



E Tecolote

Bulletin of the Santa Barbara Audubon Society
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CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

JAN. 24
Friday

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING AT 7:30 p.m.
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING AT 8:00 p.m. Farrand Hall, Museum
Natural History. Waldo Abbott and Nelson Metcalf will
present a "Slide and Sound Illustrated Program of Western
Birds and Their Songs". This instructional program is
designed to acquaint people with the field marks, using
colored slides, and songs, using tape recordings, of
several families of western birds.

REPORT FROM THE BOARD

At a special meeting on November 24, 1963, the Board of
Directors passed the following resolutions:

Resolution On Conservation Policy

The Conservation Committee recommends to the Board of Directors
that they, in order, to facilitate the conservation work of our
Society, adopt the following resolution:

The Board of Directors, bearing in mind the strong and out-
spoken support which the Audubon Society has traditionally given
to conservation measures, adopts the policy of supporting in general
all meritorious conservation measures in the Santa Barbara area,
and indeed in the State of California. This statement of policy
will authorize appropriate officers of our Society, and other
specifically delegated members, to speak or write on specific
conservation issues as they arise, with the consciousness of the
Society's support behind them; and to cooperate with other conser-
vation groups, such as the Sierra Club, the Garden Club and the
Trails Advisory Committee.

In further implementation of the above policy, the Board of
Directors favors the following conservation projects:

1. The preservation of the Channel Islands as a National Sea-
shore or Monument.
2. The acquisition of the Devereux Slough area for use as a
county park.
3. The protection of the Santa Barbara back country against the
influx of tote-goats and automobiles, and against the unnecessary
and expensive Sierra Madre Ridge road project.

Resolution On The Sierra Madre Ridge Road

The Santa Barbara Audubon Society joins with the Santa Barbara
Trails Advisory Committee in opposing the construction of the Sierra
Madre Ridge Road, because:

Such a road would deleteriously affect the San Rafael Wilder-
ness Area and tend to convert it into a public recreation area.

Incursion of automobiles and picnickers into the Primitive Area would endanger the rare California Condors with which the Audubon Society has long been concerned. Greatly increased traffic brought in by this road would also greatly increase the threat of forest fires, and further endanger all birds and wild things in the neighborhood. In view of these powerful points against it, expenditure of \$200,000 or more in public funds on this road cannot be justified, and might better be devoted to the many other recreational possibilities in the Los Padres National Forest. Some wilderness must be permitted to remain wilderness.

FIELD TRIP REPORT

With 19 aboard the bus (Waldo in command!) and 2 couples in 2 cars following, we left the Museum shortly after 8 am. November 17, 1963 for a tour of the Botanical Gardens, Tucker's Grove, Stow Lake, and Goleta Slough. Skies were cloudy and after an hour's walk through the trails at the Botanical Gardens, many felt the autumn chill in the air. It was quiet, as far as the birds were concerned, but our efforts were rewarded by a good observation of the Townsend's Warbler. The male's plumage was bright in the somber atmosphere. Brown Towhees under the brush and Rufous-sided Towhees were observed as we crossed the boulders in the streambed.

At 9:45, we proceeded to Tucker's Grove. Giant live oaks were host to many woodpeckers, warblers and jays. A high spot here was provided by Jodi Bennett who needed help in an Acorn Woodpecker count. We spread out around the park, watched the flights for a few minutes, giving her the tally (about 20) when we convened at the picnic table. Jodi then gave an account of her 300 hours work in banding and observing these woodpeckers.

The sun came out during our ride to Stow Lake. Nelson Metcalf flushed two American Bittern from a small pond there. Excitement reigned. Two telescopes were set up on the bitterns, who gave us much pleasure by landing in an open meadow beside the pond and standing rigid for several minutes with bills pointed skyward. Two Green Herons put on a showy flight over the pond. To the west, the lake and shore were host to wading birds, Great Blue Heron, Snowy and Common Egrets among them. Dozens of Coots were seen resting on the grassy hillside or marching up and down their trails to the lake. We followed the lakeside road which was red with the berries on the cotoneaster shrubs. While having our picnic lunch up on the bank, we had a fine view of the many species of water birds resting on the water or feeding at the edge of the lake.

We left Stow Lake at 1 pm. and drove to a large meadow west of the freeway. Riding down a narrow road we saw a willow thicket in which a dozen or more White-tailed Kites were perched. A quick stop at Goleta Slough completed the trip. A total of 98 species were seen. We disbanded at the Museum at 2:30 pm. with cheers for our good bus driver and the excellent outing enjoyed by all

Blanche Dean

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

The Annual Christmas Bird Count held on Dec. 29, 1963 was a great success. A total of 166 species were seen on the count day- 26 more than 1962's count of 140. 39,174 individual birds were counted. One Franklin's Gull, a wanderer from the plains states was spotted at the Bird Refuge. Other accidental visitors from the east seen were the Orchard Oriole, Baltimore Oriole and White-throated Sparrow. Nine Bullock's Orioles and one Western Tanager, normally only summer visitors in this area, were reported. The total list follows.

SANTA BARBARA AREA BIRD COUNT, DECEMBER 29, 1963

Common Loon	2	Least Sandpiper	86	Bewick's Wren	49
Red-throated Loon	94	Dunlin	21	Long-bill. Marsh Wren	4
Horned Grebe	9	Dowitcher (sp?)	30	Canon Wren	3
Eared Grebe	18	Western Sandpiper	43	Rock Wren	1
Western Grebe	157	Marbled Godwit	224	Mockingbird	220
Pied-billed Grebe	41	Sanderling	465	Calif. Thrasher	41
Brown Pelican	6	Glaucous-w. Gull	246	Robin	1030
D-c. Cormorant	288	Western Gull	3223	Varied Thrush	1
Brandt's Cormorant	2	Herring Gull	79	Hermit Thrush	14
Pelagic Cormorant	1	California Gull	1169	Western Bluebird	63
Great Blue Heron	41	Ring-billed Gull	948	Blue-gr. Gnatcatcher	5
Common Egret	21	Mew Gull	309	Ruby-cr. Kinglet	85
Snowy Egret	14	Franklin's Gull	1	Water Pipit	86
Green Heron	4	Bonaparte's Gull	271	Cedar Waxing	124
Black-cr. N. Heron	37	Heermann's Gull	125	Phainopepla	1
American Bittern	2	Forster's Tern	47	Loggerhead Shrike	38
Canada Goose	4	Common Tern	1	Starling	115
Black Brant	29	Royal Tern	8	Hutton's Vireo	22
Mallard	43	Pigeon Guillemot	1	Orange-cr. Warbler	6
Pintail	189	Ancient Murrelet	1	Myrtle Warbler	4
Green-w. Teal	22	Band-tailed Figeon	358	Audubon's Warbler	766
Cinnamon Teal	17	White-winged Dove	3	Bl.-thr. Gray Warbler	1
American Widgeon	154	Mourning Dove	1004	Townsend's Warbler	7
Shoveler	79	Spotted Dove	2	Yellowthroat	18
Wood Duck	4	Roadrunner	1	Wilson's Warbler	1
Redhead	29	Barn Owl	5	House Sparrow	338
Ring-necked Duck	1	Screech Owl	4	Western Meadowlark	346
Canvasback	4	Great horned Owl	9	Yellow-h. Blackbird	1
Lesser Scaup	63	Burrowing Owl	1	Red-w. Blackbird	10344
Bufflehead	7	Short-eared Owl	2	Tricol. Blackbird	2056
White-w. Scoter	6	White-thr. Swift	65	Orchard Oriole	1
Surf Scoter	387	Anna's Hummingbird	170	Baltimore Oriole	1
Ruddy Duck	398	Allen's Hummingbird	5	Bullock's Oriole	1
Red-br. Merganser	29	Belted Kingfisher	14	Brewer's Blackbird	1930
Turkey Vulture	8	Red-sh. Flicker	81	Brown-h. Cowbird	4
White-tailed Kite	75	Acorn Woodpecker	175	Western Tanager	1
Sharp-sh. Hawk	3	Yellow-b. Sapsucker	5	Purple Finch	94
Cooper's Hawk	6	Hairy Woodpecker	3	House Finch	2812
Red-tailed Hawk	19	Downy Woodpecker	12	Pine Siskin	3
Red-shouldered Hawk	4	Nuttall's Woodpecker	8	Amer. Goldfinch	147
Marsh Hawk	1	Western Kingbird	1	Lesser Goldfinch	296
Sparrow Hawk	65	Ash-th. Flycatcher	2	Rufous-s. Towhee	60
California Quail	604	Black Phoebe	29	Brown Towhee	436
Mountain Quail	1	Say's Phoebe	12	Savannah Sparrow	53
Sora	3	Horned Lark	31	Lark Sparrow	75
Common Gallinule	1	Steller's Jay	1	Rufous-cr. Sparrow	10
American Coot	1185	Scrub Jay	324	Sage Sparrow	1
Snowy Plover	130	Yellow-b. Magpie	11	Oregon Junco	474
Killdeer	98	Common Raven	1	White-cr. Sparrow	1433
Black-b. Plover	163	Common Crow	147	Golden-cr. Sparrow	170
Common Snipe	15	Plain Titmouse	99	White-thr. Sparrow	1
Long-billed Curlew	4	Common Bushtit	356	Fox Sparrow	4
Whimbrel	10	White-br. Nuthatch	6	Lincoln's Sparrow	7
Spotted Sandpiper	12	Red-br. Nuthatch	26	Song Sparrow	75
Willet	164	Wrentit	154		
Gr. Yellowlegs	14	House Wren	13		

Birds seen on count period but not on count day.

Arctic loon

Least bittern

Gadwall

Golden eagle

Pigeon Hawk

Semipalmated plover

Lesser yellowlegs

Townsend's solitaire

Black-headed grosbeak

Slate-colored junco

CHRISTMAS COUNT OBSERVERS

Goleta-South 1. John Flavin, Jay Parkinson, Mary Roberts

Goleta-North 2. John Hildebrand, Richmond Miller

3. Norman Stevens, Velma Stevens

Morel Mesa and 4. Arne Albertson, Dick Baldwin (Ventura), S.E. Brode

Hope Ranch 5. (Poway), Mrs. Spencer Martin (Louisville)

Santa Barbara 5. Nelson Metcalf

South & N.W. 6. Dot Gildersleeve, Elizabeth Russell, Dick and Molly Watkins

Montecito-W & N

Santa Barbara N.E. 7. Maggie Millar, Jewell Kriger

8. Ruth Case, Ken Millar, Wini Hurlbert (Monterrey)

Brooks Atkinson (New York)

9. W.H. Ferry, Jo Ferry

Montecito E. 10. Charles & Alice Richardson, Wales & Ruth Holbrook

El Camino Chelo 11. Mary Erickson, Jodi Bennett, Waldo Abbott p.m. only

Santa Inez Valley 12. Marie Beals, Marie Foreman, Wm Gardner, June Gardner

Off-shore 13. Waldo Abbott, Maxine Maier (Albert Case, Paul & June Hopkins)

Also several people at bird feeders such as Mrs. Plank, June Hopkins

District leaders

Party Leaders

1960-1961 BIRD COUNTING