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

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

Mar 21.  FIELD TRIP TO SANTA ROSA PARK  Just a reminder. See Feb. bulletin for details. Call Nelson Metcalf 5-0848 if you need a ride or have space for passengers.

Mar. 26  CLASS IN FIELD IDENTIFICATION 7:30 - 8:00 p.m. Joy Parkinson will discuss the HAWKS found in Santa Barbara County.
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING 8:00 p.m. Farrand Hall, Museum of Natural History. The Nature Conservancy film "Silent River" will be shown. This movie explores in detail the great values preserved in the Northern California Coast Range Preserve in Mendocino County which was acquired by Nature Conservancy in 1963

April 3  FIELD TRIP TO JALAMA BEACH PARK  Note the SATURDAY date. Meet at the Museum at 8:00 a.m. The bus may be available. Call Mrs. Cooke 6-5520 for information on availability of bus or sharing a ride. Leader Waldo Abbott. Rider contribution $2.00.

April 11  FIELD TRIP TO FOXEN CANYON, TEPUSQUET CREEK ROAD AND COLSON CAMP  Meet at Museum at 8:00 a.m. Leader: Waldo Abbott. Rider contribution $2.25. (The proposed Sage Grouse - Mammoth Lakes Trip must be cancelled because motel accommodations were not available.)

April 24  FIELD TRIP TO REFUGIO CANYON  Details later.

May 2  FIELD TRIP TO ZACA LAKE  (or Davy Brown Camp and Manzana Creek) Details later.

May 16  ISLAND BOAT TRIP  Details later

June 6  FIELD TRIP TO REYES PEAK  Details later.

OTHER IMPORTANT DATES

BOARD MEETING: Wednesday March 24 from 4:30 - 6:00 p.m. Junior Library Museum of Natural History.

SACRAMENTO AUDUBON SOCIETY'S ANNUAL GRASSLANDS FIELD TRIP:

CONSERVATION PROGRAM: Wednesdays, 7:30-9:30 p.m. Recreation Center Auditorium, 100 East Carrillo St. March 17- "Channel Islands, Private or Public?" March 24- "Beaches and Shorelines, Parks or Projects?" March 31- "Back Country, Last Wilderness?"
CLARK BIRD REFUGE

As we reported at the last meeting, our planning goes forward with the City Park Commission on the Bird Refuge. We are working with a landscape designer to create a work plan for the Refuge, consistent with the recommendations of your Board and the Refuge Committee, to develop the Refuge into a more attractive sanctuary for "wild bird life" - the true purpose as described in the Deed of Gift from Mrs. Clark. More help and your ideas for fund raising will be needed. Please contact Joy Parkinson 7-9371, if you can help in any way.

A SPECIAL CONDOR BULLETIN

An important bill has been introduced in your state Legislature to increase the penalty for breaking the law that protects the California Condor (making it the same as in the existing law protecting the sea otter).

It is Senate Bill 261, introduced by Senators Lagomarsino, McCarthy, Christensen, Burns, and Stiern. It is co-sponsored by Assemblyman Henson.

The present law limits the penalty that can be imposed by the courts for taking or injuring a condor to a jail sentence of up to 6 months, or a fine of not more that $500, or both.

Senate Bill 261 would double the penalty, making a violation affecting the Condor punishable by "imprisonment in the county jail for a term not exceeding one year, or a fine not exceeding one thousand ($1,000), or both."

This bill has been referred to the Senate Fish and Game Committee, of which Senator Aaron W. Quick is chairman; and to the Assembly Committee on Natural Resources, of which Mrs. Pauline Davis is chairman.

A hearing may be called at any time. Your legislators are likely to vote for Senate Bill 261 if they have evidence of public support for the measure in their own districts. If you are interested in the passage of this bill you may write Senator Weingand and Assemblyman Shoemaker. The bill has the support of the State Fish and Game department.

FIELD TRIP TO LOS BANOS

I had never seen a spectacle of nature more thrilling---wave upon wave of honkers overhead, stretching across the whole sky into the setting sun, flapping their noisy return to their haven for the night among the honkers in the fresh-water slough. How the thousands in the air found room among the thousands on the ground is a mystery. But it was a sight I will never forget.

The whole trip to Los Banos on Feb 20 through the 22 was outstanding. There were only nine of us, shepherded by Nelson Metcalf. All stayed at the Canal Farm Inn Motel, with good food and reasonable rates. The weather was perfect, the hills a lush green. We made two birding trips to the Los Banos reserve, and one to the Merced reserve (the latter personally conducted by the assistant director there).

Both areas yielded an unusual number of new (to me) species in unusual numbers. The most notable finds were: 5 whistling swans, 30 white pelicans, 200 black-crowned night herons, 22 American bitterns, 50 white-faced ibis, 130 sandhill cranes, 20 ring-necked pheasants, 18 marsh hawks, 70 long-billed curlews, and literally thousands of coot, Canada and Ross geese and white-fronted and snow geese, widgeon, pintail, green-winged and cinnamon teal, and shovelers and ruddy ducks. We even saw several gallinules. A total of 101 species were seen on the entire trip. We returned through King City, stopping to crawl through...
the caverns of the Pinnacles. It was a trip to remember—and to repeat as soon as possible.

Tony Zozzora

BIRD NOTES

March 15 to May 15 is probably the most exciting period of the year for most birders. This is when the winter visitors are leaving and the summer residents and migrants arrive. The Pacific Coast is not as famous for big flights of birds as are some of the midwestern and eastern flyways, but some years we do have big flights in the last ten days of April and the first ten days of May. Watch for them.

It is fun to compare arrival and departure dates from year to year. Here are some guesses on arrival dates based on previous seasons:

| March 14 | Western Flycatcher | April 14 | Hooded Oriole |
| March 23 | Wilson's Warbler   | April 18 | Yellow Warbler |
| March 25 | Bullock's Oriole  | April 18 | Nashville Warbler |
| April 4  | Solitary Vireo     | April 23 | Western Wood Pewee |
| April 7  | Black-headed Grosbeak | April 26 | Vaux Swift |
| April 14 | Ash-throated Flycatcher | April 29 | Olive-sided Flycatcher |
| April 26 | Nashville Warbler  | April 30 | Western Tanager |
| May 4    | Swainson's Thrush  |          |                  |

And guesses as to when the following birds will leave for the north:

| April 14 | Hermit Thrush   | April 26 | Golden-crowned Sparrow |
| April 22 | Audubon's Warbler | May 26  | Cedar Waxing |
| April 26 | White-crowned Sparrow | By May 15, most of our wintering ducks and shore birds will be gone. |

If you haven't been keeping a record of the birds you see, now is a good time to start. At least make a note of the earliest date on which you see each bird. It will be fun to compare notes. If any members would like suggestions regarding forms on which to keep bird records, Nelson Metcalf can tell you of a variety of systems, some one of which may suit your purpose.

NEW MEMBERS

1. Mr. William Barnhill 1138 Mission Ridge R., Santa Barbara
2. Craig Bazzi 560 Beaumont Way, Goleta
3. Miss Wilma E. Harris 3775 Modoc Rd., Santa Barbara
4. Mrs. Grace Norman 2663 Tallant Rd., Santa Barbara
5. Mr. Vance Phillips 1010 Monte Dr., Santa Barbara
6. Mr. Richard Smith 3934 Harrold Ave, Santa Barbara

And a thanks to member Mrs. John Esbenshade for her gift to our Santa Barbara Audubon Conservation Fund.

TRAVEL ANYONE?

All sorts of tantalizing travel folders are coming in the mail to the editor. If you are interested in any of the following trips call Janet Hamber 7-6549 for further information:

1. Camp Denali, McKinley Park Alaska offers a Wilderness Workshop Program for ten days, June 21 through July 1, 1965.

2. Mahali Juani Safaris East Africa, June 21 through August 21, 1965. This wildlife tour will be headed by Dr. John Goodman, a Professor of Biology at the University of Redlands.

3. The Los Angeles Audubon Society is sponsoring a birding tour to Guatemala and Panama in August 1965, under the leadership of Herb and Olga Clarke.

4. The American River Touring Association offers many trips down the rivers of California, Idaho, Oregon, Mexico and Peru.