



# El Tecolote

BULLETIN OF THE SANTA BARBARA AUDUBON SOCIETY

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## CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

IMPORTANT FIELD TRIP APPEAL: Again we request that those who plan to go on a field trip communicate this fact to Mrs. L.A. Cooke (Irma) at the Museum of Natural History, Tel. 966-5520. This is especially important WHERE EVER NIGHT TRIPS ARE INVOLVED, simply because we and she may have information such as weather etc. that may make cancellation advisable. Mrs. Cooke can then so advise you by phone, saving much inconvenience.

OCT. 24,  
Friday

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING: 8:00 p.m. October 24 Ferrand Hall at the Museum of Natural History. MEMBER'S SLIDES NIGHT. All members who have slides to show please notify Mrs. Cooke, Jr. Museum 966-5520, no later than October 22.

Oct. 26  
Sunday

TUNNEL ROAD- SAN ROQUE CANYON: These delightful areas will by this time provide sightings of wintering woodland and field birds. Meet at Museum of Natural History at 8:30. Bring lunch, Stevens Park (a new feature) Leaders: The Gardner's.

Nov. 9  
Sunday

DOS PUEBLOS RANCH: Home of one of the world's great Orchid enterprises, this well wooded canyon and the reservoir nearby provide habitats for good birding. Meet at the Museum at 8:30 or at the Dos Pueblos off ramp on 101 sixteen miles west of Santa Barbara at 9:00 a.m. Take lunch. Suggested driver donation 60¢. Leader: Wales Holbrook.

Nov. 12  
Wed.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING: The second Wednesday of each month, 7:30 p.m. in the Junior Library at the Museum of Natural History. All are welcome.

Nov. 22-23  
Sat. & Sun.

MORRO BAY- MONTANA DE ORO- AVILA STATE PARK: Meet at Morro Bay State Park Museum overlooking Morro Bay at 10 a.m. Saturday. Allow 2 hours or more driving time. Either camp at the Park or make your own reservations at one of the down town Motels. Many will stay at Motel 6 at 298 Atascadero Road, Morro Bay. Tel. 805-772-8881. Take lunch for 2 days. Driver donation \$4.00. Leader: Waldo Abbott and or Les Cook.

Dec. 6-7  
Sat. & Sun.

CARRIZO PLAINS: This long broad plains lying between mountain ranges in the general area between San Luis Obispo and Bakersfield hosts hordes of wintering birds- of chief interest the Sandhill Cranes, there by the thousands two years ago at a comparable date, last year due to no early rains only a few. This is a fine birding event without the spectacular Cranes, our chances are very good for the big birds. We have 15 rooms set aside for us at California Valley Lodge, California Valley, Cal. You must make your reservation early, before the last week to be sure. Tel. 805-475-2272 Mrs. Cooke at the Museum will help arrange rides or room sharing. Meet at the Museum of Natural History at 7:30 a.m. or at

the shopping center at the edge of Ojai, 8:30 a.m. Take lunch for two days. Driver donation for (450 miles plus) \$7.00. Leaders: Waldo Abbott, Nelson Metcalf and Les Cook.

The Sandyland Slough- Carpinteria Area field trip netted 58 species, most notable perhaps being Long Billed Curlews, a White-tailed Kite, Cassins and Western Kingbirds. Lunch at the Peteler's lovely home was a nice accent to a pleasant day. Les Cook.

About 50 people participated in the Sept. 28 trip to the Goleta and Deveraux Sloughs. The sun dispersed the fog rather early in the day so that we were able to enjoy to the utmost the lovely Egrets (both species) which have just returned to the sloughs. 18 species of shore-birds were seen; the Pectoral Sandpipers took the prize as the best bird of the day. We also saw some Vaux's Swifts, part of the grand total of 72 species. Fifi Webster.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: Our exhibit on DDT will go from the Flower Show Oct. 11-12 to the Home Show at Earl Warren Park (Oct. 15-19, exact hours not yet known). It is most desirable to have someone in charge to answer questions, etc. I hope that many members will offer to give a little time to this so that the burden will not be too great for those few already most directly involved. Conservation Education is one of the chief functions of the Audubon Society; please call me if you can assist in this very important project. Tel. 687-8168

Hostesses for Evening Meetings: We could go out to the market for cookies but would not find anything as delicious as what our Audubon members can make themselves! (you may be reimbursed for your expense from "the kitty" if you wish).

Lectures of Interest: Oct. 30, Thurs., Campbell Hall, UCSB, 4:00 p.m. Population, Pollution and Human Survival. Dr. Paul Ehrlich.  
Nov. 6, Thurs. 4:00 P.M. Room 1910, Ellison Hall. Ecology of Survival: The Requirements of a Finite Planet. Fifi Webster.

BIRD NOTES: A Sharp-Tailed Sandpiper, a species that has been reported in California only a very few times, was found at the Goleta Slough on Sept. 13 by Richard Webster. During the following six days, an estimated 150 "birders" came to see it from as far away as San Francisco and San Diego. This beautiful bird, much more colorful than most sandpipers breeds in Siberia, is a regular fall visitor in Alaska and occasionally works down the Pacific Coast.

Elegant Terns have been unusually numerous in August and September all along the coast. Over 50 are still at the Harbor Breakwater sandspit. An Eastern Kingbird was at the Bird Refuge for several days. This is the eighth year that one or two have stopped there in late August or September.

A Great-Tailed Grackle, very rare on the west coast, was seen near the Bird Refuge by Les Cook on Sept. 12.

Two White-Faced Ibis were at the breakwater Sept. 27, Kim Aanerud saw these birds. Nelson Metcalf.

Christmas Count Dates: The Santa Barbara Count is scheduled for Saturday, December 27. All birders should save that date. Our Sespe Wildlife Area Count is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, December 30.

Please notify promptly change of address; Send to Mrs. Robert G. Peteler, 7000 Gobernador Canyon Road, Carpinteria, Ca. 93013.

Christmas is Coming and a lovely new gift idea is available: The Audubon Picture Calendar; \$3.95+ tax. Plan to purchase at our meeting.

## CONSERVATION NOTES

One of the most important items on the agenda of the Resources and Wildlife Workshop at the Planning and Conservation League conference on Sept. 20 was the proposal to add the Coyote, Skunk and Mountain Lion to the list of game animals in California.

There was some confusion as to the meaning of the term "game animal". Some people thought it meant there would be a regular hunting season for the animal. In fact, a game animal can only be taken under conditions controlled by the Fish and Game Commission. When populations are low, the Commission can forbid hunting.

The State of California recognizes four categories of animals: Fully protected, Game, Furbearers and Non-protected.

Fully protected animals may not be taken for any reason-- this list includes the California Condor, White-tailed Kite, Guadalupe fur seal and several others.

Game animals may be taken under certain conditions which are regulated by the FG Commission. A special permit is required to take any animal in this category.

Furbearers are also controlled by the Commission; however, if they are causing damage, they may be taken at any time without a permit.

Non-protected species may be taken at any time by any method.

The mountain lion has already been defined as a game animal, but the coyote, bobcat and skunk are totally unprotected. Some horrendous stories were told of the present methods used to destroy these animals.

It was agreed that because of the high incidence of rabies the skunk should be placed in the furbearer category. The coyote and bobcat, however, should be granted game status.

PCL is working to bring appropriate legislation in Sacramento. It needs the support of all concerned citizens. For further information call 967-9371.

Joy Parkinson

On Sept. 20, as an Audubon representative, I attended the Fourth Annual Workshop, "Legislation 1970", of the Planning and Conservation League. (127 Montgomerst st., San Francisco). It was held on the campus of UCSB; about 700 were expected, and 1000 appeared! Of course most of those present were already "sold" on the need to protect the environment, but that so many should care to become actively involved seems a good sign.

I spent the day with the Panel on Water Pollution Control; most of those participating were concerned with drafting legislation pertaining to these problems, but also present were the "opposition", so to speak, representatives of some of the industries which are often responsible for various types of pollution. Their comments were of interest. There was so much to discuss that few conclusions were reached; the panel plans to meet again in Nov. in Los Angeles.

On Sept. 12 the California Parks and Recreation Commission met in Santa Barbara, Alice Kladnik attended the afternoon session; I was present during the morning. There was no issue on the agenda on which Audubon wished to take a stand, but it was desirable to have someone there (attendance is taken, so to speak) as an evidence of interest.

Fifi Webster.