

Santa Barbara Audubon Society

Janet A. Hamber-Editor
4236 Encore Dr.
California 93105

Vol 4 No. 6 Sept. 1966

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

- Sept. 15
Thursday

ADULT EDUCATION COURSE: The Common Birds of Santa Barbara given by Nelson Metcalf begins this Thursday from 9:30-11:30 a.m. in Farrand Hall, Museum of Natural History. Mr. Metcalf will discuss the basic principles of bird identification, courtship, migration and social behavior.
- Sept. 23
Friday
CLASS IN FIELD IDENTIFICATION: 7:30-8:00 p.m. Waldo Abbott, Curator of Mammalogy & Ornithology, will discuss PELAGIC BIRDS.
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING: 8:00 p.m. Farrand Hall, Museum of Natural History. We are most fortunate in having Roland Clement, Staff Biologist of National Audubon Society speak to us of his activities and the need to preserve a clean and pleasing environment for our society. You have all read his articles in Audubon Magazine. He is a forthright thinker and speaker so we can expect a stimulating evening.
- Sept. 25
Sunday
FIELD TRIP TO BOTANIC GARDENS (morning only) Meet at the Botanic Garden parking lot at 8:00 a.m. Leaders: Charles and Alice Richardson.
- Sept 26
Monday
MEETING: COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS See the President's Report for further details.
- Sept. 29
Thursday
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING 4:30 p.m. Museum of Natural History
- Oct. 8
Saturday
FIELD TRIP TO RANCHO DOS PUEBLOS Meet at the Museum at 8:00 a.m. or on the Dos Pueblos off-ramp of U.S. 101 at 8:30. Bring lunch. This is the only place in southern California where TURKEYS may be seen in the wild. Leader: Leslie Cook
- Oct. 23
Sunday
ISLAND BOAT TRIP on the 90' clipper SWIFT. Leave dock in front of Harbor Master's Building at 6:30 a.m. Return by 4:00 p.m. Bring lunch. Fare: \$10.00 per person. Make reservation and advance payment to Mrs. L.A. Cooke at the Museum of Natural History, 2559 Puesta Del Sol; phone 966-5520. No refunds unless the places can be filled. Maximum of 36 persons. Members will be given preference until Oct. 16. Leader: Waldo Abbott
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Sept 20
Tuesday
MEETING: MONTECITO RIDING AND HIKING ASSOCIATION presents State Senators Weingand and Lagomarsino in a discussion. See the President's Report for further details.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Welcome back- from Alaska to the Southwest and the Northwest and Alberta and the byways of California- to all our peripatetic ornithologists, from those of us who spent the summer here. Our family welcomed - four days after the Mt. Pinos trip- our fourth child, a son Paul, so we have had our own busy summer waiting for the fall migration and a good night's sleep! Alice and Charles Richardson welcomed- to their surprise- most of our Board at their new home, and Leslie Cook's wife has been recently hospitalized; so we have all had a full three months since we last met.

My report to the Board for my last two years as your President was distributed at the Annual Meeting in May, and mailed out to those who did not attend. If you have not received a copy, please contact Joy Parkinson (ph. 967-9371.)

So now the new season with its many activities is upon us. First of all, have you made your reservation for the National Convention to be held this year in Sacramento, California, Nov. 11-16? Please do. It will be a rewarding experience and well worthwhile. We want a good delegation from the Santa Barbara Audubon Society

Save the date: September 26, 3 p.m. County Supervisors Hearing: Curtis Tunnell is proposing that the Board of Supervisors rescind, or at least suspend until June 1967, its action of December 1965 when it unanimously endorsed the USFS and Citizens proposals for the San Rafael Wilderness. His position is simply that "we cannot afford a Wilderness in Santa Barbara Co." since the Wellman fire demonstrated the great danger from brush and the brush must be controlled and as a by-product the water yield of the Sisquoc watershed must be improved. He seems to feel that there is too much acreage in the San Rafael Primitive Area already; the fire danger is too high; the loss of runoff due to heavy brush is too great; hunting and fishing is too limited; why put more area into Wilderness? Our position is that the Resolution (#25112) passed in December gives the protection required, as it states the brush control problem and recommends methods of control be used which are "consistent with the character of the Wilderness". Furthermore, the Wilderness Act itself provides that water conservation, reservoirs, transmission lines, etc. are all permitted if in the opinion of the President they serve the public interest more by their existence than by their denial. The USFS has extended its proposal to include much- just how much we cannot at this time ascertain- of the additional acreage we proposed. The November Hearing Record is in Washington, prior to going to the White House; then to a Congressional Committee and to the Floor. It is unlikely that a rescission by the Supervisors will seriously impair that progress; however, local support is vital to the success of this wilderness, and we believe it should be continued. We need letters and people in attendance and especially immediate contact with our members in the northern county area, so we may determine how Supervisor Tunnell's constituency views this issue.

A new problem about to crop up is the "development" of the Goleta Slough. We will be requesting a study commission, with representatives of the various public bodies, conservation groups and UCSB be formed to act as a "planning committee". Otherwise, it seems the Slough will be all raised several feet, all the creeks will be channelized into concrete sluiceways and the Slough destroyed forever. Census and bird observations of the areas are needed to support the case. We are faced with a "salt-marsh, wet-lands" problem of the magnitude which the Atlantic seaboard states have been wrestling with for years. It is now a state law to require full public hearings and state permission before any Massachusetts wetland can be touched or altered in any manner. Several priceless habitats have already been saved by this measure.

The Montecito Riding and Hiking Association will have both

candidates for State Senator from our district at Montecito Hall (next to the Presbyterian Church in Montecito Village) at 8:00 p.m. on Sept. 20. Senator Weingand and Senator Lagomarsino will present their views on trail preservation and other conservation issues. The meeting is open to the public and you are urged to attend and learn where these candidates stand on the conservation issues facing the state.

Rich Miller, Pres.

RARE BIRD ALERT

In September 1962 we started a Rare Bird Alert so that interested people would be contacted by phone if a rare bird appeared in our area. The old list is being thrown away now and a new list made up for this year. If you would like to be on this year's list, call or write Janet Hamber (Mrs. H.F.) 4236 Encore Dr., Santa Barbara or phone 967-6549. ONLY THOSE PEOPLE WHO CONTACT JANET WILL BE INCLUDED. We only ask that you be very interested in rare birds and that you be willing to make one or more phone calls immediately to reach others on the list. All names must be in by Sept. 24. The new list will be mailed out Oct. 1.

CONSERVATION NOTES

NEW SESPE PROPOSAL AT "ONE THIRD THE COST". This new proposal calls for only one dam on the Sespe at Topatopa. Instead of a second dam at Cold Springs, the plan provides "recreational ponds" at Piru and Fillmore and a \$1.5 million lake at Saticoy. U.W.C.D. spokesman said the plan "has met no opposition so far from the state, N.W.D." or others. Though all Federal Funds would be withdrawn under this plan, the cost to county taxpayers will be \$35 million.

BALD EAGLE NEST PROTECTION has been ordered into effect on all National Wildlife Refuges. Approximately one square mile will be closed around each nesting site. Tom Follis, Conservation

AUDUBON ACTIVITIES

During the summer months we had three field trips. The first was on June 17 when we went to Mt. Pinos and saw 78 species. This 8831 foot mountain provided 33 bird enthusiasts with the viewing of several species seldom seen on the coast: Calliope Hummingbirds, Clark's Nutcracker, Cassin's Finch and nesting Green-tailed Towhee.

The trip to the Santa Clara Estuary on Aug. 14 was remarkable for the number of waders seen, also the flocks of phalaropes and terns. The nearby settling beds were alive with sandpipers, plovers and other water birds. 67 species were seen on the trip.

About three dozen members and guests identified 73 species on the Coal Oil Point, Goleta Slough trip held August 28. The more noteworthy were an early Common Loon, a Wandering Tattler and a Marsh Hawk.

BIRD NOTES

On Aug. 12 Dick Smith counted 21 Condors in the area of Mt. Pinos. Even more remarkable, Dick flushed two Blue Grouse on the north face of Sawmill Mt., just west of Pinos. This is the only area in southern California where the grouse is found and no others have been reported in recent years except one by Waldo Abbott a couple of years ago.

Tom and Mary Hyland (Santa Maria) have had an interesting time watching the development of a pair of young Spotted Owls in the Cuyama Valley.

A male Orchard Oriole was seen in Montecito on June 7 by Jo Ferry.

The Stangs report that a Red Crossbill has been a regular visitor at their home in Winchester Village for about a week.

Save!

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Christmas Count:	Nelson Metcalf	Address above	

1966- TENTATIVE FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE -1967

Nov. 6- Santa Ynez Valley	Apr. 9- Figueroa Mountain (Apr. 8-9 for campers)
Nov. 20- Schofield Park	Apr. 23- Dune Lakes
Dec. 3-4- Carrizo Plain	Apr. 29- Refugio Pass Road
Dec. 26- Mountain Area Xmas Count	May 7- Zaca Lake
Dec. 31- Santa Barbara Xmas Count if bad weather then Jan.2	May 14- Santa Paula Canyon
Jan. 14-15-Morro Bay & Avila Beach	May 21- Island Boat Trip
Jan. 29- Point Mugu Marshes	June 4- To be arranged
Feb. 11-13- Desert Trip, probably to Morongo Valley & Salton Sea	Aug.13- Lockwood Valley & Mt.Pinos (Aug. 12-13 for campers)
Feb. 26- To be arranged	Aug. 27- Santa Clara River Valley
Mar. 12- Jalama Beach	
Mar. 18-20- Los Banos wild Life Area & Merced Wild Life Refuge	