



El Tecolote

BULLETIN OF THE SANTA BARBARA AUDUBON SOCIETY

Vol. 4 No. 5 May 1966

We acknowledge with much gratitude the gift of a new El Tecolote masthead to grace our bulletin, from our talented member, Dick Smith!

Save

Save

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

Save

Save

May 24
Tuesday

MEETING: MONTECITO RIDING AND HIKING ASSOCIATION 7:45 p.m. Montecito Hall (next to the Presbyterian Church in Montecito Village). Both candidates for State Senator, Alvin Weingand and Robert Lagomarsino, will present their views on trail preservation and other conservation issues. The meeting is open to the public.

May 28
Saturday

FIELD TRIP TO SANTA PAULA CREEK-STECKEL PARK A number of members have requested Saturday outings. This will be a bit of a test run. If enough wish it, we may also visit Matilija dam and creek above it on the way home. Leave Museum at 8 a.m. Others join at park 4½ miles north of Santa Paula at 9 a.m. Driver donation \$2.00. Bring lunch. NOTE FOR ALL TRIPS: Those who need transportation, or those who will take passengers for an event, should call Mrs. Cooke at 6-5520. Unless otherwise arranged, passengers and drivers meet at the Natural History Museum. Riders pay driver.

June 3
Friday

ANNUAL MEETING PICNIC AT TUCKER'S GROVE 6 p.m. We have reserved tables for 100, so bring the family and friends. Each person bring own picnic-we will serve coffee, pop and dessert. Our guests will be John and Linda Borneman and Charles Callison from Audubon House. Mr. Callison is the editor of the Conservation Leader's Guide and the National Outlook article in Audubon Magazine. They will tell us informally of their activities and programs.

June 12
Sunday

FIELD TRIP TO MOUNT PINOS VIA LOCKWOOD VALLEY Meet at the Museum at 7:30 promptly, or join group at the shopping Center at the near edge of Ojai where Rt. 33 intersects 150 at 8:30 a.m. Take lunch. Driver donation \$3.00. Mt. Pinos is about as high as we can get on the coast range mountains. We should see a number of species not easily found this side of the Sierra, such as: Clark's Nutcrackers, White-headed Woodpeckers, Pygmy Nuthatches, Cassin's Finches and others.

August 14
Sunday

FIELD TRIP TO SANTA CLARA RIVER ESTUARY-SATICOY SETTLING BEDS Meet at Museum at 8:00 a.m. or at the Standard Station on Seaward Ave and 101 in Ventura at 8:45 a.m. Bring lunch. Driver donation \$1.75.

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Aug. 28
Sunday

FIELD TRIP TO GOLETA SLOUGH-COAL OIL POINT Meet at Museum at 8:00 a.m. or at the west end of Sabado Tarde St. in Isla Vista at 8:30a.m. Bring Lunch. Driver donation 50%.

Sept. 11
Sunday

FIELD TRIP TO SANDYLAND Meet at Museum at 8:00 a.m. or at east end of Santa Claus frontage road at 8:30 a.m. This is a morning walk unless a few decide otherwise and bring lunch. Driver donation 50%.

Sept. 23
Friday

REGULAR MEETING We propose to have a program of members slides of our field trips or other notable nature subjects. Contact Rich Miller, who will arrange the program, if you have some interesting slides.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

I would like to thank publicly the 65-66 Board for their energy and help and guidance, and the Treasurer, Editor and Secretary for their constant high level of work. A special thank you goes to retiring Board members, Mary Erickson, Janet Hamber, Waldo Abbott and Margaret Miller.

Your Board will present, on June 3, some definite conclusions and recommendations relative to our interrelationship with the Child's Estate Foundation, Inc, regarding a footpath around the western perimeter of the Bird Refuge. This is a most critical aspect of our redevelopment plan. As soon as the perimeter situation is resolved, we can move our plan forward with all speed. We are most grateful to all those who contributed to the magnificent model of our plan for the Refuge, unveiled at the Horticultural Show on April 23rd. And to John Russell for his creative design and hard work.

I hope that many of you will be able to attend the Montecito Riding and Hiking Association meeting on May 24th. We should support this group and assist them in selecting trails to be improved, added and maintained. We have as great an interest in trails, and foot access to the back country as the hikers and riders; and we are also vitally concerned with the question of motorized access vs. foot/horseback access.

Be sure to send in your reservation for the National Convention to be held in Sacramento, Cal. in November. I will drive up Friday evening Nov. 11 and return "mid-week". I have 2 or 3 spaces still available in my car.

Rich Miller, President

NATIONAL CONVENTION NOV. 11-16 AT SACRAMENTO

Are there silver linings in the clouds of despair that generally envelop conservationists -- particularly those who observe what man has done, and is doing, to wildlife, the waters, the remnants of wilderness, and to the virgin redwoods and scenic landscape of California?

The National Audubon Society insists it can see a gleam through the gloom. The theme of the Society's 62nd National Convention will be: "Silver Linings in Conservation: Chaos or Control?"

Bill Goodall has announced a program format that includes two days of reports and discussions, two days of field trips and special events that feature Audubon world-famous figures, Allan Cruickshank and Roger Tory Peterson. Dr. Peterson will personally present an original wildlife film lecture Tuesday evening at the Convention banquet.

To register and to receive full information send \$5.00 to Mrs. Duryea Morton, Audubon Convention, 613 Riversville Rd., Greenwich, Conn. 06830. Anyone can attend -- you don't have to be an Audubon Member. Convention headquarters will be the Hotel El Dorado in Sacramento.

CONSERVATION REPORT

It appears that preliminary moves are being made to vote again on the Sespe Dam Project in November. The taxpayers will be asked not only to vote on this mult-million dollar scheme, but also to foot the bill for election costs and campaigning. It seems that the reason for this haste is and has been United Water District's fear of, through reapportionment, losing control of the board to the Oxnard area, which is definitely against the dam. Hints of compromise between the City of Ventura and United Water Conservation District on the Sespe Project were revealed recently at a meeting in Santa Paula.

The Chamber of Commerce, in Oceanside, has sent out a plea for support in their efforts to have the Buena Vista Lagoon area established as a state park. They write that they need all the convincing evidence they can gather to show the State Division of Beaches and Parks that the Lagoon is an indispensable body of water, and that it should be preserved. The evidence they ask is written support, showing that conservation-minded people of California know this area and recognize its importance. The Lagoon is the home of over 200 species of wildlife and an important winter home for thousands of waterfowl. We are urged to write a postcard to Dr. Roy Palmateer, 516 Fourth St., Oceanside, Calif. 92054, urging the establishment of a park.

The battle to keep overhead power lines from crossing Rutherford Park near Modoc Rd. and Las Positas Rd. appears to have been won. The City of Santa Barbara, The Baptist Homes, Inc. and the Edison Co. have agreed to foot the largest part of the \$9,000 cost. The sum of \$1,000 is needed to complete the project. Anyone interested in aiding this project may mail a check to The Hidden Valley Improvement Association, Mrs. Orias, 3788 Torino Dr., S.B., marked for Underground Power.

Tom Follis

AUDUBON ACTIVITIES

ISLAND TRIP April 17. A day on the Sea Jay out of Oxnard's Channel Islands Harbor resulted in more available hours in the Anacapa-Santa Cruz area and netted 58 species of birds for the 17 who made the trip. Notable sightings were: many sooty shearwaters, black brant, northern phalaropes and Xantus's murrelet. Bonus pleasures were the excellent views had of a large basking shark, many dolphins and a beautiful fox. Having a landing permit was a real treat. Too bad more were not along.

COLSON CANYON TRIP April 24 A very good outing, enjoyed by many, was had on a fine clear day. Sixty-four species were recorded. Of special interest were an osprey at Cachuma, a Cassin's kingbird, blue-grey gnatcatchers, lark sparrows and the often heard, but in this case well seen and heard, canyon wren.

ZACA LAKE May 1 A splendid turnout of 47 availed themselves of the luncheon and fine birding at this resort. Most exciting was the good fortune a few had, as they were on their way down the mountains, in seeing a golden eagle.

AUDUBON SOCIETY BRANCH MEETING May 7 Rich Miller, Nelson Metcalf, Alice Richardson, Joy Parkinson and Janet Hamber attended the meeting in San Dimas with representatives from 12 of the Audubon Branches and Affiliates in Southern California. The meeting was well attended and most productive in the interchange of ideas, problems and solutions. During the morning, three seminars were held for the President/Membership Chairmen, Conservation/Education, and Programs/Bulletins/Field Trips. The discussions were stimulating and worthwhile. The afternoon was given over to the presentation of a study and plan by the California State Department of Fish and Wildlife. The plan was notable in that the interests of the "non-consumptive user" (governmentese for bird watcher or nature lover) were considered along with the interests of the hunter.

Les Cook