



El Tecolote

BULLETIN OF THE SANTA BARBARA AUDUBON SOCIETY

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CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

Jan. 27
Friday

CLASS IN FIELD IDENTIFICATION: 7:30-8:00 p.m. Leslie Cook will discuss the field identification of birds likely to be seen on the Point Mugu trip.
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING: 8:00 p.m. Farrand Hall, Museum of Natural History. Our speaker for the evening will be Dr. Raymond Cowles. Dr. Cowles is an emeritus UCLA professor now living in Santa Barbara. He will speak on the conservation of Africa and America.

Jan. 29
Sunday

FIELD TRIP TO POINT MUGU MARSHES This is perhaps the most consistently excellent one day birding trip we schedule, nearly always providing several exotic sightings, in addition to great numbers of our much loved and more frequently seen south coast winter birds. Those who will take passengers and those needing transportation make arrangements through Mrs. Cooke at 966-5520. Driver donation \$1.75. Leave museum at 8:00 a.m. or meet the group at the Standard Station at the Seward Ave offramp in Ventura at 8:45. Take lunch.

Feb. 2
Thursday

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING 4:30 p.m. Museum of Natural History

Feb. 11-13
Sat.-Mon.

FIELD TRIP TO THE SALTON SEA AREA This trip could add as many new birds for participants as almost any three day outing we could arrange. Birds we may see include a dozen kinds of ducks, Snow Geese, Ground Doves, Gila Woodpeckers, Sage Thrashers, Sandhill Cranes, Abert's Towhees and White Pelicans. Many more are possible. We plan to use Brawley as the stop-over point Saturday and Sunday nights. Make your own overnight arrangements. Write to the Desert Motel, 432 W. Main St. priced 6-7 dollars single, \$9-12 double or Salton Sea Lodge, 196 E. Merle Miller Ave, Westmoreland priced \$5 single and \$7 double. Plan to arrive at the Salton Sea State Park 10.8 miles beyond the town of Mecca on State Highway 111 at 12:30 p.m. in time for lunch. Mileage to the Park 250- mostly freeway to Indio. We plan to bird the east shore of Salton Sea on Saturday. Sunday we will explore the dikes, fields and rivers south of Brawley. On Monday we will tour the National Wildlife Refuge at the south end of Salton Sea in the morning and have a look at the bird life around Thousand Palms on the way home. Call Mrs. Cooke at 966-5520 if driving and willing to take passengers, or if needing transportation. Take lunch for at least the first two days, Metcalf or Abbott will lead.

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April 7-9
Fri-Sun.

Sierra Club's Tenth Biennial Wilderness Conference at the
Hilton Hotel in San Francisco. Further details in February

NOTE FROM BILL GOODALL

The National Audubon Convention has been laid to rest, business-wise, but I hope the many stimulating talks and happy exchange of social patter with friends from everywhere, will linger pleasantly in your hearts and thoughts for a long time.

I have asked your Editor to let me use this bit of space so I may THANK YOU one and all for the support, interest and work contributed. It was truly a "Western Team Effort". As your Western Representative it is understandable that I felt rather strong personal involvements. Your wonderful spirit and participation fulfilled and exceeded my expectations. I am most grateful.

May we ALL meet again at ASILOMAR, on April 6-9, 1968.

CONSERVATION REPORT

The Conservation Record of the 89th Congress was a good one. In its 1965 session it passed the Water Quality Act, the Highway Beautification Act and established Assateague Island National Seashore in Maryland and created three new national recreation areas. During 1966, Congress added these significant enactments: Water Pollution Control Act, Endangered Species Act, Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore, Cape Lookout National Seashore, Guadalupe Mountains National Park, Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore and Bighorn Canyon National Recreation Area. The 89th Congress also distinguished itself by refusing to pass a bill that would have authorized two big dams in the Grand Canyon.

Measures not passed but expected to be reintroduced in the 90th Congress include bills to protect estuarine areas, establish a National Scenic Rivers System, ban sales of DDT, create a Redwood National Park, and change the Department of the Interior to a Department of Natural Resources. -----Tom Follis, Conservation Chairman

CHRISTMAS COUNTS 1966

For the first time the Santa Barbara Audubon Society held two Christmas Counts. The first one was held on December 26 in the Sespe-Hopper Mountain Area. Twelve observers in three parties found 2,689 birds representing 78 species. The most notable observations were 9 California Condor, 3 Golden-crowned Kinglets, and 9 Eastern Bluebirds. The Bluebirds were a new record for Southern California.

The Christmas Count for the Santa Barbara Area produced a record breaking number of 178 species seen on count day. In 1961 we counted 127 species; '62 produced 140; '63 showed 166; '64 gave us 155, '65 a high of 170 species. The complete list of species sighted and numbers counted appears on the following page. The total individual birds counted was 50,064.

The following thirteen species were new to the count: Whistling Swan, American Golden Plover, Ruddy Turnstone, Glaucous Gull, Elegant Tern, Ringed Turtle Dove, Pygmy Owl, Costa's Hummingbird, Townsend's Solitaire, Solitary Vireo, Warbling Vireo, Cassin's Auklet and the Varied Thrush. Eighty three species showed a higher count than in any previous year.

This year there were 60 observers in 25 parties beating the bushes for birds, the largest number of participants we have had yet. The Christmas Count Committee would like to thank each and every one of them for making this our best year yet.

NOTE: San Diego reported a whopping 206 species-- the highest number yet recorded in any Christmas Count! Congratulations.

SANTA BARBARA AREA BIRD COUNT - Dec. 31, 1966

Common Loon	6	Greater Yellowlegs	4	Brown Creeper	3
Red-throated Loon	34	Least Sandpiper	18	Wrentit	154
Horned Grebe	20	Dunlin	9	House Wren	10
Eared Grebe	78	Long-b Dowitcher	16	Bewick's Wren	99
Western Grebe	267	Short-b Dowitcher	5	Long-b Marsh Wren	8
Pied-billed Grebe	57	(Dowitcher sp?)	25	Canon Wren	19
<u>Fulmar</u>	1	Western Sandpiper	16	Rock Wren	8
Brown Pelican	88	Marbled Godwit	203	Mockingbird	260
D-c Cormorant	1080	Sanderling	1734	Calif. Thrasher	47
Brandt's Cormorant	52	<u>Northern Phalarope</u>	3	Robin	1001
Pelagic Cormorant	7	<u>Glaucous Gull</u>	1	<u>Varied Thrush</u>	1
Great Blue Heron	69	Glaucous-winged Gull	138	Hermit Thrush	82
Green Heron	2	Western Gull	4955	Western Bluebird	78
Common Egret	33	Herring Gull	143	<u>Townsend's Solitaire</u>	2
Snowy Egret	32	California Gull	1822	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	5
B-c Night Heron	18	Ring-billed Gull	2188	Ruby-c Kinglet	367
American Bittern	1	Mew Gull	245	Water Pipit	32
<u>Whistling Swan</u>	1	Bonaparte's Gull	599	Cedar Waxwing	553
Canada Goose	3	Heermann's Gull	69	<u>Phainopepla</u>	4
Mallard	129	Forster's Tern	32	Loggerhead Shrike	31
Gadwall	2	Common Tern	5	Starling	1264
Pintail	470	Royal Tern	15	Hutton's Vireo	42
Green-w Teal	26	<u>Elegant Tern</u>	7	<u>Solitary Vireo</u>	1
Cinnamon Teal	25	Xantus' Murrelet	6	<u>Warbling Vireo</u>	1
American Widgeon	339	<u>Ancient Murrelet</u>	2	Orange-cr Warbler	11
Shoveler	136	<u>Cassin's Auklet</u>	2	<u>Myrtle Warbler</u>	11
Redhead	5	<u>Band-t Pigeon</u>	1298	Audubon's Warbler	1293
Ring-necked Duck	6	<u>White-w Dove</u>	3	Black-thr Gray Warbler	2
Canvasback	5	Mourning Dove	585	Townsend's Warbler	14
<u>Greater Scaup</u>	9	<u>Ringed Turtle Dove</u>	2	<u>Palm Warbler</u>	1
<u>Lesser Scaup</u>	142	<u>Roadrunner</u>	1	<u>Yellowthroat</u>	21
Bufflehead	9	Barn Owl	6	<u>Wilson's Warbler</u>	1
Surf Scoter	254	Screech Owl	6	House Sparrow	192
Ruddy Duck	437	Great Horned Owl	3	West. Meadowlark	778
Red-br Merganser	15	<u>Pygmy Owl</u>	1	Red-w Blackbird	2088
Turkey Vulture	2	<u>White-thr Swift</u>	89	Tricolored Blackbird	127
White-tailed Kite	53	<u>Costa's Hummingbird</u>	1	<u>Hooded Oriole</u>	1
Sharp-shinned Hawk	8	Anna's Hummingbird	502	<u>Baltimore Oriole</u>	1
Cooper's Hawk	15	<u>Allen's Hummingbird</u>	1	<u>Bullock's Oriole</u>	2
Red-tailed Hawk	181	Belted Kingfisher	20	Brewer's Blackbird	2883
Red-shoul Hawk	15	Red-shafted Flicker	272	Brown-head Cowbird	274
<u>Golden Eagle</u>	4	Acorn Woodpecker	456	<u>Black-headed Grosbeak</u>	2
<u>Marsh Hawk</u>	3	Yellow-br Sapsucker	12	<u>Purple Finch</u>	37
<u>Pigeon Hawk</u>	2	Hairy Woodpecker	5	House Finch	3307
Sparrow Hawk	139	Downy Woodpecker	16	American Goldfinch	98
California Quail	464	Nuttall's Woodpecker	23	Lesser Goldfinch	365
<u>Common Gallinule</u>	1	<u>Ash-thr Flycatcher</u>	1	Rufous-sided Towhee	153
American Coot	3255	Black Phoebe	70	Brown Towhee	674
Snowy Plover	247	Horned Lark	43	Savannah Sparrow	178
Semipalmated Plover	4	Say's Phoebe	46	Lark Sparrow	22
Killdeer	458	Violet-gr Swallow	17	Rufous-cr Sparrow	5
<u>Amer Golden Plover</u>	4	Scrub Jay	680	Oregon Junco	1157
<u>Black-b Plover</u>	206	Yellow-billed Magpie	1	<u>Chipping Sparrow</u>	21
<u>Ruddy Turnstone</u>	1	Common Raven	10	<u>White-cr Sparrow</u>	3576
<u>Black Turnstone</u>	3	Common Crow	401	Golden-cr Sparrow	748
Common Snipe	16	<u>Mountain Chickadee</u>	19	<u>White-thr Sparrow</u>	4
Long-billed Curlew	4	Plain Titmouse	221	Fox Sparrow	40
Whimbrel	15	Common Bushtit	1477	Lincoln's Sparrow	7
Spotted Sandpiper	16	White-br Nuthatch	20	Song Sparrow	181
Willet	257	<u>Red-br Nuthatch</u>	26		