



E Tecolote

Bulletin of the Santa Barbara Audubon Society
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Oct. 1965

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

- Oct. 22
Friday CLASS IN FIELD IDENTIFICATION 7:30 - 8:00 p.m. Bird Hall
Museum of Natural History. Topic to be announced. Watch
the Santa Barbara News-Press for details.
- Oct. 22
Friday REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING 8:00 p.m. Farrand Hall, Museum of
Natural History "Understanding The Natural World". Paul M.
Howard, Director of the Audubon Center of Southern Califor-
nia and Audubon Camp of the West, will show films and
explain the works being done, in both these wonderful
Audubon facilities, to give young and old a meaningful
nature knowledge experience. In addition, our Condor
Warden, John Borneman, will be present with the latest
information on the status of the California condor. This
program will be of great interest to all persons concerned
with conservation. We have invited several other organiza-
tions to be our guests. Save this date and bring a friend
or three. We are sure they will find the evening interest-
ing and enjoyable.
- Oct. 24
Sunday FIELD TRIP TO HOLLISTER RANCH Meet at the Gaviota Beach
State Park parking lot at 8:30 a.m. Bring lunch. Leader:
Les Cook. A special permit has been secured to explore
the beaches, cliffs and canyons of this area new to us.
- Nov. 6
Sunday FIELD TRIP TO DEVEREAUX SLOUGH AREA Meet at the west end
of Del Playa Drive (the southwest corner of Isla Vista) at
8:30 a.m. If you wish to "bird" in the Goleta area in the
afternoon, bring lunch. Leader: Nelson Metcalf
- Nov. 21
Sunday FIELD TRIP TO BOTANIC GARDEN Meet at the Garden parking
lot at 8:00 a.m. This will be a short morning trip.
Leaders: Charles and Alice Richardson

REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT

We will meet with the City Park Commission on October 7th to present our formal plan for the development and improvement of the Andree Clark Bird Refuge. The drawings presented by the architect Mr. Russell, at our meeting on September 24th, were very well received by the membership. We hope the Park Commission and the City Council will be impressed as well, and endorse our plans.

The Fish & Game-Forest Service-Audubon Condor Count will be held on October 16 and 17 at 61 locations from eastern Ventura County to northern Kern County. Several of our members have been asked to participate. The count will probably be low in this area, since the birds are normally out in the Valley at this time of year. A major purpose of the count is to establish suitable localities and a radio communicatio

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network so that flying birds can be followed from area to area.

The Forest Service has called a Public Hearing for November 8, to hear public testimony on their plan to reclassify as wilderness, under the terms of the Wilderness Act, the San Rafael Wild Area in the Los Padres National Forest, between the Manzana and the Sierra Madre and Zaca and Big Pine. The area includes the Sisquoc Sanctuary and National Audubon will be making a statement with respect to the condor. I am working on a statement for our group which will probably be prepared by our next meeting. We are concerned that the area proposed does not include Big Pine, nor does it go to the top of the Sierra Madre Ridge. We may have a long battle on our hands to get the kind and area of Wilderness we think is needed. This is the first proposal anywhere, under the terms of the Wilderness Act, to add areas to those incorporated in the Act of September 1964. Congress takes the final action, after recommendations from Interior, Agriculture and other interested public and private groups and individuals. We will need your help in letter writing- details on that will follow later in October.

I hope more of us can get out to the Field Trips. The birds are beginning to move through and a few interesting ones have appeared so far. We need every possible pair of eyes to spot the rare and accidents during migration.

Rich Miller, Pres.

CONSERVATION NOTES

PESTICIDES--SI OR NO? Traces of insecticides, including DDT and dieldrin have been found in rainwater by British scientists. There is now abundant evidence of the accumulation of pesticide in birds and beasts of prey which are always at the end of the food chain. The most seriously affected bird of prey is the most magnificent of all, the Peregrine Falcon, whose pre-war population in England was 650 pairs, but has now dwindled to about half that figure. Even sadder is the observation that the British environment is becoming too contaminated for the survival of not only the peregrine, but also golden eagles and kites. Britain is taking a lead in corrective measures by banning the use of such pesticides as aldrin, dieldrin and heptachlor.

NEW BOOK GLORIFIES "THE GOLDEN EAGLE" In this elegant little piece of nature literature, the author, Robert Murphy, describes the life of one golden eagle from the day she leaves the nest to the day she sinks her beak in the poisoned carcass of a ewe. The sad comment is that in contemporary America this splendid bird is little more than a clay pigeon. With the cynical excuse that it is a menace to man and beast, the golden eagle has been poisoned, trapped, nest robbed and pursued in planes by hot shots taking potshots until he is in imminent danger of extinction.

AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL? From sea to shining sea, the inevitable growth of U.S. humanity and industry has crushed grass, leveled trees, blasted out mountains and dammed off rivers. Interior Secretary, Stewart Udall, calls the dimming of America's beauty "the quiet crisis" Supreme Court Justice, William O. Douglas, in his new book A Wilderness Bill of Rights, points out that "wilderness has values greater than any price that can be placed on the resources it contains." The President of the United States agrees. "Natural beauty" he said, "is more than a rich source of pleasure and recreation." With such voices crying out for wilderness values, the U.S. is now, as never before in its history, alive with projects concerned with conservation.

Tom Follis

SANDYLAND FIELD TRIP

On the morning of Sept. 19, about thirty-five people investigated the bird life of Sandyland and Carpinteria Beach. The press notice of

this field trip seems to have netted a number of new faces. We hope we will see more of them. The birding was good but not exceptional. The Cinnamon teal and pintails were in the latter stages of moult, so were not at their colorful best. Northern phalaropes were numerous and obligingly close for easy study and identification. Red phalarope were also seen. Elegant terns, of which there have been more than usual this year, were in evidence. The viewing of an immature Franklin's gull was exciting. At press time it was still easily found on the Carpinteria Beach. We appreciate the continued cooperation of the property owners of Sandyland who give us special permission to bird in this area.

----Les Cook

LETTER FROM THE WORLD WILDLIFE FUND

Dear Mr. Miller,

The Duke of Edinburgh who is President of the British National Appeal of the World Wildlife Fund, has asked me to express his concern at the imminent threat to the dwindling population of California Condors posed by the Topa Topa Dam Project.

His Royal Highness is not, of course, conversant with all the factors in this controversial issue, but he feels strongly that great efforts should be made to avoid any action which could further reduce the numbers of Condors below the present 40-odd birds.

The World Wildlife Fund firmly believes, with your Society, that a materialistic engineering project such as the one proposed cannot be justified at the cost of exterminating the unique and magnificent Condors, in whose survival conservationists all over the world are actively interested.

His Royal Highness asks me to say how much he hopes a solution will be found which will not destroy the Sespe Wildlife Sanctuary or jeopardise the California Condor.

Yours sincerely,
Peter Scott

CACHUMA FIELD TRIP

A small (but select) group, undeterred by the cloudy morning, made a visit to Lake Cachuma, the Refugio Canyon Rd., Santa Ynez River nearby and lunched at Nojoqui County Park. The anticipated migratory birds were not much in evidence except for a few Cliff Swallows and Vaux's Swifts. In fact there was little bird movement of any kind in the woodland areas. Numbers of Red-shouldered and Red-tailed Hawks were observed. Two dozen Yellow-billed Magpies swooped down on the lunch table at Nojoqui for our left-overs. A stop at Goleta Slough did not reveal the Little Blue Herons recently reported there, but helped reaise the day's list to 64 species. ----- Alice Richardson

MEMO FROM BILL GOODALL

CALIFORNIA TOMORROW, publishers of the two thought provoking Pamphlets "California Going, Going...." and "The Phantom Cities of California" have embarked on a new project which this Office is please to bring to your attention.

In turn, we hope you will present to your membership the important facts about this Publication "CRY, CALIFORNIA" so that they may be informed of its availability.

If you are interested in further information on California Tomorrow contact Janet Hamber Phone 7-6549

SaveSave1965-FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE-1966SaveSave

- Dec. 4-5
Sat-Sun. MORRO BAY and MONTANA DE OPO and AVILA BEACH. Meet at the Morro Bay State Park Museum at 9:30 a.m. Saturday. Option of camping in the State Park or making your own motel reservations.
- Dec. 4
Sat. AUDUBON CENTER OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA. A special invitation to the Santa Barbara Audubon Society members has been extended by Paul Howard, Center Director. Field trips of the center will begin about 8:30 a.m. and will conclude about noon. The Center will furnish hot tomato soup, but each person should bring his own sack lunch.
- Jan. 2
Sun. ANNUAL CHRISTMAS COUNT
- Jan. 9
Sun. ISLAND BOAT TRIP Board the Lorayne 11 between 10 and 11 Saturday evening. Bunks with two blankets and pillows provided. Shortly after daylight we will disembark at Prisoner's Harbor on Santa Cruz Island to bird for a couple of hours up the canyon. Then we will spend the res. of the day cruising along the shores of Santa Cruz and Anacapa Islands. Return to Santa Barbara about 5:00 p.m. Sunday. The cost will be \$10.00 per person for capacity load of 46 and more if fewer people go. Reservations should be made with Mrs. Cooke by January 4th.
- Jan. 16 Sun. POINT MUGU MARSHES
- Jan. 29-30
Sat.-Sun. CARRIZZO PLAIN area; overnight at the California Valley Lodge. This is our best area to find Sandhill Cranes, Mountain Plovers, Mountain Bluebirds, Golden Eagles, etc.
- Feb. 20, Sun. SANTA CLARA RIVER ESTUARY
- Mar. 6, Sun. LOS PRIETOS - RED ROCK AREA
- Mar. 20, Sun. SESPE CORRIDOR in the CONDOR REFUGE
- Apr. 2, Sat. AUDUBON CENTER OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA. See details under the Dec. 3rd heading.
- Apr. 3, Sun. To be arranged.
- Apr. 17, Sun. SANTA PAULA CANYON and the SATICOY SPREADING GROUNDS
- Apr. 24, Sun. FOXEN and COLSON CANYONS
- May 1, Sun. To be arranged.
- May 8, Sun. ZACA LAKE
- May 15, Sun. SPRING ISLAND BOAT TRIP
- May 28-30 Sat.- Mon. QUAKING ASPEN in the Sierras, Camp or Motel
- June 12, Sun. MT. PINOS

Some adjustments in the above schedule may be necessary so watch El Tecolote for further details.