



# El Tecolote

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## CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

Apr. 22  
Saturday

The Los Padres Chapter of the Sierra Club is sponsoring two films about Alaska on Saturday April 22 at La Colina Jr. High at 7:30 p.m. Adults-\$1.50: Children under 15-\$1.00. The two films, ALASKA'S WILDERNESS WILDLIFE & FOLLOW THE FRONTIER, were filmed by Steven Smith and "Pete" Isleib. Pete will be remembered by many Audubonites as one who contributed a number of rare species to our 1966 Christmas Counts. This will be a delightful evening.

Apr. 28  
Friday

CLASS IN FIELD IDENTIFICATION: 7:30 p.m. Birds of the Refugio Pass area, scene of our next field trip, will be topic for this evenings class.  
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING: 8:00 p.m. Farrand Hall, Museum of Natural History. Mr. Robert Fordice, Game Manager for California Fish and Game-District 5- will present a film entitled A Place To Live. The film deals with the need for food, cover and water as it affects wildlife and humans. Mr. Fordice will also tell of the problems we face with our estuaries (such as Goleta Slough), a matter of great concern to all of us.

Apr. 29  
Saturday

FIELD TRIP TO REFUGIO PASS: Meet at Museum at 8:00 a.m. or at Refugio turn off about 23 miles west of Santa Barbara at 8:40 a.m. Call Mrs. Cooke at 966-5520 if you are planning to go. Bring lunch. Driver donation \$1.50. Leaders: Joy Parkinson and Janet Hamber

May 4  
Thursday

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

May 4  
Saturday

JUNIOR WALK: This walk is exclusively for boys and girls age 10-15. Parents only if accompanied by a child. Meet at the Museum at 10 a.m. The walk will go part way up Rattlesnake Canyon. Bring a picnic lunch if you want to join the group staying for lunch at Skofield Park.

May 7  
Sunday

FIELD TRIP TO ZACA LAKE: Meet at the Museum at 7:15 a.m. or at the intersection of 101 and 154, 5½ miles north of Buellton at about 8:45. Let Mrs. Cooke know if you have space or need a ride. Driver donation \$2.00. All participants must be luncheon guests, the price of which is \$3.25. Such is the beauty of this place that many feel well repaid before they have enjoyed the lunch. When

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making your reservation with Mrs. Cooke at the Museum (2559 Puesta del Sol), please include with your check for the lunch, your phone number so, that in case of cancellation, you can be notified. Reservations close May 4. Call the resort at 688-4891 for reservations after May 4.

May 21      SPRING ISLAND BOAT TRIP: Get your reservations in early  
Sunday      for this popular trip aboard the 90ft. clipper Swift. Mail  
check for \$10.00 per person to Mrs. Cooke at 2559 Puesta  
del Sol. Be sure to give her your phone number so that if  
the trip is cancelled you can be notified. Reservations are  
confined to members and their special guests until May 17.  
No refunds unless places can be filled. Maximum-36 persons.  
The Swift will sail at 7:30 a.m. from the dock in front of  
the Harbor Master's Building and return around 4:30.

June 2      ANNUAL MEETING: Save this date for a picnic get together  
Friday      at Skoffield Park.

#### DUNE LAKES FIELD TRIP-APRIL 23

PLEASE CALL MRS. COOKE AT THE MUSEUM (966-5520) giving the number in your party and the name and telephone number of person to be called in case of cancellation of this trip. Mr. Chase, owner of the ranch being visited, wishes to know the number coming in advance. Waldo Abbott will be the leader.

#### NATIONAL AUDUBON WESTERN CONFERENCE ASILOMAR CALIFORNIA

READ AND ACT: After five long years, the Western Office of the National Audubon Society cordially invites you to attend the renewal of the popular Asilomar Conferences. The titillating and challenging THEME for the Conference is: "PLAYING RUSSIAN ROULETTE WITH NATURE". Mark well and SAVE the dates of APRIL 6-7-8-9, 1968 (Sat.-Sun.-Mon.-Tues.) In addition, should you desire to receive priority program information and Registration and Trip Reservation Forms, simply MAIL a post-card NOW with your Name-Address-Zip to: AUDUBON CONFERENCE - P.O. Box 3666- El Monte-CAL-91733. Materials will then be sent to you early in the Fall AHEAD of the general public and group mailings. B. Goodall

#### CONSERVATION

Plans by the Highway Department to fill the small slough area between U.S. 101 and the Pierpont Inn in Ventura have been blocked by the Sierra Club which will take responsibility for the area's improvement and preservation.

The four year moratorium on the California Mountain Lion Bounty terminates this year. We must now supplant the moratorium with a permanent repeal of the Bounty. Assemblyman Allen Pattee has introduced Assembly Bill No. 940 to repeal the Bounty on the Mountain Lion. We must exercise our constitutional right to let our views be made known to our elected representatives.

Senator Nelson (Wisc.) has submitted a bill to ban the sale of DDT. The bill, S.1025, would prohibit the sale of DDT, or shipment of it for use anywhere in the U.S. Senator Nelson pointed out that the great danger of DDT is its persistency--that much of its toxic quality persists for years, accumulating in the soil, in plants and animals, and in humans. At somewhat higher cost, far safer substitutes are available, he said. Wisconsin and the Forest Service have stopped spraying their forests with DDT. ---

Tom Follis, Conservation Chairman

## BIRD NOTES

It was a long time coming but the CATTLE EGRETS have finally reached California en masse. For three or four years there have been observations of three or four of them at places in southern California. This winter from 50 to 80 have been regularly in the Imperial Valley, usually near Calipatria. It is interesting that in place of feeding under the feet of cattle, the Imperial Valley birds are found feeding in newly irrigated fields. It would appear that water stirs up their insect food in much the same way the cattle do. Small flocks of cattle egrets have been reported all the way up the coast from the Tijuana River Valley to the Point Mugu Gun Clubs. Two were first seen at Goleta on March 8th. They appear to like the place and are still there on April 6. They are usually to be found around the UCSB lagoon, but are occasionally seen in or near the slough.

Nelson Metcalf, who compiles field notes data from the Santa Barbara region for the southern California report, is most grateful to the 14 members who sent him material on the winter season. If there are others who keep accurate records of the birds seen and would be willing to cooperate, they are asked to get in touch with Nelson (965-0848). The spring migration report covers the period from April 1 through May 31. The Audubon Field Notes assemble data on the occurrence of rare, out-of-season, and out-of-range birds; also changes in bird populations and in migration dates.

The first confirmed record for the Santa Barbara area of a BLACK-POLL WARBLER was recently received. A study skin was made from the bird killed by flying into a window last October, but proper identification was not made until early this year.

## NEW BOOK AVAILABLE

Earle R. Greene, a local supporter of the Santa Barbara Audubon Society, has generously donated a copy of his latest book, A LIFETIME WITH THE BIRDS: AN ORNITHOLOGICAL LOGBOOK, to our library. Mr. Greene is one of the few persons in North America who has seen 600 or more species of birds north of the Mexican border. He helped compile BIRDS OF GEORGIA and was the author of BIRDS OF THE ATLANTA AREA and BIRDS OF THE FLORIDA KEYS. Members wishing to read this informative book should call Janet Hamber at 967-6549. Many thanks to Mr. Greene.

## THE NORTH AMERICAN NEST-RECORD PROGRAM

Do you know the location of any bird's nest? If so, you can add your bit to the knowledge of ornithology. The program is run by the Laboratory of Ornithology at Cornell University. The principal aim is to accumulate a large amount of data on the breeding biology of birds of the entire North American continent, which will be stored on IBM cards in a form ready for analysis. These data, once processed, will be available to researchers interested in many areas of avian biology, such as annual and geographical variations in breeding seasons, clutch size, fledging periods, and nesting success. We hope that the program will also play a key role in the study of man's modification of his environment, through marsh drainage, urbanization, and the use of pesticides.

Data is needed from all parts of the country. Observations from city parks and back yards, of the commonest species, will be as important in the future of this program as those from remote parts of the continent. If you would like to help this year, please call Janet Hamber (967-6549) for cards to fill out.

Want to cruise to Japan with Alexander Sprunt? Call Janet Hamber.