



El Tecolote

BULLETIN OF THE SANTA BARBARA AUDUBON SOCIETY, INC.

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April 1975

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"To be able to identify birds you must observe closely and accurately their size, motions, flights, songs, call notes, haunts, form and color. The English Sparrow and the Robin are taken as a basis of measurement; the Sparrow being 6 inches and the Robin being 10 inches long.

"Never chase the birds being observed; do your own looking; do not take the word of someone else. Birds do not stay indoors on account of bad weather."

--BOY SCOUT DIARY, 1929

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

April 25
Friday

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING--EAST AFRICA: This month's meeting will feature a slide presentation on the birds and mammals of East Africa by Mr. George Andrews who recently spent 6 months there. You may remember Mr. Andrews' excellent photographs at the Member's Slide Night last December. Fleischmann Auditorium, 8pm, Museum of Natural History.

April 26
Saturday

REFUGIO PASS ROAD--NOJOCUI PARK--Car pooling at Thrifty's in 5-Points Shopping Center at 7:45am, or meet at the intersection of Refugio Pass Road & Hwy 246 near Santa Ynez at 8:30. Take lunch, dress warmly.

Leaders: Bill and June Gardner, 962-0152
Tomi Sollen, 966-4836

May 3
Saturday

ZACA LAKE--Car pooling at Thrifty's in 5-Points Center at 8am or meet at the Lake. Take a lunch and plan to hike around the only natural lake in Santa Barbara County. Small entrance fee at the lake. Migrant species, chaparral residents, beautiful scenery. Driver donation: \$1.50.

Leader: Alice Kladnik, 967-5209

May 17
Saturday

ANNUAL MEETING AND PICNIC--Stow Park, Goleta, from 4pm. Stow Park is on La Patera between Cathedral Oaks and Covington Way. Dinner will be at approximately 5:30pm, and includes BBQ steak, salad, bread, beans and relishes, all for \$2.75.

Bring your own table service (cup, plate, silverware, wine glass, napkin). If you would prefer to bring your own picnic please do so. Either way, be sure to join us for a good old fashioned summertime picnic. Please make checks payable to SB Audubon Society, Inc., and mail them to Joy Parkinson, 568 Beaumont Way, Goleta 93017. Reservation deadline for prepared dinner is May 10.

Volunteers are needed to help make this another successful picnic. If you wish to help in any way, contact Joy at 967-9371.

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BLACK PHOEBE STUDY IN SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

Dr. S. Rothstein and D. Schroeder (Dept. Bio-Sciences, UCSB) are investigating certain aspects of the breeding biology of the Black Phoebe. For the next few years data will be collected which may afford answers to the following questions: What limits the size of the breeding population of the Black Phoebe? What factors determine the distribution of the local breeding population? Do pairs maintain the same territory year after year? Is there competition for nest sites between Black Phoebes, Cliff Swallows, and Barn Swallows?

Data are collected by regularly monitoring the nest sites during the breeding season and recording nest location, clutch size, fledging success, etc. Many phoebes are captured, color-banded, and released. Subsequent observations of banded birds yields valuable information on patterns of dispersal and survivorship.

Local birders can greatly aid the investigation by providing information on phoebe nest locations and/or sightings of banded birds. Active nests are of prime interest, but information on old (previously used) nests is also important. Banded phoebes will have four separate bands (two on each leg). One band will be a metallic (silver) US Fish & Wildlife band; the other 3 will be colored plastic. Each banded individual will have a unique color code (EG: left leg--light blue over white, right leg--red over silver). If you see a banded phoebe, carefully try to determine the precise arrangement of the bands. Please make a note of the color code, the date and location, and any other details of the observation.

If you have information on phoebe nests or banded phoebes, please contact Don Schroeder (Dept BIOSCI, UCSB, SB 93106) at 961-3910, 968-1630, or leave a message at 961-3511. In return, you can learn of the outcome of a nest that you help locate (young phoebes will be color-banded before they leave the nest) and/or the former history of a banded bird that you report.

So far, approximately 75 nest sites have been located in SB County and nearly 100 Black Phoebes have been color-banded. Aid of local birders will help increase these figures and accordingly increase the significance of the results of the investigation.

CHRISTMAS COUNT NOTES

Members who subscribe to BIRDING, the magazine of the American Birding Association, were surprised to learn from Noel Pettingell's report in the Nov-Dec issue that between 1910 and 1931 Santa Barbara set or equalled the All Time High North American Christmas Bird Count 8 times.

<u>YEAR</u>	<u># SPECIES</u>	<u># PARITES</u>	<u># OBSERVERS</u>	
1910	75	1	3*	* probably led by William Dawson
1911	98	1	2*	
1912	101	1	2*	
1914	107	1	5*	
1919	107	1	5*	
1926	119	1	4*	
1930	127	8	22**	** by Ralph Hoffmann
1931	1138	10	24**	

Other California counts that have equalled or broken the record are Pacific Grove with 36 species in 1900 (the first count year) and San Diego as follows: 119 in 1928 174 in 1954 206 in 1966 209 in 1967 217 in 1968 224 in 1969.

Only 3 communities have exceeded Santa Barbara's count of 202 in 1971. These are Freport, Texas with 226, San Diego with 224, and Cocoa, Florida with 210.

Nelson Metcalf

SAVE A STAMP--HELP SAVE AN EAGLE

The Florida Audubon Society has for several years sponsored a program to help save the Bald Eagle. One way you can help is to collect and send United States and foreign Commemorative stamps to them. Florida Audubon Society volunteers prepare and package the stamps for sale to dealers.

The funds obtained are used in the purchase of sanctuary signs and to fund research for the three million acres land owners in Florida have dedicated for nesting sites for the endangered Bald Eagle.

Send only Commemoratives, US and foreign and those over 40¢. No Christmas stamps can be sold. Very old issues are desirable as are first day envelopes and Blocks. Cut stamps with approximately 1/4 inch on each side as a margin.

Mail your stamps to Mrs. Gordon H. Palmer, 5211 Nestle Avenue, Tarzana, CA 91356.

VIRGINIA'S WARBLERS

A new birding check list is available..It has 5 columns for daily checking of the common birds of Santa Barbara. It also has punch holes for inserting in a memorandum notebook. This may be purchased at the regular monthly meetings, the Museum of Natural History, or the Botanic Gardens.

Stephen Rothstein, Dept. of BIOSCI, UCSB, is eager to have local Audubon members participate in a research program on "Brood Parasitism and Avian Egg Recognition." If you have information on parasitic bird eggs in nests, please call 961-2834, 964-5693, or leave a message at 961-3511.

Our Audubon Society, Santa Barbara listing is being used, despite having to call information to get the number! Yes, it's our Bird Alert number too with Jewell Kriger answering. Have a birding problem and don't know whom to call? Call 969-4192!

With 3 speakers at our last program we had an outstanding and quite varied meeting. Alice Palmer's wonderful slides on Fungi, Terry Ashe's beautiful portrayal of Point Lobos and Stephen Rothstein's talk on cowbird parasitism made for an enjoyable evening. Thank you for arranging such a good show, Mike Goodwin.

Virginia Puddicombe

PUBLIC HEARINGS SCHEDULED

Two important Public Hearings will be held in Santa Barbara to receive citizen input on the development of Yosemite National Park, and the Preliminary Coastal Plan submitted by the California Coastal Zone Conservation Commission.

The Yosemite workshop will discuss issues and problems, available experiences, and future management of the park. The hearing will be on Monday, April 21, at 7:30pm at the San Marcos High School cafeteria.

The Public Hearing for the Preliminary Coastal Plan will be held on Thursday, May 8 at 7:30pm in the Supervisors Hearing Room in Santa Barbara. Written comments may be submitted no later than the hearing date. For further information contact the So. Central Coast Regional Commission, 330 E. Canon Perdido, SB 93101. 965-6525.

ONE ON OUR SIDE?

Representative Robert L. Leggett, from California, was recently appointed Chairperson of the Subcommittee on Fisheries and Wildlife Conservation and the Environment. One of his first duties as chairperson was the solicitation of information from Secretary of the Interior Morton concerning the deplorable law enforcement conditions of the US Fish and Wildlife Service, specifically the lack of funds for adequate enforcement procedures and the understaffed enforcement division.

Representative Leggett's concern on this vitally important segment of the Fish and Wildlife Service is most promising to conservationists and his efforts are very much appreciated.

NEW WORLD CIVILIZATIONS, PART I

The SB Museum of Natural History is offering a program with travel and instruction on ancient Mesoamerica in the Valley of Mexico, Oaxaca, Yucatan, and Guatemala. Academic credit is available from La Verne College. (Usually credit-bearing travel arrangements are fully tax-deductible.)

Scheduled for June 23 to July 7, 1975, the purpose of this journey is to give you the opportunity to examine and study the remarkable remains and accomplishments of some of the most spectacular civilizations of the ancient New World.'

Cost for the package is \$500 plus airfare. This cost does not include meals. If interested contact the Museum (Dr. Travis Hudson).

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WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

We wish to welcome the following new members:

VENTURA

Grace Borghi Viola Cartmill The Vaughn Family
Mr&Mrs Elwood Conn The RC Withers Family

SANTA YNEZ

William Nelson

BURBANK

Jean P. Goebel

LOMPOC

The William Dias Family
Charles Dill Arthur Wilson

LOS OLIVOS

Paul&Anne Kemnitzer

OJAI

Marion G. Ellingwood
PORT LEYDEN, N.Y.

Altsie L. Wilcox

GOLETA

Nori Burk The Donald Calamar Family Mr&Mrs Ernest Diem Janet Eitel John Howe
Michael King

SANTA BARBARA

James Ashe Virginia Becchio Susan Bordelon Raymond Broder Mrs. Anton Brunner
Patricia Case Dr&Mrs Alex Comfort Mrs Leo Delsasso Mr&Mrs J Dozier Tom Lewis
Peter Frykman David Gibbs Mrs W Cabell Greet Mr&Mrs Peter Hallinan Allan Hodgert
Robert Hough Mrs Nelson Howard Stephen Logan Mr&Mrs Murray Martin John McManus
Charlotte Nath Paul Okuye Ben Palmer Tim Peddicord J Carl Peus Paul Thibault
Maj Gen TF Van Natta Dana White Susan&Robert Wiltsey

If for any reason you don't receive a copy of El Tecolote, contact Membership Chairwoman Barbara Green, 4512 Via Huerto, SB, 93110, 964-3075.

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EL TECOLOTE

Deadline for the May-June issue of El Tecolote is the first Friday in May. Mail your contributions to John Arnold, PO BOX 14348 UCSB, Santa Barbara 93107.

PLEASE NOTE NEW ADDRESS

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EL TECOLOTE
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