



El Tecolote

BULLETIN OF THE SANTA BARBARA AUDUBON SOCIETY, INC.

Volume 14, Number 7
August-September, 1976

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Goleta, CA 93017
967-9371

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966-0069

April 22, 1977

MONTHLY MEETING - September 24, 1976

LIFE IN THE SANTA BARBARA CHANNEL

A slide and sound show produced and edited by Milton S. Love of the Marine Science Institute of UCSB. It includes slides of marine animals, and is provided by Dr. Love and marine biology students at the school. The meeting will be held at 8 p.m. on September 24 in Fleischman Auditorium at the Museum of Natural History.

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

August 19 Thursday Board of Directors' Meeting - 7:30 p.m., Junior Library, Museum of Natural History. All members are invited.

August 28 Saturday Mount Pinos - The annual condor watch at Mount Pinos in the Los Padres National Forest near Frazier Park. Stay in any of the campgrounds on Mount Pinos or at the Caravan Motor Inn in Gorman Friday night and meet at 8 a.m. at the big parking lot at the end of the paved road. Those driving up Saturday can meet the group at noon at the top of the mountain at the condor observation point. This is always a good spot for montane bird species and native plants. Five California Condors were seen last year. Pack a lunch, water and jacket; spotting scopes are helpful.

Leaders: Jim Hodgson, 967-3627
Ron Smith, 687-2163

September 4 Saturday Channel Islands Boat Trip - Again this year we will land on Anacapa Island. Last year's trip produced many rare migrants including a Philadelphia vireo. In Santa Barbara meet at Von's parking lot in Montecito at 7 a.m. for carpooling; in Ventura meet at Ventura Sport Fishing Landing at 7:30 a.m. We will leave at 8 a.m. and return by 4 p.m. aboard the Paisano. Pack a lunch, motion sickness pills, and wear a waterproof jacket, warm clothes, and sturdy shoes. Bringing a stable deck chair is optional and some seating is provided. Reserve your space immediately by sending a check for \$10 (\$12.50 for non-members) payable to Santa Barbara Audubon Society to Jim Hodgson, 579 Carlo Drive, Goleta, CA 93017 (967-3627). Note: priority will be given to currently listed members; if so filled, all other checks will be returned. Limited to 48 people.

Leader: Jim Hodgson, 967-3627

September 16 Thursday Board of Directors' Meeting - 7:30 p.m., Junior Library, Museum of Natural History. All members are invited to attend.

- September 19 Sunday Santa Clara River Estuary - An excellent assortment of birds - many shorebirds, terns and gulls. Meet at Von's parking lot in Montecito at 7:30 a.m., or at Seaward Avenue offramp of U.S. 101 Standard station at 8 a.m. Bring a lunch.
Leader: Jim Hodgson, 967-3627
- September 24 Friday Regular Monthly Meeting - 8 p.m., Fleischman Auditorium, Museum of Natural History. See details on page 1. Be sure to bring a cup for refreshments.
- September 25 Saturday Botanic Gardens - A good opportunity to observe resident and migrating woodland birds. Meet at Botanic Gardens parking lot at 8:30 a.m.
Leader: Sid Tarbox, 687-2067
- October 3 Sunday McMenemy-San Ysidro Trail Day Hike - Moderate to steep climb to East Camino Cielo. Pack lunch, water, camera. Meet at Natural History Museum at 8 a.m., or where the bridge crosses San Ysidro Creek on Park Lane in Montecito promptly at 8:30 a.m.
Leader: Bill Gielow, 687-3466
- October 10 Sunday North County Ranch - This year we are fortunate to be able to visit the historic William Cooper Ranch for fall migration. Meet at the Thrifty's parking lot in Five-Points Shopping Center for carpooling at 8 a.m., or at Santa Rosa Park on Santa Rosa Road in the north county (101 exit near Buellton) at 8:45 a.m. Pack a lunch and drink, and wear warm clothes and trail shoes. Driver donation \$1.
Leader: Virginia Puddicombe, 969-1702
Arrangements: Bill Gielow, 687-3466
- October 16 Saturday Goleta Hot Spots - Always productive for migrating warblers and at least one rarity is usually seen. Meet at Two Guys parking lot at 8 a.m.
Leader: To be announced, call Jim Hodgson, 967-3627, for information
- October 30 Sandyland Slough
November 13 Lake Cachuma
November 20,21 Morro Bay-Montana de Oro
December 4-5 Carrizo Plains
December 12 Goleta Slough
Leader to be announced
Jim Hodgson
Leader to be announced
Leader to be announced
Leader to be announced

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It is time to begin another year of SBAS activities. Michael Goodwin and Alan Manee will be arranging the monthly programs. Bill Gielow, Jim Hodgson, and Ron Smith are responsible for the field trips. We look forward to another successful year.

The Board of Directors met through the summer to handle necessary Audubon business. Most committee chairmen have been appointed. However, we STILL need help with the bulletin - our only means of communication with you. The mimeograph machine has been overhauled, but we are short of volunteers to operate it. Jean Johnson will be leaving in September for three months. If you can help - if only in October or November - please call Jean at 687-1651.

We also need a typist to cut stencils for El Tecolote. Mary Lou Hand is continuing her excellent job as Editor, but Jim Hand is returning to school and will likely no longer be able to type the stencils after Mary Lou has edited and assembled the material. Please call me at 967-9371 or Mary Lou at 966-0069 if you are willing and able to perform this important task for SBAS. Our thanks to Jim Hand for doing so this past year.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (Continued)

We also need a historian. All that is required is to clip newspaper items pertaining to Audubon and paste them into a scrapbook. The earlier scrapbooks are in the SBAS library and make fascinating reading. I have the current one and will be happy to deliver it to anyone who would like to take it over. Thanks to Jean Johnson for serving as our historian last year.

Joy Parkinson

Legal Aspects to Community Growth Control

The California Law Institute and Santa Barbara County Bar Association will present a symposium featuring nationally prominent legal experts and local authorities dealing with one of the most critical environmental and constitutional issues facing Americans today: community growth control. The symposium, which is free to the public, will take place on Saturday, August 21, from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., at the California Law Institute, 2034 Alameda Padre Serra, Santa Barbara, in Room 101. For information call 965-5898.

The California Law Institute and its Student Bar Association have also planned a "Candidates' Forum," providing an opportunity for both incumbents and aspirants to present their views and concerns, and to participate in actual dialogue with a wide range of interested constituents. Refreshments will be provided and you are invited to picnic on the grass while taking part. The Forum will be held on August 29 from 12 noon until 4 p.m. at the Institute, 2034 Alameda Padre Serra, Santa Barbara. Call 965-5898 for further information.

Birding Southeast Arizona

Southeast Arizona in the middle of June was hot, even in the mountains, but both birds and birders were there in considerable numbers. We spent time at five different locations: the Southwest Research Station in the Chiricahua Mountains; the Mile Hi, Ramsey Canyon, in the Huachuca Mountains; Patagonia and the Patagonia-Sonoita Creek Sanctuary; Madera Canyon near Tucson; and, the Catalina Mountains the outskirts of Tucson.

The Southwest Research Station and Cave Creek Canyon produced beautiful hummingbirds (Rivoli's, Blue-throated, Black-chinned, Lucifer's, Broad-billed, and Broad-tailed), Hepatic Tanagers, Scott's Orioles, Mexican Jays and Mexican Juncos, Painted Redstarts, Olivaceous and Wied's Flycatchers, Lucy's Warblers, Pygmy and Whiskered Owls, and a gorgeous pair of Coppery-tailed Trogons, climbing in and out of their nest hole in a huge sycamore, posing for binoculars and cameras, the male calling endlessly.

Ramsey Canyon in the Huachuca Mountains was a delightful stop and added the Gray and Sulphur-bellied Flycatchers, Bronzed Cowbirds, and a beautiful Violet-Crowned Hummingbird for our enjoyment. One day we flushed a pair of Harlequin Quail. The many feeders at the Mile Hi Lodge seemed in need of traffic control and one must wonder how collisions are avoided among so many speeding birds.

More time than we had could well have been allotted to the Patagonia-Sonoita Creek Sanctuary and areas nearby. We watched Gray Hawks soaring and visiting their nest just above our heads, made a scary climb up slippery rocks in Red Rock Canyon to find a Five-striped Sparrow singing from his perch on an ocotillo branch, and watched beautiful Blue Grosbeaks and Varied Buntings.

Madera Canyon was our one big disappointment of the trip. Perhaps mid-June is not a good time to visit as it was very hot and almost no birds were to be found. We cut short our planned stay and added a trip to the Catalina Mountains, a delightful contrast to the furnace that was Tucson, and a beautiful drive up to Mt. Lemmon at the top. It was Sunday, and we found a lot of people but also a pair of Brown-throated Wrens feeding nestlings, Virginia's Warblers, and a brilliant, red-flowering cactus among the rocks and tall trees.

Ardyth Woodbury, 967-8182

SANTA BARBARA AUDUBON SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS JUNE 1976 - MAY 1977

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 Goleta Slough: Ron Smith

NOTE: Committee Chairmen are underlined

Santa Barbara Underseas Foundation Activities

The Santa Barbara Underseas Foundation, a non-profit educational organization dedicated to the wise usage of the marine environment, has scheduled several activities of interest to Audubon members in the near future.

Anacapa Island Oceanographic Cruises include demonstrations of oceanographic equipment, a guided tour of the island, and discussion of the island's ecology. The cruise will include an overnight campout, August 21 and 22.

Devereaux Pt. Dune Exploration, also August 21, from 1 to 4 p.m., will explore the sand dune ecological preserve.

Conception Campout, August 28 and 29, offers the beauty and excitement of exploring this unique coastal area.

Call 966-4818 for time and cost information on these and other Foundation activities, or for membership information. All three trips have attendance limits, so call as soon as possible to reserve a space.

Organized Birding Tours

If you are interested in birding tours on an organized basis, I have the 1976-1977 Quester's Directory of World Wide Nature Tours and the pamphlet National Audubon Society International Ecology Workshop Tours available in the SBAS library. Plus if you are already going to a particular corner of the world and want to know if there is a bird guide or reference book available - please contact me.

Donnis Goodwin, 963-1265

Birding Around the Country

Connetquot River State Park - Suffolk County, New York. I spent ten days in New York City and made a first visit to Connetquot River State Park, mentioned on page 948 of American Birds, October, 1975. This park has been recently acquired by the State Park Commission and is a former hunting preserve of some 3000 acres. It requires a telephone reservation as well as a fee of \$1.00 per person. Although it was too late (June 6) for the migrating warblers, we found many Veeries, Baltimore Orioles, and Yellowthroats singing, and Canada Geese and Red-winged Blackbirds nesting along the shores.

Crabtree Nature Center - Cook County Forest Preserve (outside Chicago, Illinois) The next two weeks were spent in Chicago where the Robins were nesting in profusion, one in every street tree in Wilmette! This was an especially banner year for that species. We heard the Catbird singing, and saw many Blue Jays and Common Grackles in the backyard. Chicago has many Forest Preserves and Nature Centers. I highly recommend Crabtree (1100 acres) which is located on Route 62 with the entrance on Palatine Road. Besides a Nature Center, they have reconstructed a prairie grassland which is a fine spot to see deer and fox and in the early summer hear Bobolinks. Henslow's Sparrows and Short-billed Marsh Wrens are especially active in summer and early fall. We also saw two Blue Grosbeaks, many Cardinals and Baltimore Orioles, and the Rose-breasted Grosbeak. On a visit to the Skokie Lagoon we saw a Yellow-crowned Night-Heron, as well as a woodchuck, raccoon and a weasel.

Minna E. Smith

Solarized P.O.'s? - a prototype project aimed at equipping U.S. Post Offices with solar heating and cooling systems has been announced by the Energy Research and Development Administration. The first installation is to be in the Boulder, Colorado Post Office Building, and if it proves successful ERDA and the Postal Service want to extend the idea to other post office buildings across the country. The contract for designing and installing the equipment in Boulder is to be awarded to the Honeywell Corporation of Minneapolis.

Audubon Leader, June 4, 1976

Studies Show Big Decrease in Shooting of Eagles

In the early 1960's studies of the causes of death of eagles brought in to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service showed that about 70% had been shot, but since then the figure has gradually dropped to 27%. According to a report from Jack E. Hemphill, North Central Regional Director for the Service, one reason -- at least in his region -- is that "law enforcement and public education efforts are beginning to succeed"; fewer people are shooting eagles, and when eagles are shot people are more willing to come forward with information. Of 15 eagle shootings investigated in his region since the fall of 1975, Hemphill said, six have resulted in civil or criminal prosecutions and a seventh is still pending.

There's still a long way to go -- 27% is still a lot of needlessly slaughtered eagles, and furthermore there are other preventable causes still killing eagles -- but Hemphill's progress report is encouraging.

Audubon Leader, June 18, 1976

El Tecolote Deadline

Deadline for the October issue is Monday, September 27, 1976. Please send all contributions to Mary Lou Hand, 2016 Emerson Avenue, Santa Barbara, CA 93103, or call 966-0069.

El Tecolote
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