



# El Tecolote

BULLETIN OF THE SANTA BARBARA AUDUBON SOCIETY, INC.

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June 1973

Tomi Sollen, President  
825 North Soledad Street  
Santa Barbara, CA 93103  
966-4836

## CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

July 6-13  
Fri-Fri

SOUTHEASTERN ARIZONA: This trip would offer an opportunity to explore some of the most unusual birding country in the U.S. We shall stop over at Salton Sea (camping at Finney Lake, motels at Brawley) for Fulvous Tree Ducks, Least Bitterns, Gull-billed Terns, and other species rarely seen on the coast. On Sunday, drive to the Huachuca Mountains. We shall bird primarily in the area of Ramsay Canyon (camping at Parker Lake, motels in Sierra Vista). The Mile-Hi in Ramsay Canyon is full, the trip leader having reserved the last available cottage; but we shall be able to observe the spectacular concentration of hummingbirds in the canyon, as well as the other essentially Mexican species that enter the U.S. only in Southeastern Arizona. Return trip on Thursday and Friday; stop-over at the Colorado River. Total distance approximately 700 miles each way. For further information call the leader.

Leader: Michael Fishbein, 966-6954

July 13-14-15  
Fri-Sat-Sun

QUAKING ASPEN CAMPING TRIP: Join the Gardners for three days in this beautiful area of the Sequoia National Forest, elevation approx. 8000 ft. Because the campground fills up on weekends you should plan to arrive as early as possible on Friday. From Bakersfield take Highway 99 north 51 miles to #190. East on #190 through Porterville about 50 miles to Quaking Aspen. (Driving distance from Santa Barbara approx. 240 miles.) Look for "AUDUBON" sign in campground. Bring own camping equipment and commissary. There is a grocery store nearby. BRING MOSQUITO REPELLENT. Please notify the Gardners by July 9 if you plan to go. They will be leaving early to scout the area.

Leaders: Bill & June Gardner, 962-0152

August 29  
Wednesday

MT. PINOS: Meet at Mt. Pinos campground at 10 a.m. Mt. Pinos is reached via Ojai, thence Highway 33 north 37.4 miles to Lockwood-Ozena Road. Right to Lake of the Woods. Left through Cuddy Valley to Mt. Pinos campground. A good likelihood of seeing Clark's Nutcrackers, Green-tailed Towhees, Mountain Chickadees, Cassin's Finches and, of course, Condors. Take lunch.

Leader to be announced

Sept. 16  
Sun

SANTA CLARA ESTUARY-McGRATH PARK: Meet at Seaward Avenue off-ramp Standard Oil station in Ventura, at 8:30 a.m. Take lunch. Here we should see an excellent assortment, including hordes of shorebirds, Terns, Gulls, Jaegers, Kites and Palaropes.

Leader: Ruth Parker, 643-5711

The annual regular meeting followed the delicious barbecue supper prepared by Joy Parkinson and her crew. The sun shone after a cloud-covered day. Our thanks to Joy and her committee. The members elected three new board members: Minna Smith, Bill Gielow and Mike Goodwin.

The Board and members voted to purchase 15 binoculars for class use for the Santa Barbara County Schools Outdoor Education program held at the Cachuma Church Camp during the school year. Kim Aanerud located binoculars made of fiberglass, shockproof and waterproof with few movable parts. Douglas Telescopes gave a generous discount for the number ordered. Kim will not be teaching this fall as he plans to spend the summer and fall photographing the Sierra Nevadas. An enviable experience--have a wonderful time!

The first board meeting has held Monday, June 4 at the home of Virginia Puddicombe. The board amended Section 1 of Article V "Officers" of the by-laws.

#### Officers and Chairpersons 1973-1974

President: Tomi Sollen, 966-4836  
Vice-President: \*\*Michael E. Goodwin, 963-1265  
Rec. Secretary: Timothy Whitehouse, 967-2636, off. 962-0011  
Cor. Secretary: Maxim Smith, 966-7971  
Treasurer: Wales R. Holbrook, 969-1171, and Janet Hamber, 967-6549  
Director: \*\*Helen O'Reilly, 684-2076  
Conservation: \*\*Michael Fishbein, 966-6954, and Bob Kasson, 962-9566  
Field Trips: \*\*Virginia Puddicombe, 682-1552, Bill Gielow, 687-3466, and  
\*\*Elizabeth Russell, 962-4736  
Program: \*\*Brad Schram, 966-1364, and Mike Goodwin, 963-1265  
Xmas Count: \*\*Sy Kinsell, 687-3308, and Mike Fishbein, 966-6954  
Membership: \*\*Minna Smith, 966-7971  
El Tecolote Editor: Lou Dartanner, 967-4859  
Speakers Bureau: \*\*Bill Gielow, 687-3466  
Bird Exhibit: Dorothy Gildersleeve, 687-1077, and Marjorie Cappiello, 967-9569-Goleta  
Wildlife: Joy Parkinson, 967-9371  
Wilderness: Jim Mills, 967-8980 or 687-1561  
Librarian: Priscilla Pearce, 684-3182, and Audrey Ingelsen, 969-2028  
and sons  
Historian: \*\*June and Bill Gardner, 962-0152  
Mailing: Doris Hughes, 965-8386  
Refreshment: Linda Gielow, 687-3466  
Bird Alert: Jewell Kriger, 969-4192  
Field Notes: Nelson Metcalf, 964-3008, and ????  
Bird Refuge: \*\*Desmond Jones, 962-2407, and Mike Fishbein, 966-6954  
Youth Education: ????  
Publicity: ????

#### \*\*Board of Directors

The board supported a proposal presented by Jim Mills for the Forest Service regarding the Santa Barbara canyon area. The Forest Service would like to open the road in this area. We oppose further encroachment in this area as it is next to the San Rafael Wilderness in which the Sisquoc Condor sanctuary is located. The area near the Sespe Condor sanctuary is now being developed, an area where most of the condors fed, thus leaving few open areas left.

The Forest Advisory Committee expressed concern for only the Los Padres National Forest behind our mountains. Since federal acquisition funds were cut from the budget for purchase of some of the private holdings on our steep slopes, this committee did not want the responsibility of protecting the Santa Barbara front in case of fire. The Forest Service had hoped to form an agricultural strip between the steep slopes and urban development. S.B. county and city must re-zone for these areas, if possible, purchase some of these holdings.

Dorothy Martone represents the society at the Committee for S.B. meetings. We encourage members to attend meetings on the proposed development of East Beach and the S.B. wharf. Dorothy and members of the Bird Refuge Committee continue to work on plans for the Bird Refuge.

The Friends of Santa Paula and Santa Clara River Ventura County are asking our support in their proposed suit against the Corps of Engineers plans to channelize the creek with a debris basin replacing one-third of Steckel Park. At the time Paul Howard sent us information about this project, we believed we were too late. Further data will be obtained and the board will act if possible.

Virginia Puddicombe, our representative, and Janet Hamber are attending the National Convention in Denver.

The Shasta Audubon Society plans a workshop in October.

CONGRATULATIONS, Richard Webster, on your acceptance at Harvard University this coming fall. We will miss your bird alerts and your field notes but wish you great success in your new environs. Our society is deeply grateful to you for your many Audubon activities.

Keep alert to conservation matters---have a happy summer!

Tomi Sollen

#### BIRDING GROUP FOR YOUNGSTERS

We would like to see a birding group for youngsters started. A series of short outings led by teen-agers or young adults with birding experience and geared to the interests of the youngsters will be the main focus of the program. All outings will be under adult supervision. Because this will be a brand new group we need a response from the membership concerning interested parents and youngsters as well as people interested in helping to lead the outings. For further information please contact the Smiths at 966-7971.

#### BIRD REFUGE PROJECT

A survey of the North side of the Bird Refuge is being completed with Marge Capiello and Tomi Sollen assisting. A Master Plan of the area will be ready this summer--a joint effort of Audubon members Rod Barrett and Dorothy Martone. This is Audubon's opportunity to provide a delightful spot for both the birds and the public. All suggestions will be carefully considered.

#### EL TECOLOTE

Deadline for the next issue: Sunday, September 9. Bring or mail news items, but not circulation matters, to Miss Lou Dartanner, 5546 Cathedral Oaks Road, Santa Barbara, CA 93111, or call 967-4859. There is an "Audubon Box" on the front porch, so if we are not home, put your items in the box.

## ANNUAL PICNIC, JUNE 2

My thanks to all who helped make our third annual picnic a success: to Tomi Sollen for much help on Friday preparing the antipasto and salad greens; to Bob Sollen for our table covers--and to all who helped cover the tables; to Minna Smith for handling the reservations and name tags; to Jan Hamber for help with tasks too numerous to list; to Kathy Arnold, June Gardner, Linda Gielow, Dot Gildersleeve, Mary Lou Hand, Dorothy Jeakins and Marion Sanford for help making salad, antipasto trays, pouring wine and cider, etc., etc.; to Bill Gardner and Jim Hand, Les Cook and Nelson Metcalf for yeoman service in unloading, fire tending, cleanup, etc. (and a special "thank you" to Bill Gardner for the kindling wood); to Marge Cappiello for assisting our chef in carving and serving the steak, among many other tasks; and, most of all, to our superb chef, Maxim (Smitty) Smith, for a magnificent job of cooking the steaks. Thank you, Smitty, from all of us!

I hope you all enjoyed the picnic as much as I did.

Joy Parkinson

## FIELD TRIPS

The May 13 boat trip on the Hurricane was highlighted for the 37 passengers by fine looks at an American Oystercatcher standing on the shore of the southwest corner of Anacapa Island. This species can only be in California by visiting one or two spots on Anacapa and Santa Cruz Islands. Other species of interest seen by the group included all three loons, 13 Pink-footed and 3500 Sooty Shearwaters, 2 Black Petrels, Brown Pelicans, all three cormorants, 6 Sabine's Gulls, 3 Common Murres, many Pigeon Guillemots, 52 Xantu's Murrelets, 39 Cassin's Auklets, and 2 Santa Cruz Island Jays were seen along the north shore of Santa Cruz. The boat was visited in mid-channel by a number of small land birds including 1 Empidonax flycatcher, 1 Orange-crowned, 1 Yellow, 1 Townsend's, and 5 Wilson's Warblers, and 1 Western Tanager. Also of interest were many sea lions and harbor seals, plus hosts of migrating pelagic crabs. -- Richard Webster

The trip on May 20 the the San Julian Ranch was well attended; 25 cars started from Las Cruces with 50 eager occupants. The overhanging clouds dispersed and a beautiful sunny day gave us a fine view of 51 species. The Ranch was an old Spanish grant of some 20,000 acres, now about 3,000. We were invited to view the old adobe ranch house by our charming hostess Mrs. Nan Russell. Later we assembled in the beautiful arbor for luncheon. The high points of the trip were a Blue Grosbeak, Lazuli Bunting, 3 kinds of Flycatchers, and the wonderful atmosphere of early California days. -- Elizabeth Russell

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Of special interest are Red Crossbills still present in Hope Ranch along Via Tranquilla plus Evening Grosbeaks that have been seen in the San Roque area, at the Museum of Natural History, and near the Samar-kand. -- Richard Webster



The Tucson Audubon Society for the third year sponsored an Institute of Desert Ecology on May 4-6 and May 11-13 at beautiful Tanque Verde Dude Ranch. I was one of the fortunate sixty participants who came from ten states to the Sonoran desert in the foothills of the Rincon Mountains, about fifteen miles east of Tucson. As director, they had the very capable, affable and witty William Goodall, from Pomona, CA. He fondly recalled many friends in our local Santa Barbara Audubon group and asked to be remembered to all. Five university naturalists were the team who enthusiastically led groups of twelve on morning and afternoon field trips in their special areas of mammals, botany, geology, birds and invertebrates. The evening programs were varied and included a fascinating bat talk by Dr. Cockrum who had a live bat in a pillowcase. We were gathered at the Cottonwood Grove for this event after a magnificent outdoor barbecue dinner. Another time we had the pleasure to hear Rep. Morris Udall, Arizona legislator in Washington, speak about the energy crisis.

Every morning about 25 birders were on hand at 6 a.m. for a one-hour bird walk, before breakfast, led by Dr. Ohmart. Two birds seen, but seemed very far from usual habitat, were a spotted sandpiper by the edge of a pond and an osprey circling overhead. At the bird feeder by my cottage doorway, I could watch Gambel's Quail come up boldly and eat. The brightest splash was made by the cardinals and vermilion flycatchers flitting through the branches.

The desert was at its loveliest period of spectacular blooming and the best in fifty years, after record winter rainfall. A crashing thunder and lightning rainstorm ended the session to cap intense heat preceded by cool, windy days that brought variety to the weekends. In the week interim period, I enjoyed a day at the unique Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum. In their nursery, they had week-old roadrunners on display behind plate glass windows. Another day the president of Tucson Audubon Society, Edward Chalif, led a field trip to Patagonia, Sonoita Creek Sanctuary for good birding. The highlight of that day was a good look at the very rare rose-breasted becard nesting in a sycamore tree by our lunch rest area. The purposes of the institute to enrich, increase one's knowledge and appreciation of the desert were successfully achieved. It was a very rewarding experience.

Marjorie Cappiello

#### Membership Information

Welcome this month to new members: Meredith Michaels, John Brigham, Hiram A. Oleson, Ruth E. Kahlstrom, the Robert Kelley Family, Marian K. Latker, and Dorothy, Tony and Brooks Allen, all of Santa Barbara, and J. L. Walberg, Ventura, and Joan M. Mumper, Pasadena.

New Members: send application and check made to National Audubon Society to membership chairman: Mrs. Maxim Smith, 1600 Garden St., Apt. 35., Santa Barbara, CA 93101. The current El Tecolote will be sent to you.

Change of Address: Promptly notify membership chairman, Mrs. Maxim Smith, 1600 Garden St., Apt. 35, Santa Barbara, CA 93101. El Tecolote will NOT be forwarded by the Post Office. Please notify Mrs. Smith promptly of any change of your address.

Non-member Subscription to El Tecolote: Send \$1 per year to Santa Barbara Audubon Society, Inc., Mrs. Maxim Smith, 1600 Garden St., Apt. 35, Santa Barbara, CA 93101.

RARE BIRD ALERT

Would you like to see some of the rare and unusual birds that visit the area, rather than read about them after-the-fact in El Tecolote?

Jewell Kriger is chairman of the Rare Bird Alert. This is a telephone alerting system whereby interested birders are notified of a report of a rare bird sighting so they can have a chance to see the bird themselves.

If you are interested in being placed on the list for notification, call Jewell Kriger at 969-4192, or write her at 164 Hermisillo Road, Santa Barbara.

If you sight a rare bird, be sure to call her right away so she can alert others.

EL TECOLOTE  
SANTA BARBARA AUDUBON SOCIETY

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LOU DARTANNER  
5546 CATHEDRAL OAKS  
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