



El Tecolote

BULLETIN OF THE SANTA BARBARA AUDUBON SOCIETY

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Vol 4 No. 7 Oct. 1966

Calendar Of Coming Events

- Oct. 23
Sunday ISLAND BOAT TRIP: There may still be some room aboard the 90 ft. clipper SWIFT. Check with Mrs. Cooke ph. 966-5520 if you are interested. Fare \$10.00 per person.
- Oct. 28
Friday CLASS IN FIELD IDENTIFICATION: Charles and Alice Richardson will discuss the field marks of the WARBLERS 7:30 p.m. REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING: 8:00 p.m. Farrand Hall, Museum of Natural History. This month will be somewhat of a departure from our usual program. We are requesting that any members that have slides of SBAS field trips or other interesting slides bring them to Mrs. Cooke before the meeting so that they may be arranged in projector trays. The slides should be of interesting birds, animals or plants taken by the members on their own trips.
- Nov. 3
Thursday BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING: 4:30 p.m. Museum of Natural History.
- Nov. 5
Saturday CHILDREN'S WALK: This walk is exclusively for boys and girls age 10-15. Parents only if accompanied by a child. Meet at the Bird Refuge at 10:00 a.m. Leader: Irma Cooke
- Nov. 6
Sunday FIELD TRIP TO THE SANTA YNEZ VALLEY: Group leaves Museum at 8 a.m. or may be joined at the point where Rt. 154 borders the upper reaches of Lake Cachuma at 8:30 a.m. Parts of Happy Canyon and Refugio Pass Road will be scouted, followed by a visit to Nojoqui Falls State Park. Transportation may be assured by calling Mrs. Cooke at 966-5520. Take lunch. Driver donation \$1.75. Leader: Leslie Cook.
- Nov. 20
Sunday FIELD TRIP TO SCHOFIELD PARK - RATTLESNAKE CANYON: Party will leave Museum at 8 a.m. Planned as a half day trip, some may wish to continue after a picnic lunch at the park. No driver donation seems needed. Leader: Cook or Metcalf unless we have a willing volunteer.
- Dec. 2
Friday REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING: There is no meeting in November to avoid conflict with Thanksgiving vacation. Hold this date for our December meeting.
- Dec. 3-4
Sat. & Sun. FIELD TRIP TO CARRIZO PLAINS: Last year we recorded a goodly number of birds seldom seen on the coast- among them: Mountain Bluebirds, Mountain Plovers, Ravens, Canada Geese, Ross' Goose, Ferruginous Hawks and a couple of

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Golden Eagles, but no Sandhill Cranes!! Our dates this year are six weeks earlier, so we should see these great birds. The 46 passenger Museum bus is available for this trip. For a two day jaunt of perhaps 400 miles, if 46 sign up, the bus charge would be only \$3.00 each, 40-46 = \$3.50, 35-40 = \$4.00, and 30-35 = \$4.50. If less than 30 sign up, private cars will be used at a cost of \$6.00 per person. Call Mrs. Cooke at 966-5520 for bus reservation. Rooms are available at a cost of \$4.00-\$6.00 per person at California Valley Lodge, California Valley, Calif., ph.-805-475-2272. Phone or write for your own reservation. Mrs. Cooke will help arrange roommates for those who want one. Leave Museum at 7:30 a.m. or meet at shopping center at 150 & 33 on the edge of Ojai at 8:30. Good food is assured us across the road from the motel and quicker service is promised. Take lunch for each of the two days. Leader: Waldo Abbott.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

As you have read in the excellent coverage given by the News-Press on Sept. 26th the Board of Supervisors passed a resolution which reiterated their concern about brush control and watershed improvement of the Sisquoc and requested that they be specifically notified during the Congressional process, prior to any legislative action, so that they may express their views on the creation of the San Rafael Wilderness. It was quite evident that a reaffirmation of the December 1965 Resolution was not possible and it also appeared that they were not in a mood to completely rescind; so they took a middle course which is in our opinion innocuous and almost meaningless since they would have been invited to offer testimony at the Congressional Hearings in any event.

By the time you receive this the Corps of Engineers will have disclosed their plans for flood control and "improvement" of the Goleta Slough. Dr. Seybert Kinsell has agreed to undertake the coordination of our activities on this problem. However, how much of the natural water flow, natural bird, animal and plant life that can be retained remains to be seen; but we must push to retain as much as possible.

I repeat my request to all members to endorse the Buena Vista Lagoon project. (See conservation notes) Your Board of Directors passed a resolution endorsing the establishment of the Buena Vista Lagoon State Park.

Our historian, Lyda Edge, is anxious to receive information relating to the history of the Bird Study Group and members' notes and recollections regarding the organization of the Santa Barbara Audubon Society. She also wants you to send her clippings and reports of current activities to make sure that she gets them all.

I am glad to report that both Leslie Cook and his wife are making fine recoveries from their recent operations and hope that Dot Gilder-sleeve is off the sick list by the time you receive this bulletin.

I urge that during the remainder of the election campaign you utilize any opportunity that comes your way to interrogate Messrs. Halde, Shoemaker, Lagomarsino, Weingand, Teague and Storke on conservation issues such as the San Rafael, Goleta Slough, Sespe Dam, Channel Islands, etc. And, if you get the opportunity and get a response, try and see that it gets some publicity through newspaper coverage and please let me know their positions. We ought to know what their positions are if they take one, and if they duck it we ought to know that too.

I would appreciate receiving suggestions of local merchants and ranchers who might be induced to make a contribution of food which we could take to Sacramento to support a "snack table" during National Convention. We have already made several contacts but could use more.

Rich Miller, President

CONSERVATION REPORT

BUENA VISTA LAGOON NEEDS YOUR INTEREST An official from the State Park Department visited this rare and lovely spot just off the roaring freeway near Oceanside and , while he recognizes that this is a unique area combining the ocean, lagoon and eucalyptus forest, it is up to conservationists to PROVE that this area is of interest to the ENTIRE State. Thousands of letters or postcards sent to the State Park Dept. (Mr. Charles DeTurk) Secretary State Park Commission, Division of Beaches and Parks, Box 2390, Sacramento 95811 or Mr. A.J. Stern, Chairman, State Park Commission, Division of Beaches and Parks, Box 2390, Sacramento 95811 indicating your support are urgently needed. Final approval of the Park will have to come from the State Legislators so additional mail to your representatives is needed. (Name of Senator or Assemblyman, State Capitol Building, Sacramento, Calif. 95811). Both the lagoon and the Eucalyptus forest are currently threatened by the same type of massive urban development that is rapidly sprawling all over California. If prompt action isn't taken.... there will be no second chance! The Buena Vista Lagoon, already owned in part by Nature Conservancy, occupies a most favored natural position. It covers about 325 acres, is close to the ocean, and has high and scenic shorelines. Because it is a fresh water lagoon, it now stands as one of the very few remaining sanctuaries for migratory fowl on the Pacific Flyway. It offers refuge to thousands of feathered "tourists" each year, and is a year-round home for about 200 species of wildlife. Buena Vista Lagoon State Park would preserve 2 of California's natural assests that are not included in any of our current state parks; the fresh water lagoon with it's distinctive ecology and wide variety of bird life plus the unique canyon forest of Eucalyptus trees. The proposed plan for the park would total about 450 acres.... and would be close enough in driving distance for a one day outing for 2/3 of all California residents. Visitors are to be given a "cooks tour" of the area by interested citizens and experts on Saturday and Sunday, November 5 and 6.

Tom Follis

WEEKEND IN THE T R V

WHAT A WEEK-END!!! Waldo Abbott made a date with Guy McCaskie to be shown the best birding spots in the Tijuana River Valley where so many "stragglers" from the east have been found in recent years. When Waldo was unable to go, five of our members made up a small party to "scout" the area so that larger field trips could be taken there by our group. We drove to Chula Vista friday evening October 7th, met Guy in Imperial City saturday at dawn and trailed him for twelve hours. Early sunday morning we went back to the same areas for a couple of hours and then back to Santa Barbara with brief stops on the Silver Strand and at the San Elijo and Buena Vista Lagoons. We had an amazing list of 130 species, including 14 warblers. Among the rarities were 2 cattle egrets, 15 American golden plover, a pectoral sandpiper, a laughing gull, a ground dove, 5 tropical kingbirds, 3 bank swallows, a Tennessee warbler, 2 blackburnian warblers, 3 chestnut-sided warblers, a blackpoll warbler, 2 palm warblers, 2 American redstarts, 15 bobolinks, 3 sage sparrows, a clay-colored sparrow, and three chestnut collared longspurs. There were also three interesting species of escapees: 2 American flamingos, 2 Chilean flamingos and 2 blue-rumped parrotlets. Thanks to Guy's kindness in showing us the best places and his ability to make quick identifications, the trip will be long-remembered. A special privilege was that of seeing many of the warblers and vireos in the hand as well as in the trees, thanks to the fact that bird-banders were in the area. An annual trip to this area in October or late Sept. would be a fine addition to our schedule.

Nelson Metcalf.