



El Tecolote

BULLETIN OF THE SANTA BARBARA AUDUBON SOCIETY, INC.

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Carpinteria,
California 93013

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

- Mon.
Oct. 12 7:30 p.m. in Newport Beach at Corona Del Mar High School's Little Theater, 2101 Eastbluff: free showing of 2 films: "Cry of the Marsh" and "Our Estuarine Heritage", both released in April '69 by U S Dep't of Interior.
- Oct. 17, Nov. 14, and Dec. 12: EnvironmentLe Tours of Newport Bay. These start at 9 a.m. at junction of Eastbluff and Back Bay Roads in Newport Beach, and last about 2 hours. All are sponsored by the Friends of Newport Bay.
- Wed.
Oct. 14 BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING: 7:30 p.m. Junior Dep't. Museum of Natural History. All members are welcome.
- Sat.
Oct. 17 CACHUMA RESERVOIR-PARADISE CANYON: Meet at Museum at 8:00 a.m. or at roadside where 154 first borders Lake Cachuma at 8:30 a.m. Take lunch. Driver donation- \$1.25 Leaders: Hopefully The Gardners.
- OCT. 19-24 TOPANGA PLAZA, LOS ANGELES: On display: "NATIONAL PANORAMA OF CONSERVATION ACTION", an exhibit in which National Audubon is participating. It will be in San Diego Oct. 27-31, at the College Grove Center; in San Francisco Nov. 3-7, Serramonte Center, Should you be visiting those cities.
- Wed.
Oct. 21 BIRD REFUGE - HARBOR: This is the first of three half-day trips for those who can get to some of the local areas at mid-week. The area always afford excellent views of shore birds and water-birds. Meet at the Bird Refuge at 8:30 a.m. Leader Les Cook.
- Fri.
Oct. 23 REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING: 7:30 p.m. Bird Hall, Museum of Natural History., Waldo Abbott will give a class in bird identification. 8:00 p.m. Farrand Hall, for Member's Slide night. If you have slides to share with us please let Mrs. Cooke know by Oct. 26, calling her at 687-8657, preferably in the evenings. Plan to meet her in Farrand Hall at 7:00 if you wish to attend the Bird Identification class, by 7:30 otherwise. We suggest no more than 10 slides per member, but this can depend on how many wish to participate. Come show us your best pictures of trips you have enjoyed this past year. BRING YOUR OWN CUP.
- Sat.
Oct 14 BOAT TRIP TO ANACAPA AND SANTA CRUZ ISLANDS: Sponsored by Sea and Sage Audubon. Leave Oxnard at 7:00 a.m. from Captain Jack's restaurant. Make checks for \$10.00 payable to Sea and Sage Audubon Society, and send to Miss Margary Ernst, 14781 Hillsboro Pl. Tustin, Ca. 92680 (ph 714-838-9082). Bring your own food. Call Fifi Webster if you need more information.
- Tue.
Oct. 27 BOTANIC GARDEN: The second of the half-day trips to local areas. Birding here should be much better than on week-ends, when the area becomes crowded. Meet at the Botanic Garden on Mission Canyon Road at 8:30 a.m. Leader: Florence Sanchez.

- Sat. SAN ROQUE CANYON- LAKE LOS CARNEROS: Meet at the Museum at 8:00 a.m. or
 Oct. 31 at the top of Jesusita Trail (on San Roque Road by the water filtration
 plant) at 8:20 a.m. Take lunch. Leaders: Howard and Bernice Ostrowsky.
- Wed. GOLETA SLOUGH: Meet at west end of Goleta State Park at 8:30 a.m. Leader
 Nov. 4 Joy Parkinson.
- Sun. BIRD REFUGE- HARBOR: This will be a half-day affair. This always affords
 Nov. 8 excellent close-ups of shore birds, ducks, grebes and loons, and it
 should have a special appeal to beginners. Meet at the refuge at 8:00
 a.m. Leader: Bob Prickett.

Here are two very interesting extras: Sept. 8 to Oct 31. Mon -Fri 9 a.m.
 to noon: ECOSCAPES, recent works by Samuel Erenberg on display at the
 S B Medical Clinic, Calle Real and San Marcos Road. These are gouaches
 on air, land and water pollution.

Sat. Oct. 24: 3:00 p.m. in Fleischmann Auditorium at the Museum of
 Natural History: Mrs. Anne Richardson of Charleston, So. Carolina, well
 known painter of birds, will speak about birds and pollution. Free and
 open to the public. Title of talk "BIRDS' I VIEW".

TRIP REPORTS: On Sept. 12, 34 people boarded the Hurricane for a trip
 around Santa Cruz Island. The channel portion of the trip was marked
 by large numbers of Phalaropes (mostly northern) and a goodly flock of
 Black Petrels. Missing were the Alcid, not one being spotted on the
 entire trip. Perhaps the high point of the trip was the close approach
 to a school of Pilot Whales. These ranged in size from bulls eighteen or
 twenty feet long to a calf only a few feet in length.

Bob Prickett.

On a hot, sunny day some 40 people showed up for the Goleta-Devereaux
 Sloughs trip, this was on Sept 26, and saw about 75 species. A Pectoral
 Sandpiper and 2 Cattle Egrets in the Sewage Plant were the best of the
 morning. Those who went on to Devereaux in the afternoon were rewarded
 with a fine look at a Golden Plover, and also a Vaux's Swift.

The Websters.

FEATHERS FROM FIFI'S DESK

B...Y...O...C...!!!???!!! BRING YOUR OWN CUP to our evening meetings, please!
 Rather belatedly we follow the excellent example set by the Sierra Club and dis-
 continue the use of the plastic cups. (At our most recent meeting a student from
 UCSB commented on the fact that we were still using the reprehensible cups....high
 time we stopped!)

I trust you know that a Shell pest strip is not a good thing to have around...

My thanks to those who sent in the Volunteer Questionnaires. We still need someone
 to serve as Program Chairman, and someone to arrange the pre-meeting bird ident-
 ification classes. Note: neither of these jobs is onerous (we have lots of ideas
 for programs...) and I will introduce the speaker if you prefer not to do so. I
 need someone's help in making the arrangements involved.

Do visit the Community Ecology Center, 15 W. Anapamu, to see what goes on there, and
 to offer your support if you can assist them in any way. This is one good place to
 shop for Gifts—they have a fine selection of books, as do the Botanic Garden (and
 other items as well), and the Museum of Natural History (have you seen its attractive
 shop? The Dover reprints of Bent, and many other interesting titles.)

Someone called to ask me about food for Hummingbirds. She had been buying pellets
 to put in water, and was concerned as they contain a preservative that she thought
 might not be good. So I wrote to NAS, and talked with our local authority, Waldo

FEATHERS cont'd.

Abbott at the Museum. A sugar and water syrup would seem to be fine, but do boil it. Wild Hummingbirds can obtain a varied diet and what we offer them is sort of a free dessert. IMPORTANT: cleanliness! It is essential to keep the containers scrupulously clean, as they can be a source of infection, and not to leave any drops of syrup in there which might become fermented. So put out no more feeders than you wish to scrub every other day.

Jewell Kriger reports that her Exhibit Committee is now under-taking to circulate the fine exhibits it has prepared at various schools. The Committee suggests that we all vote for our favorite birds. Perhaps you would like to send Jewell a post card at 164 Hermosillo Rd. listing your 3 favorite yard birds, and your 3 favorite S.B. area birds, rating them 1,2,3. To complete the address, Santa Barbara, 93103

CLIPPING FILES. Those of you who have been working on the files of clippings for schools might like to convey them to me at your convenience, and I will take them to schools or the Central Library. Please call me 687-8168. Thank You.

I recommend the current issue of CRY CALIFORNIA for excellent articles on land use, and the "editorial" in the current SUNSET on "Trail bikes and wilderness"(p.232, Oct)

When you sign a petition do you ever think: Would I be willing to support my opinion with a cash contribution? There are times when it costs to implement the petition, and if each petitioner were to contribute a small amount, the needed funds would be obtained.

EXTRA! EXTRA! We are elated to learn that SBAS has been invited to put an exhibit in the Santa Barbara Home Show, Oct. 14-18. This is especially pleasing as this year less space is available, so that we are there by very special invitation, and it is a well deserved compliment to all those who have worked on our exhibits in past years. Please call Jewell Kriger 969-4192 if you would like to assist by staffing our booth. The Exhibit Committee will also have a display at the Outdoor Education Conference Oct. 9-10-11 at the Cachuma Church Camp. This Committee is really putting our "best foot forward" in many different places!

Les Cook wishes it to be known that he is usually at the Botanic Garden Sunday mornings, 9:00-10:30, and will be happy to see anyone who might wish to join him for a look at a bird or two.

There is a CITIZENS' COMMITTEE FOR THE GENERAL PLAN, Studio G, El Presidio, S.B. 93101. (located in offices of the Citizens' Planning Assoc.) This Committee is at present particularly concerned with the El Capitan issue. Perhaps you will wish to participate actively in this matter: let them know if you do.

Fifi Webster.

Serving SBAS: RARE BIRD ALERT. Jan Hamber will continue to be in charge of this. She will be working part-time at the Museum of Natural History; call her there Tues. 9-12, 1-4; Wed. 9-12; Thurs. 9-1; Fri. 9-12. 12:30-2:30. Museum No. 963-7821 Home 967-6549

Chief Hostess, Trip Information, etc. Mrs. L. Cooke, 687-8657, although now retired from the Museum, is not retired from Audubon, thank goodness! and cheerfully continues to do for us what we have for so long depended upon her to do.

Nelson Metcalf and Dorothy Martone represent SBAS with the County Parks Dept., to assist in the planning of a Nature Center at Lake Cachuma.

BIRD NOTES:

Magnificent Grigatebird- Aug. 26 at the Santa Barbara Harbor. The Gardners.
Cattle Egrets- The two that spent the late spring and summer at the Bird Refuge were last reported on Sept 2. These at Golata are still seen regularly at the

Bird Notes cont'd.

sewage plant or with the cattle in the field behind it.

Peregrine Falcon - Two sightings of a female over the Goleta Slough: Sept. 4 and 5, Richard Webster and the Ostrowskys.

Osprey - One over Goleta Slough Sept. 20, Bruce Broadbooks.

American Golden Plover - One in a flock of Black-bellied Plover at Devereux Slough Sept. 26, Richard Webster and SBAS party.

Ruddy Turnstone - Several reports of single birds on the harbor sandspit and at the Santa Clara River Estuary.

Wandering Tattler - Two to four on the harbor breakwater for weeks.

Pectoral Sandpiper - At least one at Goleta Slough since Sept. 6, R. Webster.

Knot - Four at the Santa Clara Estuary Sept. 15, Les Cook et al.

Baird's Sandpiper - One or more at Goleta Slough since Sept. 4, R. Webster: two near the mouth of the Santa Maris River Sept. 23, Waldo Abbott.

Parasitic Jaeger - Two at the Santa Clara River Estuary Sept. 15, L. Cook et al.; one at the Goleta Slough Sept. 20, Bruce Broadbooks.

Black Swift - Three over Hope Ranch Sept. 22, Margaret Millar.

Costa's Hummingbird - Three at a feeder in Goleta Sept. 2, Les Cook.

Eastern Kingbird - One at the Bird Refuge in early Sept. (for the ninth consecutive year.)

Hammond's Flycatcher - On Sept. 12 Margaret Millar reported an Empidonax Flycatcher high in the conifers at her home in Hope Ranch. She studied it carefully for twenty minutes. its behavior, (tree tops and twitching tail) and its coloring make it almost certainly a Hammond's. This species probably comes through the area regularly but it is almost impossible to make sure of identification in the field at this time of year when it does not sing.

The MOST EXCITING BIRD RECORD of the summer was not reported in the last El Tecolote. This was a Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher at the Krigers in Montecito on July 25. This bird whose range in the U.S. is normally limited to south-eastern Arizona, was closely observed many times during the day by Jewell and Russell Kriger and also seen by Alice and George Kladnik. The sighting so far from its normal range makes one wonder if it can be an escape.

Black and White Warbler - One at Botanic Garden Sept. 16, Les Cook et al.

American Redstart - One in Rattlesnake Canyon Sept. 9

Blue Grosbeak - Three along #154 at the San Lucas Ranch airport west of Lake Cachuma Sept. 23, Waldo Abbott.

Indigo Buntings - Eastern Phoebe - Reported by Richard Webster Sept. 18 near the Patterson Avenue bridge over Atascadero Creek below More Mens.

RARE BIRD ALERT

For eight years SBAS has sponsored a Rare Bird Alert by telephone for those members who are interested in getting out to see the rare birds found near Santa Barbara. The Alert is to be completely reorganized this fall and no one will be included except those who notify Janet Hamber before Oct. 15. Address (Mrs. H.F. Hamber) at 4236 Encore Drive, Santa Barbara, 93105 or phone her 967-6549.

No members should register for the Alert unless they are willing, on receipt of an alert, to pass on the information to several others. In registering, please indicate the phone number or numbers at which you can be reached at various hours of the day.

Nelson Metcalf.

SPECIAL MESSAGE

Santa Barbara County's greatest assets undoubtedly derive from its coastal location. Where land and water meet we find the ultimate in beauty, and wonderful opportunities for recreation of many kinds. On sandy beaches we may bask in the sun or swim, while others try their luck at fishing or simply sit to watch the Willets probing for food and the Sanderlings scurrying before the waves. Where cliffs come down to meet the sea the gulls wheel and soar on the updrafts caused by refreshing sea breezes: where salt marshes are formed we find an infinite variety of life to observe. We are fortunate indeed to have so much so near.

Special Message Cont'd.

The hinterland is boundless in comparison to our very limited coastline. Precisely because it is scarce it is very valuable—and vulnerable. The coast is at present assaulted from every side, and its future will be affected forever by decisions which will be made in these next few years (some, within the next few months). Had our state legislature passed a bill forming a coastal commission the battle to save the coast might have been a bit easier. (Did you notice in how many cases it was the senate that stalled the much needed environmental bills?) As it is now, the coast has little of the kind of protection it both needs and deserves.

In recent months I have noticed that some people refer to conservationists as "preservationists", with the implication that we wish to preserve forever, as if it were a mummy, whatever choice piece of real estate is at the moment under discussion. They suggest that we are opposed to Progress (semantics enters in here: what does one mean by Progress?). Often, in these controversial discussions, he who is championing Progress is in favor of some kind of development of the land (for a profit), while he who wishes to preserve it is in favor of retaining its natural values. He knows that once they are lost they cannot be recovered; he also knows that they are as essential to man's spiritual well-being as to his physical survival.

The "preservation" of our coast is, I am convinced, the very best use that we can make of that land. We will have here an invaluable recreational asset which will mean more, in terms of hard cold cash (if we must speak of such and, to many, we must) with each passing year. The presence of attractive open spaces near centers of population becomes increasingly important so that people may quickly escape for a little while from the urban complex to the scenes of nature that refresh the harassed spirit.

In such areas we should plan for no more than the minimum of "improvements": only those which are necessary to provide access and the essential conveniences. In recent years those who manage our national parks have come to realize that too many people (and their cars) in any given area can destroy the very attractions that brought them there. Such attractions as are unique to an area are all that should be featured. The kinds of entertainment usually associated with the city should remain in the city; and those kinds of outdoor activity which destroy wilderness values should be relegated to areas of secondary value (referring to machines which are noisy; or destructive of terrain).

It is with such thoughts in mind that the Board of the SB Audubon Society passed a resolution urging a moratorium on all coast-line development for the present. The land will be here, and so will those eager to "develop" it, for a long time to come. It seems best right now to postpone any kind of permanent construction while we consider carefully just what we want our county to be like in the future. Irreversible commitments should not be made hastily.

It has been well said that we who live along the coast of this county are its custodians, not only for ourselves but for all who live inland. It is our privilege to live where we can enjoy the pleasures of the coast: it is our duty to do all that we can to assure that these pleasures will forever be available to all. There are many ways of working for this cause: petitions to sign and circulate, votes to cast, letters to write, and contributions of work and of money to those organizations which are trying to keep the beautiful California coastline beautiful always.

I urge all members of Santa Barbara Audubon to be active in this cause.
Fifi Webster.

The Sierra Club, Los Padres Chapter invites you to the regular meeting, Tuesday, Nov. 3, 1970 7:30 p.m., Fleishmann Auditorium, Museum of Natural History. Panel Discussion: Phosphate Mining on Public Lands.

FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE FOR 1970 - 71 SEASON

Saturday, Oct. 17	Lake Cachuma - Paradise Canyon
Wednesday, Oct. 21	Bird Refuge - Harbor
Tuesday, Oct. 27	Botanic Garden
Saturday, Oct. 31	San Roque - Lake Los Carneros
Wednesday, Nov. 4	Goleta Slough
Sunday, Nov. 8	Bird Refuge - Harbor
Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 21 & 22	Morro Bay- Montana De Oro- Avila Beach
Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 5 & 6	Carrizo Plain
Sunday, Jan. 17, 1971	Ventura County Game Preserve
Saturday, Jan. 30	Cachuma, Happy Canyon
Sunday, Feb. 7	Dune Lakes
Sat. - Sun. - Mon. Feb. 20, 21, & 22	Salton Sea
Saturday, March 6	Tucker's Grove - Lake Los Carneros
Sunday, March 21	Dos Pueblos Ranch
Saturday and Sunday, April 3 & 4	Los Banos Game Management Area Merced National Wildlife Refuge
Saturday, April 17	Pt. Mugu State Recreation Area
Saturday, April 24	Refugio Pass
Sunday, May 2	Zaca Lake
Sunday, May 9	Bixby Ranch - Jalama
Sunday, May 23	Boat Trip to the Islands
Saturday, June 5	Reyes Peak

Schedule is subject to change. Always check El Tecolote. If you are going or need a ride, call Mrs. L. A. Cooke at 687-8657 and let her know.

NOTICE CONCERNING EL TECOLOTE:

All members of the Santa Barbara Branch of the National Audubon Society receive El Tecolote without charge. Those who are affiliated with other branches or non-members who would like to receive El Tecolote can become subscribers by paying \$1.00 per year. Please send sub-scriptions to: Mrs. Robert G. Peteler, 7000 Gobernador Canyon Road, Carpinteria, Ca. 93013.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS:

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

c On Sunday Aug. 23, a small caravan of cars made its way to Mt. Pinas. The participants had one good view of a Condor and several distant sightings. Other birds of most interest were the Clark's Nutcracker, Golden Eagles, White-headed Woodpecker and Brewer's Sparrow's. Fifty four species were seen that day. The group was fortunate in having Sanford Wilbur present to help spot birds. Sanford has taken the place held by Fred Sibly in a study of endangered species for the Bureau of Sports Fisheries.

Sunday, Sept. 20 found twenty-two birders scanning the vastly changed Santa Clara Estuary for unusual birds. Seventy-eight species were found either there or at the Slough near Carpinteria. Of most interest were the female Marsh Hawk, Ruddy Turnstone, Pectoral Sandpiper, Avocets, Parasitic Jaegers and a Solitary Vireo. We were pleased to have new members Mrs. Pearce and her two sons Andrew and Colin, and thier special guests Mrs. Ingolson and son Peter.

Les Cook

On Friday, Nov. 6, at 9:30 a.m. in the auditorium of the Los Angeles County Natural History Museum in Exposition Park, Los Angeles, there will be a statewide conference of the California Natural Areas Coordinating Council. All interested in the conservation and/or preservation of California's natural heritage are urged to attend. There will be a registration fee not to exceed five dollars (luncheon included). Please call me, Helen O'Reilly at 684-2076 for further information.

NEW MEMBERS

Mrs. Bill Bower, 215 Glacier St., Oxnard, Ca. 93031

Dr. Phillip A. Frier, 345 Rutherford St., Goleta, Ca. 93017