



El Tecolote

Bulletin of the Santa Barbara Audubon Society
Vol. 2 No. 8

Nov. 1964

Oct?

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

OCT. 23
Friday

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING & NEW CLASS IN FIELD IDENTIFICATION
7:30-8:00 p.m. Bird Hall of the Museum of Natural History. The Santa Barbara Audubon Society will offer for the first time a class in field identification of birds. The class is intended primarily for beginners but all members are welcome. If there is enough interest in the class, both from students and members interested in leading it, the class will become a regular feature of our monthly meetings. This month Mr. Nelson Metcalf will discuss the identification of the larger shorebirds, such as the willet, whimbrel, killdeer and black-bellied plover.
8:00 p.m. Farrand Hall, Museum of Natural History, Regular Monthly Meeting. Ruth Parker will speak on "Alaska Bird Trails". Miss Parker visited Alaska this summer, spending a week at Camp Denali near Mt. McKinley. She will show slides of the birds, animals and flowers of our 49th state.

OCT. 24
Saturday

SPECIAL MEMBER'S DAY AT AUDUBON CENTER A one hour "See How And Hear What" field trip especially for the members of the Santa Barbara Audubon Society has been scheduled at 11 a.m. to 12 noon. This time has been completely reserved for us and the Center's staff will be on hand to conduct the trip. The trip will be just like those the Center conducts for school groups. The tour will start and end promptly, but members are invited to bring a sack lunch and spend the remainder of the morning birding or just looking around. The Center is located at 1000 North Durfee Ave., El Monte. Take the San Bernardino Freeway to Rosemead Blvd., south on Rosemead to San Gabriel Blvd., left to N. Durfee and left to Audubon Center.

OCT. 25
Sunday

FIELD TRIP TO REFUGIO PASS ROAD Meet at Refugio Beach Park at 8:30 a.m. We will bird along the beach and then hike up Refugio Canyon part way. Bring lunch.

NOV. 8
Sunday

FIELD TRIP TO SANTA YNEZ VALLEY, Fremont Camp and Upper Oso. Meet at the Museum at 8:00 a.m. Please contact Mrs. Cooke, phone 6-5520, if you need a ride or have space available in car. Bring lunch. Donation to help defray car expenses \$1.

NOV. 15
Sunday

FIELD TRIP TO LAKE CACHUMA, Happy Canyon and Nojoqui Falls Park. Meet at the Museum at 8:00 a.m. For transportation call Mrs. Cooke, phone 6-5520. Donation for car expenses for those sharing rides, \$1.75. Bring lunch

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DEC. 4
Friday

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING. NOTE CHANGE OF DATE to avoid conflict with Thanksgiving vacation. We hope to have one of the McMillan brothers speak to us about their recently completed study of the California Condor. See the November bulletin for further details, but remember the date, Dec. 4

A RESOLUTION OF THE SANTA BARBARA AUDUBON SOCIETY

For those who were unable to attend our Sept. 25th meeting, or did not see the article in the News-Press, we print the resolution in support of Proposition 1, as passed by your Board of Directors at their Sept. 17 meeting.

The fate of Proposition One on the November 3 ballot will decide whether the outdoor recreation needs of California's growing population are going to be met. Our present park system is already failing to meet these needs adequately, especially here in Southern California. The hundreds and thousands of would-be campers and picnickers who are turned away from our public beaches and parks over every holiday weekend know the problem. It will get worse unless we do something now.

Proposition One, if it passes, will provide for a 150 million dollar bond issue for the state parks. Forty million dollars of this will be made available to cities and counties for beach and park acquisition and development. Santa Barbara county's share of this money is expected to be over \$600,000. Our city and county fathers well know that we can use it. Conservationists throughout California know that we have no chance to preserve our remaining natural values without further planned acquisition and development of public land.

The land we need for parks is becoming more expensive every year. It would be penny-wise and pound-foolish for us to postpone the buying of it any longer. California, already the largest state, is headed for a population of at least thirty millions. Those thirty million people and their children will have to have parks and playgrounds. The landscape of the future cannot be allowed to become a single unbroken sluburban sprawl. Further delay in land acquisition will only increase its ultimate cost.

The 25-year bond issue projected under Proposition One will not be unduly burdensome. The anticipated cost of 32 cents per person per year is indeed a modest amount to pay for the preservation of a priceless heritage. Expenditures will be controlled and allocated by the legislature. The plan has broad bipartisan support.

Bearing in mind these safeguards, and California's urgent and growing need for beaches and parks, the Board of Directors of the Santa Barbara Audubon Society has unanimously endorsed the passage of Proposition One.

RARE BIRD ALERT

For two years a small group of Auduboners has participated in a highly successful Rare Bird Alert. Thirty-six calls have gone out in the past for such birds as the chestnut-sided warbler, louisiana heron, eastern kingbird and buff-breasted sandpiper. Everyone who would like to be on this year's list, call or write Janet Hamber (Mrs. H.F.), 4236 Encore Dr., Santa Barbara. Phone 7-6549. We only ask that you be very interested in rare birds and that you be willing to make one or phone calls immediately to reach others on the list. To be on the list, all names must be in by November 1, 1964. New lists and instructions will be mailed out by November 15.

If you see a rare bird please call Janet Hamber at 7-6549.

SANTA BARBARA BIRD NOTES

DEVEREAUX-GOLETA FIELD TRIP. Sept. 13. A small but select group of "birders" met at Isla Vista at 7:30 a.m. Their morning hike took in the beach around Coal Oil Point, the Devereaux Slough and the dunes beyond it. Before and after lunch at Goleta Beach Park, visits were made to the Goleta Sanitary District ponds east of the airport. 68 species were recorded, including 20 of the shore birds which were the primary objective of the trip. The best find of the day was four pectoral sandpipers at the Sanitary Districts ponds.

KINGBIRDS- Many of our members reported seeing the unusually large numbers of western kingbirds (40 to 150) at the Bird Refuge in early September. And quite a few of us found the two eastern kingbirds which were there from Sept. 7-17. This is the fourth consecutive year that these eastern birds have visited the Bird Refuge in September.

BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER- We have to thank Johansen Meinhardt of Solvang for first reporting the presence of buff-breasted, solitary and pectoral sandpipers at the Goleta Sanitary District ponds. This is the first record for the buff-breasted in this area and the other two are rarely seen. Since the first report on Sept. 10, quite a few of our members have been fortunate enough to see all three of these rare birds.

ORCHARD ORIOLE - An adult male orchard oriole has been seen daily for the past month in a garden in Carpinteria. Those wishing to try to see this bird which is rarely found in California should call Janet Hamber, 7-6549, for further information.

PALM WARBLER- reported at Maggie Millar's feeding station on Sept. 26th.

Migrating SURFBIRDS, RUDDY AND BLACK TURNSTONES AND WANDERING TATTLERS were reported on the local beaches on Sept. 6, 8, and 9 by Ken and Maggie Millar, Jewell Kriger, Ruth and Wales Holbrook and Nelson Metcalf.

ASH-THROATED FLYCATCHERS have been unusually numerous this month. Several were seen on the Sept. 13 trip at Devereaux. They have been at the Bird Refuge at least from Sept 7 to 20.

GOLDEN EAGLE-was seen high over Las Positas Road on Sept. 26. Keep an eye out for birds driven down into the coastal area by the Coyote Fire. Speaking of the fire, those of you who live near the burned area could help the wildlife displaced by the fire by putting out food and water.

GREEN-TAILED TOWHEE was reported by Mr. and Mrs. Jacot near the closed off bridge by Goleta Slough on Sept. 30th.

QUESTIONNAIRE

Just a reminder to mail in the Questionnaire from the last page of last months El Tecolote to Rich Miller, President, 4092 Naranjo Dr. Santa Barbara.

FIRE

The Coyote Fire that rampaged through the hills last month destroyed the homes of two of our members. Dr. and Mrs. Charles Richardson lost their lovely home on Ashley Drive and Mrs. Margaret Powell's home on Tunnel Road also burned. To both of them we extend our sympathy and hope that they will soon be happily relocated.

BOOK NOTE

The book, California Condor: Vanishing American by Richard Smith and Robert Easton has arrived and it is excellent; well-worth the price and a fine tool to talk with to people about our priceless bird resources and the problems of habitat, environment and wildlife vs people. Christmas book suggestion No. 1.