trip reports, observations and other readily assembled articles provide much of each issue. Many other sources provide the remainder of the newsletter. Good typing skill is not required - Liquid Paper covers up my many mistakes. Contact me if you would like to give it a try.

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Our newly revised AUDUBON DAILY FIELD LIST is available for 5¢ each at meetings and field trips. Changes include new names, addition of species seen at all regularly in northern California, deletion of those not routinely seen. A new feature is the use of 3 columns for marking the birds, making the list more useful.

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NAS' SABAL PALM GROVE SANCTUARY near Brownsville, Texas, will have visitor services added, thanks to a \$50,000 grant from Atlantic Richfield Foundation. With limited facilities, visits are now only by special arrangement. The sanctuary protects the only surviving grove of these rare Mexican palms, several other tropical plants rare in the U.S., and several birds and animals many Americans have never seen. The preserve is along the shore of an oxbow lake left by the meandering Rio Grande. The Atlantic Richfield grant will provide entry road improvements, parking space, visitors' shelter, signs and informational literature. Trails will be sited with minimal impact on habitat and wildlife. Planned to accommodate 100-200 visitors a day, the work will take several months to complete. Thanks, Atlantic Richfield!

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The PACIFIC FLYWAY BIRD WOODCARVING & BIRD PAINTING SHOW will be held on June 19-20 at the Red Lion Motor Inn at Hwy 80 and Arden Way, Sacramento. On display will be hand-carved birds, decorative carvings and wildfowl art, including a painting by our own Harry Adamson. Demonstrations of decoy painting and whittling are also part of the exhibit. People come from all over to display their work, making this the finest of its kind in the Western States. There is no admission charge.

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The economic effects of the ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT are grossly and unfairly exaggerated, according to Ken Berlin of NAS' Washington staff. Industry has been able to point to "only a handful of alleged problems," he said, because few problems have occurred. Of almost 10,000 cases, possible jeopardy to a species was found in only 185, of which all but 15 were resolved by project modification. Two of those remaining were halted, but it is not clear to what degree unrelated economic factors were responsible. The act has succeeded remarkably well in protecting the environment without seriously disrupting economic activity. It has resulted in extra costs for some projects -- costs which benefit society by protecting wildlife. The Endangered Species Coalition supports the idea of tax relief for such costs.

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REDUCED RATE. The Energy Conservation Coalition's bimonthly newsletter, originally offered only to Audubon chapters at a special rate of \$10/year, is now available to individual Audubon members at that price. Regular cost for this informative publication is \$25. NAS is a member of the Coalition. For a free sample issue, write Energy Conservation Coalititon, Suite 601, 1725 Eye St., Washington, DC 20006.

* * * * *

CLASSES and EXCURSIONS - your editor has more details. Alexander Lindsay Junior Museum, A Summer of Adventure; classes, trips; local and far afield; preschool-adult. Bug Club; Geology Club; age 9-17. Info/registration from the Museum, 1901 First Ave., Walnut Creek, CA 94596; 935-1976.

Audubon Sierra Natural History workshop, Golden Trout Camp, 10,000' near Mt. Whitney; hike 2½ miles, carry bedding, personals; tents, cots, meals provided. Loosely structured; daily hikes, easy or strenuous; qualified naturalists; 1-week sessions: July 25, Aug. 1 & 8; cost \$125/adult, children (3rd session) less. Info/reservations: Mrs. Tomi Sollen, 825 N. Soledad, Santa Barbara, CA 93103; (805) 966-4836.

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SUBSCRIBERS (& LOCAL memberships), check your label for expiration date -- MDAS does not mail you a renewal notice. Your cancelled check is your receipt.

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OBSERVATIONS, April 16-May 4. Also see field trips.

Pied-Billed Grebe, on nest, Mt View San Dist, Apr. 18--FB, GC. Canada Goose, 2, Waterfront Rd/I-680, Apr. 16-24--BR, EH, KH, JR. Fulvous Whistling Duck, Ramer Lake, Imperial Co., Apr. 29--BR, JG. Blue-winged Teal, 3, Colorado River, San Bernardino Co., May 1-2--BR, JG. Wood Duck, 4, MP 1.62 & San Antone junc., Mines Rd., Apr. 17--FB, GC.

Osprey, San Pablo Res, Apr. 16--BR; over his Walnut Creek home, Apr. 20--RH. Prairie Falcon, Stanislaus Co. Ruffed Grouse, 2, Redwood NP, Apr. 18--BR, JG. Wild Turkey, up to 8, MP 6.14, 9.15, 9.56, Mines Rd., Apr. 17-May 2--FB, GC, JR, BF, G&MJM.

Black Rail, 6, north C.C.Co. marshes, Apr. 17--EH, KF; 7+, there, Apr. 24--EH, KH, BR, JR. Long-Billed Curlew, 150, over his San Ramon home, Apr. 17--KH. Spotted Sandpiper, Pittsburg PG&E, Apr. 24--KH, EH, BR, JR. Solitary Sandpiper, 2, Smith River mouth, Del Norte Co., Apr. 17, & 1, Hookton Rd., Humboldt Co., Apr. 18--BR, JG. Wandering Tattler, 3, Pt. Isabel, Apr. 24--BR, JR, EH, KH.

Greater Yellowlegs, 4, MP 1.82, Mines Rd., Apr. 17--FB, GC. Red Knot, 3, Waterfront Rd/I-680, Apr. 23--BR; 15, Pt. Isabel, Apr. 24--EH, JR, BR, KH. Red Phalarope, Smith River mouth, Apr. 17, Hookton Rd., & 2, south jetty, Humboldt Bay, Apr. 18--BR, JG. Wilson's Phalarope, 3, Delta Rd., east C.C.Co., Apr. 23--JR. LITTLE GULL, adult, 1, Apr. 29 & 2, Apr. 30, Stockton oxi ponds--RBA. Least Terns returned to Alameda South Shore, Apr. 24--m.ob. BLACK SKIMMER, 2, Alameda South Shore, Apr. 24-27--RBA.

Roadrunner, near MP 7, Del Puerto Cyn Rd, Stanislaus Co., Apr. 20--JR. BARRED OWL, Jedediah Smith Redwoods SP, thru Apr. 18--BR, JG, m.ob. Short-Eared Owl, north C.C. Co. marshes, Apr. 17--KF, EH; Piper Slough, Apr. 21--JR. Saw-whet Owl, near Briones Res., Apr. 24--EH, KH, BR, JR. Poor-will, near Briones Res., Apr. 24--KH, EH, BR, JR.

Vaux's Swift, 5, Smith River mouth, Apr. 17--BR, JG; 2, Ferndale, Humboldt Co., Apr. 18--BR, JG; 5, over his Walnut Creek home, Apr. 20--RH; 6, Mt. Diablo SP (MDSP), Apr. 27--BR; 6, Morgan Territory Preserve, May 4--JR. Black-Chinned Hummingbird, ♂, Clifton Court Forebay (CCF), Apr. 21--BR; ♀, Apr. 21 & ♂, Apr. 23, Dutch Slough Rd., east C.C.Co.--JR; ♂, Piper Slough, Apr. 24--KH, EH, JR, BR.

Lewis' Woodpecker, several, Mines Rd., San Antone junction to MP 03.00, Santa Clara Co., thru period--m.ob. PURPLE MARTIN pr., nesting?, MP 10.44, Mines Rd., Santa Clara Co., Apr. 24-May 1--TG, m.ob. Pygmy Nuthatch, dead at foot of downtown high-rise, Beal & Market Sts., S.F., collision with building?, Apr. 27--EH.

Rock Wren, near kiosk, Del Valle Pk, Apr. 30--WO, MJC. Townsend's Solitaire, South Fork Rd., Smith River, Apr. 17--BR, JG. Blue-Gray Gnatcatcher, many places, MDSP, thru period--m.ob. Golden-Crowned Kinglet, 3-4, Las Trampas Pk., Apr. 18-24--KH, JR, BR, EH. Solitary Vireo, his Walnut Creek garden, Apr. 16-17--EH.

Nashville Warbler, MP 3, Del Puerto Cyn Rd., Apr. 20--JR, et al; Jewel Lake, Tilden Pk, Apr. 24--JR, KH, EH, BR; Rock City, MDSP, Apr. 27--BR; near Buckeye, MDSP, Apr. 27--A&WG; MP 4.5, Morgan Terr Rd., May 4--JR. Yellow Warbler, Lake Anza, Tilden Pk, Apr., 24, JR, EH, BR, KH. Black-Throated Gray Warbler, Las Trampas Pk, Mitchell Cyn, Morgan Terr Rd., Apr. 24--EH, KH, BR, JR; Oak Knoll, MDSP, Apr. 27--JR.

Hermit Warbler, 8, Oak Knoll, MDSP, Apr. 27--JR, BF, et al; ♀, Chilsons' Concord home, May 2--BC, TC, JH, EH. MacGillivray's Warblers, Mines Rd. & Del Puerto Cyn, Apr. 17--FB, GC; Oak Knoll, Apr. 27--A&WG; MP 4.15, Mines Rd., May 2--G&MJM; MP 7.2, Morgan Terr Rd., May 2, EH, JH, BC, TC; MP 4.3, Morgan Terr Rd., May 4--JR, et al. Yellow-Breasted Chat, Piper Slough, Apr. 23-24--JR, BR, KH, EH; MP 03.00, Mines Rd., Santa Clara Co., Apr. 24-May 1--TG, et al; MP 7.2, Morgan Terr Rd., May 2--EH, JH, BC, TC.

Tricolored Blackbird, 100's, Marsh Creek Reservoir, Apr. 23-24--JR, BR, KH, EH. Hooded Oriole, several members' gardens, thru period. BRONZED COWBIRD, Blythe, Riverside Co., May 2--BR, JG. Blue Grosbeak, 2♂, CCF, Apr. 21--BR. Lawrence's Goldfinch, up to 12, Raines Pk, Del Puerto Cyn, Apr. 20-30--JR, WO, MJC, et al; 6, MP 4.3, Morgan Terr Rd., May 2--EH, JH, BC, TC; several, MP 4.8, Morgan Terr Rd. & Morgan Terr Pres, May 4--JR, et al. Black-Chinned Sparrow, singing, MDSP, Apr. 27--JR.

CONTRA COSTA BIG DAY, Apr. 24, by EH, KH, BR, JR, entirely within our county. A Big day is a one-day search for as many species as possible by a party in constant, direct voice-contact. Between 3:15 am and 8:00 pm they found 157 species including Green Heron, Black Rail, Saw-whet Owl, Poor-will, Black-Chinned Hummingbird, Red-Breasted Nuthatch, Golden-Crowned Kinglet, Yellow-Breasted Chat, Hooded Oriole.

OBSERVERS: Florence Bennett, Bill Chilson, Tracy Chilson, Glenn Coleman, Mary Jane Culver, Kent Fickett, Bud Fry, Tim Gates, Al & Wilma Giorso, Jeff Greenhouse, Joy Hall, Ed Hase, Kevin Hintsa, Ralph Hudgins, George & Molly Jane Monheit, Winnie Orutt, Bob Richmond, Jean Richmond, NoCal Rare Bird Alert, many observers.

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We are happy to welcome these new members of MDAS and hope to meet them at meetings and on field trips:

Concord: Larry & Judy Alkire, Arthur Bonwell, Barbara Kelly-Page, Lisa W. Martin, Mary Helen Peterson, Dorothy M. Wheeler; Danville: Mr. & Mrs. John A. Brookman, Edith Harper; Lafayette: Andy Fazzio, Laura Winslow, R. Wolf; Martinez: Dennis A. Bilotti, Dolores Ricks; Pacheco: Susan Wieting; Pittsburg: Debra J. Vanderbroek, Rev. Harold J. Wright; Walnut Creek: Mr. J. J. Heacock, C. J. Kain & family, Berniece Klein, Mrs. Sally Orellana, June Queen, Nancy Jo Sieg, Mrs. Mildred O. Tiffany, Julien M. Wagnet & family, Betsy Wobus & family.

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CONSERVATION COMMITTEE UPDATE.

The government proposes to SELL PUBLIC LAND to balance the federal budget! Parks, refuges, monuments, historic sites and "areas of national value" would supposedly be protected. A preliminary administration estimate says 5% of federal lands would be sold in the next 5 years. Sen. Paul Laxalt (R-Nev) advocates a stronger proposal to sell possibly as much as 100 million acres. The new disposal program would complement Interior Secretary Watt's efforts to transfer to states lands requested by governors (900,000 acres requested last year).

EPA will cut AIR and WATER POLLUTION CONTROL efforts. The air quality program is slated for \$184-million in the new budget, a \$35.7-million decrease from FY-1982. The water quality program is allocated \$186-million, a \$51-million cut. Acid-rain research gained by 25% to \$12-million. While superfund monies increased, toxic substances control went down by \$8.8-million to \$68-million. The agency says it is investigating ways to permit it and states to meet their statutory requirements. Opponents charge that the drastic cuts that EPA has absorbed during the past two years have restrained its ability to meet mandates.

Bureau of Land Management will greatly SPEED WILDERNESS REVIEW under a new process. It will not require EIS's in every case, reduce criteria from 9 to 2, require mineral reports only on areas recommended as suitable. Also BLM will report each area to the President as soon as evaluated. Interior Secretary Watt advocates some sort of executive department release of areas deemed unsuitable for wilderness to non-wilderness uses before Congress evaluates them. Watt and BLM Director Robert Burford hope to release as much of the 24-million-acre wilderness study inventory for other uses as quickly as they can. One sure area of contention will be the EIS requirements. Strongly backed by environmentalists, the Carter administration was adamant that an EIS be prepared to cover all areas.

Task Force proposed to DEVELOP LEVEE PRESERVATION PLAN. State Assemblymen Norman Waters and Robert Campbell will propose that the legislature establish a 15-member task force to preserve the 1,100 mile Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta levees. Citing a study that concluded there is no acceptable proposal for preserving the levees, the two want a task force to report back within a year, with a plan that could take 20-30 years to complete. Waters also has a pending bill that would provide for a \$250-million state bond issue to repair the levees, but it has been stuck in committee while legislators try to find a way to pay for the program which could cost up to \$1-billion.

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STACKED DECK. Of the 21 persons chosen by BLM for its National Public Lands Advisory Council under the Reagan administration, not one represents the wildlife and conservation community. Three-fourths of the members have direct ties with mining, ranching, construction, logging, real estate, oil and gas. Their assignment is to advise the agency that manages more than 328 million acres of public land.

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THE QUAIL, published monthly except a combined July-August issue, is sent without additional charge to National Audubon Society members in Mt. Diablo chapter. To join NAS: \$25 per year, family \$32, others available; check payable to National Audubon Society, to Membership Chairman, MDAS, P O Box 53, Walnut Creek, CA 94596. Address change (send also to NAS): Mrs. Winnie Orcutt, 30 Iris Ln., Walnut Creek, CA 94595. Change of chapter affiliation is only upon specific request by member. Subscription: \$4 per year, payable to Mt. Diablo Audubon Society, to Treasurer, F. G. Bennett, P O Box 5428, Walnut Creek, CA 94596. First Class mailing in envelope: \$2.25 per year, payable to Mt. Diablo Audubon Society, to Treasurer, address above.

Jean Richmond, Editor, 125 Via Serena, Alamo, CA 94507; 837-2843
(Exchange bulletins for MDAS to this address, please.)

GREATER BAY AREA SITE GUIDE: Ida Clayton Road -- Mountain Quail.

Access: Go north via I-680 and I-780 to Vallejo then east on I-80, west on SR-37, north on SR-29/128 to Calistoga then continue on SR-128 for 7-8 miles, turn right on Ida Clayton Road and park off the pavement. Note your mileage here.

A pond on the right attracts a number of birds. Across the road is open woodland with many species including woodpeckers, flycatchers, White-Breasted Nuthatch, House & Bewick's Wren, Swainson's Thrush, Western Bluebird, vireos, Orange-Crowned, Yellow & Wilson's Warblers, Western Tanager, Black-Headed Grosbeak, Purple Finch.

At about 1.6 miles (open area, scattered trees), are Western Kingbird, Ash-Throated Flycatcher, Bewick's Wren, California Thrasher, Western Bluebird, Lark Sparrow.

At 1.9 miles (chaparral-covered hillside with rock outcrops) is a utility pole by a wide turnout. Sought here are Ash-Throated Flycatcher, Purple Martin possible, Bewick's and Rook Wren, California Thrasher, Blue-Gray Gnatcatcher, Lazuli Bunting, sparrows (Lark, Rufous-Crowned, Sage, possibly Black-Chinned); Poor-Will at dusk.

Around 4 miles, in deciduous woodlands, may be Golden Eagle, Mountain Quail (listen for the "quark" call), Pileated & other woodpeckers, Ash-Throated Flycatcher, Brown Creeper, vireos, warblers (Orange-Crowned, Yellow, Yellow-Rumped, Black-Throated Gray, Townsend's), Chipping Sparrow.

At 7.0 miles, just east of The Trout Farm turnoff, a little creek goes under the road, a turnout is on the left. Check the boggy area uphill, roadside trees in both directions, walk the dirt road down along the creek (beware of poison oak). Look for Pygmy Owl, several flycatchers, Solitary & Warbling Vireo, warblers are mostly migrant (Orange-Crowned, Yellow, Yellow-Rumped, Hermit, MacGillivray's nests, Wilson's), Western Tanager, Black-Headed Grosbeak.

Pavement ends in about a mile then there are 2 miles of good dirt road. The last mile down to SR-29, reached at MP 3.48 on that highway, is paved.

Turn right on SR-29 toward Calistoga. An interesting stop is Robert Louis Stevenson State Park where the trail zig-zags up the hillside. The easy 1-mile nature trail ends at the Stevenson Monument by the old Silverado Mine but the trail goes another 4 miles to the summit of Mt. Saint Helena and a spectacular view. Along the trail are some of the same species found on Ida Clayton Road, including Mountain Quail.

Facilities: only a latrine at Stevenson Park; no water. Best birding: May-June.

Other birds include Sharp-Shinned, Cooper's & Red-Tailed Hawks, Northern Harrier, California Quail, Roadrunner has been seen, Black (migrant) & White-Throated Swift, Anna's Hummingbird, woodpeckers (Flicker, Acorn, Hairy, Downy, Nuttall's), Western Flycatcher, Pewee, Olive-Sided Flycatcher, several swallows, Steller's & Scrub Jay, Common Raven, Common Crow, Chestnut-Backed Chickadee, Plain Titmouse, Bushtit, Wrentit, Hutton's Vireo, Western Meadowlark, blackbirds, Brown-Headed Cowbird, Evening Grosbeak (May, 1980), Lesser Goldfinch, both towhees, Sparrows include Song.

A NONGAME WILDLIFE CHECKOFF law was passed earlier this year, making Indiana the 16th state to pass legislation enabling state income tax payers to donate part of their tax refunds to a special fund for nongame wildlife. The bill passed overwhelmingly after a grass roots campaign joined by Audubon chapters and virtually all the state's conservation organizations. What is California waiting for?

FEED YOUR DOG, HELP WILDLIFE. If you feed Purina dog products and buy them in 25, 30 or 50 pound bags, please clip weight circles for Alexander Lindsay Junior Museum. Mail or take them to the museum at 1901 First Ave., Walnut Creek, CA 94596, so they can be turned in for a cash rebate and the money added to the wildlife fund.

MT. DIABLO AUDUBON SOCIETY
P. O. Box 53
Walnut Creek, CA 94596

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The QUAIL

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P. O. BOX 53
WALNUT CREEK, CALIFORNIA 94596
(415) AUD-UBON

Pres.: Jimm Edgar
3611 Chestnut St.
Lafayette, CA 94549
283-3510

July-August 1982
Vol. 29, No. 1

Next deadline: August 10

Picnic: Annual PICNIC, Fri., July 23, 7:00 pm, Tilden Park, Mineral Springs area west of Inspiration Point. Bird walk leader: Jean Richmond (837-2843).

Field Trips: TRIPS OPEN, members, non-members alike; bring binocs, lunch, field guide. Carpool TIME is departure time. Carpool EXPENSE: 5¢ per mile per rider suggested; entry fees or tolls shared equally among driver and riders.

Sat.-Sun., July 10-11, Yosemite; meet Sat., 7:00 am, behind Crane Flat Chevron station (we bird Chevron & Crane Flat Meadows, move to Siesta Lake on Tioga Pass Rd. and White Wolf Campground then out Tioga Pass Rd., latecomers look for us); Sun., 7:30 am, Badger Pass (sign says "Road Closed"). Call leader Jean Richmond (837-2843) if going.

Sat.-Sun., July 31-Aug. 1, Gualala Pt County Park; meet at Visitor Center, Sat., 9:30 am, Sun., 9:00. Call leader Sally Steller (837-9061) if going.

Sat., Aug. 14, 9:00 a.m., Bodega Bay; carpool: southwest corner Sun Valley Center, 7:00. Leaders: Helen & Jerry Gentile (938-4237).

Trip Planning: Thurs., July 22, 7:30 p.m., home of Elizabeth Dickey, 113 Hillcrest Dr., Orinda; 254-0486. We welcome suggestions of new areas or requests for specific birds (no guarantees) and especially volunteers as leaders.

Board Meetings: Thurs., July 8, 7:30 p.m., home of Bruce & Judy Moorad, 1445 Marchbanks Dr., #1, Walnut Creek; 938-4446. Board meetings are open to all members.

Thurs., Aug. 19, 7:30 p.m., budget session, home of Jean Richmond, 125 Via Serena, Alamo; 837-2843.

Following the PICNIC dinner we will look for Poor-Wills at dusk so bring binocs and flashlight as well as supper. From Fwy 24 in Orinda take the Richmond exit north 2 miles, left on Wildcat Canyon Rd. to the park. The Mineral Springs picnic area is on the right 0.8 mile beyond Inspiration Point.

At YOSEMITE are Blue Grouse, Mt. Quail, Great Gray Owl, Black Swift, Black-Backed 3-Toed Woodpecker, Pine Grosbeak, Gray-Crowned Rosy Finch. Go east via I-580, I-205 & SR-120 thru Manteca all the way to the Park (or SR-140 east from Merced). Campers: Hodgdon Meadow (on the left at Big Oak Flat entrance). About 140 miles, 4 hours travel. Bring insect repellent!!! Non-campers: see page 5.

GUALALA POINT COUNTY PARK, where Gualala River meets the sea, includes varied habitats with Green Heron, Common Merganser, Osprey, Pigeon Guillemot, Purple Martin. The park has limited campsites; 2 private campgrounds, Gualala River Redwoods and Anchor Bay, a few miles north. Motels at Sea Ranch and Gualala. Take SR-12 or 116 west from US-101 then SR-1 north to the park. About 140 miles, 3½ hours travel.

With varied habitats, BODEGA BAY has many species of waterbirds, shorebirds, land-birds, possibly post-breeding wanderers and early migrants. Go north on US-101 to Petaluma, follow signs from the Washington St. exit to SR-1 then north to The Tides Restaurant in the town of Bodega Bay. It may be cold and windy, so come prepared.

SPECIAL PLACE you wish to bird? TRIP you will lead? New areas welcome, especially near home. Call Elizabeth Dickey, 254-0486, or join the planning session July 22.

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Our revised AUDUBON DAILY FIELD LIST, 5¢ each, at meetings and on field trips.

FIELD TRIP REPORTS.

The May 6 wildflower walk up MITCHELL CANYON was on a clear, warm day with gentle wind. The 14 members and guests found lovely flowers, beautiful butterflies, plus Blue-Gray Gnatcatcher and MacGillivray's Warbler among 50 species of birds.

PLANTS: Goldback & Calif Maidenhair Fern, Digger Pine, Soap Plant, Colonial Onion, Ithuriel's Spear, Pompom Onion, Forked-Toothed Ookow, Mt Diablo Globe Lily, Blue & Coast Live Oak, Miner's Lettuce, Windmill Pink, Scarlet & Blue Larkspur, Buttercup, Calif Laurel (Bay), Wind & Calif Poppy, Golden Eardrops, Bee Plant, Rock Lettuce, Woodland Star, West Sycamore, Calif Blackberry, Calif Rose, Chamise, Lupine, Tomcat Clover, Cutleaf Geranium, Filaree, Hop Tree, Calif Buckeye, Coffee-Berry, Red-Berry, Blue Ceanothus, Calif Grape, Wild Cucumber, Sanicle, Cow Parsnip, Shepherd's Needle, Morning Glory, Common Linanthus, Nemophila, White Phacelia, Yerba Santa, Black Sage, Hedge Nettle, Blue Witch, Chinese Houses, Bush & Common Monkey Flower, Indian Paint Brush, Purple Owl's Clover, Bed Straw, Blue Elderberry, Snowberry, Narrowleaf Goldenbush, Coyote Bush, Mule Ears, Tarweed, Yarrow, Thistle.

BIRDS: Turkey Vulture, Cooper's Hawk, Amer Kestrel, Calif Quail, Band-Tailed Pigeon, Mourning Dove, White-Throated Swift, Anna's Hummingbird, Acorn, Hairy, Downy & Nuttall's Woodpecker, Ash-Throated Flycatcher, Black Phoebe, West Flycatcher, West Wood Pewee, Violet-Green & Cliff Swallow, Steller's & Scrub Jay, Plain Titmouse, Bushtit, White-Breasted Nuthatch, Wren, House & Bewick's Wren, Calif Thrasher, Amer Robin, Swainson's Thrush, West Bluebird, Blue-Gray Gnatcatcher, Starling, Hutton's, Solitary & Warbling Vireo, Orange-Crowned, Yellow, Townsend's, MacGillivray's & Wilson's Warbler, Red-Winged & Brewer's Blackbird, West Tanager, Black-Headed Grosbeak, Lazuli Bunting, House Finch, Lesser Goldfinch, Rufous-Sided & Brown Towhee, Dark-Eyed Junco.

Along MORGAN TERRITORY ROAD on May 16 it was clear and calm. Seven members saw an immature Golden Eagle, Solitary Vireos, several warblers, and Tricolored Blackbirds among the following 64 species seen or heard:

Turkey Vulture, accipiter sp, Red-Tailed & Red-Shouldered Hawk, Golden Eagle, Calif Quail, Killdeer, Rook & Mourning Dove, White-Throated Swift, Anna's Hummingbird, Com Flicker, Acorn & Nuttall's Woodpecker, West Kingbird, Ash-Throated Flycatcher, Black Phoebe, West Flycatcher, West Wood Pewee, Olive-Sided Flycatcher, Horned Lark, Violet-Green & Cliff Swallow, Steller's & Scrub Jay, Com Crow, Chestnut-Backed Chickadee, Plain Titmouse, Bushtit, White-Breasted Nuthatch, Brown Creeper, Wren, House & Bewick's Wren, Mockingbird, Amer Robin, Swainson's Thrush, West Bluebird, Starling, Hutton's, Solitary & Warbling Vireo, Orange-Crowned, Black-Throated Gray, Townsend's, MacGillivray's & Wilson's Warbler, House Sparrow, West Meadowlark, Red-Winged & Tricolored Blackbird, Northern Oriole, Brewer's Blackbird, West Tanager, Black-Headed Grosbeak, Lazuli Bunting, Purple & House Finch, Lesser Goldfinch, Rufous-Sided & Brown Towhee, Lark Sparrow, Dark-Eyed Junco, Chipping Sparrow.

The trip to EAST CONTRA COSTA COUNTY on May 19 was on a clear, hot, calm day. The 15 members and guests found Burrowing Owl, Black-Chinned Hummingbird, Yellow-Breasted Chat & Blue Grosbeak among these 55 species seen or heard:

Pied-Billed Grebe, Dbl-Crested Cormorant, Great Blue Heron, Mallard, Cinnamon Teal, Ruddy Duck, Turkey Vulture, White-Tailed Kite, Red-Tailed Hawk, Northern Harrier, Amer Kestrel, Calif Quail, Ring-Necked Pheasant, Com Gallinule, Amer Coot, Killdeer, Amer Avocet, gull sp, Caspian Tern, Rook & Mourning Dove, Burrowing Owl, Black-Chinned Hummingbird, Belted Kingfisher, Downy & Nuttall's Woodpecker, West Kingbird, Black Phoebe, Olive-Sided Flycatcher, Barn & Cliff Swallow, Scrub Jay, Com Crow, Bewick's & Marsh Wren, Mockingbird, Loggerhead Shrike, Starling, Orange-Crowned & Townsend's Warbler, Com Yellowthroat, Yellow-Breasted Chat, House Sparrow, West Meadowlark, Red-Winged Blackbird, Northern Oriole, Brewer's Blackbird, Brown-Headed Cowbird, West Tanager, Black-Headed & Blue Grosbeak, House Finch, Amer Goldfinch, Rufous-Sided Towhee, Song Sparrow.

At GLEN ELLEN and ANNADEL STATE PARK (replaced 3-Springs Ranch) on May 29 it was cool and overcast. Six members found Pileated Woodpecker, Solitary Vireo, MacGillivray's Warbler and Yellow-Breasted Chat (Annadel) among these 54 species:

Turkey Vulture, Red-Shouldered Hawk, Amer Kestrel, Calif Quail, Mourning Dove, White-Throated Swift, Anna's & Allen's Hummingbird, Belted Kingfisher, Com Flicker, Pileated, Hairy, Downy & Nuttall's Woodpecker, Ash-Throated Flycatcher, Black Phoebe, West Flycatcher, Violet-Green, Tree & Rough-Winged Swallow, Steller's & Scrub Jay, Com Raven, Com Crow, Chestnut-Backed Chickadee, Plain Titmouse, Bushtit, Brown Creeper, Wren, House & Bewick's Wren, Amer Robin, Swainson's Thrush, Hutton's, Solitary & Warbling Vireo, Orange-Crowned, Yellow & MacGillivray's Warbler, Yellow-Breasted

Chat, Wilson's Warbler, House Sparrow, Red-winged Blackbird, Northern Oriole, Brown-headed Cowbird, West Tanager, Black-headed Grosbeak, House Finch, Pine Siskin, Lesser Goldfinch, Rufous-side & Brown Towhee, Dark-eyed Junco, Song Sparrow.

Four members went to CHABOT PARK June 5 on a clear, warm, calm morning. The assortment of woodland birds included several unseen singers then an immature Eagle over nearby CULL CANYON PARK, where we lunched on the way home, among these 47 species:

Pied-billed Grebe, Great Blue Heron, Turkey Vulture, Red-tailed Hawk, Golden Eagle, Calif Quail, Amer Coot, Mourning Dove, Anna's & Allen's Hummingbird, Downy & Nuttall's Woodpecker, Ash-throated & West Flycatcher, West Wood Pewee, Olive-sided Flycatcher, Violet-green, Barn & Cliff Swallow, Steller's & Scrub Jay, Chestnut-backed Chickadee, Plain Titmouse, Bushtit, Wrentit, Bewick's Wren, Mockingbird, Calif Thrasher, Amer Robin, Swainson's Thrush, Starling, Hutton's & Warbling Vireo, Orange-crowned & Wilson's Warbler, House Sparrow, Red-winged Blackbird, Northern Oriole, Brewer's Blackbird, Black-headed Grosbeak, Purple & House Finch, Lesser Goldfinch, Rufous-sided & Brown Towhee, Dark-eyed Junco, Song Sparrow.

The trip to BRIONES PARK June 9 was made by 16 members and guests on a clear, warm, calm morning. Found were immature Golden Eagle, ♀ Townsend's Warbler, and several singing Lazuli Buntings and Purple Finches among these 46 species seen or heard:

Mallard, Turkey Vulture, Red-tailed Hawk, Golden Eagle, Calif Quail, Mourning Dove, White-throated Swift, Anna's & Allen's Hummingbird, Nuttall's Woodpecker, Ash-throated & West Flycatcher, West Wood Pewee, Violet-green Swallow, Steller's & Scrub Jay, Com Crow, Chestnut-backed Chickadee, Plain Titmouse, Bushtit, Brown Creeper, Wrentit, Bewick's Wren, Calif Thrasher, Amer Robin, Swainson's Thrush, West Bluebird, Starling, Hutton's, Solitary & Warbling Vireo, Orange-crowned & Townsend's Warbler, Red-winged Blackbird, Northern Oriole, Black-headed Grosbeak, Lazuli Bunting, Purple & House Finch, Amer & Lesser Goldfinch, Rufous-sided & Brown Towhee, Lark Sparrow, Dark-eyed Junco, Song Sparrow.

* * * * *

Our Department of Fish & Game is studying WILLOW FLYCATCHERS to aid state and federal agencies in developing habitat protection and species management plans for this species of special concern. Send any sightings within the past decade of breeding Willow Flycatchers to E. C. Fullerton, Director, Calif. DF&G, 1416 Ninth St., Sacramento, CA 95814, with your name, address, phone, and exact location of the sighting, observation date, behavioral notes, any other relevant information.

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The annual PACK RAT SALE benefit for Alexander Lindsay Junior Museum will be at Del Valle High School on August 14-15. Now is the time to clean closets, cupboards and the garage. Take discarded treasures to Del Valle, next to Rossmoor, Mondays or Wednesdays, 10-3, Saturdays, 10-1. Call 935-5116 or 934-2785 for large-item pickup.

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OFFICERS OF MT. DIABLO AUDUBON SOCIETY, 1982-83. Save for future reference.

- Pres.: Jimm Edgar, 3611 Chestnut St., Lafayette 94549; 283-3510 or 283-6969 (work).
- VP, Program: Maury Stern, 939 Carol Ln., Lafayette 94549; 284-5980.
- VP, Conservation: Al McNabney, 1161 Leisure Ln., #7, Walnut Creek 94595; 945-1785.
- Secretary: Winnie Young, 1451 Janet Ct., Benicia 94510; (707) 745-4134.
- Treasurer: F. G. Bennett, P O Box 5428, Walnut Creek 94596; 820-7000 (weekdays).
- Field Trips: Elizabeth Dickey, 113 Hillcrest Dr., Orinda 94563; 254-0486.
- Membership: Marjorie Plant, 1940 Kingridge Ct., Walnut Creek 94596; 934-1093.
- Hospitality: Ruth Stewart, 262 Sudan Loop, Pacheco 94553; 671-7226.
- Mary Jane Culver, 806 Wilmore Ave., Concord 94518; 682-0509.
- Publicity: Norah Bain, 32 Via Farallon, Orinda 94563- 254-4516.
- Historian: Joy Hall, 60 Isabella Ln., Pleasant Hill 94523; 939-0122.
- Editor: Jean Richmond, 125 Via Serena, Alamo 94507; 837-2843.
- BAAC Reps: Bruce & Judy Moorad, 1445 Marchbanks Dr., Walnut Creek 94598; 938-4446.
- Christmas Bird Count: Kent Fickett, 5270 Concord Blvd., Concord 94521; 798-7421.

MANY THANKS to our officers who served so well, providing us with a superb year. Norah Bain adds sincere thanks to Esther Hatoff and the Wandells who helped distribute publicity and to all who contributed clippings for our scrapbook and records. Marjorie Plant sends her thanks to Marilyn O'Connor and Carol Lewis who assisted with our membership records and to Stan Sorem who acted so often as greeter.

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The CAN & BOTTLE RECYCLING INITIATIVE, on November's ballot, needs campaign funds. Donations to Californians Against Waste, 1517 23rd St., Ste 2, Sacramento, CA 95816.

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OBSERVATIONS, May 5-June 15. Also see field trip reports.

Little Blue Heron, so end San Diego Bay, May 19--R&JR. Wood Stork, 16, so end Salton Sea, Imperial Co., May 22--R&JR; 25 there, June 12--BR, JG, DD, CM. Blue-winged Teal, ♂, Buena Vista Lagoon, San Diego Co., May 18--R&JR; 4, Horseshoe Pond, Pt. Reyes (PRNS), June 5--KH, BR. Oldsquaw, Fish Docks, PRNS, May 23 thru period--m.ob; Lighthouse, PRNS, June 1--JR, EP.

ZONE-TAILED HAWK, Santa Rosa Mt, Riverside Co., June 13--BR, JG, DD. Blue Grouse, ♂, Olmsted Pt & White Wolf, Yosemite, June 14--BR, JG, DD. Calif Quail, 2, Hodgdon Mdw, Yosemite, rare that elev., June 5--FB, MM, et al. Mt. Quail, calling, Hodgdon Mdw, June 5--FB. Virginia Rail, calling, Hodgdon Mdw, June 5--FB, MM, et al. Spotted Sandpiper, 2, Heather Pond, May 15-16--JH, EH, GW. Northern Phalarope, 2, Mendoza Ranch pond, PRNS, May 22--FB. Black Skimmer, 66, so end San Diego Bay, May 19--R&JR; 3, no end Salton Sea, Riverside Co., June 12--BR, JG, DD.

Yellow-Billed Cuckoo, Big Morongo Cyn, San Bernardino (SBE) Co., May 23--JR. Pygmy Owl, calling, Hodgdon Mdw, June 5--FB. ELF OWL, 3, Needles, SBE Co., June 12--BR, JG, DD. Lesser Nighthawk, I-5/SR-58, Kern Co., May 1--GF. Black-Chinned Hummingbird, nesting, Del Valle Park, May 6--BR (Mines Rd. trip, listed as Black-Chin/Costa).

SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER, Drakes's Beach Rd. & Hall Rd., June 1-3--RD, JR, BF, DD, et al. Willow Flycatcher, Mendoza Rd., May 22--FB. Hammond's & Dusky Flycatchers, Hodgdon Mdw, June 5--FB. Purple Martin, 15, Cuyamaca SP, San Diego Co., May 21--R&JR.

WHITE-EYED VIREO, Santa Barbara, May 31--BR, JG, DD, CM. Solitary Vireo, Las Trampas Park, June 13--KH. Black-&White Warbler, Fish Docks, June 12--H&JG. Tennessee Warbler, Pt. Loma, San Diego, May 18, & Big Morongo Wildlife Res., May 22-23--R&JR. MAGNOLIA WARBLER, Fish Docks, June 12--H&JG. Warblers, Nashville, Yellow, "Audubon's", Black-Throated Gray, Hermit, MacGillivray's, Wilson's, Yosemite, June 5--FB.

SCOTT'S ORIOLE, ♂, Drake's Beach, May 28--RSt. Bronzed Cowbird, Parker Dam, SBE Co., June 12--BR, JG, DD. Summer Tanager, ♂, Lake Isabella, Kern Co., May 29--JR. Blue Grosbeak, Los Banos WMA, May 14--GF; ♀, Fish Docks, June 1--JR, BF. Indigo Bunting, ♂, Lake Isabella, May 29--JR. Evening Grosbeak, ♀, Big Morongo WR, May 23--R&JR. Gray-Crowned Rosy Finch, 2, Tioga Pass Rd., Yosemite, June 14--BR, JG, DD.

Lawrence's Goldfinch, 2, Las Trampas Park, June 13--KH. Red Crossbill, 3, Lincoln Park, SF, June 15--JR. Grasshopper Sparrow, 6+, near Nicolas Res., Marin Co., June 8--JR, BF, et al. Lincoln's Sparrow, Live Oak area, Mt Diablo SP, May 8--BR.

DESERT REPORTS, May 21-31--BC, DD, JG, JH, EH, CM, BR, R&JR, RSi, et al. Amer Redstarts all over. May birding here is super--try it, you'll like it: info from your editor.

DEATH VALLEY. Furnace Creek: Cattle Egret (May 28--BR, JG, DD CM), Red-Br Merganser, Red-Eyed Vireo, Tennessee & Lucy's Warblers, Brewer's Sparrow. Stovepipe Wells: Bl-Winged Teal, Red-Br Merganser, Amer Goldfinch. Meaquite Springs: LeConte's Thrasher, late Ruby-Cr Kinglet, Magnolia Warbler. Scotty's Castle: No Parula, Gr-Tailed Grackle, Summer Tanager, Indigo Bunting, Rose-Br Grosbeak.

CLARK MTN, SBE Co.: Wied's Cr & Gray Flycatchers, Gray Vireo, Virginia's & Grace's Warblers, Hepatic Tanager, Gray-Headed Junco. TOLLHOUSE SPRINGS, Inyo Co.: Band-Tailed Pigeon, Black-Thr Blue Warbler (♂, May 26--JR), Scott's Oriole. WESTGARD PASS: Inyo Co.: Gray Vireo (June 14--BR, JG, DD). DEEP SPRINGS COLLEGE, Inyo Co.: White-winged Dove, Dusky & Gray Flycatchers, 1-3 Tennessee Warblers, Ovenbird, No Waterthrush, Kentucky (May 28--JD, BD, JR) & Hooded Warblers, Summer Tanager, Rose-Br Grosbeak, Indigo Bunting, Evening Grosbeak. OASIS, Mono Co.: Red-Br Merganser, Ferruginous Hawk (May 27--latest SoCal record--BR, JG, DD, CM), East Phoebe, Black-&White & 1-3 Tennessee Warblers, No Parula, Ch Sided Warbler, Ovenbird, Canada (May 29--BR, JG, DD, CM) Warblers, 1-3 Gr-Tailed Grackles, Summer Tanager. DEYER, Nev., north of Oasis: nesting Long-Eared Owl, Ovenbird, Hooded Warbler, Gr-Tailed Grackle. CIRCLE L RANCH north of Deyer: 2 Wh-Faced Ibis, Bl-Winged Teal, Lewis' Woodpecker, Red-Eyed Vireo, Black-&White & Hooded Warblers, 3 Summer Tanagers.

OBSERVERS: Florence Bennett, Bill Chilson, Brian Daniels, Ruth Dement, Donna Dittmann, Jon Dunn, George Finger, Jeff Greenhouse, Joy Hall, Ed Hase, Kevin Hintsa, Marie Mans, Curtis Marantz, Bill Pursell, Rich & Jean Richmond, Rich Sintchak, Rich Stallcup, Gary Wetch, NoCal Rare Bird Alert, many observers.

* * * * *

MOLLY JANE and GEORGE MONHEIT will have an exhibit on birds August 1-31 at Lafayette Library, 952 Moraga Rd., of her bird paintings, in watercolors and oils, of their 1981 Panama trip plus some of local birds, and his woodcarvings of birds. Their story of that Panama trip will be in the July/August issue of Bird Watcher's Digest.

* * * * *

We warmly greet these new members of MDAS and hope to meet them at meetings and on field trips:

Alamo: Patty Travis Ford & family; Concord: Carol Bundy; Danville: Ms Lisa Cooke, Mrs. Manuel J. Melin; Fremont: Terry Mahuron; Lafayette: Leona & Albert Keshishian, Mrs. Barbara Wright; Martinez: Mrs. Tony Chantri; Pleasant Hill: Miss Lonnie Cohn, Lloyd McClelland; Walnut Creek: Dr. D. Benzenhoeffler, Robert H. Densmore, Mrs. Donald Laughland, Mrs. Joanne M. Suverkrup, Estelle Wade, Ardelia Williams & family, James F. Wilson.

GILL NET UPDATE - see Nov. 1981 Quail. With the increase in the use of huge gill nets, mostly by Vietnamese fishermen, bird/mammal mortality has greatly increased. A mid-June incident off Stinson Beach brought the problem - and deaths, including a rare baby harbor porpoise - even closer to home than earlier Monterey Bay episodes. Birds and mammals are not after the same fish that humans seek but large numbers of birds and many mammals have drowned after becoming entangled in the nets.

State Senator Henry Mello introduced SB 1475 which is in the Assembly now. This bill would restrict use of gill and trammel nets to outside the 10-fathom (60-foot) line. Sen. Mello feels that closure of Monterey Bay to such nets would be the best solution but that his bill is an acceptable alternative for now. Unfortunately, the birds will arrive back before the bill could become law. The restrictions, and on-water monitoring, should indicate the effectiveness of closure. If the wildlife mortality is still too great, further measures would have to be undertaken.

WRITE to your state senator and assemblyman, % State Capitol, Sacramento 95814, and ask that they support SB 1475. Sea birds and mammals desperately need your help!!

A three-year extension of the ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT, endangered itself this year, passed the House on April 8 and the Senate on April 9. Differences between the two similar bills will be worked out by negotiations. The bill authorizes about \$39 million a year, the current level, and keeps the act generally intact although it makes several administrative changes.

The MONO LAKE COMMITTEE needs funds at this critical stage in the fight to preserve that vital lake. Current activities: California Supreme Court review of the suit against LA Dept. of Water & Power; hearings in Washington on the Mono Lake National Monument bill; plight of starving gull chicks; plans for a massive grassroots and media campaign to educate the public. Tax-deductible contributions, payable to NAS - Mono Lake Fund, to them at P O Box 29, Lee Vining, CA 93541.

DONT' WORRY?? At a recent UN Conference on Global Environment, acid rain was rated a major threat to the planet, but White House insiders seem not to be alarmed.

Presidential energy advisor John J. McKetta feels that acid rain is one of the most abused, overused, and dramatized terms since "Three Mile Island." David Stockman, of the Office of Management and Budget, reads so much about it in the papers he believes that "there must be an orchestrated plot because every other day there's a new article about it." Energy Secretary James B. Edwards says "a little acid rain is good for crops in some areas because it neutralizes alkaline fields."

Meanwhile, the Environmental Protection Agency has abolished acid rain - and now calls it "non-buffered precipitation."

THE QUAIL, published monthly except a combined July-August issue, is sent without additional charge to National Audubon Society members in Mt. Diablo chapter. To join NAS: \$25 per year, family \$32, others available; check payable to National Audubon Society, to Membership Chairman, MDAS, P O Box 53, Walnut Creek, CA 94596. Address change (send also to NAS): Mrs. Winnie Orcutt, 30 Iris Ln., Walnut Creek, CA 94595. Change of chapter affiliation is only upon specific request by member. Subscription: \$4 per year, payable to Mt. Diablo Audubon Society, to Treasurer, F. G. Bennett, P O Box 5428, Walnut Creek, CA 94596. First Class mailing in envelope: \$2.25 per year, payable to Mt. Diablo Audubon Society, to Treasurer, address above.

Jean Richmond, Editor; 125 Via Serena, Alamo, CA 94507; 837-2843 (Exchange bulletins for MDAS to this address, please.)

YOSEMITE TRIP NON-CAMPERS: try Sugar Pine Ranch, Groveland, on SR-120; (209) 962-7823.

GREATER BAY AREA SITE GUIDE: Chabot Regional Park - Ten Hills/Cameron Trails loop.

Access: From I-580 in Castro Valley take Castro Valley Blvd. to Redwood Road, turn north to Proctor Gate at Camino Alta Mira and park along the curb. Be sure that you respect the privacy of those whose homes are adjacent to the trail!

Go west on Ten Hills Trail, the first part of which has mostly shrubby vegetation. Look for hummingbirds, Wrentit, wrens, warblers, etc. When the trail reaches oaks, bay and other trees, many woodland species are to be found. Beyond the trees, the trail crosses grassy hilltops where hawks, swifts and swallows are overhead. Near Grovenor Gate (no public access - park vehicles only) turn right down the hill on Cameron Trail, which goes between woodland on one side, grassland on the other, to the lake. Lakeside Trail, to the left, follows the shore to the Marina Complex.

Bear right instead on Lakeside/Cameron Trail and look for waterbirds on the lake and in vegetation in the water and along the shore. Near the upper end of this arm of the lake is a thick riparian area of cattails and willows which may have marsh species. Turn left across the bridge on Lakeside Trail and bird trees and bushes on the far shore for such species as Swainson's Thrush and warblers.

Recross the bridge and turn left on Cameron Trail which has woodland uphill, thick riparian below with the golfcourse beyond. A good variety of birds is to be found along this stretch. When the trail leaves the edge of the golfcourse it goes up the hill a short distance to Ten Hills Trail. Turn left to return to your car.

Facilities: Restrooms are just west of the Cameron-Lakeside Trail junction, Lakeside Trail about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile beyond the bridge, and in the Marina Complex off Lake Chabot Rd. near Fairmont Dr. Picnic tables are in the Marina Complex and also at nearby Cull Canyon Park: return down Redwood Rd., turn left at Heyer Ave., left again at Cull Canyon Rd. into the park. Return home from here via Cull Canyon and Crow Canyon Rds. to I-680. Best birding is fall through spring. Park map: from East Bay Regional Park District, 11500 Skyline Blvd., Oakland, CA 94619; 531-9300.

Birds include grebes, Double-Crested Cormorant, Great Blue Heron, Great Egret, some ducks in summer, several in winter, Turkey Vulture, White-Tailed Kite, hawks, Quail Virginia Rail, gulls in winter, Caspian Tern, Band-Tailed Pigeon, White-Throated Swift, Anna's, Rufous (migrant) & Allen's (summer) Hummingbird, woodpeckers, Black Phoebe, Ash-Throated, Western & Olive-Sided Flycatcher, Western Pewee, several swallows, both jays, Chickadee, Titmouse, Bushtit, Red-Breasted Nuthatch, Creeper, Wrentit, House & Bewick's Wren, Mockingbird, California Thrasher, Robin, Varied & Hermit (winter) & Swainson's (summer) Thrush, both kinglets (winter), Cedar Waxwing, Loggerhead Shrike, Hutton's, Solitary (migrant) & Warbling (summer) Vireo, several warblers, Western Meadowlark, Northern Oriole, Cowbird, Black-Headed Grosbeak, Purple & House Finch, both goldfinches, both towhees, sparrows (resident: Lark, Dark-Eyed Junco, Song; winter: White-Crowned, Golden-Crowned, Fox, Lincoln's).

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CLASSES and EXCURSIONS - your editor has more details.

Mono Lake, FREE, 9-2, Sat., Sun., thru Sept. 19; all ages welcome; geology, botany, zoology, human history of Mono Lake. Meet: Mono Lake County Park, 9 am, or Mono Lake Info Center in Lee Vining, 8:30, to carpool. Dress for any kind of weather, bring hat, sunscreen, sunglasses, swimsuit, towel, water, lunch, walking shoes that can get wet. Campgrounds, motels available. Info: Mono Lake Committee, P O Box 29, Lee Vining, CA 93541; (714) 647-6386.

Bay Adventure Seminars, natural history, varied subjects. Summer catalogue: Bay Adventures, P O Box 524, Newark, CA 94560; 792-3271.

North Carolina Gulf Stream Pelagics, Aug. 21, Sept. 4 & 5, Oct. 10; enjoyable addition to an East Coast trip; if interested, your editor has info sheet.

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MT. DIABLO AUDUBON SOCIETY
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Walnut Creek, CA 94596

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The QUAIL

BULLETIN OF THE MT. DIABLO AUDUBON SOCIETY
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WALNUT CREEK, CALIFORNIA 94596
(415) AUD-UBON

Pres.: Jimm Edgar
3611 Chestnut St.
Lafayette, CA 94549
283-3510 283-6969

September 1982
Vol. 29, No. 2

Next deadline: September 12

Meetings: Thurs., Sept. 2. Doors open 6:30 p.m. Birdinformation: 7:00; business: 7:30; social time: 8:00; program: 8:30. Women's Club, 1224 Lincoln Ave., Walnut Creek. The public is cordially invited to attend.

Field Trips: TRIPS OPEN, members, non-members alike; bring binocs, lunch, field guide. Carpool TIME is departure time. Carpool EXPENSE: 5¢ per mile per rider suggested; entry fees or tolls shared equally among driver and riders.

Sat., Sept. 11, 8:45 a.m., San Mateo County coast; carpool: El Cerro Blvd. at I-680, Danville, 7:00. Leader: George Finger (933-2468).

Thurs., Sept. 16, 9:45 a.m., 5-Brooks & Bolinas Lagoon; carpool: Pleasant Hill Rd. just north of Fwy 24, 8:00. Leader: Elizabeth Diokey (254-0486).

Sat., Sept. 25, 8:00 a.m., Abbott's Lagoon; carpool: Pleasant Hill Rd. just north of Fwy 24, 6:30. Leader: Elizabeth Diokey (254-0486).

Wed., Sept. 29, 9:00 a.m., Lincoln Park, S.F.; carpool: Pleasant Hill Rd. just north of Fwy 24, 8:00. Leader: Winnie Orcutt (944-0593).

Sat.-Sun., Oct. 23-24, Monterey-Carmel; leaders: Jean Richmond (837-2843) & Florence Bennett. Make motel reservation NOW, Pacific Grove preferred: Sea Breeze Motel (408) 372-7775; Butterfly Trees Lodge (408) 372-0503; Lighthouse Lodge (408) 375-6288; 4-Seasons Lodge (408) 372-5612. Saturday dinner, Mark Thomas' Outrigger (Cannery Row); call Jean Richmond by October 8 for reservations.

Board Meeting: Thurs., Sept. 9, 7:30 p.m., home of Winnie Young, 1451 Janet Ct., Benicia; (707) 745-4134. Board meetings are always open to members.

BIRDINFORMATION, by Lynn Farrar, will be on some of the fall plumages of common warblers through our area. The PROGRAM, "Hawks and Point Diablo," will be presented by Dr. Stephen Bailey, well-known Bay Area birder, ornithology teacher, and Observations Editor for Golden Gate Audubon Society.

Along SAN MATEO COAST are birds of sea, shore and marsh, perhaps Baird's & Pectoral Sandpipers. Cross San Mateo Bridge, continue on SR-92 to Half Moon Bay and SR-1, left 15 miles to Pescadero Rd., turn right to the parking lot. May be cold, windy.

We bird the pond at 5-BROOKS then seek landbirds on a good trail. After lunch we go to BOLINAS LAGOON to take advantage of ebbing tide to look for rarities among water and shorebirds. Cross San Rafael Bridge, go north on US-101 for 0.6 mile, take San Rafael exit 2 blocks, then left on 3rd St. out through Fairfax to SR-1. Turn left about 5 miles then right to the 5-Brooks Trailhead parking lot.

At ABBOTT'S LAGOON is an easy 4 mile walk to see waterbirds, shorebirds (perhaps a rarity or 2), some landbirds. Cross San Rafael Bridge, go north 0.6 mile on US-101, take San Rafael exit 2 blocks to 3rd St., go left out through Fairfax to SR-1, turn right ¼ mile, left to Pt. Reyes Seashore Headquarters.

LINCOLN PARK has birds of land and sea, hopefully vagrants. After lunch we may go to GOLDEN GATE PARK for Wood Duck and others. From Kennedy Dr. in Golden Gate Park go north on 30th Ave. to Clement St., left to 34th Ave., right on Legion of Honor Dr. Just beyond the Legion of Honor turn right on El Camino Del Mar about ¼ block.

FIELD TRIP REPORTS.

At YUBA PASS & SIERRA VALLEY June 19-20 it was rainy Friday evening and Saturday afternoon, clear and warm Saturday morning and on Sunday. Our 23 members had Mt. Quail, Black-Backed 3-Toed Woodpecker, Gray Flycatcher, Dipper nest with young, 8 warbler species, Red Crossbills at close range, among these 93 species:

West & Pied-Billed Grebe, Black-Cr Night Heron, Mallard, Cinnamon Teal, Turkey Vulture, Cooper's Hawk, Golden Eagle, Prairie Falcon, Am Kestrel, Calif & Mt. Quail, Virginia Rail, Am Coot, Killdeer, Com Snipe, Willet, Greater Yellowlegs, Black-Necked Stilt, Wilson's Phalarope, Ring-Billed Gull, Black Tern, Rock & Mourning Dove, Com Nighthawk, Calliope Hummingbird, Com Flicker, "Red-Breasted" Sapsucker, Hairy, Downy, White-Headed & Black-Backed 3-Toed Woodpecker, Hammond's, Dusky & Gray Flycatcher, West Pewee, Olive-Sided Flycatcher, Horned Lark, Tree, Barn & Cliff Swallow, Steller's Jay, Com Crow, Mt. Chickadee, White-Breasted, Red-Breasted & Pygmy Nuthatch, Brown Creeper, Dipper, House & Marsh Wren, Sage Thrasher, Am Robin, Hermit Thrush, Mt. Bluebird, Townsend's Solitaire, Golden-Crowned & Ruby-Crowned Kinglet, Starling, Warbling Vireo, Nashville, Yellow, Yellow-Rumped, Black-Throated Gray, Townsend's, Hermit, MacGillivray's & Wilson's Warbler, House Sparrow, West Meadowlark, Yellow-Headed, Red-Winged & Brewer's Blackbird, Brown-Headed Cowbird, West Tanager, Black-Headed & Evening Grosbeak, Purple, Cassin's & House Finch, Pine Siskin, Lesser Goldfinch, Red Crossbill, Green-Tailed Towhee, Savannah & Vesper Sparrow, Dark-Eyed Junco, Chipping, Brewer's, White-Crowned, Fox & Lincoln's Sparrow. Going on to RED ROCK RD., 3 members saw 105 Pinyon Jays, Bl-Billed Magpie, Rock Wren.

At ROBERTS RECREATION AREA & REDWOOD PARK on June 24 it was cool with fog early, overcast by mid-morning, partly clear after lunch. The 13 members found a good assortment of woodland species among these 39 species seen or heard:

Turkey Vulture, accipiter sp, Red-Tailed Hawk, Golden Eagle, Calif Quail, Band-Tailed Pigeon, Mourning Dove, Allen's Hummingbird, Downy Woodpecker, Black Phoebe, West Flycatcher, West Pewee, Olive-Sided Flycatcher, Steller's & Scrub Jay, Chestnut-Backed Chickadee, Bushtit, Red-Breasted Nuthatch, Brown Creeper, Wrentit, Bewick's Wren, Calif Thrasher, Am Robin, Swainson's Thrush, Starling, Hutton's & Warbling Vireo, Orange-Crowned, Yellow & Wilson's Warbler, Black-Headed Grosbeak, Purple & House Finch, Amer & Lesser Goldfinch, Rufous-Sided & Brown Towhee, Dark-Eyed Junco, Song Sparrow.

The weekend at YOSEMITE was clear, warm and calm. Twenty members had Blue Grouse, Mt. Quail, Great Gray Owl, Black-Backed 3-Toed Woodpecker, Mt. Bluebird, Townsend's Solitaire, 8 warbler species, Pine Grosbeak, Gray-Crowned Rosy Finch among the 72 species seen or heard, plus Marmots and a Pika:

Red-Tailed Hawk, Blue Grouse, Mt. Quail, Killdeer, Spotted Sandpiper, Calif Gull, Band-Tailed Pigeon, Mourning Dove, Great Gray Owl, Black & White-Throated Swift, Rufous & Calliope Hummingbird, Com Flicker, Pileated Woodpecker, "Red-Breasted" & Williamson's Sapsucker, Hairy, White-Headed & Black-Backed 3-Toed Woodpecker, Willow, Hammond's & Dusky Flycatcher, West Pewee, Olive-Sided Flycatcher, Violet-Green, Tree & Barn Swallow, Steller's Jay, Com Raven, Clark's Nutcracker, Mt. Chickadee, Red-Breasted Nuthatch, Brown Creeper, House, Bewick's & Rock Wren, Am Robin, Hermit Thrush, West & Mt. Bluebird, Townsend's Solitaire, Golden-Crowned Kinglet, Solitary & Warbling Vireo, Orange-Crowned, Nashville, Yellow, Yellow-Rumped, Black-Throated Gray, Hermit, MacGillivray's & Wilson's Warbler, Red-Winged & Brewer's Blackbird, Brown-Headed Cowbird, West Tanager, Black-Headed Grosbeak, Lazuli Bunting, Purple & Cassin's Finch, Pine Grosbeak, Gray-Crowned Rosy Finch, Pine Siskin, Lesser Goldfinch, Rufous-Sided Towhee, Dark-Eyed Junco, Chipping, White-Crowned, Fox, Lincoln's & Song Sparrow.

At GUALALA POINT on July 31-August 1 it was clear and cool, calm early morning and evening but very windy during the day. The 17 members had Sooty Shearwater, Green Heron, Osprey, Marbled Murrelet, Com Nighthawk & Purple Martin among 77 species:

Com & Arctic Loon, West Grebe, Sooty Shearwater, Brown Pelican, Brandt's & Pelagic Cormorant, Great Blue & Green Heron, Great & Snowy Egret, White-Winged & Surf Scoter, Com Merganser, Turkey Vulture, Red-Tailed & Red-Shouldered Hawk, Northern Harrier, Osprey, Calif Quail, Black Oystercatcher, Semipalmated Plover, Killdeer, Black Turnstone, Spotted Sandpiper, Wandering Tattler, West Sandpiper, Sanderling, Glaucous-Winged, West & Heermann's Gull, Com Murre, Pigeon Guillemot, Marbled Murrelet, Band-Tailed Pigeon, Mourning Dove, Great Horned Owl, Com Nighthawk, Vaux's Swift, Anna's & Allen's Hummingbird, Belted Kingfisher, Com Flicker, Acorn & Downy Woodpecker, Black Phoebe, West Flycatcher, Violet-Green, Rough-Winged, Barn & Cliff Swallow, Purple Martin, Steller's Jay, Com Raven, Chestnut-Backed Chickadee, Bush-

tit, Brown Creeper, Wren, Winter & Bewick's Wren, Am Robin, Swainson's Thrush, Starling, Orange-Crowned, Nashville & Wilson's Warbler, House Sparrow, Brewer's Blackbird, Brown-Headed Cowbird, Black-Headed Grosbeak, Purple & House Finch, Pine Siskin, Am Goldfinch, Dark-Eyed Junco, White-Crowned & Song Sparrow.

ACCESS TO MT. DIABLO is available at the north end of Green Valley Rd. in Danville. Volunteers from local horsemen's groups erected gates and special signs directing hikers and horsemen onto the 4-mile trail up Pine Canyon Trail to Barbecue Terrace.

FIELD TRIPS SCHEDULE, Oct. 1982-Aug. 1983. (Changes may occasionally be made.)

We have a great schedule, thanks to Elizabeth Dickey and her planning committee and to members who will be leaders. Five weekends, four new (+) areas are listed.

Table with 2 columns: Trip Date/Day and Location. Includes entries for Oct, Nov, Dec, Jan, Feb, Mar, Apr, May, June, July, and Aug. A specific entry for Oct 18 Sat is highlighted as 'CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT'.

Have a FAVORITE COLUMN in The Quail? A committee is discussing possible changes in format and content. Comments on what you like or don't like about your newsletter are important, especially if there is something you would be upset about losing!!!

CALLING ALL MONOPHILES! The Mono Lake Committee fund-raiser, "Art Drawing for Mono Lake" on November 19 has fabulous prizes. Set of 12 tickets \$10, singles \$1. For tickets for yourself or for sale to friends or through clubs, contact Genevieve Sattler, 685-5315. Tickets will be available at our September membership meeting.

A repeat of the popular Cruise into Northern S.F. Bay and marshlands near the Delta will be October 17, 8:40 a.m.-5 p.m., aboard the "Harbor Queen" from Berkeley Marina. Tickets are \$30 before September 19 then \$33. Send self-addressed, stamped envelope and check payable to Mono Lake Committee (not tax-deductible) or to GGAS marked Mono Lake Fund (deductible) to Mildred Bennett, 2719 Marin Ave., Berkeley, CA 94708; phone 526-1260 for information.

Want to know the VOTING RECORDS of your representative and senators on key issues? Charts of records from the current Congress are available for \$3 each from League of Women Voters, 317 Pennsylvania Ave. SE, Washington, DC 20003. For \$15 you can become a member and receive all the league's charts and reports as they come out.

To AVOID DISTURBING BIRDINFORMATION sessions, latecomers please be seated in back near the door, then later move elsewhere if you desire. Earlier arrivals please leave ample seating near the door to accommodate those who have been delayed.

OBSERVATIONS, June 15-August 12. Also see field trip reports.

Sooty Shearwater, 200,000+, Pigeon Pt. & Pescadero, San Mateo Co., June 19--JR, et al; 1, off Bodega Head, Aug. 10--JR. White Pelican, 200, SR-37 near Napa Riv., Aug. 6--R&JR. Green Heron, Walnut Creek channel by Sun Valley, July 31--JR; Harrison & Grand, Lk. Merritt, Aug. 6 thru period--B&MJG. Little Blue Heron, 2 ad., returned to Charleston Slough, Palo Alto, July 25 thru period--RBA.

Oldsquaw, Fish Docks, Pt Reyes, thru July 6--m.ob.; another at Bodega Bay thru July 24--RBA. Harlequin Duck, breeding plumage, Año Nuevo, San Mateo Co., July 29--JR, et al. Black Scoter, 2, Fish Docks, at least thru July 6--JR, et al.

Blue Grouse, 3, Olmsted Pt., Yosemite, July 18--BR. Mt. Quail, 3, Sand Flat off SR-4, Tuolumne Co., July 10-11--BR; 2, Glacier Pt., Yosemite, July 17--BR. Sandhill Crane, chick in mid-road as they drove by then it ran into grass to upset parents, Tule Lake NWR, June 22--W&GY. Black Rail, 8, north C.C.Co. marshes, July 5--EH, BC.

Black Oystercatcher, Bay Bridge Toll Plaza (BBTP), June 26 thru period--SB, AE, m.ob. MONGOLIAN PLOVER, breeding plumage, McGrath St Boh, Ventura Co., Aug. 7-10--RBA. Golden Plover, 2, Doran Pk., Bodega Bay, Aug. 6--BR, KH. Red Knot, Bodega Bay, Aug. 6--KH, BR; 3+ there, Aug. 10--JR, BF, et al.

Least Tern, 3, PG&E plant, Pittsburg, July 5--EH, BC. Elegant Tern, ret. to BBTP, July 11--RBA. Marbled Murrelet, many, Pescadero to Año Nuevo, June 29-July 28--JR, m.ob. Xantus' (?) Murrelet, Bodega Head, Aug. 6--BR, KH. Rhinoceros Auklet, Pigeon Pt., June 29--JR. Tufted Puffin, Pt Reyes Lighthouse, June 21-22--BR, KH, JR, BP.

Flemmulated Owl, 2 calling, Henness Ridge, Yosemite, July 17--BR. Spotted Owl, San Jacinto Mts., Riverside Co., July 4--BR, JG. Great Gray Owl, Yosemite, July 17--BR. Whip-Poor-Will, 5, San Bernardino Mts., San Bernardino Co., July 3--BR, JG; 1, San Jacinto Mts., July 4--BR, JG.

Black Swift, up to 4, Año Nuevo, June 29-July 29--m.ob.; 3, San Bernardino Mts., July 4--BR, JG. Black-Chinned Hummingbird, ♀, CCF, July 31--BR. Calliope Hummingbird, Sand Flat, July 10-11--BR. Pileated Woodpecker, McGurk Meadow, Yosemite, July 17--BR. Black-Backed 3-Toed Woodpecker, ♀, Sand Flat, July 10-11--BR; 2, Bridalveil Campground, Yosemite, July 17--BR.

Western Kingbird, Boundary Oaks golfcourse, W.C., June 15--JE. Purple Martin, ♀, I-80/Capitol Ave., Sacramento, June 19--BR. Dipper, 6, Sand Flat, June 10-11--BR. VEERY, PR Lighthouse, June 20--JM, et al; New Willows, Pt Reyes, June 21-24--BR, KH, m.ob. Townsend's Solitaire, Crane Flat, Yosemite, July 16--BR; 5, Glacier Pt., July 17--BR. Gray Vireo, San Bernardino Mts., July 3--BR, JG.

Black-&-White Warbler, Fish Docks, thru June 22--m.ob. VIRGINIA'S WARBLER, Ellery Lake, near Yosemite, July 18--BR. BLACK-THROATED BLUE WARBLER, ♀, PR Lighthouse, June 21--BR, KH, et al. Black-Throated Gray Warbler, 2 ad. feeding 2 yg., Lake Lagunitas, Marin Co., July 13--JR, et al. Chestnut-Sided Warbler, 2, PR Lighthouse, June 20-21--KH, BR, m.ob. Ovenbird, PR Lighthouse, June 22--EM, JR, BF, et al. MOURNING WARBLER, ♀, PR Lighthouse, June 20-22--RBA, BR, KH, m.ob. PAINTED REDSTART, San Bernardino Mts., July 3--BR, JG.

Hooded Oriole, pair, near Lindsay Museum, W.C., late June--BS. Western Tanager, ♂, Rocky Ridge Trail, Las Trampas Pk., July 4--KH; ♂, her Alamo garden, July 25--JR. SCARLET TANAGER, ♂, PR Lighthouse, June 20--JM, et al. Rose-Breasted Grosbeak, up to 3, Fish Docks, June 18-28--m.ob. Blue Grosbeak, South County Pk, San Joaquin Co., July 17-28--RBA, JR; 2♂, 2♀, CCF, July 31--BR. Pine Grosbeak, 2, McGurk Meadow, Yosemite, July 17--BR

Lawrence's Goldfinch, 2, Devil's Hole Trail, Las Trampas Pk., July 4--KH. Red Crossbill, 2, Fish Docks, June 21--BR, KH. Grasshopper Sparrow, 1-2, singing, Devil's Hole Trail, July 4--KH; 4, near Nicasio Res., Marin Co., July 6--JR, BF, AM, BP.

OBSERVERS: Steve Bailey, Bill Chilson, Jimm Edgar, Art Edwards, George Finger, Bud Fry, Bill & Mary Jane Greene, Jeff Greenhouse, Ed Hase, Kevin Hirtsa, Eugene Makashima, Alice Mericourt, Joe Morlan, Bill Pursell, Bob Richmond, Rich & Jean Richmond, Bill Stone, Winnie & Gifford Young, NoCal Rare Bird Alert, many observers.

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CLASSES and EXCURSIONS -- your editor has more details.

Bay Area Bird Walks for Beginners, our own Norah Bain, Tues., 9-noon, Sept. 21-Oct. 19; 1 class, 4 field trips; \$16 Orinda resident, \$18 non-resident. Reg.: Orinda Community Center, 26 Orinda Way, Sept. 9. Info, O C G; 254-2445 or Norah: 254-4516.

Natural Excursions (NAS/PRBO). Owls of Carmel Valley, Sept. 10-12, Bill Clow, \$80. Photography Workshop, Birds & Mammals, Monterey Area, Sept. 17-19, Ian Tait, Joseph Hall, \$85. Info/reg.: 4990 Shoreline Hwy, Stinson Beach, CA 94970; 868-122.

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We are pleased to welcome these new members of MDAS and hope to meet them at our meetings and on field trips:

Alamo: Bill Penland, John E. Wells; Berkeley: Dr. Harold Newman; Concord: Ms C. L. Brett, John R. Bruno, Dr. Rita F. Bullitt, Mr. & Mrs. William P. Burden, S. K. & E. W. Christensen, M. Coner, Ray & Lillian Davis, Anne Dearing, W. E. Flood, Mary Ellen Idziak, E. E. Kaiser, Mr. T. Kelnhofer, Ralph D. Kirk, M.D., Vivien H Larson, Dennis M. Merideth, Mrs. Elenor Mulkey, Charlene Sorenson, Mr. & Mrs. Neal W. Welsh, Richard W. Wooten; Danville: Barbara J. Buckley, R. M. Dorwin, Keith Howard, Mr. Randall Jang, Catherine Fronzini, George A. Swallow; Lafayette: Beverly Bangs, Gladys Bounacoorsi, Ed Francavillese, Kathleen A. Plummer, Harry M. Richardson, W. Wong; Martinez: Robert B. Hodgson, Thomas Hartford Moore, Margie Lynn Parsons, Quentin Stookdale & family, E. J. Whitesell & family; Moraga: Daisy Shackelford; Pittsburg: Donna Memory; Pleasant Hill: Mr. Robin Breuer, G. G. Clarke, Miss Stacy Edge, George Heitman, Jim Hemstalk; Walnut Creek: Doris Bierk, C. H. Braaksma, Cottage Vet Clinic, Mrs. Cecil J. Doty, C. Goncalves, Joe Idelson, Mrs. James Lane, Mrs. Janet A. Maisels, H. Paoli, D. Sherwood, S. Sticht, Ronald T. Weakley, Romania Wessel, Ruth E. Young; West Pittsburg: Ms Melissa Lackman & family.

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CONSERVATION NEWS by Al McNabney: LAND USE and PLANNING -- A FAIR DEAL.

We stand ready to participate in a sincere effort to expedite the development review process but we wish to be treated as equal partners in the process, so Audubon and 10 other citizen organizations interested in land use, conservation and consideration wrote to our Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors on July 29. The League of Women Voters, Orinda Area Planning Commission and State of California, Office of Planning and Research wrote separate letters on the matter.

Pointing out that the planning process in general use in the county for some time has worked well, the group further directed attention to the existing process which has been in compliance with state and county guidelines. Said the letter, "We are looking to the Board to protect the interests of all citizens of Contra Costa County and not only those of the development community." One Audubon member said, "If these groups had been called in at an early stage by the Board we could have commented on their expressed desire to develop an orderly planning process. Time would have been saved for, having participated in many land use discussions, we knew of the existence of the County Handbook and Checklist. We would have promptly brought this material to the Board's attention and the end result would have been a substantial saving of time, effort and of the taxpayers' dollars."

The Supervisors were told of the damage their recent handling of the matter caused in the working relationships that have been in existence since the guidelines were created. Although a great deal of damage has been done, the Supervisors were assured that if citizen groups were treated as equal partners in the development review process there would be full cooperation from the groups. Citizen groups wish to work with the Board to repair the damage that has been done and to work to reestablish confidence by members of the various groups in the county Board.

* * * * *

Newly opened NATURAL INSTINCTS has a fine selection of nature and science items including bird books, field guides, binocs, scopes, feeders, seed, wildlife prints, many books and other items related to natural history and science, educational toys for children. Owned by MDAS member Allen Ferris, the store is at 600 Sycamore Valley Rd. West in Danville's new Livery & Mercantile Center, phone 820-8654. If interested in working there contact Allen Ferris or Chris Weil at the store.

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THE QUAIL, published monthly except a combined July-August issue, is sent without additional charge to National Audubon Society members in Mt. Diablo chapter. To join NAS: \$25 per year, family \$32, others available; check payable to National Audubon Society, to Membership Chairman, MDAS, P O Box 53, Walnut Creek, CA 94596. Address change (send also to NAS): Mrs. Winnie Orutt, 30 Iris Ln., Walnut Creek, CA 94595. Change of chapter affiliation is only upon specific request by member. Subscription: \$4 per year, payable to Mt. Diablo Audubon Society, to Treasurer, F. G. Bennett, P O Box 5428, Walnut Creek CA 94596. First Class mailing in envelope: \$2.25 per year, payable to Mt. Diablo Audubon Society, to Treasurer, address above.

Jean Richmond, Editor, 125 Via Serena, Alamo, CA 94507; 837-2843
(Exchange bulletins for MDAS to this address, please.)

Our revised AUDUBON DAILY FIELD LIST, 5¢ each, at meetings and on field trips.

GREATER BAY AREA SITE GUIDE: Ft. Funston-- Bank Swallows.

Access: Go west from the Bay Bridge, take US-101 north, Fell St. west, go through Golden Gate Park to Great Highway, turn south. Or take US-101 south, I-280 & John Daly Blvd. west to Skyline Blvd., turn north. Northern approach is easier, latter route is easy return. Ft. Funston plus nearby Lake Merced is a good 1-day trip.

Beach area. Take Great Highway south past Sloat Blvd. about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile to the second parking lot, park as far south as you can. Black Scoters are usually close to shore here. Walk south on the beach $\frac{1}{4}$ - $\frac{1}{2}$ mile to steep cliffs with obvious nest holes, mostly well up the bluff-- Bank Swallows arrive about the first of April.

Return to your car, drive south on Great Highway, turn right on Skyline Blvd. 0.8 mile, right again into Ft. Funston, park at the west end of the parking area. The hanggliders here are fun to watch but stay clear of take-off and landing areas.

From the overlook by the parking lot check the beach (a few shorebirds) and ocean. Huge numbers of Sooty Shearwaters can be seen summer through early fall. On the water should be all 3 loon species, Western Grebes, all 3 scoters, Common Murres, Pigeon Guillemots. Flying here are Bank Swallows in summer, several gulls, terns.

Wander the paved trails north of the parking lot. Look for Bank and other Swallows overhead. Check trees east of Battery Davis for migrants in spring and fall. Northeast of the battery is a grove of trees which should also be thoroughly checked. On the east side of this grove walk north then out across the dunes to a long grove of eucalyptus and cypress above Skyline Blvd. and walk the dirt trails among the trees. Birding can be good in spring and fall.

Facilities: Restrooms at Ft. Funston parking lot; picnic areas along the paved trails. Best birding is fall through spring. Excellent Golden Gate NRA map from the Park Service at Cliff House or from GGNRA, U.S. Park Service, Ft. Mason, San Francisco, CA 94123; 556-0560 for information. Weather can be cold, very windy.

Other birds include Brown Pelican, Double-Crested & Brandt's Cormorant, Red-Breasted Merganser, Red-Tailed Hawk, Merlin has been seen, Kestrel, Forster's & Caspian Tern, Mourning Dove, Anna's, Rufous & Allen's Hummingbird, Belted Kingfisher, Downy Woodpecker, Western Kingbird, Black & Say's Phoebe, Western Flycatcher, Western Pewee, Olive-Sided Flycatcher, Common Raven, Chestnut-Backed Chickadee, Bushtit, Pygmy Nuthatch, Bewick's Wren, Water Pipit, Red-Eyed Vireo has been found, several warblers (Black-Throated Blue, Palm have been here), Western Meadowlark, Northern Oriole, Purple & House Finch, White-Crowned, Golden-Crowned and Fox Sparrow.

* * * * *

RICHARDSON BAY SANCTUARY ACTIVITIES. Sundays in September: Nature Walks, 9am & 1 pm, meet on Sanctuary bridge; Close-up Nature Photography, Sept. 12, members \$20, reservations, 388-2524; Nature Films, 3:30 pm; Lyford House & Gallery open 1-4 pm. Volunteer training, Bay Shore Studies, 12 Fri. sessions start Sept. 17, 9:30 am, learn about S.F. Bay, share knowledge with school children, info: 388-2524.

Friends of Richardson Bay Sanctuary - FORBS - is a support group working with and in the community in various activities to aid the Sanctuary. Memberships include senior or student \$3, NAS member \$6. Send tax-deductible check, payable to FORBS, to NAS, 376 Greenwood Beach Rd., Tiburon, CA 94920.

* * * * *

POPULATION BOOKLET. NAS has published a leaflet explaining why it supports stabilization of human population, what the society is doing about it, and how members can help. For a free copy, write to Population Program, National Audubon Society, 950 Third Ave., New York, NY 10022.

MT. DIABLO AUDUBON SOCIETY
P. O. Box 53
Walnut Creek, CA 94596

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The QUAIL

BULLETIN OF THE MT. DIABLO AUDUBON SOCIETY
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WALNUT CREEK, CALIFORNIA 94596
(415) AUD-UBON

Pres.: Jimm Edgar
3611 Chestnut St.
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October 1982
Vol. 29, No. 3

Next deadline: October 10

Meeting: Thurs., Oct. 14. Doors open 6:30 pm. Birdinformation: 7:00; business: 7:30; social time: 8:00; program: 8:30. Women's Club, 1224 Lincoln Ave., Walnut Creek. The public is cordially invited. NOTE THE DATE CHANGE.

Field Trips: TRIPS OPEN, members, non-members alike; bring binocs, lunch, field guide. Carpool TIME is departure time. Carpool EXPENSE: 5¢ per mile per rider suggested; entry fees or tolls shared equally among driver and riders.

Sat., Oct. 9, 8:30 am, outer Pt. Reyes; carpool: Pleasant Hill Rd. just north of Fwy 24, 6:30. Leader: Bob Richmond (447-0248).

Wed., Oct. 13, 9:00 am, Pt. Diablo, Rodeo Lagoon; carpool: Pleasant Hill Rd. just north of Fwy 24, 8:00. Leader: Elizabeth Dickey (254-0486).

Sat.-Sun., Oct. 23-24, Monterey; Sat., 8:30 am, Moss Landing; Sun., 7:30, Sea Breeze Motel, 1100 Lighthouse Ave., Pacific Grove. Motels: see Sept. issue. Sat. dinner, 6:00, Mark Thomas' Outrigger; reservations: Elizabeth Dickey (254-0486) or Jean Richmond (837-2843) by Oct. 8. Leaders: Jean Richmond, Florence Bennett. One-day trippers: call Elizabeth Dickey.

Thurs., Oct. 28, 9:00 am, Alameda South Shore; carpool: Pleasant Hill Rd. just north of Fwy 24, 8:15. Leader: Winnie Orcutt (944-0593)

Sat.-Sun., Dec. 4-5, Sacramento Valley refuges; motels in Willows: Blue Gum (916) 934-5401, Cross Roads West (916) 934-7026; camping: Colusa Sac Riv SRA.

Board Meetings: Thurs., Oct. 7, 7:30 pm, home of Maury Stern, 939 Carol Ln., Lafayette; 284-5980. Board meetings are always open to members. Note date change.

BIRDINFORMATION will be "Last Stronghold of the Eagles," an excellent NAS film about the Bald Eagles of the Chilkat Valley near Haines in southeast Alaska. The PROGRAM by member Kent Fickett will be an illustrated discussion of the Water Quality Initiative, including rivers and rafting, and policies involved in riparian habitat.

At OUTER PT. REYES in fall are eastern vagrants. Cross San Rafael Bridge, go north on US-101 for 0.6 mile, take San Rafael exit 2 blocks, go left on 3rd St. through Fairfax to SR-1. Turn right 2 miles then left on Sir Francis Drake Blvd. for 14 miles then left 2 miles to Drake's Beach. May be cold and windy - come prepared.

PT. DIABLO has hawks, perhaps including Broad-Winged, swifts, possibly vagrants; RODEO LAGOON has waterbirds, shorebirds; BATTERY WALLACE may have vagrants. Just north of Golden Gate Bridge take Alexander Ave. exit, follow signs to Ft. Cronkhite in Golden Gate NRA. Meet just west of the signal-lighted tunnel. If weather is good we will carry lunch and stay atop Pt. Diablo 10:30 into the afternoon.

On the MONTEREY AREA WEEKEND we will see waterbirds, shorebirds, gulls, landbirds of varied habitats (hopefully eastern vagrants), Moss Landing to Carmel. Take I-680 to San Jose, US-101 to Prunedale, west on SR-156, north 4 miles on SR-1, west onto Jetty Rd. (½ mile north of Elkhorn Slough bridge). Allow at least 2 hours.

At ALAMEDA SOUTH SHORE and DOOLITTLE POND are many waterbirds, shorebirds. Go through the Tube to Alameda, continue on to Central, left 2 blocks to Washington Park, then right to the Bay. Turn left on Shoreline Dr. to the foot of Broadway.

Our revised AUDUBON DAILY FIELD LIST, 5¢ each, are at meetings and on field trips.

FIELD TRIP REPORTS.

At BODEGA BAY on August 14 it was overcast but warm with gentle wind. Eleven members found Osprey, Black Oystercatchers, Wandering Tattler and Marbled Murrelets among these 63 species seen or heard:

Com & Arctic Loon, Pied-Billed Grebe, Brown Pelican, Dbl-Crested, Brandt's & Pelagic Cormorant, Great Blue Heron, Great & Snowy Egret, Black-Crowned Night Heron, Mallard, White-Winged & Surf Scoter, Turkey Vulture, Red-Tailed Hawk, Northern Harrier, Osprey, Virginia Rail, Sora, Amer Coot, Black Oystercatcher, Semipalmated & Snowy Plover, Killdeer, Black-Bellied Plover, Surfbird, Ruddy & Black Turnstone, Long-Billed Curlew, Wandering Tattler, Willet, Least Sandpiper, dowitcher sp, West Sandpiper, Marbled Godwit, Sanderling, Amer Avocet, West, Calif, Ring-Billed & Heermann's Gull, Caspian Tern, Com Murre, Pigeon Guillemot, Marbled Murrelet, Rook Dove, Great Horned Owl, Allen's Hummingbird, Belted Kingfisher, Barn Swallow, Com Raven, Marsh Wren, Mockingbird, House Sparrow, Red-Winged & Brewer's Blackbird, House Finch, Amer Goldfinch, Brown Towhee, Savannah, White-Crowned & Song Sparrow.

The trip to the SAN MATEO COUNTY COAST on September 11 was made on a clear, cool day, calm until late morning then it became very windy. Eleven members and guests saw Pink-Footed and Sooty Shearwaters, some in quite close, Blue-Winged Teal, 10+ Pectoral and 2 Baird's Sandpipers, Marbled Murrelet among these 81 species:

Com & Red-Throated Loon, West & Pied-Billed Grebe, Pink-Footed & Sooty Shearwater, Brown Pelican, Dbl-Crested, Brandt's & Pelagic Cormorant, Great Blue Heron, Great & Snowy Egret, Mallard, Blue-Winged & Cinnamon Teal, White-winged & Surf Scoter, Ruddy Duck, White-Tailed Kite, Red-Tailed Hawk, Northern Harrier, Amer Kestrel, Virginia Rail, Com Gallinule, Amer Coot, Black Oystercatcher, Semipalmated & Snowy Plover, Killdeer, Black-Bellied Plover, Surfbird, Ruddy & Black Turnstone, Whimbrel, Wandering Tattler, Willet, Greater Yellowlegs, Pectoral, Baird's, Least & West Sandpiper, Marbled Godwit, Sanderling, Northern Phalarope, Glaucous-Winged, West, Herring, Calif, Ring-Billed, Bonaparte's & Heermann's Gull, Forster's, Elegant & Caspian Tern, Com Murre, Pigeon Guillemot, Marbled Murrelet, Band-Tailed Pigeon, Rook & Mourning Dove, Belted Kingfisher, Black Phoebe, Rough-Winged & Barn Swallow, Scrub Jay, Wrentit, Bewick's & Marsh Wren, Starling, Com Yellowthroat, House Sparrow, West Meadowlark, Red-Winged & Brewer's Blackbird, Brown-Headed Cowbird, House Finch, Amer Goldfinch, Brown Towhee, White-Crowned & Song Sparrow.

The BOLINAS LAGOON and 5-BROOKS trip on September 16 was made by four members on a cloudy, warm, calm day. Found were 1 adult, 4 gorgeous young Pied-Billed Grebes, 2 adult, 1 immature Green Heron, an Acorn Woodpecker stuffing acorns in a hole, and a "treeful" of Townsend's Warblers among these 42 species seen or heard:

Red-Throated Loon, Pied-Billed Grebe, cormorant sp, Great Blue & Green Heron, Great & Snowy Egret, Mallard, Pintail, Amer Wigeon, Turkey Vulture, White-Tailed Kite, Red-Shouldered Hawk, Amer Kestrel, Calif Quail, Amer Coot, Killdeer, Black-Bellied Plover, Spotted Sandpiper, Willet, Marbled Godwit, Ring-Billed Gull, Band-Tailed Pigeon, Anna's Hummingbird, Belted Kingfisher, Com Flicker, Acorn Woodpecker, Black Phoebe, empidonax sp, Steller's & Scrub Jay, Com Crow, Chestnut-Backed Chickadee, Brown Creeper, West Bluebird, Starling, Townsend's & Wilson's Warbler, Brewer's Blackbird, Brown Towhee, Dark-Eyed Junco, Song Sparrow. There were also 2 "stick birds" that turned out to really be birds.

The 77th ANNUAL AUDUBON DINNER, Thursday, November 4, begins a new policy of having the dinner in a different city each year. The 1982 affair at the Biltmore Hotel in downtown Los Angeles will include an address by NAS President Russ Peterson, the presentation of the Audubon Medal, and a special audio-visual presentation on Mono Lake by David Gaines. Cocktails begin at 6:30 pm, dinner at 7:30. For info, call (213) 441-3466. For reservations, which should be made before October 29, send the total amount, \$30/person, to NAS, 1414 S. Fair Oaks, South Pasadena, CA 91030.

A new, detailed MT. DIAULO TRAIL MAP, published by Erickson Maps of Oakland, has descriptions of the mountain's 10 most popular trails. Concord and Walnut Creek open space areas and Shell Ridge Open Space are also included. The \$2 map is available at Mt. Diablo State Park or at Alexander Lindsay Junior Museum, in Larkey Park, at 1901 First Ave., Walnut Creek - possibly in book stores sometime in 1983.

Bring rinsed, flattened ALL-ALUMINUM CANS (no bimetal) to meetings, field trips.

LUMPS, SPLITS, NAME CHANGES are many in the 34th Supplement to the AOU Checklist and the 6th edition AOU due next year. This updated list contains all documented species of Canada and the U.S., including Hawaii.

Lumps: Tundra (Whistling & Bewick's) Swan, Dark-Eyed (now includes Gray-Headed) Junco, Rosy (Black, Brown-Capped, Gray-Crowned Rosy) Finch.

Splits: Manx & Black-Vented Shearwater, Yellow-Footed & Western Gull, Eastern & Western Screech-Owl, Common & Antillean Nighthawk, Yellow-Bellied (includes Red-Naped) & Red-Breasted Sapsucker, Tropicall & Couch's Kingbird.

New names: Buller's (New Zealand) Shearwater, Tricolored (Louisian) Heron, Green-Backed (Green) Heron, Black-Shouldered (White-Tailed) Kite, Common Moorhen (Gallinule), Red-Necked (Northern) Phalarope, (Northern) 3-Toed Woodpecker, Black-Backed (3-Toed) Woodpecker, (Long-Billed) Marsh Wren; many others have American, Eurasian, Common or Northern added to old names, still other old names are now hyphenated.

Changes have been made in many other species which are lesser known to many of our members. Taxonomic order and scientific names are also greatly changed. Copies of the Supplement are available at \$3.00 each from G E Woolfenden, Biology, Univ. of South Florida, Tampa, FL 33620. I strongly urge you to send for one.

* * * * *

A continuing study of COLOR-MARKED SANDERLINGS and BLACK-BELLIED PLOVERS is mapping shorebird migrations between North and South America and also how far from Bodega Bay they move. To act as a regional coordinator or local observer, contact Sanderling Project, Bodega Marine Lab, P O Box 247, Bodega Bay, CA 94923; (707) 875-2211.

Please report observations, away from Bodega Bay, of these color-marked birds, each has 1-2 color bands on each leg, South American birds also have a small leg flag. Send color combination, noting which colors are where, top and bottom, right or left leg. Even if unable to read bands precisely, report where and when you saw the marked bird and how many other birds it was with. Many interesting sightings have been reported in the past year, including far-flung reports on individual birds.

* * * * *

SUBSCRIBERS (& LOCAL memberships), check your label for expiration date - MDAS does not mail you a renewal notice. Your cancelled check is your receipt.

* * * * *

The Student Conservation Association offers 1,500 VOLUNTEER JOBS for YOUNG PEOPLE next summer. Students work for such agencies as National Park Service, U.S. Forest Service. For application info for high school students write to Box 550H (550G for college students), Charlestown, NH 03603. Write promptly, openings fill fast.

* * * * *

CLASSES and EXCURSIONS -- your editor has more details.

Central Valley Waterbirds, mostly waterfowl, waders (±60 species); stress status & identification; Dr. Stephen F. Bailey; 7-9 pm, Oct. 21, 28, Nov. 4, 18, Albany High, optional weekend Nov. 20-21, Gray Lodge, Sacramento NWR; beginner-experienced intermediate. Info: Steve, 548-9507; reg.: Albany Adult School, 526-6811, or 1st class.

Pelagic trips, Sat., Sun., year-round, most out of Monterey; excellent leaders; for full details & schedule: Shearwater Journeys, Debra Love Shearwater, 362 Lee St., Santa Cruz, CA 95060; (408) 425-8111. Highly recommended!

Lindsay Museum. Nature classes, trips; preschool-adult. Wildlife Care, aid wild injured/orphans, Wed., 7:30-9 pm, Oct. 13-Nov. 17; age 14 up; \$15 Museum membership + \$10 wildlife donation. Info/reg.: 1901 First Ave., Walnut Creek 94596; 935-1978.

Audubon Canyon Ranch, varied natural history subjects. For info, brochure, contact the Ranch at Volunteer Canyon, 4800 Hwy 1, Stinson Beach, CA 94970; 868-0611.

Natural Excursions (NAS/PRBO). Monterey Bay, Land/Seabirds, Oct. 9-10, Rich Stallcup, \$85. New Zealand, Dec. 3-24, \$1725+ airfare. Hawaii, Dec. 27-Jan. 5, \$750 + airfare. Info/reg.: 4990 Shoreline Hwy, Stinson Beach, CA 94970; 868-1221.

RICHARDSON BAY SANCTUARY ACTIVITIES. Sundays: bird walks in the Sanctuary, 9 am & 1 pm; nature films, 3:30 pm; Lyford House & Gallery, 1-4 pm (Wildflowers of Calif. by photographer Bert Banks opens Oct. 24). Drawing from Nature, Wed., 10-1, 4 wks, starts Oct. 6, member \$30, non-member \$35. Hands-On Environmental Science Workshops for Teachers, 8:30-4:30, Oct. 9, \$25, Oct. 16, \$15. Info/reg.: 388-2524.

Open house at Richardson Bay honoring Beth Huning, newly appointed director of the Education Center, will be 3-5 pm on October 30. Call 388-2524 if you plan to go.

* * * * *

OBSERVATIONS, August 13-September 15. Also see field trip reports.

Red-Necked Grebe, still red on neck, Drake's Boh, Pt Reyes, Aug. 31--JR, BF, et al.
Pied-Billed Grebe, 2 ad, 4 colorful young, 5-Brooks pond, Sept. 14--JR, et al.
FLESH-FOOTED SHEARWATER, Santa Cruz pelagic, Aug. 21--BR, et al. Sooty Shearwater,
 35, off Cliff House, SF, Sept. 7--JR, BF, et al. White Pelican, 49, SF Bay NWR, Aug.
 24--JR, BF, et al; 17, Abbott's Lagoon, Pt Reyes, Sept. 12--WO, JR; 500, near White
 Slough, SR-37, Solano Co., Sept. 9--JR

Magnificent Frigatebird, imm, Red Hill Ldg, Salton Sea, Imperial Co., Sept. 7--KH,
 BR. Green Heron, 1-3, 5-Brooks pond, thru period--m.ob. Fulvous Whistling-Duck, 4,
 Red Hill Ldg, Sept. 7--BR, KH. Harlequin Duck, Año Nuevo St Res, Aug. 15-29--EH, RBA.

Yuma Clapper Rail, Ramer Lake, Imperial Co., Sept. 7--BR, KH. Black Rail, west C.C.
 Co., Aug. 14--BR. Snowy Plover, 3, Pomponio St Boh, San Mateo Co., Aug. 15--EH; 1,
 SF Bay NWR, Aug. 24--JR, BF, et al; 2, near NW corner SR-37/29, Solano Co., Sept. 9--
 JR; 3, Schooner Bay, Pt Reyes, Sept. 14--JR, et al. Golden Plover, Pt. Isabel, Aug.
 14--BR; 1-2, Cader Ln pond, off SR-116 near Petaluma, Sonoma Co., Aug. 21-Sept. 3--
 m.ob; 1, near NW corner SR-37/29--Sept. 9--JR

Solitary Sandpiper, Dairy Mart Rd. at Tijuana River, San Diego, Sept. 14--KH, BR.
Lesser Yellowlegs, Horseshoe Pond, Drake's Boh, Aug. 21--FB, BF; 2, east of Dumbarton
 Bridge toll plaza, Aug. 24--JR; dike pond, Estero Trail, Pt. Reyes, Aug. 29--fide JG.

Pectoral Sandpiper, Abbott's Lagoon, Sept. 10-12--JG, BR, KH; up to 4, Horseshoe
 Pond, Aug. 22-Sept. 10--RBA, JG. Baird's Sandpiper, up to 7, Año Nuevo St Res, Aug.
 15-29--EH, m.ob; east of Dumbarton Bridge toll plaza, Aug. 24--JR; up to 9, Horse-
 shoe Pond, Aug. 15-Sept. 1--m.ob.; 1-5, Abbott's Lagoon, Sept. 1-10--BR, JG; 16,
 Lancaster sewer ponds, Los Angeles Co., Sept. 8--KH, BR.

SEMIPALMATED SANDPIPER, Horseshoe Pond, Aug. 15--JG, et al; Abbott's Lagoon, Aug. 29
 --RBA. BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER, Cader Ln pond, Sept. 2-8--LB, m.ob. Red Phalarope,
 3, east of Dumbarton Bridge toll plaza, Aug. 24--BF, JR, et al.

FRANKLIN'S GULL, imm, Stockton oxidation ponds, Aug. 18--BR. Common Tern, 2, mouth
 of Garrity Creek near Pinole, Aug. 14--BR. Least Tern, mouth of Garrity Creek,
 Aug. 14--BR. Common Murre, tangled in 1x4' piece of gill net, freed & released,
 Drake's Boh, Sept. 14--JR, CH, JC. Marbled Murrelet, Año Nuevo St Res, Aug. 15--EH.
Tufted Puffin, Santa Cruz pelagic, Aug. 21--BR, et al.

Yellow-Billed Cuckoo, Ramer Lake, Sept. 7--KH, BR. Black Swift, Año Nuevo St Res,
 Aug. 15--EH. EASTERN KINGBIRD, MP 2.84, Pierce Pt Rd, Pt Reyes, Aug. 29--S&MS; 2,
 Santa Barbara, Sept. 6--BR, KH, m.ob. Blue-Gray Gnatcatcher, Lincoln Pk, SF, Sept.
 7--JR. WHITE-EYED VIREO, Santa Barbara, Sept. 6--BR, KH, m.ob.

Nashville Warbler, Drake's Boh, Aug. 21--FB. Hooded Oriole, Walnut Creek & Alamo,
 thru Sept. 14--WO, JR. SUMMER TANAGER, ad ♂, Environmental Center, Tilden Pk, Sept.
 9-10--HN, et al. PAINTED BUNTING, 2, Pt Loma, San Diego, Sept. 10-14--BR, KH, m.ob.
PALILA, very rare, on Mauna Kea, Hawaii, Sept. 10--B&KF.

Humpback Whale, 2, Santa Cruz pelagic, Aug. 21--BR, et al.

OBSERVERS: Florence Bennett, Laurie Binford, Jim Clayton, Becky & Kent Fickett, Bud
 Fry, Jeff Greenhouse, Ed Hase, Claire Hellman, Kevin Hintsa, Harold Newman, Winnie
 Orcutt, Bob Richmond, Jean Richmond, Susan & Maury Stern, NoCal Rare Bird Alert,
 many observers.

PLEASE NOTE: Observations do not have to be of rare or exotic species! Please re-
 port common birds in uncommon places, at uncommon times, or doing uncommon things.

Wonder if SIGHTINGS are unusual? See "Birds of Northern California" available from
 Golden Gate Audubon Soc., Lindsay Museum, Natural Instincts, The Nature Company.

MDAS tape, AUD-UBON, including upcoming meetings and trips, is changed regularly.
 Northern California Rare Bird Alert, 843-2211, is changed weekly.

* * * * *

A 110,000-acre MT ST HELENS NATIONAL VOLCANIC AREA was created August 26 when Pres-
 ident Reagan signed a bipartisan bill strongly backed by conservationists. This
 first park/wilderness legislation enacted by this session of Congress passed over
 objections by the Forest Service which wanted a far smaller area. The bill pro-
 tects significant geological features left by the recent eruptions and also virgin
 forest that was not destroyed.

* * * * *

Mark your calendar - our CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT will be Saturday, December 18.

* * * * *



AUDUBON CANYON RANCH

A JOINT PROJECT OF MARIN, GOLDEN GATE, SEQUOIA AND MADRONE
AUDUBON SOCIETIES

POST OFFICE BOX 2113
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CALIFORNIA 94126

October 4, 1982

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Dear Friends,

1982 has been an unusual, but very productive year. We started with the January storm which literally changed the contours of Volunteer, Garden and Picher Canyons. Besides changing the stream courses in all three canyons, it washed out our gravity water lines in Picher and Volunteer. Although the damage was excessive, no structural damage was incurred and all our education programs were on schedule and most successful. The funding for this emergency came on a non-matching basis from the San Francisco Foundation. A lot of work still needs to be done.

Our building programs funded on a matching fund basis are all subscribed. We are most grateful for your support. The residence has been repaired, a new women's toilet area installed and the new garage and shed completed. At the same time, the new all weather road at Cypress Grove was finished. The renovation of the bookstore and exhibit hall will start in September. Please come and see your progress...

Our needs for 1982-83 continue to be our normal overhead which serves and educates our many school children and visitors. We are proud that our promotion costs to raise support money only amounts to 1.2%.

Our goals for this coming year includes finishing our storm damage repair, installing a hard coat surface on the parking area, a new spillway on Livermore Marsh at Cypress Grove, and a continual refinement of our educational program at Stinson Beach, Tomales Bay and our Sonoma Preserve. Your continued support of our work is needed and appreciated.

Sincerely,

Thomas S. Price

AUDUBON CANYON RANCH Box 2113 San Francisco 94126

Enclosed is my check for \$ _____ to support your efforts in 1982-83.

Donations are tax deductible.

We warmly greet these new MDAS members and we hope to meet them in person at our activities:

Concord: Edith Carlston, Robert Danno, Ms Dorothy A Hancock; Danville: Nancy Osborne; Lafayette: William G Kirkham, Mrs Judith A Tedesco & family; Malibu: Chip Bissell; Orinda: Mrs Clifford C Rea; Pittsburg: John W Miller; Pleasant Hill: Margarethe Jauch; San Ramon: Mr B Bohren; Walnut Creek: O R Brashear, Flower Ceteras, Beth Dahl, Ms Deborah Grimes, Rosalia P Isaacs, Charon Laura.

Does anyone have BACK ISSUES of The Quail - way back, that is? Our files lack the issue of July 1957, Vol. 4, No. 1. If you have that issue I would appreciate the use of it to make a duplicate and complete our chapter file.

The lovely Quail gracing our masthead first appeared in Vol. 1, No. 4, February 1955 - the product of Harry Adamson's very talented hand.

CONSERVATION NEWS by Al McNabney.

Breathing may improve, wilderness may continue to be wilderness a little longer and pesticides may continue to be controlled following actions by Congress in August. Conservationists AND the people won major rounds in the continuing struggle, due to favorable legislation on clean air, wilderness protection and pesticide control.

However, the NRC brought the Clinch River breeder reactor back to life with a 3-1 vote, the votes to revive the project being cast by Reagan appointees. The Commission also voted to exempt the Energy Department from some license procedures that have not been completed. According to Audubon sources, the Administration wants to spend \$252 million on the Clinch River project, more than twice that proposed for ALL federal solar and energy conservation research and development.

Wetlands, so important to birds and other wildlife as well as to man, have been protected by a permit system established under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. More than 600,000 acres of wetlands would have been destroyed in 1981 if the Corps of Engineers, which administers the program, had approved all applications to dredge or fill wetland areas. Some 300,000 acres were altered under the permit process.

The Reagan Administration believes the present permit system is another case of excessive regulation, thus new regulations have been issued by the Assistant Secretary of the Army reducing the role of the Corps in wetlands protection, and the role of other federal agencies as well. Importantly, there is no longer the opportunity for review of projects involving wetlands on a site by site basis.

Agreement was evident when one spokesman said, "The public wants strong environmental protection laws - AND election day is not far away." VOTES COUNT!

ACTION PLEASE - STOP THE BUDGET CUTS! Environmental protections will be weakened or further dismantled unless Administration proposals for cutting funds from important environmental programs are overcome. The appropriation bill involving the EPA is due on the House floor this month with EPA's budget \$1,086 million, about 20% below last year. The Administration proposed to cut an additional \$961 million but House Committee action resulted in a compromise of \$1,033 million, a cut of \$53 million.

An Audubon spokesman said, "Cuts that are destroying this key agency (EPA) must be recognized for what they are and the continued reduction of funds must be stopped. Further, additional funds must be allocated to EPA so it can function effectively."

WRITE or CALL your Representative, urge support of the amendments and oppose any further EPA budget cuts, at House Office Bldg., Washington, DC 20515. Do it today!

THE QUAIL, published monthly except a combined July-August issue, is sent without additional charge to National Audubon Society members in Mt. Diablo chapter. To join NAS: \$25 per year, family \$32, others available; check payable to National Audubon Society, to Membership Chairman, MDAS, P O Box 53, Walnut Creek, CA 94596. Address change (send also to NAS): Mrs. Winnie Orutt, 30 Iris Ln., Walnut Creek, CA 94595. Change of chapter affiliation is only upon specific request by member. Subscription: \$4 per year, payable to Mt. Diablo Audubon Society, to Treasurer, F. G. Bennett, P O Box 5428, Walnut Creek, CA 94596. First Class mailing in envelope: \$2.25 per year, payable to Mt. Diablo Audubon Society, to Treasurer, address above.

Jean Richmond, Editor, 125 Via Serena, Alamo, CA 94507; 837-2843 (Exchange bulletins for MDAS to this address, please.)

NOTE THE DATE CHANGE for our membership and board meetings this month only.

GREATER BAY AREA SITE GUIDE: Sears Point Road (SR-37).

Access: Cross Benicia Bridge, continue north on I-780 then east on I-80, west on SR-37 about 2 miles, cross SR-29 and park at the north side of the parking lot behind the buildings on the northwest corner of that intersection (MP 9.5). This area can be birded when driving to or from many North Bay birding areas.

SR-37/29 area. From atop the levee thoroughly scan the area beyond. Birds can be hidden behind vegetation clumps so check slowly several times. Birds are quite far out on mudflats at low tide but in close as high tide drops and begins to expose mudflats -- hordes of hungry birds arrive. Continue west, turn left on Enterprise Street and park. Check the area north of the highway from either side of the road.

White Slough, MP 9. Just west of Enterprise Street park in a small turnout at the west end of the little bridge over White Slough. Scope from here or walk north a bit to get closer to the birds - where you can go depends on tides. Also check the flooded area on the south side of the highway. Drive west, park just east of the signal at Sacramento Street, MP 8.5. Large waders may be in the marshy area on the north side of the road. A Little Blue Heron was here in 1980. Continue west, turn right on Wilson Avenue and park. Walk to the water's edge, check mudflats for shorebirds at ebbing tide, open Napa River for waterbirds. Continue west on SR-37.

Two large ponds, between MP 4-3.5 and 3.5-2.5 are shallow and may have extensive mudflats which can have thousands of shorebirds; larger waders can be anywhere. In fall phalaropes are sometimes here by the hundreds. Turn north on Skaggs Island Road near MP 1.5, drive slowly, stop often as the marsh on the east and the pond on the west can have many species. Don't cross the bridge - that is Navy property. On SR-37 again, park at Sonoma Creek bridge, MP 0.0, check the pond and creek.

Extensive tidal marsh south of the road, extending west from Napa River bridge, can have many birds. Watch the channels along the sides of the road also. If heading east, park at the sign "Mare Island 1/2 Mile", MP 6.5, and walk to the shallow pond to the east - be careful of the high-speed traffic.

CAUTION. Traffic is fast, can be heavy - use extreme care in starts, stops, turns!
Best birding: late summer-late spring; high ebbing tide is best. No facilities.

Birds: grebes, White (late summer) & Brown (rare) Pelican, Double-Crested Cormorant, Great Blue & Black-Crowned Night Heron, both egrets, American Bittern, White-Fronted Goose possible, many ducks in winter, Turkey Vulture, White-Tailed Kite, Red-Tailed, Rough-Legged & Ferruginous Hawk, Golden Eagle, Northern Harrier, Prairie Falcon & Merlin (rare), Kestrel, many shorebirds (Killdeer, Semipalmated & Black-Bellied Plover, Snowy & Golden Plover rare, Long-Billed Curlew, Willet, Greater & Lesser - uncommon - Yellowlegs, Red Knot, Pectoral & Baird's Sandpiper uncommon, Least & Western Sandpiper, Dunlin, Long-Billed Dowitcher, Marbled Godwit, Sanderling, American Avocet, Black-Necked Stilt, Red - rare - & Northern Phalarope), several gulls, terns (Forster's, Common, Elegant, Caspian, sometimes Least, Black), Band-Tailed Pigeon, Short-Eared Owl, Belted Kingfisher, swallows, Marsh Wren, Water Pipit, Loggerhead Shrike, Western Meadowlark, Red-Winged & Brewer's Blackbird, several sparrows.

* * * * *

AN ORIOLE FEEDER??? by Jimm Edgar.

Three years ago we purchased an oriole feeder as Northern Orioles were continually hanging upside down on the little hummingbird feeder. The summer visitors from Costa Rica quickly found the new feeder which made feeding much easier and as many as fourteen orioles have been waiting in the peach tree to get to the nectar.

From our window one evening I saw a male oriole and a Black-Headed Grosbeak sharing the feeder then a Nuttall's Woodpecker displaced the grosbeak. An Allen's Hummer then came but the resident Anne's quickly chased him away. Two Wrentits were next with plenty of orioles waiting. A Red-Winged Blackbird sat nearby though we have never seen him come to the sugar water. Will he be next at our oriole feeder??

* * * * *

MT. DIABLO AUDUBON SOCIETY
P. O. Box 53
Walnut Creek, CA 94596

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BULLETIN OF THE MT. DIABLO AUDUBON SOCIETY
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(415) AUD-UBON

Pres.: Jimm Edgar
3611 Chestnut St.
Lafayette, CA 94549
283-3510 283-6969

November 1982
Vol. 29, No. 4
Next deadline: November 10

Meeting: Thurs., Nov. 4. Doors open 6:30 pm. Birdinformation: 7:00; business: 7:30; social time: 8:00; program: 8:30. Women's Club, 1224 Lincoln Ave., Walnut Creek. The public is cordially invited to attend.

Field Trips: TRIPS OPEN, members, non-members alike; bring binocs, lunch, field guide. RAIN on trip day? Call leader--trip may be cancelled or put off a week. Carpool TIME is departure time. Carpool EXPENSE: 5¢ per mile per rider suggested; entry fees or tolls shared equally by driver, riders.

Sat., Nov. 6, 8:30 am, Tennessee Valley; carpool: Pleasant Hill Rd. just north of Fwy 24, 7:30. Carry lunch. Leader: Jean Richmond (837-2843).

Wed., Nov. 10, 8:30 am, Mt. View Sanitary District and Waterfront Rd. Leaders: Irene & Erling Hellekson (229-1837). Note date change.

Thurs., Nov. 18, 8:45 am, Sears Point Rd. area; carpool: Pleasant Hill Rd. just north of Fwy 24, 8:00. Leader: Jimm Edgar (283-3510). Note changes.

Sat., Nov. 20, 9:00 am, Palo Alto Baylands; carpool: El Cerro Blvd. at I-680, Danville, 7:30. Leader: Maury Stern (284-5980).

Sat.-Sun., Dec. 4-5, Sacramento Valley refuges. Make motel reservations now—see October issue. Leaders: Betty & Harry Adamson (283-2164).

Board Meeting: Thurs., Nov. 11, 7:30 pm, home of Marjorie Plant, 1940 Kingridge Ct., Walnut Creek; 934-1093. Board meetings are always open to members.

BIRDINFORMATION, "Backyard Sanctuary" by Leslie Benn, will explain the National Wildlife Federation sanctuary program, the Benns' garden and how to plan a backyard sanctuary. The PROGRAM, "The Ohlone Indians", will be by Malcolm Margolin, a former Regional Park Ranger who has published two books about the Ohlone Indians.

TENNESSEE VALLEY, a new area for us, is an easy 2-mile walk to Tennessee Beach thru meadows, along creeks, a lagoon, and some chaparral, with a variety of birds of several habitats, possibly a vagrant or two. From US-101 north of Sausalito take the Stinson Beach exit (SR-1) west ½ mile, turn left on Tennessee Valley Road to the parking lot at the end of the road. Carry lunch, wear layered clothing,

At MT. VIEW SANITARY DISTRICT and WATERFRONT ROAD are waterbirds, shorebirds, some landbirds. Take Pacheco Blvd. exit off I-680 in Martinez, go east on Arthur Rd. a few blocks to a sharp right turn, follow signs left to Mt. View Sanitary District.

In SEARS POINT ROAD area, also new for us, are many waterbirds, shorebirds, landbirds. Cross Benicia Bridge, go north on I-780, east on I-80, west on SR-37 a mile to Fairgrounds Dr., turn left to the Solano County Fairgrounds entrance. We will first bird nearby Lake Chabot then go west on Sears Point Rd.

At PALO ALTO BAYLANDS are waterfowl, shorebirds, gulls, hopefully including Eurasian Wigeon, Blue-winged Teal, Thayer's Gull. Along Frontage Road we will look for Short-Eared Owl. Cross Dumbarton Bridge to US-101, go south to Embarcadero Road, east to the Yacht Harbor and meet at the east end of the duck pond on the left.

* * * * *

Remember our CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT December 18. ANYONE HAVE A BOAT (or a friend who does) who can take a couple of counters along the river portion of our CBC circle? Contact compiler Kent Fickett, 5270 Concord Blvd., Concord 94521; 798-7421.

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FIELD TRIP REPORTS.

The walk to ABBOTT'S LAGOON on September 25 was made by six members on a clearing, warm, and windy day. Found were Sooty Shearwaters, a large falcon, and Snowy Plovers among these 67 species seen or heard:

Arctic Loon, Eared & Pied-Billed Grebe, Sooty Shearwater, Brown Pelican, Double-Crested Cormorant, Great Blue Heron, Great Egret, Black-Crowned Night Heron, Mallard, Gadwall, Pintail, Cinnamon Teal, Amer Wigeon, scaup sp, Surf Scoter, Ruddy Duck, Turkey Vulture, White-Tailed Kite, accipiter sp, Red-Tailed & Red-Shouldered Hawk, falcon sp, Amer Kestrel, Calif Quail, Amer Coot, Semipalmated & Snowy Plover, Killdeer, Spotted Sandpiper, Willet, Dunlin, West Sandpiper, Marbled Godwit, Sanderling, West, Calif, Ring-Billed & Heermann's Gull, Forster's & Elegant Tern, Band-Tailed Pigeon, Belted Kingfisher, Acorn Woodpecker, Black Phoebe, Violet-Green, Tree & Barn Swallow, Steller's & Scrub Jay, Com Raven, Com Crow, Bewick's & Marsh Wren, Amer Robin, Starling, Yellow Warbler, West Meadowlark, Red-Winged & Brewer's Blackbird, Black-Headed Grosbeak, House Finch, Amer Goldfinch, Savannah, White-Crowned, Golden-Crowned & Song Sparrow.

At LINCOLN PARK on September 29 it was clear and warm with variable wind. Twelve members and guests found a good assortment of species but no vagrants (Black-and-White Warbler, American Redstart were seen September 27) among these 41 species:

Brown Pelican, cormorant sp, Surf Scoter, Red-Tailed Hawk, Amer Kestrel, Calif Quail, West & Heermann's Gull, Caspian Tern, Rock & Mourning Dove, Anna's Hummingbird, Com Flicker, Black & Say's Phoebe, West Flycatcher, West Wood Pewee, Scrub Jay, Com Raven, Chestnut-Backed Chickadee, Bushtit, Pygmy Nuthatch, Brown Creeper, Ruby-Crowned Kinglet, Hutton's Vireo, Orange-Crowned, Yellow, "Myrtle", "Audubon's", Townsend's & Wilson's Warbler, House Sparrow, Purple & House Finch, Lesser Goldfinch, Rufous-Sided & Brown Towhee, Dark-Eyed Junco, White-Crowned, Golden-Crowned, Fox & Song Sparrow.

The PT. REYES trip October 9 was made by ten members on a clear, warm day with some wind. Found were 6 Pectoral Sandpipers, Willow & Dusky Flycatchers, Black-Throated Blue, Palm (4) & Blackpoll Warblers, and TREE SPARROW among these 109 species:

Com & Arctic Loon, Horned, Eared, West & Pied-Billed Grebe, Brown Pelican, Dbl-Crested, Brandt's & Pelagic Cormorant, Great Blue Heron, Great Egret, Black-Crowned Night Heron, Cinnamon Teal, White-Winged, Surf & Black Scoter, Ruddy Duck, Turkey Vulture, White-Tailed Kite, Sharp-Shinned, Cooper's, Red-Tailed & Red-Shouldered Hawk, Northern Harrier, Amer Kestrel, Calif Quail, Virginia Rail, Sora, Amer Coot, Black Oystercatcher, Semipalmated Plover, Killdeer, Black-Bellied Plover, Black Turnstone, Com Snipe, Willet, Greater Yellowlegs, Pectoral & Least Sandpiper, Long-Billed Dowitcher, West Sandpiper, Marbled Godwit, Sanderling, Glaucous-Winged, West, Calif, Ring-Billed & Heermann's Gull, Com Murre, Pigeon Guillemot, Band-Tailed Pigeon, Rock & Mourning Dove, Anna's Hummingbird, Com Flicker, Acorn Woodpecker, Red-Breasted Sapsucker, Downy & Nuttall's Woodpecker, Black & Say's Phoebe, Willow, Dusky & West Flycatcher, Horned Lark, Barn Swallow, Steller's & Scrub Jay, Com Raven, Com Crow, Wren Tit, Marsh & Rock Wren, Amer Robin, Hermit & Swainson's Thrush, West Bluebird, Golden-Crowned & Ruby-Crowned Kinglet, Cedar Waxwing, Starling, Orange-Crowned, Black-Throated Blue, "Myrtle", "Audubon's", Black-Throated Gray, Townsend's, Blackpoll, Palm & Wilson's Warbler, House Sparrow, West Meadowlark, Red-Winged, Tricolored & Brewer's Blackbird, Brown-Headed Cowbird, Purple & House Finch, Pine Siskin, Amer & Lesser Goldfinch, Savannah & Lark Sparrow, Dark-Eyed Junco, TREE, White-Crowned, Golden-Crowned, & Song SPARROW.

At RODEO LAGOON and PT. DIABLO on October 13 it was clear and warm with light wind. Most birds were more usual species, but we had excellent hawk study with info from Steve Bailey's presentation in September. Ten members tallied these 61 species:

Pied-Billed Grebe, Brown Pelican, Dbl-Crested Cormorant, Great Blue Heron, Great & Snowy Egret, Black-Crowned Night Heron, Mallard, Amer Wigeon, Ring-Necked Duck, Canvasback, Ruddy Duck, Turkey Vulture, Sharp-Shinned, Cooper's & Red-Tailed Hawk, Northern Harrier, Amer Kestrel, Calif Quail, Virginia Rail, Com Gallinule, Amer Coot, Com Snipe, Willet, Glaucous-Winged, West, Ring-Billed & Heermann's Gull, Band-Tailed Pigeon, Rock Dove, Vaux's & White-Throated Swift, Anna's Hummingbird, Belted Kingfisher, Com Flicker, Black & Say's Phoebe, West Flycatcher, Violet-Green Swallow, Scrub Jay, Bushtit, Wren Tit, Bewick's & Marsh Wren, Hermit & Swainson's Thrush, Ruby-Crowned Kinglet, Starling, Orange-Crowned, "Myrtle" & "Audubon's" Warbler, Red-Winged Blackbird, Purple & House Finch, Lesser Goldfinch, Rufous-Sided Towhee, Chipping, White-Crowned, Golden-Crowned, Fox & Song Sparrow.

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THANKS to long-time MDAS member EVELYN MANN our chapter files are now complete. She sent her copy of the missing issue, July 1957, which we had duplicated then returned to her with our sincere gratitude.

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ARTS DRAWING FOR MONO LAKE will be 6 pm November 19 at REI Coop in Berkeley. Grand prize, an elegant blue-white-gray wool tapestry depicting Mono's tufa towers, is on display at Sierra Designs in Berkeley. Other prizes, all donated, include a water-color, a color photo, various objects of brass, ceramics, wood, etc. Virtually all monies go to Mono Lake (this is an all-volunteer effort) to help pay expenses in the battle to save Mono Lake. Tickets are still available: Gen Sattler (685-5315), Suzanne Luther-Methvin (376-9422), Sierra Club offices in Oakland, S.F. The real prize to win is water for the lake!! Contribute what you can - it all adds up!!!

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Western Education Center's HOLIDAY SALE at BOOK NEST will be November 3-December 23. Many NAS gift catalog items will be available at 30-80% discounts. Also, all NAS Field Guides, reg. \$12.50, sale \$6.95; 50 Encyclopedia of NA Birds, reg. \$60, sale \$39.95; all Bushnell binocs, scopes, reg. 20% off list, sale 30% off list. The Center, at 376 Greenwood Beach Rd., Tiburon, will be closed November 25-26.

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A Bureau of Land Management WATER POLICY CHANGE could block wildlife from water on public lands, the Wildlife Management Institute has charged. Ranchers could have, or be co-holders of, water rights developed for livestock on BLM land, thus water needed by wildlife may be owned by commercial interests. This would destroy the multiple-use on government lands and give special interests total control over a vital resource. About 200 million acres of public range is involved.

Many ramifications of this policy are already apparent. In some states, water-right holders can transfer their rights to other parts of the state. Wildlife could be left without water, and BLM could do nothing about it. Rangelands could be rendered useless to livestock, fish and wildlife due to lack of water. Also, the policy might pit wealthy livestock owners against other livestockmen, federal and state agencies, hunters, and other recreational groups, WMI charges.

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The Corps of Engineers is going to CREATE A MARSH on Maryland's eastern shore in an innovative project. The Corps will create 56 acres of wetlands on Barren Island with 180,000 cubic yards of material dredged from a deep channel in Tar Bay. This has a triple purpose: environmentally safe disposal of large amounts of dredge spoils; creation of valuable wetland habitat; alleviation of erosion in that area.

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FOSTER CHICKS. At Gray's Lake NWR, Idaho, where scientists have put Whooping Crane eggs in Sandhill Crane nests, 5 of those hatched this spring survived the summer. With 10 others from earlier seasons of this experiment aimed at establishing a second wild flock, this means that as many as 15 cranes began migrating south.

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CLASSES and EXCURSIONS -- your editor has more details.

The World's Wildlands: Unique Ecosystems, Nov. 13-14, UC Davis; lectures, slides, films; challenging adventures, base of concern for future of wild places; keynoted by Galen Rowell; \$25 (\$5, Galen Rowell's "In Wildest Tibet" only). Info/reg (payable to Regents of Univ. of Calif.): Univ. Extension, Univ. of Calif., Davis, CA 95616. Advance tickets for Keynote only: UCD Campus Boxoffice or any Ticketron.

Natural Excursions (NAS/PRBO). West Coast of Mexico by Boat, birds & whales, Dec. 26-Jan. 1, Ron LeValley, \$985+ airfare. Info/reg: 4990 Shoreline Hwy, Stinson Beach, CA 94970; 868-1221.

Considering a birding tour vacation? Your editor has info on excellent companies recommended by satisfied MDAS participants. Tours fill early, make plans soon!

RICHARDSON BAY SANCTUARY ACTIVITIES. Sundays, bird walks in the Sanctuary, 9 am & 1 pm; nature films, 3:30 pm; Lyford House & Gallery, 1-4 pm. Backyard Birds, Nov. 21, 2:30. Info: Meryl Sundove, 376 Greenwood Beach Rd., Tiburon 94920; 388-2524.

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SUBSCRIBERS please note that there will be a RATE INCREASE for "The Quail" to \$6.00 per year, effective December 1, 1982.

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OBSERVATIONS, September 16-October 13. Also see field trip reports.

Red-Necked Grebe, 8, still red on neck, Drake's Boh, PRNS, Sept. 19--EH, JH, BC, EG. Northern Fulmar, 2, Monterey Bay (MBay), Sept. 22--m.ob. Flesh-Footed Shearwater, 4, MBay, Sept. 22--m.ob; 1 there, Oct. 3--JE, et al. SHORT-TAILED SHEARWATER, MBay, Oct. 3--JE, et al; 2 there Oct. 10--EH, BC, et al. STREAKED SHEARWATER, MBay, Sept. 26--BR, JG, et al. Shearwaters, many 1,000's, 4 sp, MBay, Sept. 22--m.ob.

Least Storm-Petrel, 2, MBay, Sept. 26--BR, JG et al. Wilson's Storm-Petrel, MBay, Sept. 26, Oct. 3--BR, JG, JE, et al. RED-BILLED TROPICBIRD, MBay, Oct. 10--RSt, et al. Pelagic Cormorant, 2, Bay Bridge Toll Plaza (BETP), Oct. 30--BR. "Black" Brant, Bodega Bay, Sept. 18--JR, FB. Black Scoter, 2-5, Fish Docks, PRNS, thru period--m.ob.

Red-Shouldered Hawk, Lighthouse, PRNS, Sept. 19, RH, et al; over Alamo, Sept. 19--JR; Pt Isabel, Oct. 1--JE. Ferruginous Hawk, Mendoza Reh, PRNS, Oct. 7--KH, et al. Merlin, PRNS, Sept. 25-Oct. 5--m.ob.

Lesser Golden Plover, 5, Abbott's Lagoon, PRNS, Sept. 19--EH, JH, BC, EG. Lesser Yellowlegs, Mendoza Reh, Sept. 25--JR, FB.

Factorial Sandpiper, 3, Sears Pt Rd/SR-29, Sept. 18--JR, FB; Hall Reh, PRNS, Sept. 19--EH, JH, BC, EG; 2, Crespi Pond, Pacific Grove, Sept. 21--JR, BR, et al; 3-5, Mendoza Reh, Sept. 25-Oct. 9--FB, JR, m.ob; 2, Doolittle Pond, Alameda, Sept. 26--MJ&GM; 1, BETP, Oct. 3--BR; 8+, Nunes Reh, PRNS, Oct. 5-9--JR, BF, AM, BP, m.ob. Baird's Sandpiper, Abbott's Lagoon, Sept. 19--EH, JH, BC, EG. STILT SANDPIPER, Mendoza Reh, Sept. 28--JRo, JR, BF, et al; & Oct. 12--RBA.

Pomarine Jaeger, 3, Bodega Head, Sept. 18--JR, FB. Parasitic Jaeger, 8, Bodega Head, Sept. 18--JR, FB. LONG-TAILED JAEGER, 3-4, MBay, Sept. 22--m.ob. South Polar Skua, 50+, MBay, Sept. 22--m.ob; 1 there, Sept. 26, Oct. 3--BR, JG, JE, m.ob. Marbled Murrelet, Drake's Boh, Sept. 19--EH, JH, BC, EG. XANTUS' MURRELET, both races, MBay, Oct. 3--JE, et al. GRAVERI'S MURRELET, 30-40, MBay, Sept. 18--RBA. ANCIENT MURRELET, 2, Bodega Head, Sept. 18--JR, FB.

Vaux's Swift, Bodega Hwy east of Bodega Bay Sept. 18--FB, JR; 20, Pt. Diablo, Oct. 12--JR, BF, et al. EASTERN KINGBIRD, Fish Docks, Sept. 19-20, SCVAS, et al. LEAST FLYCATCHER, Lighthouse, Sept. 28--JRo, JR, BF, et al. Hammond's Flycatcher, Lighthouse, Sept. 19--RH, et al. Blue-Gray Gnatcatcher, Pt. Diablo, Oct. 12--JR. Golden-Crowned Kinglet, 3, Las Trampas Pk, Oct. 13--KH.

Black-&-White Warbler, ♀, Lincoln Pk, SF, Sept. 27--WO, ED, MO; Tilden Pk boardwalk, Oct. 5--NB, et al. PROTHONOTARY WARBLER, Nunes Reh, Sept. 30--FW, et al. Tennessee Warbler, New Willows, PRNS, Oct. 5--AEn. NORTHERN PARULA, ♀, Fish Docks, Sept. 30-Oct. 7--RSt, JEv, JR, FB, m.ob. MAGNOLIA WARBLER, Fish Docks, Sept. 19--SCVAS, et al. BLACK-THROATED BLUE WARBLER, ♂, Nunes Reh, Oct. 2, 9-10--BA, FB, JR, m.ob.

Black-Throated Gray Warbler, 2, Mitchell Cyn, Oct. 4--WO, MO, EG. CHESTNUT-SIDED WARBLER, Fish Docks, Sept. 25--JR, BF, et al. BAY-BREADED WARBLER, Nunes Reh, Sept. 26--EH, JH; Fish Docks, Oct. 5--JR. Blackpoll Warbler, 1-2, Lighthouse, Sept. 18-Oct. 2--m.ob; Mendoza Reh, Sept. 28--JR; Fish Docks, Oct. 5--JR. Palm Warbler, 1-3, Fish Docks, Sept. 26-Oct. 12--m.ob; Earthquake Trail, PRNS, Oct. 7--KH, et al; 1-3, Nunes Reh, Oct. 9-12--m.ob. American Redstart, ♂, Lincoln Pk, Sept. 27--WO, ED, MO.

ORCHARD ORIOLE, ♀, her Alamo garden, Sept. 26--JR. SUMMER Tanager, ♂, Lighthouse, Oct. 2--TB, JG, SW, GH, FB, JR. Blue Grosbeak, New Willows, Sept. 19--RH, et al. TREE SPARROW, Road Forks Pool, PRNS, Oct. 5--AEn, GH, JR, BF, AM, BP; Nunes Reh, Oct. 9-10--m.ob. Fox Sparrow, her Alamo garden, Sept. 19 (early)--JR. YELLOW WAGTAIL, Crespi Pond, Sept. 12--JD, et al.

First reported fall arrivals: White-Crowned Sparrow, her Walnut Creek garden, Sept. 18--WO. Golden-Crowned Sparrow, her garden, Sept. 25--WO. Cedar Waxwing, her Walnut Creek apartment grounds, Sept. 26--FB.

Dolphins, several species, MBay, during period--m.ob. Dolphin sp., 24+, Lighthouse, Oct. 5--JR, BF, BP. BLUE WHALE, 2, near boat, MBay, Oct. 10--EH, BC, m.ob. Humpback whale, several, thru period, MBay--m.ob. ORCA, 2-3, MBay, Sept. 22, Oct. 2--m.ob.

OBSERVERS: Bev Anderson, Norah Bain, Florence Bennett, Tony Briggs, Bill Chilson, Elizabeth Dickey, Jon Dunn, Andy Englis, Jimm Edgar, Jules Evens, Bobbie Gillis, Ed Greaves, Jeff Greenhouse, Kevin Hintsa, Ralph Hudgins, George Eugenberg, Alice Mericourt, Molly Jane & George Monheit, Marilyn O'Connor, Winnie Croutt, Bill Pursell, Bob Richmond, Jean Richmond, Jim Royer, Santa Clara Valley Aud Soc, Rich Stalloup, Peter White, Steve Wilson, NoCal Rare Bird Alert, many observers.

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MAY MONO LAKE SURVIVE!!! See page 3 - Arts Drawing for Mono Lake.

We extend warm greetings to these new members of MDAS and hope to meet them at our meetings and on field trips:

Antioch: Donna Mitchell; Concord: Roy W. Belcher, Jr., William Lindsey; Danville: William Fuel; Lafayette: the Gibsons; Martinez: Louise Robinson; San Ramon: Mr. W. K. Nielsen; Walnut Creek: Richard J. Clarkson, Mrs. Lillian S. MacNeill, Debbie Durr Madrid.

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CONSERVATION NEWS by Al McNabney.

What's What With Watt??? James Watt, controversial Secretary of Interior, took his lumps again, this time before House and Senate committees over environmental issues. The House Interior Committee (Strip Mining in National Parks) and the Senate Subcommittee on Energy Conservation and Supply (offshore oil development). Strip mining could involve 26 national parks, Bryce Canyon NP and Dinosaur National Monument among them. The issue of strip-mining involves allowance of such activity on the thousands of acres of "inholdings" of private lands within many national parks.

Watt's proposal to open virtually the entire continental shelf to oil/gas drilling in the next 5 years - less than 3% has been leased in the 28 years of the program - brought strong comment from Senator Howard M. Metzenbaum of Ohio who charged the proposal is a giveaway that would lease tracts at "bargain basement prices" to big oil companies and squeeze out small ones. Senator Bill Bradley of New Jersey questioned the environmental protection of such a huge program. New Jersey, Alaska and California have challenged the program in court, fearing damage to fisheries.

Clean Air - to be or not to be. A vote will soon be taken in the Senate which could strengthen the Clean Air Act. Audubon national leaders call on members to LET YOUR SENATORS KNOW how individuals feel about having clean air. Several bills are under consideration, some of which are supported by opponents of an effective Clean Air Act. A solid victory in the Senate will give heart to members of the House when consideration of the measures comes before them. Write NOW, or phone the senator's office. Urge our senators to become co-sponsors of the Environment and Public Works Committee's bill to amend the Clean Air Act.

30 Birds Today - Tomorrow? Audubon has called on the Calif. Fish and Game Commission, in an "urgent" request, that the plan of tracking the California Condor (there are now less than 30 of them) be implemented quickly. Without the tracking program scientists cannot answer critical questions re these birds' habits and habitat.

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TWO WELCOME ACTIONS. Optimists feel the Administration is beginning to get the environmental message, cynics say it is an attempt to improve an unpopular image for election day, but two recent actions deserve the approval of conservationists. The Surface Mining Control Act of 1977 requiring restoration of strip-mined farmlands to their original productivity, effective this summer, had been blocked by Interior Secretary James Watt. Secretary of Agriculture John R. Block opposed Watt and he finally won the day. The regulations - to protect 48 million acres overlying 22 billion tons of coal - will become effective April 3, 1983.

The Environmental Protection Agency reversed its stand on regulations designed to gradually reduce the amount of lead in gasoline. Lead has long been known to be a threat to human health and a cause of birth defects and of mental retardation in children. The chief source of lead poisoning, formerly thought to be lead-based paint, is leaded gas. New EPA proposals would step up the pace of lead reduction restrictions. Despite a few possible loopholes, the regulations would bring a substantial improvement in air quality.

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THE QUAIL, published monthly except a combined July-August issue, is sent without additional charge to National Audubon Society members in Mt. Diablo chapter. To join NAS: \$25 per year, family \$32, others available; check payable to National Audubon Society, to Membership Chairman, MDAS, P O Box 53, Walnut Creek, CA 94596. Address change (send also to NAS): Mrs. Winnie Orcutt, 30 Iris Ln., Walnut Creek, CA 94595. Change of chapter affiliation is only upon specific request by member. Subscription: \$4 per year, payable to Mt. Diablo Audubon Society, to Treasurer, F. G. Bennett, P O Box 5428, Walnut Creek, CA 94596. See notice page 3. First class mailing in envelope: \$2.25 per year, payable to Mt. Diablo Audubon Society, to Treasurer, address above.

Jean Richmond, Editor, 125 Via Serena, Alamo, CA 94507; 837-2843
(Exchange bulletins for MDAS to this address, please.)

The Richmonds send best wishes to all of you for a very HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

GREATER BAY AREA SITE GUIDE: Laguna Lake.

Access: From SR-1 just south of Tomales, go east 5 miles on Tomales-Petaluma Road, turn right on Chileno Valley Road about 7 miles to the lake. (Look for Ferruginous Hawk near MP 0260, 3 miles west of the lake.) Laguna Lake is an excellent birding spot on the way home from Bodega Bay. The lake may dry up in summer.

Stop at the several turnouts along the edge of this large, shallow lake. A scope is helpful as the upper arm of the lake extends some distance north from the road. Check the trees and bushes on the south side of the road for woodland species.

Continue east 3 miles on Chileno Valley Road, then turn right 3 miles on Marshall-Petaluma Road, left 3 miles on Wilson Hill Road, right 1/4 mile on Pt. Reyes-Petaluma Road, left on Novato Boulevard 8-9 miles to US-101 and your favorite route home.

No facilities in this area.

Birds: grebes, mostly Pied-Billed, Double-Crested Cormorant, Great Blue Heron, both egrets, many - sometimes thousands - ducks in winter (Mallard, Gadwall, Pintail, Green-Winged & Cinnamon Teal, American Wigeon, Redhead, many Ring-Necked, Canvas-back, both scaups, Common Goldeneye, Bufflehead, Ruddy), Turkey Vulture, Red-Tailed & Ferruginous (rare but regular) Hawks, Northern Harrier, Kestrel, California Quail, Killdeer, Common Snipe, Greater Yellowlegs (Lesser Yellowlegs, Solitary, Pectoral & Baird's Sandpipers have been seen in migration), Bonaparte's Gull, Black & Say's Phoebes, several swallows, Robin, thrushes, Western Bluebird, Loggerhead Shrike, Western Meadowlark, Red-Winged & Brewer's Blackbirds, Pine Siskin, American & Lesser Goldfinches, Brown Towhee, Dark-Eyed Junco, several sparrows.

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We would like DONATIONS of BIRD SLIDES of common and uncommon species - anything on our new field list - for use in Birdinformation, programs, talks before community groups, etc. Contact Norah Bain, 32 Via Farallon, Orinda 94563; 254-4516. Thanks!

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OLIVE BRANCH ACCEPTED. In an article some weeks ago, on the Op-Ed page of the Washington Post, Chris Palmer of NAS' Washington, DC, staff declared: "Environmental groups are not perfect." Too often we have been rigid in our negotiations with industry, he wrote. We should be more understanding of business problems and needs and be more willing to work cooperatively to achieve common goals, he added.

An article headed "Business Isn't Perfect, Either" appeared on the Op-Ed page in September, signed by Louis Fernandez, vice chairman of the Monsanto Company. He said the business community likewise often has been guilty of an uncompromising attitude in such dealings, and more businessmen should recognize "that, in fact, our interests do intersect; industry could not long prosper in a poisoned environment." He welcomed Palmer's "olive branch," and called for more understanding and cooperation on both sides. (Audubon Leader)

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EAGLE POSTER. To commemorate the Year of the Eagle - 1982 is the 200th anniversary of the choice of the Bald Eagle as our national bird - NAS is issuing a 17x22-inch poster of an eagle soaring above an Alaskan mountainside. Reproduced from an oil painting by John Pitcher, Alaskan wildlife artist, copies are available at \$5 each from May Green, National Audubon Society, 950 Third Ave., New York, NY 10022.

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Pocket-sized, 74-page ALL YEAR BIRDING in SOUTHERN NEW JERSEY by the late James F. Akers, an authority on the region, has been published by Atlantic Audubon Society. The book, which includes Cape May and Brigantine NWR, has maps, charts and other information on when and where to see birds. Send \$4 (includes postage, handling) to Atlantic Audubon Society, P O Box 63, Absecon, NJ 14850.

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MT. DIABLO AUDUBON SOCIETY
P. O. Box 53
Walnut Creek, CA 94596

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The QUAIL

BULLETIN OF THE MT. DIABLO AUDUBON SOCIETY
P. O. BOX 53
WALNUT CREEK, CALIFORNIA 94596
(415) AUD-UBON

Pres.: Jimm Edgar
3611 Chestnut St.
Lafayette, CA 94549
283-3510 283-6969

December 1982
Vol. 29, No. 5

Next deadline: December 6

Meeting: Thurs., Dec. 2. Doors open 6:30 pm. Birdinformation, 7:00; business, 7:30; social time, 8:00; program, 8:30. Women's Club, 1224 Lincoln Ave., Walnut Creek. The public is cordially invited to attend.

Field Trips: TRIPS OPEN, members, non-members alike; bring binocs, lunch, field guide. RAIN on trip day? Call leader - trip may be cancelled or put off a week. Carpool TIME is departure time. Carpool EXPENSE: 5¢ per mile per rider suggested; entry fees or tolls shared equally by driver, riders.
Sat.-Sun., Dec. 4-5, 9 am each day, Sacramento Valley refuges. Leaders: Betty & Harry Adamson (283-2164). Motel info in October issue.
Wed., Dec. 8, 8:30 am, Alameda Creek Quarries Park (Niles Cyn); carpool: El Cerro Blvd. at I-680, Danville, 7:45. Leader: Jimm Edgar (283-3510).
Thurs., Dec. 30, 9:00 am, Lake Merritt; carpool: Pleasant Hill Rd. just north of Fwy 24, 8:15. Leader: Winnie Croutt (944-0593).

CHRISTMAS COUNT: Sat., Dec. 18, rain or shine; compiler: Kent Fickett, 5270 Concord Blvd., Concord 94521; 798-7421. If he is out, you reach a tape machine. PLEASE leave name, phone - he will call you. All are welcome, novice to expert.

Board Meeting: Thurs., Dec. 9, 7:30 pm, home of Jimm Edgar, 3611 Chestnut St., Lafayette; 283-3510. Board meetings are always open to members.

BIRDINFORMATION, a discussion by compiler Kent Fickett about the Christmas Count, will be of interest whether or not you take part in our CBC. The **PROGRAM**, a slide presentation of flora and fauna of "East Bay Hiking Trails," will be by Bob Doyle. Bob, who grew up locally, is Trails Coordinator for the Regional Park District.

At **SACRAMENTO VALLEY REFUGES** are thousands of waterfowl including Ross' Geese and hopefully Eurasian Wigeon. On Saturday meet in the first parking lot by Gray Lodge WMA headquarters: north via I-680, I-80, SR-113, SR-99 to Live Oak, follow signs on Pennington Rd.; on Sunday, in parking lot west of Sacramento NWR visitor center: I-680, I-80, I-505, I-5 to Norman Rd. beyond Williams then north on old highway 2 miles, turn right into the refuge. Allow about 2½ hours travel. If unable to go both days, drive up for either. Dinner Saturday in Willows, 6:30, place not set.

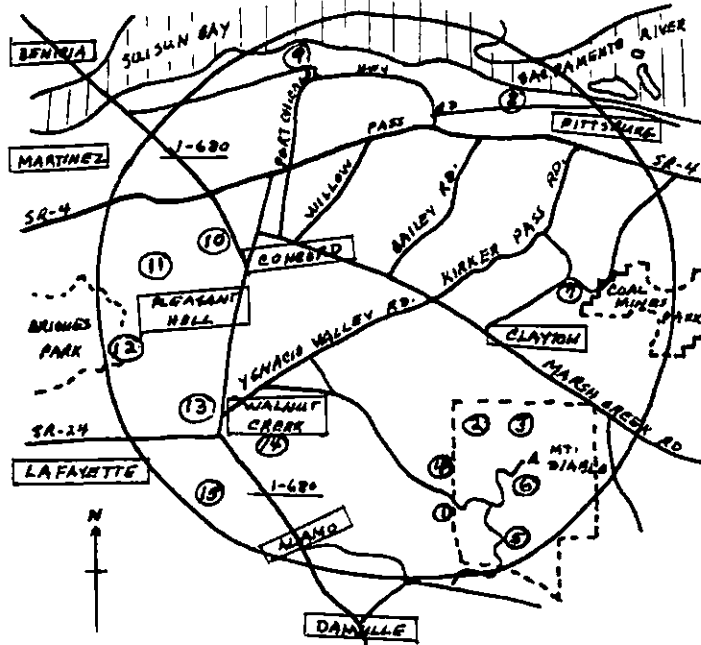
At **ALAMEDA CREEK QUARRIES** are varied habitats, many species including waterbirds, Green Heron, Ring-Necked Duck, Spotted Sandpiper, landbirds. Take I-680 south 9 miles past Dublin, right 7 miles on SR-84, right into Vallejo Mill Historic Park.

LAKE MERRITT is excellent for studying grebes, waterfowl, gulls. Here in winter are Barrow's Goldeneye, sometimes Hooded Merganser, Tufted Duck. Park in the lot between boat dock and aviary, meet by the aviary for a leisurely lakeside walk.

* * * * *

The object of our **CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT** is to find as many birds as possible within our 15-mile-diameter circle centered near Cowell/Ygnacio Valley Roads intersection. Our earlier average of 125 species is improving with better coverage and 150 is not impossible. Last Year 79 observers found 140 species, 41,497 individuals.

We welcome inexperienced as well as more expert, and counters at feeders/gardens in our circle - Kent has instructions. Any special birds staked out, alert Kent ahead of time. COST is \$1.50 per participant, MDAS will pay for students if necessary.



TERRITORIES

1. Pine Canyon
2. Mitchell Canyon
3. Donner Canyon
4. Mt. Diablo - North Gate area
5. Mt. Diablo - South Gate area
6. Mt. Diablo - summit
7. Nortonville/Somersville area
8. North county marshes - east
9. North county marshes - west
10. Diablo Valley College area
11. Central County area
12. Briones Hills
13. Reliez Valley
14. Walnut Creek
15. Rosamoor/Tice Valley

Contact Kent as soon as possible and tell him which area you would prefer to work. If you have no preference he will assign you to the team most in need of people.

5270 Concord Blvd., Concord 94521
798-7421

If you find a bird RARE in our area, write down all details, preferably before consulting field guides; contact Kent as soon as possible - rarities must be confirmed. Consult "Birds of Northern California" if uncertain of the status of any species.

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. When and where seen and by whom | 5. Habitat. |
| 2. Field marks actually seen (size, shape, color, pattern, etc.) | 6. Distance from observer. |
| 3. Voice, if heard. | 7. Optical equipment used. |
| 4. Behavior. | 8. Lighting, weather. |
| | 9. Familiarity with that and similar species. |

During our COUNT PERIOD, Dec. 15-21, if you see in our CBC area a species uncommon or rare here get details to Kent quickly. These sightings go in our report to National Audubon Society which will be published in American Birds next July.

Come to the post-count POTLUCK/COUNTDOWN whether or not you work the CBC, learn of the day's events and preliminary report. Dinner is 6:30 at Foothill Intermediate School, 2775 Cedro Ln., Walnut Creek (0.4 mile south of Ignacio Valley Rd. on Nigt Ln. or Oak Grove Rd. to Cedro Ln.). No need to change as birding clothes are fine. Bring utensils, dishes, serving spoon; food for AT LEAST 4-5 times the number in your family coming. Tea, coffee, punch provided. Sign up at the meeting or call Mary Jane Culver, 682-0509, or Ruth Stewart, 671-7226, preferably by December 12, as to what you will bring and how many attending. Come at 6:00 for HOT BEVERAGE - chocolate, coffee, tea - and warm up before dinner.

OTHER CBC DATES - your editor has details. Dec. 18 (our date): Clear Lake (Redbud), PRBO; Dec. 19: Oakland (Golden Gate), Crystal Springs (Sequoia), San Jose (Santa Clara Valley), Santa Rosa (RRS), Putah Creek (Davis); Dec. 21: HONEY LAKE, Mt. Hamilton; Dec. 25: Arroyo Cheap Thrills (near Novato); Dec. 26: Sacramento, Año Nuevo (Sequoia); Dec. 27: BENICIA (Napa-Solano); Dec. 28: Los Banos, Folsom; Dec. 30: Monterey Peninsula, Mono Lake, Woodfords; Jan. 1: South Marin; Jan. 2: Hayward-Fremont (Ohlone), West Sonoma (Madrona), Markleyville.

Napa-Solano wants help on the BENICIA CBC on Mon., Dec. 27. I will be working the Benicia SRA again, other MDASers will be in other areas. Contact me, 837-2843, for info. Let's help our neighbor - and rival - to properly cover their circle.

OFFICER CHANGES. Birdinformation Chairman is George Finger, 2371 Dapplegray Ln., Walnut Creek 94596; 933-2468. Contact him with topics of interest. Winnie Orcutt, 30 Iris Ln., Walnut Creek 94595, 944-0593, will act as our Treasurer, to replace Florence Bennett who will be transferred to Anaheim next month. We all hate to see you leave, Florence, but at least Southern California is lots closer than Houston!

SUBSCRIBERS, remember that the cost for The Quail is now \$6 per year.

FIELD TRIP REPORTS.

The MONTEREY WEEKEND October 23-24 was mostly clear, warm on Saturday, mostly overcast, cool on Sunday with a few light showers, calm both days. Seen were shearwaters, 2 Soras, 30+ Pectoral Sandpipers, Red Phalaropes, Parasitic Jaegers, Rhinoceros Auklet, Tropical Kingbird, 2 Black-& White and 1 Chestnut-Sided Warbler, White-Throated Sparrow, plus many Sea Otters. Twenty members tallied these 124 species:

Com & Red-Thr Loon, West & Pied-Billed Grebe, Pink-Footed & Sooty Shearwater, Brn Pelican, Dbl-Crested, Brandt's & Pelagic Cormorant, Great Blue Heron, Great & Snowy Egret, Black-Cr Night Heron, Mallard, Gr-Winged & Cinnamon Teal, Amer Wigeon, Nor Shoveler, Canvasback, Greater Scaup, White-Wing & Surf Scoter, Ruddy Duck, Red-Br Merganser, Turkey Vulture, Cooper's, Red-Tailed & Red-Shouldered Hawk, Nor Harrier, Amer Kestrel, Calif Quail, Sora, Amer Coot, Black Oystercatcher, Snowy Plover, Killdeer, Bl-Bellied Plover, Surfbird, Ruddy & Black Turnstone, Lg-Billed Curlew, Whimbrel, Spotted Sandpiper, Wandering Tattler, Willet, Greater Yellowlegs, Pectoral & Least Sandpiper, Dunlin, Sh-Billed Dowitcher, West Sandpiper, Marbled Godwit, Sanderling, Amer Avocet, Bl-Necked Stilt, Red & Northern Phalarope, Parasitic Jaeger, Gl-Winged, West, Herring, Calif, Rg-Billed, Mew, Bonaparte's & Heermann's Gull, Elegant & Caspian tern, Com Murre, Pigeon Guillemot, Rhinoceros Auklet, Rock & Mourning Dove, Anna's Hummer, Belted Kingfisher, Com Flicker, Acorn, Downy & Nuttall's Woodpecker, Tropical Kingbird, Black Phoebe, Horned Lark, Scrub Jay, Com Crow, Ch-Backed Chickadee, Bushtit, Pygmy Nuthatch, Wren, Winter, Bewick's & Marsh Wren, Mockingbird, Amer Robin, Hermit & Swainson's Thrush, Ruby-Cr Kinglet, Water Pipit, Starling, Black-&-white, Orange-Cr, "Myrtle", "Audubon's", Townsend's & Ch-Sided Warbler, Com Yellowthroat, House Sparrow, West Meadowlark, Red-Winged, Tricolored & Brewer's Blackbird, House Finch, Amer & Lesser Goldfinch, Rufous-Sided & Brown Towhee, Dark-Eyed Junco, Savannah, White-Cr, Golden-Cr, White-Thr, Fox, Lincoln's & Song Sparrow.

At ALAMEDA and SAN LEANDRO BAY on October 28 it was clear and warm, calm early then light wind after lunch. Our 17 members found 10 White Pelicans, Clapper Rail, Red Knots, 2 Red Phalaropes, Thayer's Gull, 2 Burrowing Owls, "Yellow-Shafted" Flicker among these 81 species seen or heard:

Red-Thr Loon, Horned, Eared, West & Pied-Billed Grebe, White & Brn Pelican, Dbl-Crested Cormorant, Great Blue Heron, Great & Snowy Egret, Mallard, Pintail, Amer Wigeon, Canvasback, Lesser Scaup, Bufflehead, Wh-Winged & Surf Scoter, Ruddy Duck, Turkey Vulture, Red-Tailed Hawk, Amer Kestrel, Clapper Rail, Amer Coot, Killdeer, Bl-Bellied Plover, Ruddy Turnstone, Lg-Billed Curlew, Willet, Red-Knot, Least Sandpiper, Dunlin, Sh-Billed & Lg-Billed Dowitcher, West Sandpiper, Marbled Godwit, Sanderling, Amer Avocet, Bl-Necked Stilt, Red Phalarope, Gl-Winged, West, Herring, Thayer's, Calif, Rg-Billed, Mew, Bonaparte's & Heermann's Gull, Forster's & Common Tern, Rock & Mourning Dove, Burrowing Owl, Anna's Hummingbird, "Yellow-Sh" Flicker, Black Phoebe, Horned Lark, Ch-Backed Chickadee, Bushtit, Mockingbird, Amer Robin, Hermit Thrush, Water Pipit, Cedar Waxwing, Loggerhead Shrike, Starling, Yellow-Rump Warbler, House Sparrow, West Meadowlark, Red-Wing & Brewer's Blackbird, House Finch, Amer & Lesser Goldfinch, Brn Towhee, Savannah, White-Cr, Golden-Cr & Song Sparrow.

The trip to TENNESSEE VALLEY on November 6 was made on a clear, warm, calm morning. The 24 members found Ring-Necked Duck, many Red-Tailed Hawks, Long-Eared Owl, Golden-Crowned Kinglet, and Lincoln's Sparrow among these 64 species seen or heard:

West & Pied-Billed Grebe, Brn Pelican, Dbl-Crested, Brandt's & Pelagic Cormorant, Mallard, Amer Wigeon, Rg-Necked Duck, Lesser Scaup, Surf Scoter, Red-Br Merganser, Turkey Vulture, Sharp-Shinned, Cooper's, Red-Tailed & Red-Shouldered Hawk, Nor Harrier, Amer Kestrel, Calif Quail, Amer Coot, Willet, Sanderling, Gl-Winged, West, Rg-Billed & Heermann's Gull, Com Murre, Band-Tailed Pigeon, Rock & Mourning Dove, Lg-Eared Owl, Anna's Hummingbird, Com Flicker, Downy Woodpecker, Black & Say's Phoebe, Scrub Jay, Com Raven, Ch-Backed Chickadee, Wren, Winter, Bewick's & Marsh Wren, Amer Robin, Hermit Thrush, Golden-Cr & Ruby-Cr Kinglet, Water Pipit, Loggerhead Shrike, Starling, "Audubon's" Warbler, West Meadowlark, Red-Winged Blackbird, House Finch, Pine Siskin, Amer Goldfinch, Brown Towhee, Dark-Eyed Junco, White-Crowned, Golden-Crowned, Fox, Lincoln's & Song Sparrow.

At MT. VIEW SANITARY DISTRICT, WATERFRONT ROAD, MARTINEZ SHORELINE on November 10 it was cloudy and cold with gentle breezes. Eight members found Green Heron, Bittern, Blue-winged Teal, Golden Eagle, Lincoln's Sparrow among these 47 species:

Horned, West & Pied-Billed Grebe, Dbl-Crested Cormorant, Great Blue & Green Heron, Great & Snowy Egret, Amer Bittern, Mallard, Pintail, Bl-Winged & Cinnamon Teal, Nor Shoveler, Canvasback, Turkey Vulture, Red-Tailed Hawk, Golden Eagle, Amer Kestrel, Com Gallinule, Amer Coot, Killdeer, Willet, Greater Yellowlegs, Least Sandpiper, Dunlin, Sanderling, Bl-Necked Stilt, Herring, Calif & Rg-Billed Gull, Rock

Dove, Belted Kingfisher, Com Flicker, Black Phoebe, Marsh Wren, Mockingbird, Loggerhead Shrike, Starling, "Audubon's" Warbler, Red-winged & Brewer's Blackbird, House Finch, Savannah, White-Crowned, Lincoln's & Song Sparrow.

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OBSERVATIONS, October 13-November 11. Also see field trip reports.

Red-Necked Grebe, Shadow Cliffs Reg Pk, Oct. 22--SE, SB, PJ, et al; Drake's Boh, Pt Reyes, Oct. 30--FB, JR. Black-Vented (Manx) Shearwater, Monterey Bay, Oct. 16--BR, et al. Green Heron, Whitman/Oak Grove Rds, Concord, Oct. 30--FB. Eurasian Wigeon, 1-2, Bolinas Lagoon, Oct. 24-Nov. 11--m.ob.; ♂, Palo Alto frontage rd ponds, Nov. 3--ED, MP, MS. Black Scoter, 14-15, Fish Docks, Pt Reyes, Oct. 30-Nov. 2--FB, JR, BF, BP.

Black-Shouldered (White-Tailed) Kite, up to 27, near his San Ramon home, thru Nov. 5--KH. Ferruginous Hawk, dk phase, Pt Diablo, Oct. 19--BR; Spaletta Reh, Pt Reyes, Oct. 29, Nov. 6--BR, TG, KH; Drake's Boh turnoff, Oct. 30-Nov. 8--FB, JR, BP, BF, MS, MP. Golden Eagle, imm, Drake's Boh turnoff, Nov. 2--JR, BF, BP, et al.

Lesser Golden Plover, 2-6, Drake's Boh turnoff, Nov. 3-6--m.ob. SHARP-TAILED SAND-PIPER, Charleston Slough, Palo Alto, Nov. 7-9--DD, m.ob. Pectoral Sandpiper, Alameda South Shore, Oct. 12--NB, et al; up to 30, Moon Glow Dairy, Moss Ldg, Oct. 17-24--m.ob.; Mendoza Reh, Pt Reyes, thru Nov. 2--m.ob. STILT SANDPIPER, Charleston Slough, Nov. 7-8--DD, m.ob. Red Phalarope, up to 8, Mendoza Reh, Oct. 30-Nov. 2--m.ob.; Stockton oxi ponds, Oct. 28-Nov. 1--m.ob.; 6, Casper St Pk, 16, McKerricker St Pk, Mendocino Co., Oct. 30-31--ED; Palo Alto Baylands, Nov. 3--ED, MP, MS; Pt Isabel, Nov. 6--ER, KH; Charleston Slough, Nov. 9-10--JR, BF, m.ob.

Pomarine Jaeger, 3, Monterey Bay, Oct. 16--BR, et al. Parasitic Jaeger, Monterey Bay, Oct. 16--BR, et al. BLACK-HEADED GULL, Stockton oxi ponds, Oct. 18-Nov. 1--RBA. LITTLE GULL, Stockton oxi ponds, Oct. 18-Nov. 1--RBA. Craveri's Murrelet, 2, Monterey Bay, Oct. 16--BR, et al.

Long-Eared Owl, Nunes Reh, Pt Reyes, Oct. 3--GH, Nov. 6-8--MW, m.ob. TROPICAL KING-BIRD, RCA station, Pt Reyes, Oct. 29--EH, JH. EURASIAN SKYLARK, ret to Hall Reh, at Drake's Boh turnoff, Oct. 31-Nov. 11--TB, RSt, m.ob.; first found Dec. 16, 1978, has wintered the past 4 years. Yellow-Billed Magpie, 2, Shell Ridge, Nov. 7--S&MS.

Marsh Wren, Black Diamond Mines Pk, Oct. 31--GF. SAGE THRASHER, Road Forks pool, Pt Reyes, Oct. 22-Nov. 9--m.ob. Golden-Crowned Kinglet, 2-3, Lighthouse, Pt Reyes, Oct. 3 -Nov. 2--JR, FB, BF, BP. PHILADELPHIA VIREO, Nunes Reh & Road Forks pool, Oct. 30-31--JR, FB, m.ob.

Black-&White Warbler, ♀, Shadow Cliffs Reg Pk, Oct. 22--SE; 2-3, Carmel River, Oct. 23-24--EH, JH, CH, et al. Tennessee Warbler, Carmel River, Oct. 17--DR, EH, JH, DS; Pine Gulch Creek, Bolinas Lagoon, Nov. 11--EH, JH, BC. Hermit Warbler, Camino Del Mar, Inverness, Nov. 8--MS, MP. Chestnut-Sided Warbler, Carmel River, Oct. 17--EH, JH, DS, DR. Bay-Breasted Warbler, Nunes Reh, Nov. 4-6--m.ob; Road Forks pool, Nov. 7--RBA.

Blackpoll Warbler, Rodeo Lagoon, Oct. 19--BR; Fish Dks, Oct. 22--BR, KH; Nunes Reh, Oct. 30--FB, JR. Palm Warbler, 1-3 each spot, Lighthouse, Fish Dks, Nunes Reh, Mendoza Reh, thru Nov. 2--m.ob.; Pine Gulch Creek, Nov. 11--RH, JH, BC. CANADA WARBLER, Lighthouse, Oct. 22-26--BR, KH, m.ob.

SHARP-TAILED SPARROW, Nunes Reh, Oct. 20--WO, CL; ret to Pine Gulch Creek, Oct. 23-Nov. 11--m.ob. Vesper Sparrow, Black Diamond Mines Pk, Oct. 31--GF. AMERICAN TREE SPARROW, Nunes Reh, Road Forks pool, Fish Dks, thru Oct. 30--m.ob. Clay-Colored Sparrow, 1-2, Road Forks pool, thru Nov. 2--m.ob.; Fish Dks, Oct. 30--JR. White-Throated Sparrow, Lighthouse, Road Forks pool, Fish Dks, thru period--m.ob.

Lapland Longspur, 8+, RCA, Oct. 30--JR, FB; 10-25, Drake's Boh turnoff, Nov. 2-10--m.ob.; 6-7, Spaletta Reh, Oct. 29--BR, KH. Chestnut-Collared Longspur, Tahoe Keys, Oct. 17--JR; 1-2, Drake's Boh turnoff, Oct. 22-Nov. 6--m.ob.; 2, Spaletta Reh, Oct. 29--BR, KH. SNOW BUNTING, Drake's Boh turnoff, Nov. 4-8--RSt, m.ob.

Gray Whale, close to shore, Lighthouse, Nov. 2--EP, JR, BF. Northern Right Whale Dolphin, 2, Monterey Bay, Oct. 16--BR, m.ob. Risso's Dolphin (Grampus), 20+, Monterey Bay, Oct. 16--BR, et al.

OBSERVERS: Florence Bennett, Sarah Benz, Tony Briggs, Bill Chilson, Elizabeth Dickey, Donna Dittmann, Shimi Edmondson, George Finger, Bud Fry, Tim Gates, Joy Hall, Charlie Hines, Kevin Hintsa, George Hugenberg, Pat Jacobson, Carol Lewis, Marjorie Plant, Bill Pursell, Dennis Serdehely, Bob Richmond, Jean Richmond, Don Roberson, Rich Stalloup, Susan & Maury Stern, Mike Wihler, NoCal Rare Bird Alert, many observers.

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The 4th annual BAID EAGLE CONFERENCE will be Feb. 18-20 at the Oregon Institute of Technology. In the dynamic program are a film festival Friday, programs and banquet Saturday, workshops Sunday, all covered by the \$20.00 conference fee. For topics and speakers contact your editor, for full information contact Katie Ardt, 4647 Miller Island Rd., Klamath Falls, OR 97601.

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[SOS!] Yates Petroleum Co., Roswell, NM, invaded SALT CREEK WILDERNESS AREA in New Mexico on November 1 with heavy equipment, built a road and began drilling. Anyone watching CBS Evening News on November 8 must have been as outraged as I was when watching tremendous environmental damage being done in this violation of federal rules. Outrage turned to fury when film footage showed oil company people, acting as if they were on company property, roughly manhandling environmentalists on foot trying to block illegal monster equipment on an illegal road ruining our land.

Letters of protest of these actions and demands that work be halted and our land be returned to its wilderness state should be sent to President Reagan, Interior Secretary James Watt, John F. Seiberling, Chairman, House Interior Subcommittee on Public Lands and National Parks, Senator Alan Cranston, Senator-elect Pete Wilson, and your Representative. A temporary restraining order was finally obtained by the Department of Interior after 10 days of foot-dragging. Only a massive public outcry will put pressure on the Administration to end this sort of thing which, if not stopped NOW, could set dangerous, disastrous precedents for other wilderness areas.

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CONSERVATION NEWS by Al McNabney.

"Effects of Highways on Wildlife", a new publication from the Urban Wildlife Research Center and US Fish & Wildlife Service, is important as potential effects on road construction should be considered early in the planning process. Order report #FHWA-RD-81-067 from the Federal Highway Administration, Washington, DC 20590.

The initials, LURPAG, hide an important facet of Contra Costa County's land use planning rules and procedures. Vital to good conservation practices the rules have been scrutinized by the Board of Supervisors to "speed the planning process." MDAS, other groups and the League of Women Voters appeared before an informal session of the Board to direct attention to flaws in proposed changes in planning procedures. Stressing that the public has a right to be heard in all planning matters, particularly involving land use, the group presented unified, concise, effective arguments in an effort to be of assistance to the Board. Support in the form of a legal opinion was also offered. While the aim of the Board was to expedite handling of land use permits, little would be gained if in the process short cuts were permitted which brought legal challenges to the action. Another hearing was held October 26 with further action to be taken at a later date.

Bugs or no bugs: legal action by National Audubon has blocked use of Ferriamicide, an unregistered, highly toxic pesticide suspected of causing cancer. Meanwhile, a decision on wider use of Compound 1080 was expected in November. Also, there are indications the Administration wants to relax bans on other hard pesticides outlawed in the 70's, one such is DDT. Society must decide whether or not it wishes to risk dangers from highly toxic pesticides or use other means to control bug and/or animal problems. "City folks" may not fully understand the various viewpoints involved but it seems that use of toxics that do or could produce disease in humans would not be an acceptable means of insect control.

Over 200 young Peregrine Falcons were produced in captivity this season, all but a dozen released into the wild through the efforts of the Peregrine Fund.

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THE QUAIL, published monthly except a combined July-August issue, is sent without additional charge to National Audubon Society members in Mt. Diablo chapter. To join NAS: \$25 per year, family \$32, others available; check payable to National Audubon Society, to Membership Chairman, MDAS, P O Box 53, Walnut Creek, CA 94596. Address change (send also to NAS): Mrs. Winnie Orcutt, 30 Iris Ln., Walnut Creek, CA 94595. Change of chapter affiliation is only upon specific request by member. Subscription: \$6 per year, payable to Mt. Diablo Audubon Society, to Treasurer, Mrs. Winnie Orcutt, 30 Iris Ln., Walnut Creek, CA 94595. First Class mailing in envelope: \$2.25 per year, payable to Mt. Diablo Audubon Society, to Treasurer, address above.

Jean Richmond, Editor, 125 Via Serena, Alamo, CA 94507; 837-2843
(Exchange bulletins for MDAS to this address, please.)

GREATER BAY AREA SITE GUIDE: Richardson Bay.

Access: From US-101 at Mill Valley go east on Tiburon Blvd. (SR-131), turn right on Greenwood Cove Road, which then becomes Greenwood Beach Road, to the National Audubon Wildlife Sanctuary, free to NAS members, 50¢ to others.

In the Sanctuary are good overlooks of the Bay, trails for land-birding. With boats excluded from a large area of the Bay October through March, there are large numbers of migrating and wintering waterbirds, shorebirds, gulls, with 20-40,000 individuals, as many as 200,000 during peak herring runs, especially in January. There are bird walks with a naturalist on Sundays, 9 am and 1 pm. For information: 376 Greenwood Beach Road, Tiburon, CA 94920; (415) 388-2524.

Continue east to Richardson Bay Park at Greenwood Beach Road and Tiburon Blvd. Walk the paved trail south along the bayshore. Waterfowl, sometimes including Tufted Duck, and gulls gather at the freshwater outfall to drink and bathe on the mudflat as the tide falls. From outside the fence of a small water treatment plant on the left check the little ponds and surrounding vegetation then wander along the Bay and through the trees on the hill, also check grassy areas. In early spring Western Grebes perform their spectacular mating dance before leaving for the north.

Continue southeast on Tiburon Blvd., turn right on San Rafael Avenue in Belvedere, park along the street. Benches beside the Bay provide comfort as you scan huge flocks of ducks and gulls on the Bay; rarities are regularly seen.

To reach Paradise Cove County Park continue on Tiburon Blvd., which becomes Paradise Drive, around the end of the peninsula then back along the north shore. Birding here may not be great but enjoy a spectacular view of San Francisco Bay while you lunch in this somewhat sheltered spot.

Facilities: restrooms, picnic tables at the Sanctuary, both parks. Best birding: fall through late spring; morning light is best. A scope is almost a necessity to see well the birds out on the open water.

Birds include loons (rare), grebes may include Red-Necked, Brown Pelican, herons, egrets, rarely Whistling Swan or Canada Goose, MANY ducks of many species (possibly Eurasian Wigeon, both scaups, Barrow's Goldeneye, Oldsquaw, Black Scaoter, Common & Red-Breasted Mergansers), several hawks have included Broad-Winged, Osprey, many shorebirds can include Red Phalarope in migration, Glaucous has been among ten gull species, several terns, Barn & Great Horned Owl, hummingbirds, eastern Yellow-Bellied Sapsucker has been among several woodpeckers, Black & Say's Phoebes and other flycatchers, Chestnut-Backed Chickadee, Bushtit, Red-Breasted Nuthatch, Winter & Bewick's Wren, thrushes, Blue-Gray Gnatcatcher (rare), both kinglets possible, Hutton's & Warbling Vireos, several warblers may include MacGillivray's & Common Yellowthroat (sometimes eastern vagrants), blackbirds, Hooded & Northern Orioles have been seen, Western Tanager, Black-Headed Grosbeak, Purple & House Finch, American & Lesser Goldfinches, Rufous-Sided & Brown Towhees, Dark-Eyed Junco, several sparrows have included Harris' (1971-2), White-Throated.

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CLASSES and EXCURSIONS -- your editor has more details.

Waterbird Workshop, brief classroom, then field, Dec. 4, 9:30-3:30, Alice Hoch, \$8. Info or to reg. (mail or in person by Nov. 29): Fremont Adult School, 4700 Calaveras Ave., Fremont 94538, 791-5841; or Alice, 657-0475.

Natural Excursions (NAS/PRBO). Central Valley Wintering Waterfowl, Jan. 8-9, Steve Laymon, \$80. Info/reg: 4990 Shoreline Hwy, Stinson Beach, CA 94970; 868-1221.

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Bring rinsed, flattened ALL-ALUMINUM CANS (no bimetal) to meetings, field trips.

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