



El Tecolote

BULLETIN OF THE SANTA BARBARA AUDUBON SOCIETY, INC.

Vol. 9 No. 4
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Carpinteria,
California 93013

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

- Wed. BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING: 7:30 p.m. Jr. Dept. at Museum of Natural
April 14 History. All members are welcome.
- Fri. REGULAR MEETING: 8:00 p.m. Fleischmann Auditorium, Museum of Natural
April 23 History. "Mineral Portraits and Personalities" slides by Mrs. Egmont
Rett, who has been interested in minerals for 15 years, and photograph-
ing them for the last three. Her slides will show us something of the
form and pattern and color of minerals; they will extol the beauties of
quartz, her favorite; and will show something of the fluorescence in
minerals. Come and expand your horizons by learning a little about the
world of minerals. There will be a talk on spring birds in the Bird
Hall starting at 7:30 p.m.
- Sun. REFUGIO PASS: This is the annual spring excursion through the pass. Meet
April 25 at the Museum at 7:30 a.m. or at Refugio State Park 23 miles west of
Santa Barbara at 8:00 a.m. Bring lunch. Suggested driver donation \$1.25.
Leader: Janet Hamber.
- Sun. ZACA LAKE: This privately owned property lies in a secluded area north
May 2 of Los Olivos in the Santa Ynez mountains. Reservations for the lunch-
eon, actually a dinner, is a requirement for admittance. The price is
\$3.95, all inclusive. Send checks, payable to Santa Barbara Audubon
Society, to Mrs. L. A. Cooke, 2960 Ventura Drive, Santa Barbara. Meet
at the Museum at 7:00 a.m. or at the intersection of 154 and 101 four
miles north of Buellton at 8:00 a.m. We should minimize the number of
cars. Call Mrs. Cooke at 687-8657 to share rides. Suggested driver donat-
ion \$1.50. Leader: Joy Parkinson.
- Sat. ANNUAL MEETING AND PICNIC: TORO CANYON PARK
May 22 THIS YEAR WE ARE PLANNING A STEAK BARBECUE
Meet at 3:00 p.m. for birding and/or socializing. Dinner at approximately
5:00 p.m.

MENU

Red Wine
Charbroiled Filet Mignon
Tossed Green Salad

Antipaste tray

Cheesecake, Coffee

Sweet Cider
Ranch-style Beans
Hot French Bread

PRICE: \$2.50 per person. Bring own table service (cup, plate, silverware)
(If you would like to join us but would prefer to bring your own picnic,
you are most welcome to do so.)

Calendar Con't.

Please make checks payable to Santa Barbara Audubon Society, Inc. and mail, with number of dinner reservations required, to: Joy Parkinson, 568 Beaumont Way, Goleta, Ca. 93017.

*****DEADLINE FOR TICKETS: May 15 *****

In the Calendar of Coming Events listed here we sometimes call to your attention events that are not directly connected with Santa Barbara Audubon Society. This is not meant to imply Santa Barbara Audubon Society (or National Audubon Society) support, endorsement or recommendation. We list them because they may be of special interest to our members.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

- Wed. "Waste: Neglected Resource", Dr. H. Bossel, 8:00 p.m. Chemistry Auditorium, UCSB. Dr. Bossel of the Dept. of Mechanical Engineering has written a report on this subject which was recently summarized in the Santa Barbara NEWS PRESS.
- April 15
- Fri. 9:30 a.m. The California Regional Water Quality Control Board will meet in the Superintending Hearing Room, new County Building.
- April 16
- Sat. Frazier Park, public meeting to discuss cross-country vehicle use on portions of both Mt. Pinos and Cuyama Ranger Districts. Details can be obtained from Forest Service Office here, 42 Aero Camino, Goleta.
- April 17
- Sun. Community Bike Day at UCSB. Informal conference 12:30 p.m. on University Center Lawn overlooking the lagoon. Bring your picnic lunch or buy at cafeteria there.
- April 18
- Wed. "The Environmental Case Against DDT", slide lecture by Steven Herman of UCSB Dept. of Environmental Studies. 8:00 p.m. Chemistry Auditorium, UCSB.
- April 21

Sat. Bikeecology Day - Watch NEWS PRESS for details.
May 8

EL TECOLOTE is published monthly (except July and August) by the Santa Barbara Audubon Society, a Chapter of the National Audubon Society. Monthly meetings are on the fourth Friday of the month (November-December meeting usually combined; no meetings June, July or August.) Museum of Natural History, 8:00 p.m. Visitors welcome. Field trips. Usually at least two a month: except during the summer. Non-members welcome.

Membership: in the National Audubon Society entitles you to affiliate with the local chapter, without additional dues. You receive AUDUBON six times a year, a beautiful and informative magazine; also the local bulletin. If interested call (or write) Membership Chairman Mrs. R. Peteler, 7000 Gobernador Canyon Road, Carpinteria, Ca. 93013. Telephone No. 684-4488; or Mrs. T. P. Webster, 179 Canon Drive, Santa Barbara, Ca. 93105, 687-8168. Total membership at present is 589. Please send your change of address to Mrs. Peteler also, send name, old and new address.

FEATHERS FROM FIFT'S DESK

LOS PADRES NATIONAL FOREST BIRD CHECKLIST is now available at the Forest Headquarters Office in Goleta (42 Aero Camino) and at District Ranger offices.

BOY SCOUTS. Troop 104 enjoyed a program of slides on birds presented Wed. Mar. 10 by Florence Sanchez.

GIRL SCOUTS. Girls from the Tres Conados Council who have trained to be Rangers Aides were at Camp Comfort in Ojai for a week-end. Joan Mumper went to talk with

FEATHERS CONT'D.
them about Audubon.

POTRERO SECO. The Forest Service wishes to improve a road in this area to give access in case of a fire. It was my pleasure to represent Santa Barbara Audubon Society on a trip with Don Vaughan and Forest Service engineers to see just what is proposed. Dick Smith wrote a full account of this in the Santa Barbara NEWS PRESS so I will say no more here except that it was a wonderful day, and I especially appreciated the opportunity to talk with men who work in our back country about the problems they have in managing the forest.

ECOLOGY CENTER. 15 W. Anapamu. Every time I go in it seems to have expanded and improved. A recent visit added to my library a fine new book: THE LONG LEGGED HOUSE by Wendell Berry. This is an Audubon/Ballantine Book that is hot off the press (in the paperback form.) Another book I have enjoyed is ISLAND IN THE SOUND by Hazel Heckman. You really must go in to browse. Note: spring is here and they have seeds to sell, too, and lots of excellent books on gardening. Be sure to get the latest issue of SURVIVAL TIMES, if you don't already subscribe to it; it is our own local environmental publication.

CLIPPINGS. I am most grateful for clippings and such that people send me--- forgive me if I fail to acknowledge them personally! All items having to do with birds are put in my special scrap-book; everything sent me is read with interest and appreciated.

PARK COMMISSION. The California Parks and Recreation Commission held its most recent meeting in Carpinteria. Joan Mumper and I went, as it seemed an excellent chance to attend one of their sessions, and we were especially interested in the Mugu issue. I was glad that Bob Sollen was there to report on it, as I had to count on someone else to make clear to me what seemed incomprehensible: the confusion about Mugu as to what they had done, were doing, might do, was almost incredible!

FOUR CORNERS COUNTY POWER PLANTS. Sen. H. M. Jackson (D-Wash.) is chairman of the Senate Interior Committee. He will open hearings on May 24 in Albuquerque, N.M. to gather information about the clash between electrical power production and environmental protection in the desert region where Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona and Utah meet. There is concern about air pollution, strip mining, power line and pipeline construction, thermal pollution of lakes and stream, and possible harm to underground water tables. The development will affect the Indian people on the reservations in the area. Additional meetings are set for May 25 in Farmington, N. M. and May 26 in Salt Lake City, Utah.

ANNUAL PICNIC. It seemed to the Board that our picnic in May was not all that it could be, indeed, that it was rather an eat-and-run affair. We hope that the slightly different "format" will bring more of our members to the event. Before we eat we can explore a park that probably many have not yet visited, or--- for the more sedentary members---play some birdy word games! And then, thanks to Joy Parkinson who volunteered for a tremendous job, we may eat a delicious meal (all those who have gone on Swift trips know that Joy is a fine chef....and a canny shopper as well, who can provide the best provender for the minimum cost). If we have the big turnout that we hope for, Joy will probably need a few helpers: do let her know if you can assist.

EL TECOLOTE, BACK ISSUES. Thanks to Ruth Parker and Erna Mauerer for contributions for the files at the library at UCSB. We still do not have a complete series any others?

OIL. I presented a short statement on behalf of Santa Barbara Audubon Society at the hearing held by EQAB on Mar. 15, on the preliminary environmental impact

FEATHERS CONT'D.

statement on exploratory drilling in the Santa Barbara Channel. The latest issue of ENVIRONMENT with its report from Woods Hole scientists provided me with excellent material; Bob Sollen has written about this in the Santa Barbara NEWS PRESS for Mar. 28.

IN PURSUIT OF THE PHANTOM! About 12 of us spent an exhausting but exhilarating day mired in the muck of the Mugu Marsh with Ron Hein from California State Fish and Game. We were "dragging" the marsh with ropes to try to find any Clapper Rails that might be there, so that it could be said to Highway Dept. officials that they should not intrude on the habitat of a rare and endangered species. In the course of the day we did see two rails (and where there are two there may well be more, they being such shy and elusive birds). Those of us who were not as light-footed and clever as others sank in the mud to our knees (rather an alarming experience, one's efforts to get out can be so futile!) but no one was lost, and all enjoyed the day.

COUNCIL OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA AUDUBON CHAPTERS. We are not sure that is what we will call it, but that, in effect, is what it was that met Mar. 27 in Long Beach, for the first time. Twelve chapters were represented by 1-3 people each; Paul Howard, the Western Regional representative for National Audubon Society, was on hand as was John Borneman, the Condor Biologist.

The meeting had a workshop format, with more items on the agenda than could be discussed in one day, but it was obviously helpful to all present to have such an opportunity to exchange ideas about the many matters that are involved in running an Audubon Chapter, and about the various conservation issues that confront southern Californians.

We were shown slides of the booth that Audubon (sometimes in cooperation with the Sierra Club) has at the Los Angeles County Fair, and as a result feel more interested supporting it. Los Angeles had seemed a little out of our bailiwick, but the Fair is attended by huge crowds, and it gives Audubon a splendid chance to put its message before the public. Those who design and construct the displays have done a very fine job.

We discussed field trips (trying to inform members of all chapters of all trips), fund raising, etc. George Anderson of Santa Barbara showed his film "Handle with Care", about Owens Valley; it was beautiful and very moving. Do watch for a chance to see it (possibly at the Museum). And Assemblyman Pete Wilson from San Diego talked to us about his bill, AB 16, concerning coastline management. We learned a little of what is involved in producing a bill that stands a chance of being accepted: the hard realities of politics usually require some compromise, and the wise legislator is well aware of this.

Joan Mumper went with me; we agreed that the day had been interesting and worthwhile, and I am grateful to a husband who insisted that Santa Barbara Audubon should attend and offered to drive me (L A freeway traffic terrifies me!).

DO READ: THE NEW YORKER, March 20, p 42: "Profiles". Very interesting article by a man who went into the wilderness with Dave Brower (Friends of the Earth, now; formerly of Sierra Club) and Charles Park, a geologist who believes the minerals in the earth were put there for us to extract them. You can perhaps imagine the conversations those two had, in the beautiful Cascades near Glacier Peak where there is copper.

GRAY WHALES were the topic of our March program, when Jim Mills conveyed to us, through slides and film, his enthusiasm for the great mammals that pass through our Channel each year on their migration. The attendance was such that we had to move from the smaller hall to the larger one. (With Santa Barbara Audubon Society growing as it is, it may be that henceforth all our meetings should be scheduled for Fleischmann Auditorium.) Clearly Audubon members have many and varied interests.

Feathers Cont'd.

AIRPORT: NEW TAXIWAY: GOLETA SLOUGH. Almost anything of major importance that occurs at the airport will have some impact on the Goleta Slough. (I always make a note of any article in the paper that has to do with the airport, for that very reason). So I was very pleased when Waldo Abbott asked me to join a group that would be touring the airport to see just where the new taxiway would be, and how it might affect the Slough. Included in the group were Fish and Game men, City and Airport people, three engineers from the firm that is doing the work, Dr. Keith MacDonald from UCSB (has been doing an intensive study of the Slough), Waldo, Jan Hamber and I.

The effects of the new taxiway on the Slough appear to be minimal; the taxiway impinges slightly on a dry pond, but not on the Slough proper. As a base for the taxiway a lot of asphalt will be removed; this is desirable from the point of view of economics, and is beneficial from our point of view in that the final results may be more square feet planted to grass than covered with asphalt. (Some of this asphalt will come from the older runways, the central portions of which have recently been resurfaced. The outer edges will be torn up.)

Quoting from the Environmental Statement addressed to the California Department of Aeronautics: "...the construction of the parallel taxiway may increase the area of the slough by about 35 acres, since the new taxiway will eliminate all use of existing taxiways within the southwest quarter of the airport complex. This area could then be reclaimed for slough use if minies are made available from interested sources."

We welcomed the opportunity to learn in advance about a proposed project, so that we might consider its environmental impact. This, of course, is how it is supposed to be henceforth: concerned citizens should have ample time in which to consider the effect of such projects instead of hearing about them only when the roar of the bulldozers announces that work has started.

OILED BIRDS. Standard Oil Co. was contributing as much as \$1000.00 a day for the care of oiled birds at the Richmond California Bird Refuge Center. It seems that now they will no longer support the birds, and funds from Fish and Game are simply not adequate. If you wish to send \$\$\$ (tax-exempt) the address is: Bird Rescue Fund, 1414 S. 10th St., Richmond, Ca. 94804.

You might wish to send comments to: Mr. Haynes, President, Standard Oil Co. 225 Bush St., San Francisco, Ca. 94108 ... Mr. E. Kane, Exec. Vice-President, same address; Mr. J.C. Keating, Assistant Plant Manager, Standard of California, Western Operations Division, Richmond, Ca. 94802.

We know that oil companies do not want accidents to occur that result in dreadful spills; we also know that many accidents are avoidable. If the burden for the damage done is a heavy one, perhaps greater care will be taken in the future to avoid such waste and destruction.

Fifi Webster.

EXPANSION OF EXHIBIT COMMITTEE URGEE

The Exhibits Committee of the Audubon Society reports that Mrs. Darlene Thompson, who recently moved to Ventura, expressed a desire to have a similar group at work on exhibits in the Ventura County area.

The Santa Barbara Committee has been fortunate in having a place allotted them in the Natural History Museum as well as the loan of bird specimens from the Education Department for use in their monthly public library exhibits. These exhibits consist of a short descriptive poster, a specimen or two and some suitable tree, shrub or other habitat background.

The 10-12 exhibits developed over the past year and a half are now being used in the local elementary schools under the direction of the central School Librarian.

If any Ventura, Ojai, Lompoc or other volunteers are interested in such a project for their area, please telephone Ethel Lyans, 687-1664, Margaret Bolduan, 966-6235, Dot Gildersleeve, 687-1077, or come to see what we are doing on Mondays from 10:00 to 12:00 a.m. in the Exhibit Lab. at the Museum. The finished product can be seen in the Art and Music Department of the public library. Who will start

Expansion of Exhibit Cont'd.
the ball rolling?

Dot Gildersleeve.

FIELD TRIP REPORTS:

On March 6, twenty people joined in the trek up the canyon from Tucker's Grove. The morning outing provided sightings of most of the resident species in the area. Highlight of the trip was a good view of a white-tailed kite harassing a red-tailed hawk directly overhead.

Bob Prickett

Sunday, March, 21 Dos Pueblos trip, about 54 people in 20 or more vehicles arrived at Dos Pueblos off-ramp for regrouping. With a few minor frustrations the assemblage negotiated the locked gate and walked the distance of the canyon to the barbed wire barrier, the longest trek-and the lowest bird list.

No wild turkeys this time; and the tame ones as well as all other caged birds have now been removed. The reservoir was more fruitful; of most interest were a red-throated loon, and, flying low- and long enough for satisfactory study, an American Bittern.

Wales Holbrook.

DETERGENTS, ETC. You may have noticed in a recent article in NEWSWEEK, or have heard through the news media, that a detergent called Ecolo-G is perhaps not all it purported to be. Concerning this rather puzzling matter, let me quote from AUDUBON LEADER, Mar. 19: "PHOSPHATE PROBLEM IS BECOMING MORE MUDDLED THAN EVER. The Environmentalists campaign against high-phosphate detergents has become snarled in uncertainties. Some brands that were found to be free of phosphates turned out to contain harmful NTA.... Then doubts were raised about enzyme additives, and some manufacturers are dropping their enzyme products. Now the Federal government has moved to ban two detergents which have no phosphates, NTA, or enzymes---Ecolo-G and Bohack No-Phosphates---because they were found to have "poisonous skin and eye irritants." Even the environmentally safe "Soap and soda" method has been challenged on the grounds that the industry could not provide America with that much soap.

National Audubon will continue to seek reliable information on this problem, and will pass on any findings through the Leader or Audubon. Meanwhile, we can only suggest caution on new products, and---when in doubt---sticking to soap, or low phosphate brands you are familiar with."

Fifi Webster.

NOMINATIONS TO BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

The nominating committee (Les Cook, Bill and June Gardner, and Joy Parkinson) propose the following slate for Board of Directors:

Phil Archenbronn, Margaret Bolduan*, George Imboden, Desmond Jones, Bob Kasson*, Jim Mills*, Alice Rypins*, Tomi Sollen*, Bill Ure*, Fifi Webster*, Tim Whitehouse- (the * asterisk indicates holdovers).

Election will be at the May meeting, at which time nominations may be made from the floor.

Retiring: Dave Caldwell, Alice Kladnik, and Joy Parkinson.

NEW MEMBERS: March, 1971

Perry Albertson, 823 Walnut Canyon, #4, Moorpark, Ca. 93021

Mrs. Mary Ankeny, 3515 San Jose Lane, Santa Barbara, Ca. 93105

Miss Rose Blumberg, 28 W. Pedregosa St., # 11, Santa Barbara, Ca. 93101

New Members Cont'd.

Dave & Nancy Chapple, 6667 El Colegio #44, Goleta, Ca. 93017
Mr. Gordon Chapple, 6710 Sabado Tarde, Goleta, Ca. 93017
Pleasant & Dorothy Cole, 860 Serenidad Pl., Goleta, Ca. 93017
George E. Geisler, 835 Woodland Dr., Santa Barbara, Ca. 93103
Dr. Wilbur R. Jacobs, 920 Camino Medio, Santa Barbara, Ca. 93105
Dr. & Mrs. John R. Maley, 591 Rosa Linda Way, Santa Barbara, Ca. 93105
Mrs. Helen C. Nygord, 333 Old Mill Rd., Sp. 120, Santa Barbara, Ca. 93105
Federick J. Todd, 646 Sea Ranch Dr., Santa Barbara, Ca. 93105
Max R. Watkins, 656 Romero Canyon Rd., Santa Barbara, Ca. 93103
Mrs. Otis M. Williams, 1190 E. Mountain Dr., Santa Barbara, Ca. 93103
Larry Zaragpza, P.O.Box 314, Buellton, Ca. 93427
Mrs. Howard L. Hayes, 2945 Valencia Dr., Santa Barbara, Ca. 93105
L. Brundall, 1312 Camino Manadaro, Santa Barbara, Ca. 93105
Mr. Gary Crispin, 2905 Calle Noguerra, Santa Barbara, Ca. 93105
Mr. William A. Edwards, 129 Rametto Rd., Santa Barbara, Ca. 93103
Mrs. Joseph M. Egus, 415 Stanley Dr., Santa Barbara, Ca. 93105
Mr. Lawrence R. Fox, 1062 Coast Village Rd. #1-F, Santa Barbara, Ca. 93103
Jane Fleischman, 119 W. Valerio, Santa Barbara, Ca. 93101
Mr. Timothy Holliday, The Thacher School, Thacher Road, Ojai, Ca. 93023
Mrs. William F. Luton, Ranch San Juan, Los Alamos, Ca. 93440