

Diary of a Bird Watcher

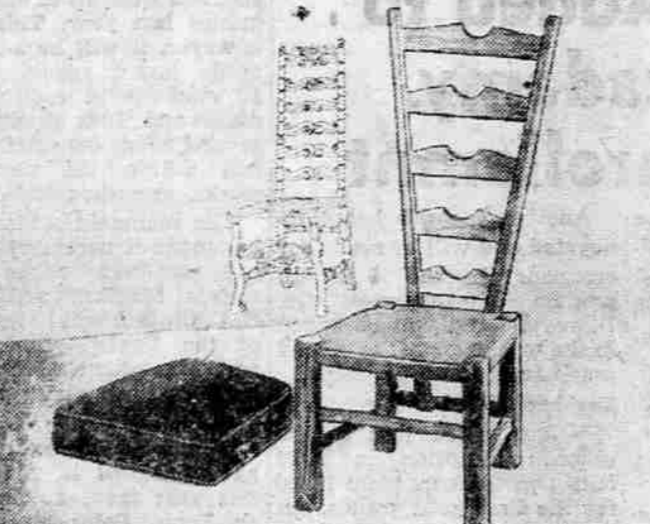


Wednesday, August 27
 Today on the homeward leg of our California vacation trip we drove to the Monterey peninsula and stopped at Pacific Grove. We took the famous 17-mile-drive from there to Carmel. Although at first we felt a slight resentment at paying a dollar for this scenic drive the feeling quickly passed away as we enjoyed to the full this magnificent beautiful stretch of coastline. Along the drive there is an offshore rock called "Bird Rock." On it we saw the Brandt's cormorants that we were supposed to see. We had seen cormorants other times along the coast but felt more sure of the species this time.
 My wife was fascinated by the many attractive shops in Carmel but I got off pretty cheaply this time because we arrived there just a half hour before closing time. As we were standing in front of an art gallery that had just closed she said to me, "What birds are those?" Some were the familiar acorn woodpeckers but others were little nuthatches. I ran to the car after our binoculars and luckily they stayed for us to look at them. They were pygmy nuthatches, the first we had seen for several years. They are supposed to be found in our county but we have never yet seen them in it.

Thursday, August 28.
 This morning while I was having the car lubricated I walked down to the shore and succeeded in seeing a couple of birds that were new for the trip, a pigeon guillemot, which is an ocean bird with a white wing patch and bright red feet, and a surf-board, which feeds on the rocks along the shore. Later we drove a short distance to San Jose.

Friday, August 29
 Today we drove from San Jose to a motel near Willows. This time we got there early enough that I had time to take off by myself and visit the Sacramento National Wildlife Refuge. This is the ninth place mentioned in Pettingill's "Guide to Bird Finding" that I have visited on this trip. I saw interesting birds at every one of them too. This refuge

Look—Styles HAVE Changed!



The ladderback chair was beloved by our ancestors for its comfort as well as its style. Until it first appeared in the 17th century, backs of upholstered chairs had been made of flat panels or rounded pieces of wood. The slats resembling a ladder, broke the design monotony and were kinder to the human anatomy than earlier chair backs. A modern version by A. Brandt Co., Inc. is of "ranch oak" with a leather seat and loose cushion.

just teemed with ducks. My main difficulty was that most of them sat on ponds that were obscured from the road by cattails. Another trouble is that they were hard to recognize in their eclipse plumage. Eventually I got good views of some Pintails were the most numerous. Not so numerous but more interesting to me were the different kinds of herons I saw: great blue, black crowned night, bitterns, and both kinds of egrets, the small snowys and the larger "common" egrets which we have not found to be nearly so common.

Saturday, August 30
 Today we drove home to Medford. We were in no great rush so we stopped a few times along the way. The most interesting stop for birds was near Mt. Shasta. There I took a short walk into the chaparral and among a few trees and ran into one of those mixed flocks of birds you often see in late summer. There were a number of band-tailed pigeons, evidently feeding on some kind of berries. I also saw tanagers, Cassin's finches, mountain bluebirds and two kinds of warblers, Nashville and Audubon's.

All vacations are fun but this was even better than most. We saw a lot of country, a few good friends, a very special part of our family, and a lot of birds. Our trip list was 137 of which 44 were new for the year and 7 or 8 new for life. There are expert bird men who have identified more species in a single day than we did in three weeks, but you don't have to be the best at anything to have fun, and we had a great trip. Home looked good, too, as it always does after a trip.

Sunday, August 31
 I noticed there were a lot of birds around the home place, but nearly all of them seemed to be young ones in nondescript plumage. There were a lot of yellowish warblers, which could have been any one of three or four species. I did pick out some Nashvilles with the white eye ring. I also thought I identified a western flycatcher in the big oak, which brought my year list to 240, because I had not found one before.

Thursday, September 4
 I've been getting busy again but off and on I take a look at the birds on the home place and since getting back I now have 32 species on the home list. A chat is one of the more unusual ones. It is in the warbler family, but much larger than most of them and makes a variety of noises like a mockingbird, only it is more silent at this time, like most of the others.—T.M.

Women To Hold Monthly Session

Jackson County Republican Women's club will hold the monthly meeting Monday, September 15, at Girls' Community club. Luncheon will be served at 12 noon, and reservations may be made with Mrs. Frank E. Ross, S'pring 3-5576, by Friday, September 12.

Guests will be F. I. Bristol, Grants Pass, former representative to the Oregon legislature from the 18th district, Josephine county; Mrs. Stephen G. (Eve) Nye and Melvin Lattie. Mrs. Nye and Mr. Lattie are both seeking election to the House of Representatives.

Meeting Planned By Pythian Club; Ceremony Held

Pythian club will meet Tuesday, September 9, at 8 p.m. at the home of Mrs. Leroy Cline, 1421 Euclid avenue.

Pythian Sisters held a memorial service for Mrs. Cora Ticknor at a meeting Tuesday evening.

A potluck dinner was followed by a business meeting. Final plans were made for a rummage sale to be held Tuesday at the Feh! Building.

The refreshment committee for next meeting will be Mrs. John Russell, Mrs. Lena Legg and Mrs. James Cech.

Past Chief's club of Pythian Sisters met last Wednesday at the home of Mrs. Mabel Nicholson for a covered dish luncheon.

The next meeting will be at the home of Mrs. Leroy Cline and will honor those having birthdays or anniversaries during July, August and September. A recent candy selling contest will be concluded and prizes will be awarded.

Health Unit

Gold Hill—Mrs. Ted Schoenemann, president of Gold Hill Health unit, has announced that the first fall meeting will be held Tuesday, September 16 at one o'clock in the home of Mrs. George Smith, Sardine creek. Mrs. Sidney Anderson and Mrs. Ivan Governor will be co-hostess for the dessert luncheon.

Cuddle Kitty



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CALENDAR..

Monday:
 11 a.m.—Home Economics club of Upper Applegate Grange Grange hall.
 12:30 p.m.—Adarel Past Matrons club, home of Mrs. Fred J. Fick, 502 North Holly st.
 12:30 p.m.—Jackson county retired teachers association, picnic in Lithia park, Ashland.
 12:30 p.m.—Shady Cove Garden club. Our Lady of Fatima Parish hall.
 6:30 p.m.—Scottish Rite Women's club, Medford Masonic temple.
 7:45 p.m.—Westminster guild, First Presbyterian church, fireplace room.
 8 p.m.—Degree of Honor lodge, Girls Community club, 229 North Bartlett st.

Tuesday:
 12:30 p.m.—First Presbyterian church Women's Association circles: Bethany, Mrs. H. J. Fields, East Fairview dr.; Charity, Mrs. Bert Lowry, Fern Valley rd.; Faith, fireplace room, church; Grace, Mrs. D. A. Hutchison, 207 Bradford Way; Hope, Mrs. Robert Hunter, New Ray rd.; Central Point; Mercy, Mrs. Ralph Dippel, 1 Eastwood dr.; Temple, Mrs. Marie Diney, 6 Corning court; and Trinity, Mrs. Stewart Milne, 220 North Keeneway dr.
 12:30 p.m.—Women's Fellowship, First Baptist church, church annex.
 1 p.m.—Reese Creek Home Extension unit, home of Mrs. James Martinson, Ball rd.
 7:30 p.m.—First Presbyterian church Women's association, Candlelight circle, Mrs. Leroy Williams, 1316 West Main st.; Vesper, Mrs. W. C. Degerness, 520 Dakota st.
 7:30 p.m.—Gamma Phi Beta sorority, home of Miss Molly Walker, 2132 Dellwood dr.
 8 p.m.—Oregon Nurses association, district 4, Rogue Valley hospital.
 8 p.m.—Nevita chapter OES, Central Point Masonic temple.
 8 p.m.—Pythian club, home of Mrs. Leroy Cline, 1421 Euclid ave.
 8 p.m.—Rogue chapter, Military Order of Lady Bugs, VFW hall.

Wednesday
 11 a.m.—Townsend club Carpenters hall, 123 1/2 West Main st.
 11:30 a.m.—Medford Home Extension unit, courthouse auditorium.
 7:30 p.m.—Roxy Ann Gem and Mineral club, Redmen hall.
 7:45 p.m.—Toastmistress club, Girls Community club.
 8 p.m.—Medford Junior Women's club, home of Mrs.

L. E. McConnell, 1401 South Whitman st.
 8 p.m.—Wanderer's club, home of Mrs. Leroy Cline, 1421 Euclid ave.

Thursday:
 12 noon—Zonta club, Jackson hotel.
 12:30 p.m.—Adarel Social club, with Mrs. Irwin Hoffman, North Pacific highway, Gold Hill.
 12:30 p.m.—Ladies' Aid society, St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran church, at church.
 12:30 p.m.—Medford Sojourner's, Girls Community club.
 12:30 p.m.—Veterans of Foreign Wars auxiliary Sewing club, picnic at Hawthorne park.

Friday:
 1:30 p.m.—Past Presidents of the Ladies auxiliary to Crater Lake Aerie, Fraternal Order of Eagles, 129 North Columbus ave.
Saturday:
 12 noon—Daughters of the Nile, Grants Pass Masonic temple.

Rampant Flames Damage Building

Milwaukie, Ore. — A brush fire that fanned out of control damaged an apartment building at 2335 SE Monroe here Friday, after sparks ignited the roof of the two-story frame structure.

The fire was less than three blocks from the charred remains of a home where four children died in a blaze 13 days ago.

Mr. and Mrs. D. F. Chambers, occupants of the building, were away shopping when the fire started. An elderly woman living upstairs escaped unhurt.

Sparks from the incinerator on the junior high school property nearby were believed to have started the block square brush fire next to the apartment house.

Don Pedro Calderon, 17th-century Spanish dramatist, produced his first play at the age of 13.

The greatest depth of the Pacific Ocean is 35,400 feet.

MAIL TRIBUNE, Medford, Oregon, Sunday, September 7, 1958 11A
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