



# El Tecolote

Bulletin of the Santa Barbara Audubon Society  
Vol. 3 No. 6 June 1965

## CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

- July 25      FIELD TRIP TO BOTANIC GARDEN Meet at the Garden at 8:00  
Sunday      a.m.. This will be a short family walk ending at 10:30 a.m.
- Aug. 15      FIELD TRIP TO GOLETA BEACH Meet at Goleta Beach State  
Sunday      Park at 8:00 a.m. to look at the early arriving shore  
             birds.
- Aug. 29      FIELD TRIP TO THE MOUTH OF THE SANTA CLARA RIVER, VENTURA  
Sunday      Meet at the Museum at 8:00 a.m. The bus may be available  
             so check with Mrs. Cooke - Phone 6-5520 - in mid August  
             if you want to go on the trip. Venturans may join the  
             group at the entrance to the Ventura Marina at 8:45 a.m.  
             The Marina is just off 101 freeway in Ventura near the  
             Seward Ave. exit. Bring lunch.
- Sept. 24      REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING Details in the next bulletin,  
Friday      the September issue.
- June 23      BOARD MEETING at 4:30 p.m. in the Junior Library of the  
Wed.      Museum of Natural History

## ANNUAL MEETING

At the Annual Meeting of the Santa Barbara Audubon Society the following Board Members were elected:

Mr. Waldo Abbott	Dr. Mary Erickson	Mrs. Kenneth Millar
Mrs. Marie Beals	Mr. Thomas Follis	Mr. Richmond Miller
Mr. Leslie Cook	Mrs. Harvey Hamber	Mrs. Edwin Parkinson
	Mrs. Wales Holbrook	Mrs. Charles Richardson

John Borneman, Condor Warden, gave a most interesting and enlightening talk about his first few months on the job. Reaching some of the hard-headed local people has proved to be a problem at times. One local is convinced that, "There are no condors in the Sespe. They all nest on Santa Rosa Island." We hope John will return with further reports on the condor for our society.

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The Miller-McMillan Report on the Status and Welfare of the California Condor is now finally in print. It is excellent reading, not only to become well-informed so we can talk factually to our friends and acquaintances, but also since it offers all of us some clear direction in the area of habitat and environment conservation. I have a number of copies for sale at \$3.00 each. We were able to purchase them at a slight discount, so all sales will put a small

credit to our Conservation Fund.

Those of us who travel this summer to a National Park or National Forest- or wherever there is a Federal "Use" charge, should purchase the annual Land and Water Conservation Fund sticker. Its cost of \$7.00 besides admitting you all year to any such Park or Forest where a use fee is required, will put almost \$5.00 into a fund to purchase more land, shoreline and water to increase our national conservation "stockpile". It is a good investment.

The demands of his job and new baby son have been particularly heavy on your President the last several months, so I do not now have a formal Annual Report to submit to you. I will, however, have it prepared by the first El Tecolote for the fall. In the interim, I ask you to think on several subjects of interest to Santa Barbara Audubon, National Audubon and conservationists everywhere.

1. You can help save the Redwoods. Letters to Win Shoemaker, Al Weingand, Senators Murphy and Kuchel and Gov. Brown will let them know of your interest.

2. The Sierra Club has said, "The chips are down for the Grand Canyon." It is true and we must take action, by letters to our representatives and, if possible, by visits to the site to refresh our memory of that great resource. Read May Fortune for an excellent article which very fairly presents the issues. The February Sierra Club Bulletin has several pages on it also.

3. Think about how we can best raise money to improve and enhance the Andree Clark Bird Refuge and give your ideas to Joy Parkinson. We will soon have a plan and drawing so we can talk in much detail about our ideas to date.

4. Tell the Board of your ideas for trips and programs, and your interest, or disinterest, in our 1964/65 program of meetings and trips. We will try to be responsive so that all of us can derive the maximum from our membership and so that we may expand our membership.

5. Let us know of your ability to help in any way you can during the year. As Carl Buchheister said in his Report in the current Audubon Magazine, the greatest weight of education work in our community falls on the local societies, Santa Barbara in particular, not only for the condor but for all aspects of the conservation of the habitat which will support and attract the marvellous bird life which we are so fortunate to have here.

My thanks for your support and your work during the year and my best wishes for a good summer.

Rich Miller

#### FWOC CONVENTION IN SANTA BARBARA

In your end-of-summer plans set aside the Labor Day weekend to attend the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs' annual convention to be held at Campbell Hall auditorium on the University of California campus at Santa Barbara, September 4-5-6, 1965. The Sierra Club will host the forty-one FWOC organizations, and invites members of all conservation organizations to enjoy the exciting informative sessions and meet fellow conservationists.

Distinguished speakers will bring you up-to-date on the nation's major scenic resource issues. Special attention will be given to wildlife and outdoor recreation in the Santa Barbara area-the California condor, park dedication of the Channel Islands, vehicles in trail country, and beach preservation with field outings scheduled to Santa Barbara's renowned scenic, historic and wilderness landmarks.

Volunteers are needed to help with arrangements at UCSB's Campbell Hall and to manage other convention activities. Secretaries and typists will assist the resolutions committee. The occasion will receive nationwide attention and is a vital opportunity for us to build understanding of Southern California conservation. If you can work on the conference, notify Fred Bissler, 2812 Panorama Place, Ph. 966-4761

## NEW MEMBERS

- |                              |                                  |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. Mrs. Ralph Allen          | 303 Loma Alta Dr., Santa Barbara |
| 2. Mrs. Truman E. Davis Sr.  | 1340 Kenwood Rd., Santa Barbara  |
| 3. Mr. & Mrs. Keith Kazebeer | 205 Driffle #39, Oxnard, Calif.  |
| 4. Dr. Jean Jennings         | Box A 377 Camarillo, Calif.      |

## NOTE

Mrs. Roscoe C. Lyans has two year old Blue Oak trees in gallon can for which she would like to find garden homes. Phone 2-4414, if interested.

## BIRD NOTES

Many of our members will remember seeing and hearing the Troupial at Mrs. Thomas Kennedy's on East Victoria St. more than a year ago. This beautiful big oriole from Venezuela was almost certainly an escapee from Peter Batten's zoo. It was at Mrs. Kennedy's almost daily for 16 months, but has not been seen since the middle of April. Anyone who has seen or heard of the troupial since mid-April is asked to contact Mrs. Kennedy at 6-6554 or Maggie Millar at 9-3446. This bird somewhat resembles the Baltimore oriole in coloring but is much larger about the size of a jay.

Best find of the month of May in the Santa Barbara area was a Little Blue Heron in full breeding plumage at Goleta. It was first reported by Dr. Robert Burns, visiting professor of Biology at UCSB, who saw it on the pond adjoining the Sanitary District. It stayed around this area for three or four days in the company of several snowy egrets and was seen by 15 or 20 of our birders. Waldo Abbott photographed it.

The all-white gull is still at Stearns Wharf and the beach at the foot of Santa Barbara St. It has at last proved it is not an albino by beginning to show some dark coloring on its secondary wing feathers as well as faint indication of the pearl gray saddle of the adult plumage.

Great flocks of shearwaters were in the Santa Barbara channel throughout the month of May. On May 9, 10, 11, hundreds of thousands were close enough to be visible from the mainland at times. On the Island trip May 16 quite a number of pink-footed shearwaters were seen among the sooties scattered all over the channel. One slender-billed shearwater was identified.

Highlights of the Island trip were the black-footed albatross seen in the channel and the American oystercatcher found at about the same location it was seen last May on the north shore of Anacapa Island.

The ponds at the Goleta Slough are at last drying up. Most of the avocets and stilts have left. Fifty or more Wilson's phalaropes were there from April 27 to May 10. Northern phalaropes were common both at the slough and in the open ocean from May 5 to the end of the month. Two hundred twenty five were counted in one pond at the slough on May 14. Many black terns and one least tern were there for a few days.

Maggie Millar reports that a pair of Vaux swifts appear to be remaining near her home in Montecito again this summer. There is no known breeding record for them in Southern California.

Joy Parkinson and Janet Hamber spent Memorial Day weekend camping at Quaking Aspen in the High Sierra. They saw such high altitude birds as the Cassin's finch, Townsend's solitaire, golden-crowned kinglets, calliope hummingbirds and Lincoln's sparrow.

An April note from Charles and Alice Richardson reports that they spent the day with Dr. Sprunt at Corkscrew Sanctuary and visited the Everglades and the Florida Keys.