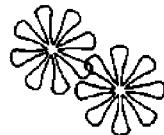


George T. Hastings Memorial Issue



Two Lives

...in memory of George T. Hastings, 1875-1964

(Photo courtesy of Santa Monica Evening Outlook)

We are dedicating this issue to the memory of the late George T. Hastings, beloved Editor Emeritus of the Western Tanager, who passed away quietly in his sleep on Friday, the 6th of March. This is not done in a spirit of sadness or grief, (Mr. Hastings lived a long and very full life and departed from it, we are sure, with few regrets) but rather one of pleasant and grateful remembrance of his inspiration and of his many and varied contributions to the Los Angeles Audubon Society. These were by no means confined to his editorship of the Tanager, which position he held from 1949 to 1956.

He had been a resident of Santa Monica for some twenty-three years. It is said that when he came out to the west coast from his native New York, he was not expected to live long. However Mrs. Hastings nursed him back to health and he began a new life here. Already he had behind him a long and distinguished career in his chosen profession of teaching. His "second life," one of activity in several organizations devoted to nature study and conservation, was no less distinguished.

George T. Hastings was a graduate of Cornell University (1898) and received his M.A. from Columbia University. He taught for a time at a mission school in Santiago, Chile; it was here, so we have heard, that he met his wife-to-be Edith James. They were married in Homer, New York, in 1905. He taught biology at Theodore Roosevelt High School in New York City and became Chairman of the Science Department there. One of the most striking testimonials to his influence during these years comes from Audubon Wildlife Lecturer

(continued on page 63)

MR. GEORGE T HASTINGS

...An Appreciation

by Mrs. Neil Lewis

My first notice of Mr. George T. Hastings was in the February 1945 issue of the Western Tanager. In an article on "Additions to Our Library" it was noted that one of the new books was Trees of Santa Monica by George T. Hastings. His name was to become familiar to readers of the Tanager in a wide variety of nature articles--birds, insects, trees, flowers, stars, art, poetry. He was unlimited in his approach to the wonders of nature. He served the Society for seven years as editor of the Tanager, which was considered the most far-reaching sphere of influence available to the members of the Society. One of his delightful articles, "Why Beauty," was reprinted in Golden Gardens, the official publication of California Garden Clubs Incorporated. It was just as significant for gardeners as for bird watchers.

The active members of our Society soon became acquainted with Mr. Hastings through many activities. He served in many capacities. He was an able lecturer at the Study Class and gave several series of lectures--the Orders of Birds, Topography of Birds, Trees, etc. His intricate illustrations of the development of an egg and the life cycle of a flower will be long remembered by his students. We had, through these charts, an indication of the quality of his teaching in the New York City Schools before coming to California. It is also evidenced in the Cruickshanks' book, 1001 Questions Answered About Birds, for the book was dedicated to two teachers, one of whom was Mr. Hastings, "distinguished naturalists and inspiring teachers. The climax of the Bird Study Class for Boy Scout merit badge in Birds, conducted by our now President Emeritus, Mrs. Mary B. Salmon, was to have the boys go to Santa Monica Beach with Mr. Hastings for identifying birds in the field. He was untiring in his efforts to help Youth Leaders introduce their youngsters to the interests and wonders of nature study.

His contributions to nature study were not limited to the Audubon Society; he was a devoted member of the Southwest Bird Study Club and organized the Santa Monica Nature Club. The City of Santa Monica honored him by having a bronze

plaque erected in Palisades Park at California Avenue in appreciation of his dedication in sharing his knowledge and love of trees, flowers and birds.

Our Los Angeles Audubon Society has also evidenced its appreciation of his contribution to the work of our Society by planting a Catalina Cherry tree in his honor in the garden of Audubon House in Plummer Park.

The following letter was written to Mrs. Neil Lewis on the afternoon of the day Mr. Hastings passed on, and is printed here with Mrs. Lewis' kind permission. Ed.

Dear Mrs. Lewis:

I want to thank you again for taking me to the Club meeting. (the Southwest Bird Study Club Ed.) I felt it would be my last meeting, now I am sure of it. Leukemia, and developing rapidly. But my housekeeper is now a full time nurse, so I am well cared for.

I thought you might get the word around that "when my summons comes to join the unnumbered company and I can go like one who lies down to pleasant dreams" that instead of flowers, contributions might be made to the Nature Conservancy.

I've had a long, generally happy and, I hope, useful life. My best regards and my thanks for what you have done for me.

(Signed) George T. Hastings



About the Author

Mrs. Neil (Alice) Lewis

It would be difficult to find anyone better fitted to write the accompanying tribute to George T. Hastings and what he has meant to the Los Angeles Audubon Society. Mrs. Lewis has been both a member of the Society and a friend of Mr. Hastings for many years. She was a regular too in the Study Class which for several years met each month on the third Thursday and served as a focal point of the Society's activities. Mr. Hastings, as she notes, was very active in this group. Mrs. Lewis is also a Past President of the Los Angeles Audubon Society, having held the office from 1949-1951.

Ed.

TWO LIVES

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

and photographer Allan D. Cruickshank who, in his book Wings in the Wilderness, pays tribute to George T. Hastings for encouraging him to take up serious bird study in place of collecting and taxidermy.

It was on the occasion of his 88th birthday last October 10th that he was honored by the City of Santa Monica with the dedication of a plaque in Palisades Park by the Mayor of Santa Monica.

To Honor

George T. Hastings

Author of
"Trees of Santa Monica"

October 10, 1963 his 88th birthday

In appreciation of his dedication
in sharing his knowledge and
love of trees, flowers and birds.

Many notables attended the dedication. It is interesting that only two other individuals are so honored, President George Washington and Senator John Jones, who founded the City of Santa Monica in 1875 (which, by an odd coincidence, is the year of George T. Hastings' birth).

Despite the respect and the many honors bestowed upon him in his later years, Mr. Hastings remained modest and unassuming. It was sometimes difficult to realize the extent of the influence of this mild and soft-spoken little man in encouraging an appreciation of nature. In the truest sense of these words, he was a Gentleman and a Scholar.

At the tribute paid Mr. Hastings on October 10, 1963 at Palisades Park, Santa Monica. From left Angus McLeod, President of Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce; Mr. Hastings; Judy Jackson, age 3, Mr. Hastings' great-granddaughter; Matilda Rogers, Secretary Santa Monica Nature Club; Rex Minter, Mayor, City of Santa Monica.

(Photo courtesy of Santa Monica Evening Outlook)



A Sense of Wonder...

By George T. Hastings

Los Angeles Audubon Society, Inc.

EXECUTIVE BOARD ACTIONS



Mrs. Olive Alvey reported that all of the camellias used to decorate the tables at the annual dinner were donated, the majority of them by Mrs. Ruth Godshalk. The board gave a vote of thanks to Mrs. Godshalk for her generous donation.

The following books were suggested for the library at Audubon House and purchase was authorized: the Congressional Directory from the Government Printing Office and Birds of the Ocean by W. B. Alexander. Bill Watson was also given authorization to purchase a two drawer filing cabinet for the purpose of storing conservation pamphlets and other materials difficult to keep in order on the library shelves.

The board voted to express appreciation to Mr. James Seaman, president of the Theodore Payne Foundation, for his help in selecting and obtaining specimen plants for planting in the garden of Audubon House, and to give him an honorary membership in the Los Angeles Audubon Society. Mr. Otto Widmann read the list of the plants, all of them natives, and said a number were already here just waiting to be planted. Otto is studying their requirements and will be busy preparing the soil and setting out these fine new specimens in our grounds.

The board inspected the new counter top recently built by Mr. Howard Capwell for the sales counter. The glass top permits the display of many sales items and a compartmentalized cash drawer will help the sales person make change.

The important Conservation Chairmanship was accepted by William Watson.

Dr. Richard Neuman, who had previously agreed to act as liaison between the Los Angeles Audubon Society and the Audubon Center of Southern California, was appointed as Public Relations Chairman.



THE WESTERN TANAGER
OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE
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Art Editor Bob Sandmeyer
Field Notes Arnold Small
Audubon Activities Otto Widman
Conservation
Typing
Folding & Mailing
Helen Sandmeyer - Caroline Adams
Marion Wilson



HEADQUARTERS, NATURE MUSEUM AND LIBRARY LOCATED AT AUDUBON HOUSE,
PLUMMER PARK, 7377 SANTA MONICA BLVD., LOS ANGELES 46, 876-0202

ARNOLD SMALL, President
MRS. RUSSELL WILSON, Executive Secretary

April

APRIL 1964

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

Apr. 2 THURSDAY EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING 7:30 P.M., Audubon House.

Apr. 4 SATURDAY JUNIOR NATURALISTS 9:45-11:15 A.M.

For information call: Ed Anacker HO 7-1661

Apr. 9 THURSDAY - WILDLIFE FILM 7:45 P.M. John Burroughs Junior High School, 600 S. McCadden Pl., Los Angeles. "Awake to Nature", presented by Dr. Alfred G. Etter, depicts life working out its designs in a country creek, in the north woods and in the suburbs. This film, based on Dr. Etter's own experiences in Missouri and Michigan, is the last of our 1963-1964 series of Wildlife Films. Don't miss it.

Wildlife Film Chairman: Laura Lou Jenner RI 8-7510

Apr. 11 SATURDAY FIELD TRIP Chantry Flat. 8:00 A.M. Take the San Bernardino Freeway to Rosemead Blvd., north to Foothill Blvd., east to Santa Anita Ave., north to the end of Santa Anita Canyon Rd. Bring lunch and come prepared for a mile hike to the canyon stream.

Leader: Harold Baxter 355-6300

Apr. 14 TUESDAY EVENING MEETING 8:00 P.M. Great Hall, Plummer Park. Mrs. Fern Sanders, Past-President of the Pasadena Audubon Society and well known for her fine photography, will present her motion picture, "Song on Wings Over Southern California" (Please note the change back to our accustomed day and place of meeting.)

Program Chairman: Don Adams 372-5536

NOTE: The following Field Trip will be held on two successive weekends to accommodate the expected large number of birders on this popular trip.

Apr. 18 SATURDAY-SUNDAY WEEKEND FIELD TRIP - 7:00 A.M. Meet in Covington Park, 19 Morongo Valley (about 10 miles north of U.S. 60-70-99 on the Twentynine Palms Highway). Group will camp Saturday night at Finney Lake (about 3 miles south of Calipatria on Calif. 111, turn left into Imperial State Waterfowl Management Area and follow local signs to Finney Lake). Bring water and a few pieces of wood for a group camp fire. Good motel accommodations in Brawley for those who don't camp.

Leader: Gene Rose GL 4-0191

Apr. 25 SATURDAY-SUNDAY The trip announced above for April 18-19 will be repeated.

26 Leader: George Venatta FR 8-7421

May 3 SUNDAY PELAGIC TRIP 6:00 A.M. on the boat "Corsair" from (Skipper's) 22nd St. Landing, San Pedro. This excellent boat will take 40 people at \$9.00 per person. We will go out at the best shearwater season to the vicinity of Santa Barbara Island. Chili and hot and cold drinks will be available from the galley. Wear warm

— CALENDAR CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE —

CALENDAR

CONTINUED

clothes, and take your anti-motion pills, if necessary. Send your check (payable to: Los Angeles Audubon Society) to: Arnold Small

3028 Cavendish Drive
Los Angeles, California 90064

This trip is very popular and reservations are made on a first-pay basis. You will receive a postcard of acknowledgement as receipt and reservation. To reach the landing, take Harbor Freeway to San Pedro; continue on Pacific Ave. (up a little hill) to 22nd St.; turn left to 141 W. 22nd St., San Pedro to the landing. Please be on time, and note the early time of departure.

May 7 THURSDAY EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING 7:30 P.M., Audubon House.

May 9 SATURDAY - FIELD TRIP - Santa Clara River bottom and Elizabeth Lake Canyon. 8:00 A.M. Meet at the first Tip's restaurant on U.S. 99 (about 10 miles north of the point where the Golden State and San Diego Freeways join).

Leaders: Don and Caroline Adams 372-5536

Lectures at UCLA

Los Angeles Audubon Society members and their friends are cordially invited to attend the Lida Scott Brown Lectures in Ornithology in the spring of 1964, to be given by Dr. M. D. F. Udvardy of the University of British Columbia. (Note: This information was received too late to

include in the March issue.) These lectures will be held at 8:00 P.M. in Room 2147 Life Sciences Building at UCLA as follows:

Tues., Mar. 17 "Distribution Patterns of North American Bird Faunas."

Tues., May 5 "Appearance as Part of the Bird's Language!"

There will be free parking available in Lot 9, adjacent to the Life Sciences Building.

THERE'S WORK TO BE DONE AT AUDUBON HOUSE

Planting & Landscaping

Mr. James H. Seaman, President of the Theodore Payne Foundation for Wild Flowers and Native Plants Inc. has donated for the garden about Plummer House 41 native plants. This represents 37 species, the majority being permanent bushes, such as Dwarf Chaparral, Tree Poppy, Hollyleaf Cherry, Forestiera, Fremontia, Fuchsia-flowering Gooseberry. Among the perennials: Scarlet Columbine, Pink Bleeding Heart, Yellow Evening Primrose, Mountain and California Goldenrod. There are three different kinds of ferns.

We are looking for an Audubon member who will help in the placing of the plants, making sure the right location will be had for the sun lovers, the arid plants, and those that like their feet wet. At last our dream of having a native plant garden is under way.

The Jays have brought Elderberry, Catalina Cherry, Tobacco bush, Night Shade; their planting has been so good all have taken root and are flourishing nicely. A Laurel Sumac has taken root in the back yard. The plant was donated by a non-member. As our native plants grow, and we hope take root, some of the other plantings will be removed, but not until the new natives show they want to stay. All 37 varieties were chosen from the list compiled by the Payne Foundation and the Audubon Society because they have proven desirable for food, shelter and nesting material for the birds.

Headquarters Staff

Headquarters Chairman - Mrs. Marion Wilson
Youth Instruction Chairman - Miss Mae Wilson
Yard Planning and Planting - Mr. Otto Widmann

Hosts and Hostesses:

Mrs. Marion Wilson	Mondays: 11:00-4:00
Mrs. Elizabeth Rose	Wednesdays: 11:00-4:00
Mrs. Martha Edens	Thursdays: 11:00-4:00
Mr. C. B. Maynard	3rd & 4th Saturdays: 2:00-4:00

1st & 2nd Saturdays closed until members are found to keep the House open.

5th Saturdays opened by various members now helping.

Any members wishing to help with this important activity please contact Marion Wilson Mondays at 876-0202, other week days and evenings at 761-7635, or by letter: 4548 Farmdale Avenue, North Hollywood, 91602. Members are needed for public hours 2:00-4:00 P.M.

Youth groups are scheduled from 3:45-5:00 P.M. any afternoon after school when members are available to speak to them. Members are needed to speak or answer telephone. Members willing to help in this capacity contact Mae Wilson: CL 5-3903 or 2246 Merton Ave., L.A. 90041.

Anyone wishing to help Otto Widmann in the yard project on Tuesdays contact him at CA 1-8973 or 3917 Paige Street, L.A. 90031.

AUDUBON

WILDLIFE FILMS



AWAKE TO NATURE

Henry David Thoreau once described the crow of a cock as "an expression of the health and soundness of nature — a brag for all the world." And so this awakening call opens another inspiring Audubon Wildlife Film produced by naturalist, Alfred G. Etter.

Following in the footsteps of young boy and his animal companions, we ramble over farm and along a creek and get acquainted with the living creatures encountered along the way. Digging for moles and turtle eggs; discovering fishing herons and snapping turtles provide moments of comedy and excitement.

The scene changes to the north woods of Michigan where campers make their way to Isle Royale in Lake Superior. The "health and soundness of nature" are clearly evident as we join in a search for moose, venture under waterfalls and stand quietly in the midst of a flock of crossbills.

Returning from the wilderness we find that nature exists in the suburbs too. Familiar songbirds and small animals live next door, on the vacant lots and in the parks. But here, all too often, we find that living with nature is becoming a forgotten art. Man forces his control on the earth, altering the landscape and poisoning it with chemicals. Film sequences used on television to document "The Silent Spring of Rachel Carson" fill the screen in their original color as Dr. Etter speaks from his personal experience of the effects of spraying programs on wildlife.

Awake to Nature challenges each of us to help keep our earth habitable, to safeguard the health and soundness of nature, to make of our environment something of which our generations can be rightfully proud.

John Burroughs Junior High School

600 S. McCadden Place

7:45 P.M.

Thursday

April 9, 1964

Alfred G. Etter

"Awake to Nature"



Alfred G. Etter

Dr. Alfred G. Etter has devoted his life to studying the world of nature in an effort to discover some of the complex forces which govern the wildlife community. He is an ecologist with broad training received at Washington University and the University of Wisconsin. A student of the well known wildlife conservationist, Aldo Leopold, Dr. Etter has become a speaker, writer, and teacher with similar penetrating understanding of the mechanisms of nature. His writings have appeared frequently in Audubon Magazine, as well as other publications.

Dr. Etter's research has included studies of range and water problems in the Southwest, the ecology of pastures in Missouri, and plant succession on the Mississippi River. He has served

Life works out its designs in a country creek, in the north woods, and in the suburbs. Turtles munch blackberries while herons stalk frogs. Crossbills lick salt and moose parade in the mist of Isle Royale. Horned larks nest by the sidewalk, but robins no longer sing. How much change can man force on nature? This impressively documented film, based on Dr. Alfred Etter's own experiences in Missouri and Michigan, will help you decide.

as Consultant Ecologist for the government, Research Associate for the Washington University School of Medicine, and has taught ecology and conservation at Michigan State University.

His travels have taken him to such remote places as Ethiopia, Ghana, and the Ascension Islands in the South Atlantic.

Wherever he has lived, Dr. Etter has always made a point of becoming familiar with his environment. The knowledge he has gained from these studies has more than once served as the basis for his popular lecture films. His authoritative presentations have gained him an enviable reputation as scientist, photographer, and lecturer.



AUDUBON ACTIVITIES

By Otto Widman

I don't know which was better at the Annual Banquet, on Feb. 11, the food or the motion picture afterwards, but personally I think the camaraderie took precedent over the other two, for the noise of the chatter was deafening. After dinner President Arnold Small introduced the guests, of which there were more than a score present. Bill Goodall, Western Representative of the National Audubon Society, responded with a short talk, enlivened as usual with one or two of his seemingly inexhaustible store of funny stories.

Bob Sandmeyer, Art Editor of the WESTERN TANAGER, was then presented by Arnold Small with an inscribed copy of "Birds of the World" by Oliver Austin, in recognition of his generous donation of artistic talents to the Society for the past several years, in particular in the production of the WESTERN TANAGER. The ceremonies were concluded with the introduction of the officers of the Society and the members of the Executive Board.

After a short intermission and with the removal of the tables, the speaker of the evening, Dr. James E. Crouch, presented his film, "Wanderings of an Ornithologist". In many different locations from San Diego to Florida, the Carolinas to New York, Missouri to Bear Lake, Wyoming he showed studies of birds, mammals, flowers, and one lone frog (beautiful portrait) and many scenes of this land of ours from seashore to swamps to prairie to the Grand Tetons themselves. Mr. Crouch laced all this wonder of our vast land together with humor and cogent comment, making a pleasant evening more pleasant indeed.

Mr. Eben McMillen, in collaboration with John Taft, has shown in their film, "The Shandon Hills" in the four seasons, starting with the many hills and valleys, then the many birds and wild flowers, with some of the animals and rodents and reptiles still found there. Through the eyes of a central figure, Old Tuck (the silent film nicely synchronized with Mr. McMillan's remarks), the film is rounded and completed in splendid color photography. Again 'the land that I love' is beautifully shown in vignettes of short duration but in sharp contrast with a lingering on the landscape, and close-up studies of nesting eagles and bushtits, of leaf-cutter bees and tarantulas, of Night Hawks' protective adaptation and of Road-runners feeding their young. Always there is the balance of nature--the prey and the predator. When one element is disturbed, the other thrives or diminishes

according to the direction of the imbalance. We are all obligated to maintain this status quo, because the land belongs to us. This film was presented so we could see the beauties and some of the intimacies of our land so we can think of saving some of it for our progeny.

Sunday morning in the Arboretum, before the crowds get there, is always conducive to a leisurely study of the birds, both domestic and wild. Hannah Walker was unable to lead the group Sunday, Feb. 23, because of a business commitment; again Russell Wilson stepped in and led the group for the day. Feeding from your hand were the three subspecies of Canada Geese: Greater, Lesser, and Cackling. The Snow Goose is still around; the Whistling and Black Australian (with six pearl grey cygnets) Swans were consorting with Mandarin, Wood and Fulvous Tree Ducks, and with Mallard, American Widgeon, Green-winged and Cinnamon Teal and Shovelers. Downy Woodpeckers were busy behind the Queen Anne Cottage along with Bush-Tits, Flickers, and Hermit Thrush. Warblers were scarce: Audubon and Yellow-throat. Sparrows were White and Golden-crowned and Song. One lone Western Bluebird was flycatching in the field. A Turkey Vulture soared overhead with the raucous Crow. You can't get away from them out there.

The group ate lunch at Legg Lake and watched Ruddy Ducks, Lesser Scaup, Buffle-head Ducks and one White-fronted Goose. Some Black-bellied Plovers flew over. Greater Yellow-legs, Least and Western Sandpipers, Short-billed Dowitchers and Sanderlings were feeding on the mud flats (the lake is extremely low). Water Pipits were seen along the shore line. The only Hummingbird seen was Anna's. The members saw 61 species at the two locations.

(continued on page 70)

MEMBERSHIP

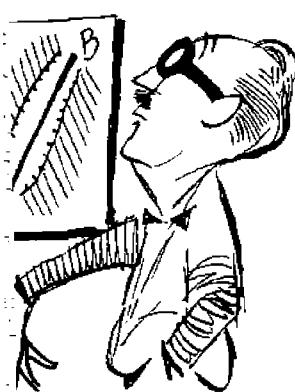
Miss Lorraine Anagnos
283 Trino Way, Pacific Palisades
Mr. C. W. Beardsley
1829 Park Dr., LA
Mr. & Mrs. Frank Benham
967 Hammond, LA
Mr. Brian Cheney
36 Haldeman Rd., Santa Monica
Mr. Robert L. Goodson
219 N. Ave 55, LA
Mr. & Mrs. Ray Lenhart
2547 Sepulveda, LA
Mrs. F. Earl Long
351 S. Fuller, LA
Mr. & Mrs. David Maryn
1733 S. Barrington Ave., LA
Mr. & Mrs. Orion F. Myrup
2530 Hyler Ave., LA
Miss Floy Paxton
4414 Lockwood Ave., LA
Mrs. J. Gordon Wells
10712 Fifth Ave., Inglewood

CONSERVATIVELY SPEAKING.

OBVIOUSLY, ENGINEERING CAN SOLVE ANY PROBLEM FOR EXAMPLE, WE WANTED TO BUILD A HIGHWAY FROM POINT "A" TO POINT "B" THRU THIS SO-CALLED "SCENIC AREA"...



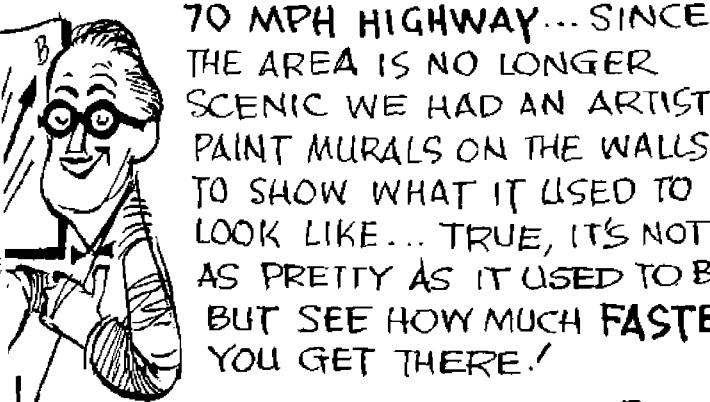
THE ROUTE WAS FROUGHT WITH PROBLEMS... TREES TO BE REMOVED, A STREAM HAD TO BE CHANNELLED INTO A CULVERT, AND A 200 FOOT CUT THROUGH A MOUNTAIN



THE RESULTING EROSION PROBLEM WAS SOLVED BY CUTTING TERRACES UP AND DOWN THE MOUNTAIN WITH CONCRETE RETAINING WALLS 20 FEET HIGH...



NOW WE HAVE AN EXCELLENT 70 MPH HIGHWAY... SINCE THE AREA IS NO LONGER SCENIC WE HAD AN ARTIST PAINT MURALS ON THE WALLS TO SHOW WHAT IT USED TO LOOK LIKE... TRUE, IT'S NOT AS PRETTY AS IT USED TO BE, BUT SEE HOW MUCH FASTER YOU GET THERE!



SOCIETY OFFICERS NOMINATED FOR 1964-65

The Nominating Committee, consisting of Russ Wilson (Chairman), Laura Jenner, and Elizabeth Rose, have proposed the following slate of officers for the 1964-65 season:

Arnold Small	President
Donald Adams	1st Vice-Pres.
Bill Watson	2nd Vice-Pres.
Caroline Adams	Exec. Sec.
Olga Clarke	Treasurer
Frances Kohn	Rec. Sec.
Marion Wilson	Registrar

Article III of the By-Laws of the Los Angeles Audubon Society provides as follows for the election of officers:

Section 3. Not later than January of each year, there shall be appointed three members of the Society to serve as a committee on Nomination of officers for the ensuing year. Such members are to be selected as follows: the chairman, by the President, one by the Executive Board, and one by the members at large.

Section 4. (a) The Nominating Committee shall submit its slate of candidates at all regular meetings in April. Additional candidates for any elective office may be nominated from the floor at any regular meeting in April, provided such nominations are supported by written petition signed by at least fifteen (15) members of the Society.

(b) If additional candidates are nominated for any office, there shall be a vote for such office on a ballot printed in the May TANAGER. Ballots shall be sent to the Executive Secretary, and the Executive Board shall make necessary provisions for counting the ballots.

(c) If no additional candidates are nominated, the Executive Secretary shall cast a unanimous vote for the nominees at the first regular meeting in May.



African Safari Planned

Stan Picher of Marin Audubon Society has organized a birding trip to East Africa for the coming summer. The itinerary has been planned and the trip will be led by John G. Williams, the outstanding ornithologist of the region.

Forty days will be spent in Kenya, Uganda and Tanganyika. The group, which will be limited to twenty persons, will visit eight game parks and a wide variety of habitats between the Indian Ocean and the Congo border, between Kilimanjaro and Murchison Falls. About 600 species of birds should be seen and identified and large quantities of game: lion, rhino, elephant, hippo, buffalo, etc.

For a brochure and further information, write: Stan Picher, P.O. Box 917, Belvedere, Calif.

Southern California

Birds

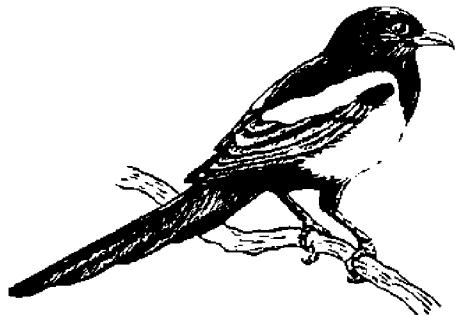


By Arnold Small

Although southern California is in the midst of a drought with but about 50% of normal rainfall in the lowlands, mountain areas fared much better with some very fine snowfalls. So the paradox of drought in the lowlands and plenty in the mountains may be a blessing in disguise since this foretells of rising water tables and full-flowing streams well into the really dry summer months.

Ocean and coastal birding continued good through early March, and offshore, the flight of Fulmars was still in evidence. Small numbers of Alcids were also seen, as well as a few Manx Shearwaters. The migration of loons assumed fine proportions during February, but scoters and Western Grebes seemed scarce. Many of the wintering waterfowl departed for northern climes during early March, and the flights of Brant on their northward journey could be seen along the coast. Small numbers of Kittiwakes were noted close to the coast, and a few even rested on Malibu Lagoon for a short while.

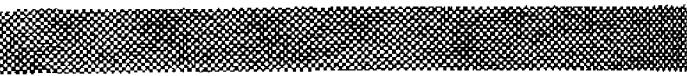
During early March the arrival of the spring season was emphasized by the flights of Allen's and Rufous Hummingbirds, the Avocet's rusty head, the Dunlin's black belly, and the flights of White-throated Swifts, Rough-winged and Violet-green Swallows along the coast, and the resumption of magnificent plumage by the Ruddy Ducks.



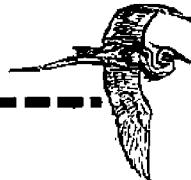
For those active in the field during the winter and early spring, there were many interesting species to be sought, but even for those who watched feeders, the season brought avian delights in the form of a Rose-breasted Grosbeak (to Richard Neuman) in Silver Lake, an Ovenbird (to the Richard Wilsons) in Bellflower, a Broad-billed Hummingbird in Redlands, and the Blue Jay in Mill Creek Canyon. Louisiana Herons were still present at San Diego Bay, Solano Beach, and Huntington Beach, and the first Cattle Egret specimen for California was secured by Guy McCaskie near San Diego. Black Rails were still being seen at Solano Beach and Imperial Beach, but alas, for me, always by other people.

San Diego has its Tijuana River valley, but Los Angeles has countered with its Hillcrest Country Club. In the past month, Larry Sansone and David Gaines have birded there religiously, and they have produced some excellent finds including Hepatic Tanagers, White-winged Dove, Baltimore Orioles, Myrtle Warblers, and recently, Red Crossbills! What next, boys? Bob Blackstone reported seeing "dozens" of Evening Grosbeaks feeding on the ground at Hart Memorial Park in Bakersfield. These birds, most typically a mountain species, may have been driven down by the difficult weather and the shortage of the food they need.

During April, watch for the coastal flights of Vaux Swifts; also watch for great flights of these birds along the inland valleys on low-overcast days. Watch for the flight of Swainson Hawks which should reach its peak during late April, and of course, the usual migrants will begin to move through in force during the middle of April—especially in the deserts.



Audubon Activities



(Continued)

A record turn out Mar. 7 of Audubon members and friends responded to the invitation from the Audubon Center of southern California to the semi annual get-together for branches and affiliates. Mr. Paul Howard, Director, greeted the group, telling something of the Center, and introduced Mrs. Bertha Rumble and Mr. John Borneman, two of the staff naturalists, who were to lead tours of the area. The groups rejoined at twelve for lunch, with hot soup provided by the Center. Forty-four birds were identified, among them the Cardinals which were seen repeatedly around the Headquarters area. On the trail the cry of a Red-shouldered Hawk was heard. Later one was seen perched and two others flying overhead. While checking out a palm tree where a Barn Owl was known to roost the owl flew providing a fine view in flight. Later it was found again in a tree where it presented to all an excellent opportunity to observe its coloring.

After lunch Mr. Howard introduced the staff and our Western Representative, Mr. Wm. N. Goodall. He extended an invitation to return next year at which time he plans to have the Center's naturalists present the same program as that provided the school groups to acquaint us with the nature of the educational service which annually reaches thousands of young people in this area. We are proud of this Center which our memberships in the National Audubon Society help support.