



El Tecolote

BULLETIN OF THE SANTA BARBARA AUDUBON SOCIETY

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CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

Dec. 2
Friday

CLASS IN FIELD IDENTIFICATION: 7:30-8:00 p.m. Waldo Abbott will discuss the field identification of birds likely to be seen on the Carrizo Plains trip.

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING: 8:00 p.m. Farrand Hall, Museum of Natural History. Dr. Mary Erickson will tell of her exciting trip through Britain and the Scandinavian countries this past summer, illustrating her talk with color slides. Highlight of her summer was a boat trip to the fabulous bird islands near Scotland with Roger Tory Peterson and James Fisher as guides.

Dec. 3-4
Sat.-Sun.

FIELD TRIP TO CARRIZO PLAINS: We have contracted for the Museum Bus. Cost of \$130.00 to be prorated according to the number aboard. Ensure a seat by calling Mrs. Cooke, 966-5520. Be sure to make reservations immediately at the California Valley Lodge, California Valley, Calif. by mail or phone 805-475-2272, mentioning Audubon for the commercial rate of from \$4.50-\$7.00 each. Mrs. Cooke may be of help in arranging a roommate. Bus leaves museum at 8:00 a.m. Saturday. Bring lunch for two days. Leader: Waldo Abbott.

Dec. 26
Monday

CHRISTMAS COUNT, CONDOR AREA: For the first time, we are planning a second count day in a different area in the hope of including the California condor and some of the mountain birds not often found in the Santa Barbara County. The new area will include the Sespe Corridor north of Fillmore. If you can help, notify Nelson Metcalf. See sign up sheet on the last page of the bulletin.

Dec. 31
Saturday

THE ANNUAL SANTA BARBARA CHRISTMAS COUNT: See details and sign up sheet on the last page of the bulletin.

Jan. 14-15
Sat.-Sun.

FIELD TRIP TO MORRO BAY: Meet at the Morro Bay State Park Museum at 10:00 a.m. Saturday. Either camp in the State Park or make your own reservations at one of the downtown motels. There is a Motel 6 there, phone-805-772-8881. Call Mrs. Cook at 966-5520 if driving and willing to take passengers, or needing a ride. Driver donation will be \$4.00. Bring lunches. Morro Bay Audubon may join us on the field trip.

Jan. 29
Sunday

FIELD TRIP TO POINT MUGU MARSHES: Save this date for the trip. More information will be given in the January 1967 bulletin.

** Dec. 8 BOARD MEETING THURSDAY: 4:30 p.m. Museum of Natural History

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

My only message is (1) work on the Christmas Counts, (2) bring another member into the Santa Barbara Audubon Society. We need more members to enjoy the Count (and get a good one!) and to help preserve our natural beauties and resources. By the way, have you written your County Supervisor to tell him how you feel about concreting all of the streams that flow through the Goleta Slough? If not, please do- otherwise the Slough as we know it will be gone in 5 years, or less.

A note just in reports that Cornell University is offering two correspondence courses in Conservation, for the low price of \$10.00 each. The first is "Conservation of Natural Resources", presenting basic biological principles and the historical and legal base of resource management. The second, "Current Topics in Conservation", covers water pollution, deer management, the New York Forest Preserve, and pesticides. To register, or obtain information, write Richard J. Mc Neil, 122B Fernow Hall, Cornell University, Ithaca 14850

Rich Miller, President

CHILDREN'S PROGRAM

The Children's Program, under the able direction of Mrs. Cooke, will be held on January 7th. A "walk" around the museum will be the main feature. Through the use of mounted birds and color slides, the children will be shown the identification marks of the common birds of the Santa Barbara landscape. Boys and girls age 10-15 are welcome. Meet at the Junior Department at 10.00 a.m.

CONSERVATION NOTES

The Ford Foundation has announced a matching grant of \$232,000 to the National Audubon Society for preservation and expansion of the Society's 6,080 acre Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary in Florida. In order to purchase an additional 2,640 acres to ensure a water supply for the Swamp, the Society must raise \$2 for every \$1 contributed by Ford. The Society will be able to control the level of water in the sanctuary now endangered by the draining of adjacent land by real estate development. The new land will serve as a water storage basin and provide feeding areas for the wood storks and other wading birds that nest in Corkscrew Swamp.

Conservationists can be encouraged in the knowledge that their continued protests have just about stymied any further action this session in Congress on the bill that would authorize dams in the Grand Canyon of the Colorado. It appears that not many congressmen except a few from southwestern states, wish to go before their constituents this fall trying to explain why they voted to mar the unspoiled grandeur of the world's greatest scenic and geologic wonder. The scheme is far from dead, however. The Bureau of Reclamation and its western-state lobbies never give up easily on one of their dam-building dreams. The battle will be continued in the next Congress.----- Tom Follis

DOS PUEBLOS FIELD TRIP

The field trip to Dos Pueblos Ranch on October 8 was most enjoyable, as usual. Wild turkeys with their half-grown young were posing for us as we entered the canyon. Although no particularly rare birds were sighted, we had excellent close-up views of several species, including a barn owl and Nuttall's woodpecker. Next time we hope to plan our luncheon stop at the beach for low tide; one of our more intrepid barefoot members saw quantities of birds far down the lonely beach.

Ruth Holbrook

CHRISTMAS COUNT

The Annual Santa Barbara Christmas Count, one of 800 taken in the United States and Canada, will be held on Saturday, December 31, 1966. Our count territory will again be a circle fifteen miles in diameter centered at the intersection of Foothill and San Marcos Pass Roads. It covers the coastal plain and foothills between Fernald Point and Glen Annie Canyon; also a 14 mile stretch of the Santa Ynez Range, much of Paradise Valley and an ocean arc extending 4½ miles from shore.

Because of the wide range of bird habitats within this area, Santa Barbara always rates high in the number of species recorded in the count. In 1962 a count of 155 species placed Santa Barbara 11th in North America; 5th with 166 species in 1963; 6th with 170 species in 1964.

In order to cover our territory and make a more complete count, we need many more parties and many more observers than we have had in the past. Not only must we have every one of our experienced "birders" as a party leader, but with each party we need several others to assist in sighting and counting birds and to serve as recorders and car drivers. Please do not hold back because you do not feel expert in field identification. Those who have worked on previous counts have found it great fun.

There are three ways in which our members who may be unable to spend the count day as part of an assigned group can help.

1. If you have a feeding station or know of others who feed birds, make arrangements to have counts taken at the feeders. If you cannot identify the birds, the committee will try to have someone help you. Notify one of the following if you are making a feeder count: Goleta-Joy Parkinson, 568 Beaumont Way, 967-9371; Santa Barbara-Nelson Metcalf, 1208 San Miguel, 965-0848; Montecito-Ruth Holbrook, 444 Pimiento Lane, 969-1171.

2. If you know how to arrange access to private properties where there is good birding, please contact Rich Miller, 967-2996. It is important to have permits to visit ranch properties in our foothills and in Paradise Valley.

3. There are some birds that are always in the area on count day, but are not common and have sometimes been missed. Will ALL members report to Rich Miller, Nelson Metcalf or Leslie Cook if you know where we might find: American bittern, snow or white-fronted goose, wood duck, ring-necked duck, greater scaup, a white-tailed kite roost, golden eagle, osprey, marsh hawk, pigeon hawk, mountain quail, white-winged dove, spotted dove, ringed turtle dove, clapper or Virginia rail, sora, common snipe, roadrunner, all owls, poorwill, white-throated swift, hummingbirds other than Anna's, nuthatches, brown creeper, wrens other than Bewick's, varied thrush, Townsend's solitaire, myrtle or black-throated gray warbler, yellowthroat, western tanager, yellow-headed blackbird, black-headed grosbeak, all orioles, pine siskin, rufous-crowned sparrow, lark sparrow, chipping sparrow, Harris', white-throated or Lincoln's sparrows, or any other rare birds.

CHRISTMAS COUNT SIGN-UP

Mail to Mr. Nelson Metcalf, 1208 San Miguel Ave., S.B. IMMEDIATELY

Name..... Phone..... Auto.....
Address.....

My first, second and third choices of area assignment are checked below.
Montecito.....Hope Ranch.....Goleta..... Santa Ynez Valley.....
Camino Cielo.....Ocean day.....Feeder..... Santa Barbara.....

CONDOR AREA COUNT DEC. 26.....CHECK IF YOU CAN PARTICIPATE.