



El Tecolote

BULLETIN OF THE SANTA BARBARA AUDUBON SOCIETY, INC.

Volume 14, Number 8
October, 1976

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MONTHLY MEETING - FRIDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1976

"TALE OF TWO CITIES"

Conrad Weiler, a biology instructor at SBCC, will present "Tale of Two Cities," a slide lecture looking at how two cities relate to their environment. Santa Barbara, California, and Freiburg, Germany, are cities of about the same size, and Conrad Weiler had the opportunity to visit Freiburg while on sabbatical last year. The program will be at 8 p.m. in Fleischmann Auditorium at the Museum of Natural History.

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

- October 14
Thursday Board of Directors' Meeting - 7:30 p.m., Junior Library, Museum of Natural History. All members are invited.
- 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 (Hollister and Storke Roads) at 8 a.m.
Leader - Jim Hodgson, 967-3027
- October 22
Friday Regular Monthly Meeting - 8 p.m., Museum of Natural History. See details above. Be sure to bring a cup for refreshments.
- November 6
Saturday Hot Springs Trail Day Hike - Moderate to steep climb. Pack a lunch, water, and camera. Meet at Von's parking lot in Montecito at 8:30 a.m.
Leader - Bill Gielow, 687-3466
- November 14
Sunday Vandenberg Air Force Base, La Purissima Mission - Good birding for raptors, shorebirds in the Lompoc Area. A short walk in the mission garden will precede a drive through portions of the missile base. Wear warm clothes, bring lunch and water. Spotting scopes are useful. Meet at 6:30 a.m. at Thrifty Drug Store at Five Points Shopping Center for carpooling or at La Purissima Mission at 7:45 a.m. Driver donation \$1.50.
Leader - Russ Spowart
For information call Jim Hodgson, 967-3027
- November 20-21
Saturday/
Sunday Morro Bay-Montana de Oro - Meet at the museum at Morro Bay State Park at 9 a.m. Saturday. Allow 2 hours driving time from Santa Barbara. Either camp at the park, or make your own reservations at one of the local motels. A good chance to observe wintering waterfowl and shorebirds. Take lunch for two days. Please call the leader if you plan to go.
Leader - Jim Hodgson, 967-3027

CHRISTMAS COUNT - JANUARY 2, 1977

The annual Christmas Bird Count will be held in Santa Barbara this year on January 2, 1977. Full details will appear in the November-December El Tecolote. Be sure to keep the day open!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Thanks to Marcella Richards and Erna Mauer for volunteering to run the mimeograph machine while Jean Johnson is away. Also to Joan Vincent for agreeing to organize the collating of El Tecolote for mailing. Thank you, Diana Searcy for offering to be our historian.

In the mail which accumulated while we were camping for two weeks in Eastern Arizona, I discovered a book which I think will interest many of our members. Agriculture in the City is a new book published by the Community Environmental Council, sponsors of the Santa Barbara Ecology Center and Recycling Center. The book documents what was learned at CEC's urban, educational farm project. It tells how the program at El Mirasol Farm taught intensive organic gardening methods and explains the solar energy and methane experiments developed there.

The nice thing about the book is that the gardening methods and alternative energy information it contains can easily be applied in your own back yard. The gardening section includes detailed information on raised-bed preparation, composting methods, pest control, etc.

Agriculture in the City, 76 pages which contain many photographs of the project, is available at the Community Environmental Council, 109 E. De la Guerra Street, Santa Barbara, 93101. Price \$2.50 (plus 25¢ extra for mail orders).

Joy Parkinson

Los Padres Interpretative Association

Members of the Audubon Society are cordially invited to an open meeting of the Los Padres Interpretative Association, Wednesday, November 10, at 7:30 p.m., at Fleischmann Auditorium, Museum of Natural History. The speaker will be Theodore E. (Ted) Adams, Wildlands Specialist, University of California Extension, Davis. The subject will be an illustrated lecture on fire ecology.

Mrs. M. E. Broughton

Bird Slides - Again

Your education committee is still striving to broaden and improve the slide collection. Our appeals last year brought many fine additions to our files, as did a cooperative venture with the El Dorado Audubon Society at Long Beach.

Slides that would be useful in our fall and winter talks include: Black-crowned Night Heron (adult and immature), Red-breasted Merganser (male), Stellar's Jay, Common Bushtit, Plain Titmouse (clearly showing crest), Loggerhead Shrike, Brewer's Blackbird (female, or male and female together), Brown-headed Cowbird, Starling, and Golden-crowned Sparrow.

Can you help us? We'd like to borrow slides long enough to have duplicates made for our use. If you can help, please call me at 687-2067. In my absence (I'll be in the East part of the fall), talk to Minna Smith at 966-7971.

Sid Tarbox, Chairman, Education Com.

Golden Trout Camp

I spent my first session at Golden Trout Camp during the last week in July - a great experience! The weather was beautiful - sun alternating with thunderstorms, fantastic cloud formations, alpenglow sunsets below Mt. Langley, even some snow on the highest peaks. The tents were dry, the dining hall warm from the wood-burning

Golden Trout Camp (continued)

stove, the showers hot, and the food delicious and plentiful. The meadows had great varieties of wildflowers and the creeks were full from the recent rains. We had a small group, 20, and it was really a pleasure getting to know everyone.

Our hikes, led by Ann Terry and Frank Farrand, varied from a few hours to all day and we usually encountered interesting birds and unusual plants. We saw Gray-crowned Rosy Finches, Dippers, one Spotted Sandpiper, Williamson's Sapsucker (immature), Rufous Hummingbirds, Hammond's Flycatchers, Mountain Bluebirds, Clark's Nutcrackers, Red-tailed Hawk, and one Goshawk chasing a Black-tailed Jackrabbit (unsuccessfully). Also lots of Golden-mantled Ground Squirrels, Chipmunks, Marmots, Mule Deer, and of course, Golden Trout.

The naturalist programs in the evenings were very informative - we painlessly learned about the natural history of the Sierras, the history of the Owens Valley, birding spots in the Owens Valley and White Mountains, and meteorological causes of the thunder and lightning right over our heads.

A marvelous week!

Virginia Smith

Point Mugu Field Trip

On March 20th, 23 Auduboners enjoyed exceptional birding under the excellent guidance of Mr. Colley, stationed at Pt. Mugu Naval base. It was a cool, sunny day with strong east winds. Under such conditions we did not expect the best birding. However, by moving to the right spots, we sighted 82 species. Four White Pelicans, but not one Brown Pelican; White-faced Ibis; 14 species of ducks; Forster's, Common, Royal, and Caspian Terns. Even with the many ground squirrel holes, not one Burrowing Owl was seen.

Our former Mugu leader, Commander Baker, was conducting an experiment with Silver Salmon. He hopes to imprint the young to the Mugu Lagoon and thus introduce this salmon to the ocean south of the Oregon border.

This is a must trip for those who have not had the opportunity. My apologies for this late report and belated thanks to Mr. Colley for his enthusiasm in leading this trip.

Tomi Sollen

Nongame Wildlife Program

Funds donated to California's Nongame Wildlife Conservation Program (DECAL) will be put to their first use next spring, according to the Department of Fish and Game. Included in the budget for 1976-77 are projects for three wildlife watering facilities in the desert, and a special guard at Morro Rock during the Peregrine Falcon nesting season. Tentative plans for projects in the following year include enhancement of the nesting environment for the endangered Southern Bald Eagle and a continuation of the special guard at Morro Rock.

Last spring SEAS decided to help promote the nongame program by a donation of \$350, and by collecting funds at the monthly meetings. Anyone wishing to make a contribution may give it to Jan Hamber at the next meeting.

Donations may also be sent directly to the Department of Fish and Game. Make checks payable to "Nongame Wildlife" and send to Wildlife, Box DFG, Sacramento, CA 95801. Contributions in any amount are accepted, but donors of \$5 or more will receive a special certificate of appreciation in addition to a wildlife decal.

Jan Hamber

Birding in the Chirichua Mountains

Inspired by Dale Zimmerman's article on the Chiricahuas in The Bird Watcher's America, which said: "There we have a greater share of rare and localized land birds than any other section of North America," we went to Cave Creek Ranch in Portal, Arizona. We had a most comfortable accommodation completely equipped for light housekeeping. Numerous bird feeders were located on the grounds, with a Blue-throated Hummingbird in residence at our back porch.

We made daily trips into the Coronado National Forest, visiting a different area each day. In our eight day stay, we observed 75 species, including a Berylline Hummingbird, a rare visitor from Mexico. A pair were nesting on the grounds for the first time. Other species sighted were White-eared Hummingbird, Coppery-tailed Trogon, Harlequin Quail, Brown-throated Wren, Eastern Meadowlark, Blue Grosbeak, Painted Redstarts, Cardinals, Roadrunners, Mexican Juncos, and Mexican Jays. Animal life was abundant. We saw deer, skunk, coatimundis, Apache Foxtailed Squirrel, and families of Javelinas. The park ranger reported that this was a bad year for migrants, probably due to the unusual weather conditions. For us, it was an exciting and enjoyable adventure.

Maxim and Minna Smith

Status of the National Audubon Society - As of May 1, 1976 the Society's totals stood at 375 chapters, with 353,845 members!

Address Changes - Send El Tecolote address changes to Barbara Greene, 4512 Via Huerto, Santa Barbara, CA 93110, or call 964-3075. Also inform Barbara of any problems in receiving your newsletter.

El Tecolote Deadline - Deadline for the combined November-December issue is Monday, November 8, 1976. Please send all contributions to Mary Lou Hand, 2016 Emerson Avenue, Santa Barbara, CA 93103, or call 966-0069. All contributions are appreciated.

El Tecolote
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