



El Tecolote

BULLETIN OF THE SANTA BARBARA AUDUBON SOCIETY, INC.

Tomi Sollen
825 N. Soledad
Santa Barbara,
California 93103

Vol. 10 No. 4
April 1972

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

Saturday
April 15

POINT MUGU STATE RECREATION AREA: This is a fine outing along canyon trails in the Santa Monica Mountains. Meet at the park entrance at 8:00 AM. The park is on the inland side of Highway 1 about fifteen miles beyond (south) Oxnard. Take lunch. Leader: Beryl Moore.

Sunday
April 23

REFUGIO PASS: This trip will cover the lower elevations on the Santa Ynez Valley side of the pass. Meet at the intersection of Refugio Pass Road and Highway 246 near the town of Santa Ynez at 8:00 AM. Bring lunch. Leader: Jan Hamber.

Friday
April 28

REGULAR MEETING: 8:00 PM. Fleischmann Auditorium, Museum of Natural History. "Additions to Wanderings With Waldo," birds, birds and more birds -- film taken by Waldo Abbott of the Museum of Natural History.

BIRD IDENTIFICATION CLASS at 7:30 PM by Leslie Cook. Bird Exhibit Hall.

From 7:30-7:55 PM your librarian will be in the Junior Library so that you may return and check out books.

Sunday
April 30

MANZANA CREEK: This trip into the San Rafael Mountains covers an area we have not been to in several years. It provides a chance to see some of the more mountainous species not found at the lower elevations. Meet at the intersection of Highway 154 and Armour Ranch Road (near where Highway 154 crosses the Santa Ynez River) at 8:00 AM. Bring lunch. Leader: to be announced.

Note: The Matilija Canyon trip has been changed to the Manzana Creek field trip.

The May 7th field trip to North County Ranch has been dropped.

Saturday
May 20

SPRING BOAT TRIP: We have chartered the "Hurricane" for a trip to Santa Cruz island where we will cruise along some of the shore. Departure time is 7:00 AM from the dock by the Harbormaster's office. Take lunch. Coffee is provided on the boat. Checks for \$9.00 each, payable to Santa Barbara Audubon Society, should be sent to Bob Prickett, 120 N. La Cumbre Road, Apt. 13, Santa Barbara, Ca. 93110. Leader: Bob Prickett.

Saturday
June 3

ANNUAL MEETING AND PICNIC at Toro Canyon Park
Meet at 3:00 PM for birding and/or socializing. Dinner at approximately 5:00 PM.

Joy Parkinson plans another STEAK BARBECUE

MENU

Red Wine
Charbroiled steak
Tossed Green Salad

Antipasto Tray

Sweet Cider
Ranch-style Beans
Hot French Bread

Cake, Coffee

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

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.

Wednesday May 10th BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING: 7:30 PM Junior Dept. at the Museum of Natural History. All members are welcome.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

From a little publicized order last summer from the U.S. Forest Service's Chief Forester to all Regional Foresters may lie hope for a significant increase in lands given wilderness or near-wilderness protection. This was an order to inventory all remaining roadless areas for possible future wilderness classification.

As we have watched with dismay the approach of the 1974 ten-year deadline set by the Wilderness Act of 1964 with so many previously earmarked areas yet to be dealt with by Congress, it is now particularly gratifying to see the Forest Service taking the courageous long view toward use priorities of national lands.

Lest we be inclined to forget, it is not an easy chair that a forest administrator occupies in considering the relative values of wilderness needs of populations yet to be born against the clamor of those pressing for other immediate uses, from mineral extraction to motorized recreation to resort "developments."

What this recent response to our times' cry to a halt to environmental decay might portend for this area, aside from the obvious saving of areas for human solitude or tranquility, would be a slowing or reduction of encroachment on the integrity of the remaining viable condor range; not only on Los Padres National Forest but on other national forest areas from the Tehachapis to Sequoia.

We should welcome the extension of this sensitive tone from the highest echelons of the Forest Service.

Jim Mills

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MARCH BIRD NOTES

Lake Cachuma continued to provide Bald Eagles and Ospreys, as well as many ducks. Many of the wintering Orioles and Tanagers were present throughout the month and by late March were being joined by early migrants. Both Hooded Orioles and Black-chinned Hummingbirds are already building nests in Santa Barbara. Swallows are now on their nesting areas, too. An early Warbling Vireo was in Goleta March 19.

Interesting were 2 Varied Thrushes in the Botanic Garden March 11. Spotted Owls have been found behind Lake Cachuma and near Nojoqui Falls. A pair of Long-eared Owls are nesting in a creek near Simmler, San Luis Obispo County.

March Bird Notes - continued

A fantastic trip at any time of the year is Texas. An eight day trip there in late March yielded 260 species. Just some of the highlights were Great White Heron, both Prairie Chickens, Whooping Crane, Yellow Rail, Jacana, Buff-breasted Sandpiper, Red-cockaded Woodpecker, Mexican Crow, Swainson's and Golden-cheeked Warblers, and Le Conte's Sparrow. Migration in Texas is already well underway as witnessed by our 26 species of vireos and warblers.

Richard Webster

FIELD TRIP NOTES

Twenty-four enthusiastic birders made the long trip to Los Banos, March 18-19 in near perfect weather, and were rewarded with 89 species. White Pelicans, White-faced Ibis, American Bitterns, Canada, Snow, and White-fronted Geese, a pair of Swainson's Hawks, and a Great Horned Owl sitting on her nest were among the many birds observed in the three wildlife refuges there.

Bill and June Gardner

Twenty-three birders, including some from Woodland Hills, El Monte and points south observed about 70 species in their walk through three areas, Steckel and Dennison Parks and the Ferndale Ranch. Helen Salisbury was happy to see the Western Kingbird.

Ed: From Helen Salisbury and Nelson Metcalf

Bob Prickett received the following letter:

Dear Mr. Prickett,

I am a member of the Wildlife Committee of the Citizens' Advisory Committee for Pt. Mugu State Park. We are trying to compile a list of all the birds and animals that inhabit or visit the Park, and we are in dire need of all the information we can get!

I wonder if you would ask the members of your Santa Barbara Audubon Society if any of them have records (or memories) of birds and animals seen in the Park and if they would be kind enough to send copies of their records to me. We would like to have the exact dates and locations of the sightings, but even a general indication of time and place would be helpful.

Thank you so much for any help you can give us.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Lloyd Mills, Jr.
1500 San Ysidro Drive
Beverly Hills, Ca. 90210
(213) 275-4821

Thank you for the fine response to the membership for the AUDUBON magazine gifts to the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History library, the Exhibit laboratory and Educational Department. To complete the files, we still need the following:

1971 - Nov-Dec (3 copies)	1963 - May-June (1 copy)
1969 - July-Aug (1 copy)	1962 - All issues (1 set)
1967 - Nov-Dec (1 copy)	1961 - Jan-Feb, Mar-Apr, May-June (1 copy each)
1966 - Jan-Feb and Mar-Apr (1 copy each)	1959 - All issues needed except Mar-Apr
1965 - All issues of this year (1 set)	

Any earlier ones are welcome, too, although the library now has a complete file of Audubon and Bird Lore, the other departments do not have working copies. Deliver to the Gift Shop. Extras are not wasted!

Ethel G. Lyans

FEATHERS FROM FIFI'S DESK

I don't have many "feathers" this month, but the government does: 3 million pounds of them!!!! (Being stockpiled somewhere for some purpose. Maybe a new weapon? How about settling international disagreements with pillow fights?)

The LA TIMES this morning (Apr. 10) reports that researchers have found new safe substitutes for DDT. Now, that would be a blessing!

A Bald Eagle hatched at Patuxent, Md. Reproduction of this species in captivity is an extremely rare event.

In Louisiana a suit was filed on behalf of cedar waxwings: the birds are attracted to the pyracantha bushes along the median strips of highways, and are killed by passing cars (to which they also present a hazard).

Congressional approval will be needed for an "early warning system" which federal wildlife officials would like to adopt. This would afford protection to species that are rapidly approaching the endangered status. They will use the NAS "blue list".

A bill was introduced into our state legislature by Senator J. Holmdahl to require the licensing of pet shops to "eliminate unhealthy and harmful conditions".

You have no doubt read of the problems with Exotic Newcastle Disease in poultry in this state. Santa Barbara County has been quarantined against the movement of any live poultry, pigeons, psittacine, mynah birds or other caged birds. All racing meets, shows, etc. have been cancelled. For information call Dr. A. Moe, 684-5019, at the Reef Motel, 106, 4160 Via Real, Carpinteria, Ca.

If you come across a desert tortoise wandering around, it should be turned over to state game wardens who will release it in the proper habitat. (If you have long had one, however, you may keep your old family pet). The San Francisco garter snake is another endangered reptile (loss of habitat, fear of snakes that leads to killing any and all). This garter snake is found in only a small portion of the state; the species has been given protected status.

Is there still an ivory billed woodpecker around somewhere? People continue to hope, and to look, and you will enjoy the article in LIFE, April 7, 1972, p. 52.

Meetings attended: I know that Alice Kladnik represented Audubon at a gathering with County Park people and residents of the area to discuss keeping a green space in the grove of eucalyptus trees near Campus Glen (Alice's picture was in the paper, but they did not print her name.) Several Audubon members have been on trips to visit water facilities, both "incoming" and "outgoing"; it has been truly educational. I went to a meeting about transportation needs of the area; we learned at least that quite a few are concerned, including many bicycle enthusiasts (no one was invited to represent them, nor to represent the "conservation-environmental" segments of the community. But we were there anyway, having read in the press of the meeting.) EQAB had a meeting with the Army Corps of Engineers about flood control, specifically the Mission Creek "problem". I handed out Audubon literature on the subject and have never had it more warmly received. The Army is "all ears" these days: it wants us to tell it what we want done. Not much, maybe!

In the last four months sales of the special license plates have jumped 50%....this fund is used to help in pollution control.

We are really going to miss one of our best young birders: Kevin Aanerud has gone to Seattle, where we hope he manages a moment now and then to see some "lifers". He is attending the University of Washington, and we envy those who will have an opportunity to hear him play the piano. (Address: Rm. 6, 5115 17th Ave. N.E., Seattle, WA 98105, should you ever wish to send him a note on local bird life.)

Feathers from Fifi's Desk--Continued

You can imagine the astonishment of those who saw a huge, brilliant bird fly overhead in the Tunnel Road area. Yes, it really was a macaw! And it belongs to someone who lives there, who allows it to roam the neighborhood.

There are some who would like the President to declare September 23 National Hunting and Fishing Day. Others suggest that, considering the plight of so many species, we would do better to have a National Preservation Day.

READING OF INTEREST

NATURAL HISTORY, April 1972, has an interesting article on the solid waste disposal problem with a special solution for glass: "New Beaches from Old Bottles". p. 48.

U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT, April 17, 1972, p. 42, "Leisure Boom". Which are the most popular outdoor activities? Bird watching is there on a list of 14. It is #13, with 7.5 million people enjoying the activity; Wildlife photography is #14. I was interested especially to note that Walking for pleasure is #5, and Bicycling is just ahead of camping #9.

READER'S DIGEST, April 1972, "Last Survivors" p. 146 (picture feature, condor); "Ocean Spills Must be Stopped" p. 195.

Back to beaches, and a book about them: Olive Mayer of Woodside has published a picture essay: COASTSIDE/SAN MATEO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA. (Published in conjunction with the San Mateo County Regional group of the Sierra Club). The replenishment of the sand on beaches becomes a serious problem when we dam streams and stop their flow down to the shores; this can also happen when we build groins, breakwaters, etc. that interrupt the littoral drift.

Birding in Texas in spring is considered the ultimate, and Richard would agree. It was dreadfully quiet here at home, but of course he had a marvelous time with four friends: many birds of interest, and many miles ("We drove all night, and birded all day.").

Fifi Webster

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"Power and the People," a two-hour report on the proposed California "Clean Environment Act" and its controversial aspect, is set for airing May 21 at 8:00 PM on KTTV (Channel 11). Eddie Albert will host the program, which Don Widener will write and produce. The bulk of the two hours will be devoted to the proposal in the initiative which would provide a five-year moratorium on the construction of nuclear power plants.

LA TIMES April 11

EARTH WEEK:

National Audubon is urging all chapters to help support Earth Week, April 17-23. They propose broadened effort toward year-round environmental goals and heightened community understanding.

BIKECOLOGY WEEK:

May 1-7. Watch for many interesting local activities in which you may wish to participate.

"No", was the answer to application for a dredging permit at Morro Bay. The Army Corp of Engineers refused the permit after a report by the Department of the Interior which judged the dredging a threat to the regional ecosystem in the estuarine area. Congratulations Morro Bay!

From The California Thrasher, Paso Robles Audubon Society

NATURAL HISTORY TRIPS TO BAJA CALIFORNIA

Letter and brochures received from H & M Landing, Edwin Walker, Educational Director, 1401 Scott Street, San Diego, Ca. 92106.

"For the past two years, H & M Landing has been running the series of Baja Natural History trips which you will find described in greater detail in the enclosed brochures. These trips have been tremendously successful and we have had many Audubon Society members from the Los Angeles and San Diego chapters go with us. The response from these members of your organization has indicated that the Baja expedition is an experience that many other Audubon members would be interested in."

The brochures will be available at the regular meeting or you may contact your editor for a copy.

EL TECOLOTE for non-members. \$1.00 per year. Send subscription to: Mrs. Roderick Nash, 3886 Calle Cita, Santa Barbara, CA. 93110.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Send change of address promptly to membership chairman: Mrs. Maxim Smith, 1600 Garden Street, Apt. 35, Santa Barbara, CA. 93101.

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