



# El Tecolote

BULLETIN OF THE SANTA BARBARA AUDUBON SOCIETY

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## CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

- Mar. 28  
Friday  
FIELD IDENTIFICATION CLASS: Tonight a program of Bird Songs will be featured. 7:30 at the Museum.  
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING: 8:00 p.m. Farrand Hall, Museum of Natural History. Mr. Thomas Ramsay, formerly of Minnesota, and now with Brooks Institute of Photography, will present slides on the Natural History of Minnesota.
- Mar. 30  
Sunday  
FIELD TRIP TO BIXBY RANCH & JALAMA: Meet at the Museum at 7:45 a.m. or at Las Cruces at 8:30. The Bixby Ranch, which is new to most of us should have a fine showing of wild flowers at this time of the year. Bring lunch. Driver donation \$2.00. Leader: Les Cook
- Apr. 3  
Thursday  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING: 4:30 p.m. in the Junior Library. Any interested member may attend.
- Apr. 12  
Saturday  
FIELD TRIP TO SAN ROQUE CANYON-SAN ANTONIO CREEK: Meet at Filtration Plant on San Roque Rd. at 8:30 a.m. Bring Lunch. Leader: Richard Webster
- Apr. 20  
Sunday  
FIELD TRIP TO POINT MUGU PARK: Meet at Museum at 8:00a.m. or at the Standard Station on Seward Ave. in Ventura at 8:45. Take lunch. Driver donation \$1.75
- May 3-10  
Sat-Sat.  
FIELD TRIP TO TUCSON AREA: Anyone interested in a trip to Arizona at this time call Les Cook 963-4501
- May 4  
Sunday  
FIELD TRIP TO ZACA LAKE: Note the change of date. More in the April El Tecolote

NOTE FOR ALL TRIPS: Call Mrs. Cooke at 966-5520 if you are going on any of the trips. Also let her know if you need a ride or can give one.

## CONSERVATION CORNER

Santa Barbara's oil tragedy has focused national attention to the need for sound conservation practices by industries exploiting exhaustible resources and the need for preservation of environments. An environment that is unfit for wildlife habitation is also unsuitable for ourselves. Who could better confirm this than any thinking Santa Barbaran today? May our tragedy be a lesson to the rest of the nation. We are working for the termination of all drilling and production in the channel as it has been positively proven that the technology is unsafe for life. The establishment of an oil reserve sanctuary would

seem to be the proper solution. It is our determination to work for sanity of environment so that life can assume its highest qualities. We must ask for the help of our membership and friends to achieve this goal.

A bill has been introduced in the State Assembly by Jesse Unruh and George Millis, both members of the Assembly Committee on Natural Resources and Public Works, to halt construction on the two proposed causeway bridges over Humbolt Bay. These bridges will link Gunter and Woodley Islands to Samoa peninsula unless alternate routes are chosen now by highway and city officials. The islands are among the few remaining roosting and nesting spots for many water birds.

John Knezevich

### HERE AND THERE

It may be that we bird watchers will have to pay a "user fee" when visiting state wildlife areas. The hunters are complaining that they are the sole support of such sanctuaries. We shall hope that those who decide how much the fee shall be will keep it in mind that the hunters are hoping to bring home a duck dinner, while we bird watchers look, and leave with empty hands.

A bill signed into law establishes the Pacific Crest Trail, which goes from Canada to Mexico, about 2,350 miles. Much of this trail is already in existence and use, but this law will assure improvements, maintenance, and protection of the trail. About two thirds of the trail is within national forest boundaries.

Stevens Park may be enlarged by the addition of almost 15 acres. The property to be added is just north of Foothill Road bridge; its addition will lead to the development of a 40-50 acre natural canyon park, a real asset to the city.

In San Bernardino Co., near Victorville, there will be the 800 acre Mojave Narrows Wildlife and Recreation Area. It will be developed and operated by the county for public recreation based on fish and wildlife. There are two miles of river frontage, a 50 acre lake, and 12 smaller lakes and ponds. The flora and fauna is varied; there will be some hunting for waterfowl in season, many birds for those who just watch, at all times. It is expected that there will also be a trout hatchery there and public fishing in the area.

Fifi Webster

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Congressman Charles M. Teague recently introduced H.R. 7074 "to prohibit the leasing of submerged lands under the Santa Barbara Channel, California, for exploration, development, and removal of minerals, and to rescind all such existing mineral leases". This bill will be considered by the Interior and Insular Affairs Committee; Chairman, Rep. Wayne Aspinall (Address: House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515).

Senator Alan Cranston has introduced S. 1219 banning drilling in federal waters in the Santa Barbara Channel "permanently and completely." This bill also calls for a "temporary halt to drilling on all federal tidelands off the coast of California until we have assurances that oil operations will not endanger our beaches and marine resources." The Senate Interior Committee will hold hearings on this bill. Chairman: Sen. Henry M. Jackson (Address: Senate Office Building, Washington D.C. 20510).

Both these committees should be urged to schedule early hearings

on these measures. Senator Cranston and Congressman Teague deserve our thanks for introducing this legislation.

A Citizens' Committee for the Environmental Defense Fund is being formed in Santa Barbara. The participation of other coastal communities is being invited to create a California Citizens' Committee for the EDF.

Dr. Norman Sanders, Assistant Professor of Geography at UCSB, is chairman of the local group which is raising funds to invite Victor J. Yannacone, Jr., attorney for EDF to bring suit against the polluters of the Santa Barbara Channel and other coastal areas. Watch your newspapers for more on this. SBAS is participating actively in this project. We will have more details in our next bulletin.

Five of the eleven members of the Board of Directors will be leaving office at the Annual meeting in May. They are--Irma Cooke, Lyda Edge, Bill Gardner, Arthella Jacot and Mary Roberts. Their dedication to the Audubon cause during the several crises we have experienced in the past three years is appreciated by all of us.

The Nominating Committee--Kenneth Millar, Arthella Jacot and Janet Hamber-- will present a slate of prospective directors for the 1969-70 term in the April bulletin. Members will elect the directors at the Annual Meeting in May.

Joy Parkinson, President

### FIELD TRIP REPORTS

**BIRD REFUGE:** On January 4th, a group of 25 people attended the first field trip of the new year. The group met at 8:30a.m. at the Bird Refuge and saw Yellowthroats, Green Herons, and a variety of other birds. From there we proceeded to Ray Park at 11 o'clock for lunch and then to Pershing Park where we had a good view of a Yellow-bellied Sapsucker (Red-breasted form). Then at 1 p.m. we covered the breakwater and sandspit area seeing Snowy Plovers, Mew & Bonaparte's Gulls in numbers. We finished up there at 3:30.....Cameron Aanerud

**JOSHUA TREE:** The Joshua Tree and Morongo Valley trip was a great success. We had 16 people in the group and this included four newcomers. The weather was beautiful and the scenery was magnificent. We saw 46 species of birds, some of the more uncommon being: Swainson's Hawk, Prairie Falcon, Pigeon Hawk, Gambel's Quail, Spotted Dove, Barn Owl, Ladder-backed Woodpecker, Pinyon Jay, Verdin, Black-throated Sparrow, Sage Sparrow, Cactus Wren and Roadrunner. We topped off the trip with a close-up look at a Gray Fox and also a Coyote..  
Bob Shannon

**CACHUMA LAKE:** A small group of 15 people attended the trip to Lake Cachuma and Armour Ranch Rd. on Feb. 9. We saw the effects of erosion, which moved a lot of precious soil. Many of these scars will soon blend into the landscape. Mrs. Thompson, SBAS member, met us at Rancho Felicia. The bridge to Nojoqui Falls was washed out. All agreed that it was a refreshing spring trip. The cream of the crop was a Pigeon Hawk.....John Knezevich

### NATURE CONSERVANCY

The Annual National Conference of Nature Conservancy will be held in Seattle in August of 1969, 22 & 23. Following the Conference there will be a 6 Island Tour of Hawaii. Events have been planned which will be of special interest to all those interested in natural science. If interested contact the Editor for additional information.