

SANTA BARBARA MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY
BIRD STUDY GROUP

1963

BIRD NOTES

February Meeting - Note change of date - February 15 (not 22nd.)

The speaker will be Mr. Edward Seldon Spaulding. Mr. Spaulding is well known to all of us; he is an authority on birds, a delightful speaker and his subject will be Bird Feathers.

The Committee studying the proposed formation of an Audubon Branch Society for Santa Barbara will give its report.

Field Trip to Morro Bay area-----February 22-23-24.

Headquarters for campers - Morro Bay State Park (Campers will make their own arrangements for meals, or work out plans with others) Others wishing to stay in motels should make their own reservations.

Transportation - private cars.

Those needing transportation and those able to take passengers, please call Mrs. Cooke 6-5520. EVERYONE PLANNING TO GO SHOULD CALL MRS. COOKE FOR FURTHER INFORMATION AND MEETING PLACE ETC.

FIELD TRIP - January 27.

To Coal Oil Point, Devereaux Slough, Goleta Beach Park & Stow Lake. Leader - John Flavin.

About 30 members had one of the most satisfying day trips in recent years. 96 species were recorded, including a number rarely seen under such circumstances - marsh hawks, snow goose, blue-winged teal, greater scaup, white-tailed kite in nuptial flight, sora rail, common snipe, pectoral sandpiper, burrowing owl, myrtle warbler.

Complete list

hooded grebe, d-c cormorant, Brandt's cormorant, great blue heron, common egret, b-c night heron, snow goose, mallard, pintail, green-winged teal, blue-winged teal, cinnamon teal, shoveler, ring-necked duck, canvasback, greater scaup, lesser scaup, white-winged scoter, surf scoter, ruddy duck, common merganser, r-b merganser, white-tailed kite, red-tailed hawk, marsh hawk, sparrow hawk, California quail, sora, American coot, snowy plover, killdeer, black-bellied plover, common snipe, long-billed curlew, whimbrel, willet, greater yellowlegs, pectoral sandpiper, least sandpiper, dunlin, l-billed dowitcher, marbled godwit, sanderling, avocet, glaucous-winged gull, western gull, California gull, ring-b gull, mew gull, Bonaparte's gull, Heerman's gull, royal tern, band-tailed pigeon, mourning dove, burrowing owl, Anna's hummingbird, belted kingfisher, red-s flicker, acorn woodpecker, downy woodpecker, black phoebe, Say's phoebe, horned lark, v-g swallow, purple martin(?), scrub jay, crow, bushtit, mockingbird, Cal. thrasher, b-g gnatcatcher, pipit, cedar waxwing, l. shrike, starling, Hutton's vireo, o-c warbler, myrtle warbler, Audubon's warbler, Townsend's Warbler, yellowthroat, house sparrow, meadowlark, r-w blackbird, tri-c blackbird, B. blackbird, house finch, l goldfinch, b towhee, savannah sparrow, Oregon junco, w-c sparrow, golden c sparrow, song sparrow.

pied-billed grebe & snowy egret

A Proposal for the Formation of
an AUDUBON BRANCH SOCIETY for the SANTA BARBARA AREA.

The Bird Study Group of the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History, at its meeting on January 25th. 1963, indicated by straw vote that it was interested in the formation of a local Audubon Branch. A committee was appointed to draw up a proposal, which follows.

It is proposed that the Bird Study Group assume the initiative in organizing an Audubon Society for the southern portion of Santa Barbara County and that it be called the Santa Barbara Audubon Society.

Such an organization, with the backing of the powerful National Audubon Society, can be influential in "advancing public understanding of the value and need of conservation of wild life, plants, soil and water and the relation of their intelligent treatment and wise use to human progress". During the present population explosion in Santa Barbara County such a group can join with others in promoting sound conservation measures and the preservation of green areas and natural wild life habitats. Right now most of the coastal sloughs of southern California are threatened by marina and housing developments. If these natural habitats are lost, such birds as the common and snowy egrets will again be threatened with extinction as they were early in the century at the hands of plume hunters. The same thing will happen to many of the resident and migratory shore birds and waterfowl whose very existence is dependent on these areas. Another situation in which an Audubon Society may be of help is in the prevention of widespread injury to all living things through careless and indiscriminate use of chemical insecticide and weed-killers.

It is proposed that the Santa Barbara Audubon Society be organized in such a way that the business affairs of the society will be conducted by a board of directors of nine (or more) members and that all actions of the board will be reported to the membership through monthly bulletins. It is anticipated that seldom if ever should it be necessary for the business affairs to be discussed at length at the monthly meetings.

It is expected that the present informal and pleasant relationship with the Museum of Natural History will continue. The Museum authorities are strongly in favor of the formation of an Audubon Branch. They will be happy to have the Museum staff participate actively. The Museum office expects to be able to put out the notices and bulletins as it has in the past, but this committee feels that the Society should bear the expense for postage, stencils paper and labor.

The standard dues for an Audubon branch society are \$6.50 per year (\$10.00 for a husband-wife membership). This is the same dues now paid by over 70 persons in this area who hold individual memberships in the National Audubon Society. \$2.50 of the dues constitutes a half-price subscription to the Audubon Magazine, published six times a year, and \$2.00 of the dues comes back to the local society. While upon becoming a branch there will be no

further local dues memberships issued, those persons already only local members may retain this privilege.

It is proposed that memberships in the society be solicited not only from among the present members of the Bird Study Group but also from the present individual members of the National Audubon Society in the area and from all other individuals and groups interested in the Audubon objectives.

Those now holding individual memberships in the National Society will have the option of continuing as at present or of electing joint membership in both the National and local Society.

Under joint membership, \$2.00 of their regular National dues will be returned to the Santa Barbara Audubon Society for use in local projects.

Membership in the Audubon Society will not be a prerequisite to attending the meetings and the field trips which will continue to be open to all comers. It is hoped that most of the Bird Study Group will wish to join the society.

A preliminary rough draft of a constitution and by-laws accompanies this report. It contains the few articles that the National requires. Additions and refinements can wait until a board of directors has been elected.

This report is being mailed to all members of the National Audubon Society living in this area and to everyone on the mailing list of the present Bird Study Group. It will be greatly appreciated if all recipients will send back the enclosed card indicating whether or not they think they will join the Santa Barbara Audubon Society if and when the organization is formed.

It is proposed that the enclosed constitution be presented for approval by the members at the regular meeting on February 15th, 1963. It is hoped that all those interested will attend that meeting.

Constitution of the Santa Barbara Audubon Society

Article 1: Name

This organization shall be known as The Santa Barbara Audubon Society.

Article 2: Purpose

The purpose and objectives of this Society shall be to engage in any such educational, scientific, investigative, literary, historical, philanthropic and charitable pursuits as may be part of the stated purposes of the National Audubon Society, of which this Society shall function as a branch.

Article 3: Board of Directors

A board of nine directors shall be elected by the membership at the regular May meeting and shall assume office at the close of the meeting. Interim vacancies shall be filled by the directors and appointees shall serve until the next election. The board of directors shall transact the business of the society, approve committees, authorize disbursements and appoint officers and replacements when vacancies occur.

Article 4: Officers

The following officers shall be appointed by the Board of directors: a president, a vice president, a secretary and a treasurer.

The president shall preside at the meetings of the board, and the society, appoint committee chairmen with the approval of the board, countersign checks for the withdrawal of funds, and be an ex-officio member of all committees.

The vice-president shall perform the duties of the president in his absence.

The secretary shall keep the minutes of the board of directors meetings, maintain a directory of members and be custodian of all records other than those of the treasurer.

The treasurer shall collect dues, withdraw funds on order from the board, sign checks which have been countersigned by the president and submit financial statements when requested.

Article 5: Standing Committees

The following committee chairmen shall be appointed by the president: membership, program, field trips, conservation, bulletin editor and publicity.

Article 6: Area

The area of the Santa Barbara Audubon Society shall include those areas served by the following post offices: Santa Barbara, Goleta, Summerland, Carpinteria, Ventura, Santa Paula and Ojai.

Article 7: Amendments

This constitution may be amended by a majority vote of the members present at any regularly called meeting subsequent to a meeting at which the amendment is first read.

BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I: MEMBERSHIP

*Section 1. Classes of membership shall be the same as those maintained by the National Audubon Society, namely, Regular, Sustaining, Active, Supporting, Contributing, and Life members.

*Section 2. Annual dues of members shall be as follows, and shall be payable direct to the National Audubon Society: Regular, \$6.50; Regular, Husband-Wife, \$10.00; Sustaining, \$12.50; Sustaining, Husband-Wife, \$20.00; Active, \$25.00; Supporting, \$50.00; Contributing, \$100.00. Life membership dues shall be \$300.00.

*Section 3. All classes of members shall enjoy all the rights and privileges pertaining to the members of both this and the National Society.

*Section 4. Membership dues shall be payable at the time of application and shall be effective from the date of election, and, in the case of Regular, Sustaining, Active, Supporting, and Contributing members, yearly thereafter. In the case of Life members, dues shall be paid in full in one sum at the time of application, and will be accepted as of the time of election.

*Section 5. Should renewal of membership dues not be paid within six months after the time they are payable, a member so in default shall forthwith be dropped from the rolls.

*ARTICLE VII: MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

The President shall appoint annually a Membership Committee consisting of _____ members. It shall be the duty of this committee to obtain and send to the Membership Department of the National Society lists of names and addresses of potential members residing within the allotted territory of this Society. It shall also be the duty of this committee to conduct membership campaigns and to attempt to obtain the continuing membership of those who have become delinquent in the payment of their dues.

*ARTICLE XIV: COMMITMENTS

The Board of Directors of this Society shall not enter into any commitments binding on the National Audubon Society without authorization from the latter. In like manner, the National Audubon Society shall make no commitments binding on this Society without its consent.

*ARTICLE XV: DISCONTINUANCE

This Society reserves the right to terminate its branch status on six months' notice, given in writing to the National Audubon Society, in which case all allocation of dues by the National Society will cease on expiration of the six months' period. This Society recognizes the right of the National Society to terminate the branch relationship on six months' notice, given by it to this Society in which case the members of this Society shall continue as members thereof for the balance of the term for which the dues have been paid.