



El Tecolote

Bulletin of the Santa Barbara Audubon Society
Vol. 3 No. 1 Jan. 1965

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

- Jan. 22
Friday
CLASS IN FIELD IDENTIFICATION 7:30 - 8:00 p.m. This month Irma Cooke will discuss the field identification of the GULLS found in the Santa Barbara area.
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING 8:00 p.m. in Farrand Hall, Museum of Natural History. Our speaker will be Dean Blanchard who will give an illustrated talk on "Birds of the Arctic Islands". Mr. Blanchard will describe the experiences he had during the summer of 1964 when he visited Iceland, Greenland and the Faroes Islands
- Jan. 23
SATURDAY
FIELD TRIP TO DOS PUEBLOS RANCH. In response to many requests, we are having a field trip on SATURDAY. Meet at 11 a.m. at Dos Pueblos Ranch. Take 101 north to the Dos Pueblos turnoff. Follow the road under the freeway and meet on the Frontage Road. We hope to see the wild turkeys that have become established on the ranch property. Bring lunch.
- Feb. 6-7
Saturday
Sunday
OVERNIGHT FIELD TRIP TO MORRO BAY. Meet at 10:30 a.m. Saturday morning at the Museum of Natural History in Morro Bay State Park. Camping available at the State Park and many motels in nearby Morro Bay. We will bird in Morro Bay on Saturday. Sunday morning we will go to Rancho Montana de Oro and stop at Avila Beach on the way home Sunday afternoon
- Feb. 20-22
Saturday
Sunday
Monday
WEEKEND AT LOS BANOS WILDLIFE AREA Meet at Canal Farm Inn about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile east of Los Banos at 2:00 p.m.. Take 101 to Paso Robles, route 41 to route 33 and follow 33 to Los Banos; or take route 33 (formerly route 399) from Ojai to Los Banos. Driving time approximately 5 hours. The Los Banos Wildlife Area is winter home to thousands of ducks and many shorebirds.

A NEW YEAR'S REQUEST

The Santa Barbara Audubon Society, though less than two years old, has already gained the reputation of being a militant conservation organization.

You are all aware of the pressures on our last remaining wilderness areas, and of the urgent need for immediate action.

To be really effective, any organization must be alert, active and, above all, it must GROW. We need to attract more and more interested people to "our side". These people are everywhere. Many of them do not know yet that we exist. They wish to aid the cause of conservation, but do not know where to begin.

I would like to invite each one of you to be a part of the Member-

ship Committee to encourage people to join the Audubon Society. It is not necessary for them to be particularly interested in birds. An interest in nature is all that is needed. Many of the people we meet every day are vitally interested in preserving our natural heritage. Tell them about the Audubon Society. Tell them of our aims. If you are not sure of these aims, telephone me. I have literature available which will help you tell the Audubon story.

All the successful businessmen I know attribute a great percentage of their success to advertising. Let us advertise the most precious commodity we have. Many of you have already done so and our membership has grown steadily. Keep up the good work. And to those of you who have not yet introduced a new member to our organization, let me say that there is no satisfaction to equal that of showing someone how he can help in the important work of our Society.

Joy Parkinson, Membership Chairman, Tel-79371

BIRD NOTES

The most notable local bird visitor of the past month has been a Wood Ibis which has been at Goleta Slough and the Devereaux Slough since Dec. 12. The Wood Ibis, or Wood Stork, is a large heron-like bird about the size of a great blue heron. It is white with a dark naked head, a large large black wing area and a black tail. The bill is very thick at the base, decurved and nine inches long. The specimen in the Bird Hall at the Museum was taken at the Devereaux Slough more than thirty years ago, and this is the first reported in Santa Barbara area since that time.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

1. Mr. Douglas A. Emerson	1273 Rice Rd., Space 51, Ojai, Calif.
2. Mr. W. H. Ferry	1709 Overlook Lane, Santa Barbara
3. Mr. & Mrs. T. K. Follis	190 Teloma Drive, Ventura
4. Dr. & Mrs. C. Seybert Kinsell	1825 Garden St., Santa Barbara
5. Mrs. Beryl D. Moore	179 E. Ramona St., Ventura, Calif.

CHRISTMAS COUNT REPORT

On January 3, 48 observers in 16 parties combed the Santa Barbara area from dawn to dusk to count the bird population. The final tally showed they had counted 46,880 birds of 155 different species. The number of species was down from our 1963 high of 166, but higher than the 140 species counted in 1962. The species that showed the greatest gain in numbers was the starling which exploded from 14 in 1962 and 115 in '63 to 10,872 in 1964. The Coyote fire was probably responsible for the decrease found in certain chaparral birds, notably the wren-tit and the California quail. The development of Stow Lake resulted in the loss of some of our duck population. The redhead and ring-necked ducks were not seen there this year.

The Christmas Count Committee would like to thank the following hard working observers: Waldo Abbott, Isabel Ebel, Arthella & Edouard Jacot, Alice & Charles Richardson, Molly & Richard Watkins, Mary Erickson, Ivana Gardner, John Hildebrand, James Shipp, Lyndall Laughrin, John Flavin, Kate Smith, Arne Albertson, Norman Stevens, Nelson Metcalf, Alice & George Kladnik, Josephine Putnam, Leslie Cook, O.L. Cunningham, Jean & Frank Noel, Janet Hamber, Joy Parkinson, Bob Blake, Anne Eissler, Rich Miller, Tom Follis, Janet Gearhart, Marie Beals, Elizabeth Russell, Dorothy & Roger Gildersleeve, Ruth Case, Ruth Parker, Jean & Paul Johnson, Margaret & Kenneth Millar, Jewell Kriger, W.H. & Jo Ferry, Ruth & Wales Holbrook and Terry Grant.

The complete list of species sighted and numbers counted is on the following page.

Red-throated loon	19	Willet	141	Mockingbird	246
Horned grebe	9	Gr. yellowlegs	9	Calif. thrasher	19
Eared grebe	24	Less. yellowlegs	1	Robin	219
Western grebe	35	Least sandpiper	78	Hermit thrush	12
Pied-billed grebe	55	Dunlin	52	Western bluebird	20
Brown pelican	28	Dowitcher (sp?)	57	Blue-gr. gnatcatcher	14
D.G. cormorant	236	Western sandpiper	60	Ruby-cr. kinglet	118
Great blue heron	31	Marbled godwit	115	Water pipit	106
Green heron	3	Sanderling	822	Cedar waxwing	1211
Common egret	11	Glaucous-w. gull	192	Phainopepla	1
Snowy egret	17	Western gull	3250	Loggerhead shrike	36
Black-cr N. Heron	41	Herring gull	13	Starling	10,872
Wood ibis	1	California gull	2167	Hutton's vireo	10
Canada goose	12	Ring-billed gull	1130	Orange-cr. warbler	9
Black brant	5	Mew gull	272	Myrtle warbler	6
Mallard	110	Bonaparte's gull	392	Audubon's warbler	551
Pintail	126	Heermann's gull	69	Black-thr. gray warbler	2
Green-winged teal	97	Forster's tern	36	Townsend's warbler	9
Cinnamon teal	18	Royal tern	1	Yellowthroat	14
American widgeon	83	Common murre	1	House sparrow	573
Shoveler	43	Pigeon guillemot	1	Western meadowlark	569
Canvasback	13	Ancient murrelet	3	Red-w. blackbird	5915
Lesser scaup	43	Band-tail. pigeon	699	Tri-col. blackbird	2002
Bufflehead	3	Mourning dove	698	Orchard oriole	1
White-wng scoter	13	Roadrunner	2	Hooded oriole	3
Surf scoter	194	Barn owl	2	Baltimore oriole	2
Ruddy duck	403	Screech owl	4	Bullock's oriole	1
Common merganser	3	Great horned owl	6	Brewer's blackbird	1772
Red-br merganser	42	Burrowing owl	4	Brown-h. cowbird	86
Turkey vulture	1	White-tr. swift	2	Western tanager	3
White-tailed kite	7	Anna's hummingbird	153	Black-h. grosbeak	1
Sharp-sh hawk	4	Belted kingfisher	7	Purple finch	86
Cooper's hawk	8	Red-sh. flicker	81	House finch	1764
Red-tailed hawk	39	Acorn woodpecker	267	American goldfinch	143
Red-shouldered hawk	5	Yellow-b. sapsucker	10	Lesser goldfinch	263
Rough-legged hawk	1	Hairy woodpecker	2	Green-tailed towhee	1
Golden eagle	1	Downy woodpecker	11	Rufous-sided towhee	57
Marsh hawk	2	Nuttall's woodpeck.	10	Brown towhee	434
Pigeon hawk	1	Black phoebe	36	Savannah sparrow	58
Sparrow hawk	92	Say's phoebe	13	Lark sparrow	102
California quail	170	Horned lark	70	Rufous-cr. sparrow	7
Mountain quail	3	Scrub jay	379	Oregon junco	958
Sora	4	Yellow-b. magpie	4	Chipping sparrow	24
Common gallinule	2	Common raven	1	Harris' sparrow	1
American coot	923	Common crow	751	White-cr. sparrow	1743
Snowy plover	48	Plain titmouse	107	Golden-cr. sparrow	251
Semipalmated plover	1	Common bushtit	737	Fox sparrow	4
Killdeer	255	White-br. nuthatch	12	Lincoln's sparrow	3
Black-b. plover	26	Wrentit	85	Song sparrow	29
Common snipe	26	House wren	1		
Long-billed curlew	4	Bewick's wren	22		
Whimbrel	15	Long-b. marsh wren	7		
Spotted sandpiper	11				

Christmas Count- Santa Barbara Area 1964

Number of species---155

Number of individuals---46880

Number of parties--16

Number of observers--48