



El Tecolote

BULLETIN OF THE SANTA BARBARA AUDUBON SOCIETY

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CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

- FEB. 17***
SATURDAY RECEPTION FOR MARGARET MILLAR: Museum of Natural History
3:00 - 5:00 P.M. (See details below)
SEE LAST PAGE!
- Feb. 23
Friday FIELD IDENTIFICATION CLASS: 7:30 p.m. Alice Richardson
will discuss the topic PIRD SONGS. Recordings of the song
of some of our familiar birds will be played. Jr. Library
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING: 8:00 p.m. Farrand Hall Museum of
Natural History. MEMBER'S SLIDES NIGHT. This program was
very popular last year. We enjoyed sharing each other's
nature experiences. If you have slides or films you would
like to share with us this year, please phone Mrs. Cooke
at the Museum, 966-5520, as soon as possible. Dr. Barbara
de Wolfe of UCSB will present a recording of a distinctive
song pattern found in the Gambel's Sparrow
- Feb. 24
Saturday FIELD TRIP TO THE BIRD REFUGE: Meet at the Refuge at 8:00
a.m. This will be a half day outing for some, though
others may want to take lunch and continue in the after-
noon. Leader: Les Cook
- Feb. 29
Thursday BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING: 4:30 p.m. Museum Junior Libra
- Mar. 10
Sunday FIELD TRIP TO UPPER SANTA YNEZ VALLEY: Meet at the Museu
at 8:00 a.m. or at point where 154 first borders Cachuma
Reservoir at 8:30. Some of the field and woodland birds
are beginning to move around more by this time. Take lunc
Driver donation-\$1.00. Leaders: Mr. & Mrs. Wm. Gardner
- Mar. 24
Sunday FIELD TRIP TO DUNES LAKES: Meet at Museum at 8:00 a.m. or
at intersection of 154 and 101 at 8:45. Bring lunch.
Suggested driver donation-\$2.50. This area, under great
development pressures, still affords excellent birding.
Mr. Harold Chase, who owns and cherishes a fine property
here, is kind enough to permit us a close-up on this date.

*****AN INVITATION*****

The Board of Directors invites all members to attend a reception
at the Museum of Natural History on Saturday, February 17, from 3 to 5
P.M., honoring Margaret Millar on the publication of her delightful new
book, The Birds and the Beasts Were There.

A well-known author of mystery stories, Maggie, in her first non-
fiction book, has written a fascinating account of her experiences with
birds and other wildlife in the Santa Barbara area.

RECEIVED FEB 15 1968

Our newer members may not know that Maggie was one of the most active participants in the formation of the Santa Barbara Audubon Society in 1963, and served as a board member and Conservation Chairma for three years.

We know that you will be glad of this opportunity to meet and tal with Maggie, and look forward to seeing you on February 17th.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

AUDUBON CAMP OF THE WEST SCHOLARSHIP FUND ESTABLISHED At its last meeting, the Board of Directors voted to establish a scholarship fund for the Audubon Camp of the West. These scholarships will be awarded to individuals chosen by our Branch, or from those who have applied to the Camp office. Applications have already been received from a number of Rangers in the California Division of Beaches and Parl and the U.S. Forest Service. The recipients will be selected on the merits of their individual needs and also their ability to use the Camp training.

Those of you who attended our January meeting know that our speake Dr. Richard A. Pimentel, who conducted us on a wonderful tour of Western Wyoming and the Audubon Camp, generously returned his expense fee to us to use as we saw fit. The Board voted to add sufficient funds to make one full scholarship (\$135.00 for the two-week course).

Since this will be a continuing fund, one from which we hope to provide one or more scholarships each year, we will appreciate any donation, however small, at any time.

We believe that the AUDUBON CAMP OF THE WEST SCHOLARSHIP FUND is a wise investment in Conservation Education, and a way in which we can help to spread the Audubon message among educators and public officials:
Joy Parkinson, President

AUDUBON CAMP OF THE WEST

Registrations are open for any of the four two week sessions at the Audubon Camp of the West: June 23- July 5; July 7-19; July 21-Aug. 2; Aug. 4-16, 1968.

Imagine, spending two full weeks in a real wilderness setting, ye with all necessary accommodations, in the Rocky Mountains just south-east of Yellowstone National Park. All this, plus daily instruction under the leadership of well qualified instructors. The whole program is geared to offer each participant (YOU) a greater understanding of our natural surroundings.

The prerequisites are: 18 years and older, interest, and participation. For full information write directly to : Director, Audubon Camp of the West, P.O. Box 3666, El Monte, Cal. 91733.

WESTERN BI-ANNUAL CONVENTION

"Playing Russian Roulette with Nature" will be the theme of the Western Bi-annual Audubon Conference - March 6-9, at the beautiful Asilomar ground near Monterey, California.

According to Mr. William Goodall, Western Representative, National Audubon Society, the Conference theme portraying man's gamble with air, water, land and wildlife will be emphasized by outstanding authoritative speakers and films.

Registration for the entire convention, including nine meals and three nights can be made for as little as \$33.50 - genuine bargain. Why not bring the whole family? For complete information and registration forms write today to: Audubon Western Conference - P.O. Box 3666 - El Monte, California - 91733

CONSERVATION NOTES

I often read and hear people's definitions and ideas of the true meaning of conservation--most paint a very black picture as we know. But in the last chapter of Audubon's Wild Life are some thoughts that are worth repeating.

The author speaking of the fate of wild life since the time of Audubon (1851) says: "...The intervening years have formed a century of retreat. Age old habitats have been wiped out, the pure water of ancient streams has been polluted, poisons from the laboratory have been broadcast over the land, whole species down to the last survivor have disappeared without hope of return. Others--the whooping crane, the California condor, the Everglade kite, the grizzly bear, the kit fox, the trumpeter swan--all, in critically reduced numbers are fighting a similar fate. This is the dark side; much has been lost but something has been gained during the century after Audubon." And this is the point I want to make because it is important that people like you and I who are interested in conservation remember to see the silver lining in the dark cloud.

"Today laws unknown 100 years ago protect many forms of wildlife. The hunting of endangered species has been halted. Song birds, during their long migration, enjoy the protection of international treaties. No longer are robins and meadowlarks and tree swallows piled up for sale in the windows of American butcher shops"... Hawks and owls and other predators, ruthlessly wiped out in former times are protected. Most important is the fact that public awareness of the need for preserving and conserving is continually growing.

"What has been lost or destroyed is seen in a new perspective. In pioneer times the wilderness was everywhere. It was close at hand. It was surplus. Today, with cities spreading and mechanization growing, nature receding, wild areas and the wild life they shelter have become more remote. As they have retreated, appreciation of them has increased a determination to save some of them before it is too late has strengthened. This is the gain in the years since the death of Audubon.

Recommended reading for bird lovers and conservationists, etc.
Audubon's Wildlife by Edwin Way Teale with selections from the writing of John James Audubon. Tom Follis, Conservation Chairman

S.O.S.

Your Society is in need of a typewriter. It need not be new, but it must be one which will cut a stencil. If you have a machine you would be willing to sell, or donate to our branch, please call Joy Parkinson, 967-9371 evenings or weekends.

FIELD TRIP REPORT

On January 28, after an abrupt weather change about fifty folks enjoyed a fine day at Point Mugu, as guests of the gun club there. This was made possible by the good offices of Edward Spaulding, a member of the club. A fine assortment of ninety species was reported. Of these were seven white-faced ibis, three short-eared owls, a number of white-tailed kites, Canada geese, yellow-headed blackbirds and gadwall ducks, plus many of the decorative avocets and black-necked stilts. Sora rails were in abundance. Les Cook, Field Trip Chairman

Feb. 19
Monday

There will be a special showing of a film on Hawaiian Birds by Philip B. Myers at 7:30 p.m., Fleishmann Hall, Museum of Natural History. Everyone welcome. Bring friends.