



El Tecolote

BULLETIN OF THE SANTA BARBARA AUDUBON SOCIETY, INC.

No. 8
October, 1974

Virginia Puddicombe, President
933 Arcady road
Montecito, CA
969-1702

John Arnold, Editor
170 Old Mill Rd. #20
Santa Barbara, CA 93110
961-3713 (office)

"Like winds and sunsets, wild things were taken for granted until progress began to do away with them. now we face the question whether a still higher 'standard of living' is worth its cost in things natural, wild and free. For us of the minority, the opportunity to see geese is more important than television, and the chance to find a pasque-flower is a right as inalienable as free speech."

Aldo Leopold

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

- X October 25
Friday
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING: The regular monthly meeting will be at 8 pm, in Fleischmann Auditorium, Museum of Natural History. The meeting topic will be announced in the News-Press due to a last-minute cancellation of the scheduled program. Please bring your own cups for refreshments...styrofoam pollutes. Why not invite a friend and show that person how interesting an Audubon meeting is and how much fun it can be?
- October 27
Sunday
HOLLISTER RANCH: Meet at the Thrifty parking lot in 5-Points Shopping Center (Upper State St. and US 101) at 8 am sharp for car-pooling. A 40-minute drive to this beautiful north county ranch will result in a great day of birding...raptors, migrants, foothill residents. Take a lunch and warm clothing. Leaders: Brook & Tony Allen
- November 2-3
Sat.-Sun.
MORRO BAY, MONTANA de ORO ST. PARKS: Meet at Morro Bay State Park Natural History parking lot at 10 am Saturday. Allow 2 hours driving time from Santa Barbara. Camp at the park or make your own motel reservations. (Motel 6, 298 Atascadero Rd., Morro Bay. (805) 772,8881, for example). Take lunch for 2 days. Spotting scopes are helpful in observing the great numbers of waterfowl and shorebirds; if possible take one along. Call leaders if you plan to go. Suggested driver donation: \$4.25.

Leaders: June & Bill Gardner 962-0152

Don't forget the Carrizo Plain trip is scheduled for Dec 7-8 this year. Make plans to go on this extremely rewarding outing...you'll be glad you did! Look for details in the November El Tecolote.

****.****.****.****.****.*****.*****.****.****.****.****

VIRGINIA'S WARBLERS

Let's all strive for conservation of our natural resources. Efforts to keep more oil drilling out of the channel, trail bikes from destroying our wilderness areas, clean water, air, open spaces, and abatement of noise pollution are supported by

---Continued on Page Two---

Audubon Society members. Mike Fishbein, Tomi Sollen, Bob Kasson and others are doing a big job for conservation, the above by attending meetings, writing letters, and making statements. If you are a concerned citizen, ask them how you can help.

Twelve pairs of Bushnell "Bikini" binoculars were purchased by the SBAS and are available for use by qualified leaders who may borrow them from the Education Dept. at the Natural History Museum (Dave Cosby), weekdays from 9-5.

Hats off to Dorothy Martone and her committee for a fine letter to the City concerning the Andre Clark Bird Refuge. Briefly, the SBAS wants a paved parking lot, a walkway and bikeway along the north shore, planned plantings with a sprinkler system and elimination of domestic ducks and geese from the Refuge. Anything else members?

Vacation time found the Puds back-packing, fishing, canoeing, swimming and birding in Idaho. Nesting white-faced ibis breed near Idaho Falls. We visited one of the largest wildlife reservations in the country, Malheur National Wildlife Refuge in the SE corner of Oregon and saw breeding Trumpeter Swans. There are many Wildlife Refuges to visit, especially in California. Check your state maps and discover these valuable areas to view birds, especially during migration. Purchasing Duck stamps (\$5 each, local P.O.) aids in the purchase of these wetlands.

Our new Board of Directors member is Barbara Green, 4512 Via Huerto, SB 93110, 964-3075.

*****-----*****

PLEASE NOTE PLEASE NOTE PLEASE NOTE PLEASE NOTE PLEASE NOTE PLEASE NOTE PLEASE NOTE PLEASE NOTE

Dr. Robert Gray, Associate Curator of Paleontology and a SBCC teacher, will present a program on the Fossil Mammals of California at the October meeting. Dr.

Gray has done some interesting work on the Carpinteria Tar Pits as well as uncovering a Mammoth near Dos Pueblos. His presentation should be quite interesting.

FIELD TRIP REPORTS

Mt. Pinos, Sept. 21--About 35 Auduboners met on Mt Pinos for a day of birdwatching at 6000' and above. The day was luckily quite warm and cloudless with only a slight breeze. Approximately 69 species were spotted including Mountain Chickadees, Cassin's Finches, White-breasted Nuthatches, Pine Siskins, Mountain Quail, and a Williamson's Sapsucker. At 3:20 pm, after most of the group had departed, an adult Condor flew low over the observation point above a small group of watchers including the society's Condor biologist, John Borneman, who joined us after lunch. A good place for viewing the Condors the rest of the year would be the Sespe area.

Bill Gielow

SB Harbor-Bird Refuge, Oct. 6--Ten persons met at the Harbor Sunday morning for a liesure walk to the sandspit where numerous shore birds were seen. We were able to study the Royal and Forster's Terns quite well as they were sitting in groups of 20-30 on the sand within easy viewing distance. Highlighting the day was a Ruddy Turnstone and two Parasitic Jaegers (an immature and a dark-phase adult). The Jaegers provided us with an incomparable display, flying no more than ten feet above our heads, and at one point they were able to force a Royal Tern into dropping its freshly-caught fish. The adult Jaeger then quickly flew down and caught and swallowed its newly appropriated meal in mid-air! From there we proceeded to the Bird Refuge where we saw the usual waterfowl species. Les Cooke was there and his knowledge and comments (the Black Phoebe has a cut-away dinner jacket) were most appreciated. At least 58 species were seen.

John Arnold

MEMBERS SLIDE NIGHT

The combined November-December meeting, Friday, Dec. 6, will be members slide night. If you wish to show some of your favorite to a captive audience, this is your chance. Contact Mike Goodwin--963-1265--for details.

ELEVEN-YEAR REPORT OF OUR TREASURER EMERITUS

In September Tim Whitehouse took over as Treasurer, and I thought I would produce a few notes. This is not a farewell, as I shall remain an assistant to Tim and to Assistant Treasurer, (for 11 years also), Janet Hamber.

1. Our first National Audubon dues split was for \$11. Memberships have now brought this up to between \$400-\$500 for most months.

2. Our first deposit in the Crocker National Bank was on July 1, 1963 for \$149.64. This consisted mostly of contributions toward a Bird Refuge Fund. Early contributors were John R. Northup, Harvey and Janet Hamber, Rich Miller, and Dr. Roberts. Today a Bird Refuge Fund of \$266 is still included in the General Fund, which on Sept.1, 1974 totaled \$7676. This will some day be expended on some refuge, as progress has ceased on our early plans for the one by the zoo.

3. In 1970 we were incorporated. All legal matters were most ably handled by Preston Webster, husband of our then President Fifi. Gradually Federal and State tax reports and our growth in membership required much more complicated bookkeeping. Our record book had grown from 7½" by 4½" to 15" by 9"! So next we required an Auditor. Another friend, Francis McGowan, CPA, set up a fine new system. We wish to extend our thanks to these two experts for their skillful help, in both cases a great contribution to our society.

4. Finally, after the first of October, the Ruth Holbrook Memorial Fund of approx. \$890 will be turned over to Dr. Powers and the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History, for a permanent display in her name. To this amount will be added about \$150, the Roger Gildersleeve Memorial Fund, which Dorothy Watkins wishes to add to it. The display will be completed this Autumn, and will contain a metal plaque with an inscription something like: "In Memory of Ruth Holbrook, the Audubon Society". The Holbrook Family is very much pleased with the efforts and the contributions of everyone concerned.

Wales R. Holbrook

*** ***

To the above message and the extremely competent work done by Hobey must be attached our most sincere thanks from the Santa Barbara Audubon Society. We can never adequately express our gratitude for the outstanding and unselfish work that Hobey has done for our Society. Thank you Hobey, thank you, thank you.

*** ***

SRAREBIRDSRAREBIRDSRAREBIRDSRAREBIRDSRAREBIRDSRAREBIRDSRAREBIRDSRAREBIRDSRAREBIRDSRAREBIRDSRARE

Any sightings of rare birds or out of season birds in the SB area should be reported to Jewell Krieger, 969-4192, so she can put it on the Rare Bird Alert. If you were on the alert you would have been informed of the Blackburnian Warbler at Devereaux and the Bald Eagle at El Capitan. Contact Jewell for details of the alert system.

✱✱✱✱✱✱✱✱✱✱✱✱✱✱✱✱✱✱✱✱

WILCOX PROPERTY

The Santa Barbara City Council has voted to place acquisition of the 65 acres of ocean front property just east of Arroyo Burro Beach on the November ballot. The ballot will read: Should the city of Santa Barbara purchase the 65 acres of the Wilcox acquisition?

This provides the citizens of Santa Barbara with the opportunity to preserve a unique and valuable natural area and will once again demonstrate that Santa Barbara is not totally devoted to creating another typical plastic city, complete with pseudo-elegant money-making developments. Vote as you wish, but vote.

NICE NEWS

A bill to preserve about 100 miles of the Snake River in Idaho, Oregon and Washington for its scenic values has been approved by the Senate interior committee.

SB News-Press

CHRISTMAS COUNT--Santa Barbara, Saturday, December 14
 --Sespe, Friday, December 27

October may seem early to begin thinking about the Christmas bird census, but a successful count requires time to plan, and we need all the help we can get. The more birders we put into the field, the better our results will be.

There is a place for everyone in the count--advanced birders to lead parties, average birders to help spot, beginners to record and learn; a place for people who like to hike all day, as well as for people who want to stay by their feeder, and for night persons to census the owls.

Please let the chairmen know that you're available by filling in and returning the following form(s).

SANTA BARBARA

NAME _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____ ZIP _____

Preferred area (circle one or more):

GOLETA SANTA BARBARA CAMINO CIELO OCEAN BOAT OWLS FEEDER
 HOPE RANCH MONTECITO PARADISE VALLEY TRAILS

____ I can lead a party. ____ I wish to serve as a recorder.
 (return to Michael Fishbein, 1432 Harbor View Dr., SB 93103)

SESPE

NAME _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____ ZIP _____

Level of hiking desired (circle one): STRENUOUS MODERATE LIGHT

____ I can lead a party. ____ I wish to serve as a recorder.
 (return to Michael Goodwin, 514 W. Gutierrez St., SB 93109)

INFORMATIONAL EXCHANGES

I think it would be very healthy for the Santa Barbara Audubon Society to communicate with birders in surrounding areas to exchange information about rare and unusual birds appearing in their areas. Here in southern California we hear more about unusual birds in the San Francisco Bay Area and even as far north as Humboldt Bay than we do about birds around Santa Barbara. There are people in this state who will drive from one end to the other in search of the rare bird, and are always available to go and confirm sightings of the unusual nature.

Guy McCaskie, Regional Editor, American Birds

QUOTES WITHOUT COMMENT (from the UCSB Daily Nexus)

"Flournoy opposes the so-called Rivers Initiative on the November ballot. The initiative would block construction of the New Melones dam on the Stanislaus River. Flournoy favored allowing the construction of the dam but said that a decision to actually fill it with water, a step that would wipe out nine miles of white water rafting river, should be made later in order to keep options open."

Flournoy is the Republican candidate for Governor of California. Proposition 17 will deliver the Stanislaus River (either to the Army Corps or to Nature Loving folks like you and me). Don't fail to vote.

TWO-BIT TALKS (On all sorts of things about Santa Barbara's Natural History)

The Museum of Natural History is presenting a series of lectures on Wednesday evenings (most of the time), from 7:30 to 9 pm. The cost per lecture is only 25¢, a bargain considering the expertise of the lecturers and the abundance of knowledge available to the audience. The lectures will be held in Fleischmann Auditorium and some of the topics to be discussed are as follows: Informal Information: Mammal & Bird Halls; Beach Beasts; Purple Plankton Eaters; Milton's Ode to Fish; Horney Toads & Other Ambiguities; Bugs & Who They Bite; Ms. Muffet & Friends, and so on. For more information contact the Museum.

AUDUBON CAMP & NATIONAL CONVENTION NEWS

Each year the Board of Directors selects a recipient of a scholarship to the Audubon Camp of the West, an intensive two-week environmental education program. There are four sessions during the summer months costing approximately \$275 (which the Society pays) and includes lodging in rustic cabins, hearty meals, many field trips, and rewarding interaction with the 40 plus other guests from around the nation.

Do you know of a person who would benefit from such an environmental study (and one who would also use this newly gained information to benefit Santa Barbara)? Last year's session saw teachers, students, contractors, naturalists, rangers, and others learning about nature. Please submit your nominations, as soon as possible and with your reasons for wanting to go to the camp, to Virginia Puddicombe. Reservations must be made soon so don't delay.

Additionally, the Board of Directors at its October meeting voted to appropriate \$400 to send a delegate to the National Convention in New Orleans in April 1975. The convention, which meets every other year, is an intensive workshop in environmental affairs and features many distinguished speakers. It is an extremely rewarding experience and the Board is soliciting nominations for a delegate. Please send your nominations to Virginia Puddicombe as soon as possible.

OJAI-VENTURA & LOMPOC AREA MEMBERS

Would you like to get together with other members in your area for Audubon-related activities? If members in these areas would like to publicize local field trips or informal meetings separate from the regular field trips and meetings of the chapter, notices will gladly be included in El Tecolote.

THANKSGIVING CONDOR?

Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth L. McKinnon, Audubon members from San Rafael, plan to be in southern California at Thanksgiving time and they are very interested in sighting a Condor. Being unfamiliar with the area they would appreciate some guidance by a Santa Barbara member. Mrs. McKinnon says she would be most excited if she could even get a long-distance view of a Condor (but then, who wouldn't?). If you would be willing to lead the McKinnons on their Condor-seeking Thanksgiving, contact them at 72 Lochinvar Road, San Rafael, CA 94901.

BOTANIC GARDEN BIRD WALKS

A series of walks designed to interest the general public in the Santa Barbara Audubon Society was conducted on the first and third Tuesday of September at the Botanic Gardens. The first meeting was led by Tomi Sollen and Minna Smith and 11 people participated, sighting 15 species. This educational program will continue throughout the year and is under the direction of Sid Tarbox.

Hereafter the Society will provide up to 6 pairs of binoculars to individuals attending the walks and in need of field glasses, certainly a nice gesture which may impress the general public as to how nice the Santa Barbara Audubon Society is; as members we can all take pride in the Society's many, varied endeavors.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

We are pleased to welcome the following new members:

OJAI

Nancy J Bradley Mrs. Roy Bressler

SANTA PAULA

Mrs. Hilary Mangan

GOLETA

Alan Eisner James Frank Sheila Medina Brian&Blanche Wicke Douglas, Margaret,
Tamara & Dougie Johnson

SANTA BARBARA

Birdetta Angus Suzanne Markert Mr&Mrs George Morales David Greditzer
Sharon Avery Barry Wilkinson Ellen Cunningham Fritz Patterson Lilane Schuler
Lorraine Myers David Swimmer Mr&Mrs John Scott Paul&Jean Johnson
Dr&Mrs Kenneth Waters George Andrews Marshal&Audrey von Bieberstein Frank Ferry
Debbie&John Hardy Ada Babine Charlene Williams

JINGLE BELLS, JINGLE BELLS

In case you weren't aware, Christmas is only 2 months and 2 weeks away. A gift membership in the National Audubon Society (including the SBAS) is an extremely thoughtful gift which aids the cause of conservation as well as provides an unusual and beautiful present for someone. Remember that the Audubon Society is not only a birdwatching society but it is also an intensive conservation organization dedicated to environmental protection on all fronts.

EL TECOLOTE

The next issue of El Tecolote will be the combined November-December issue. Deadline for the next issue is Friday, November 8th. Mail your contributions to John Arnold, 170 Old Mill Road #20, Santa Barbara, CA 93110.

Please note new address.

EL TECOLOTE
SANTA BARBARA AUDUBON SOCIETY

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Santa Barbara, Calif.
Permit No. 125

MISS BLANCHE BALZARETTE
1121 A N MILPAS
SANTA BARBARA CA93103