



El Tecolote

BULLETIN OF THE SANTA BARBARA AUDUBON SOCIETY, INC.

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MONTHLY MEETING FEBRUARY 24, 1978 "BIRDS OF SOUTHEAST ARIZONA"

Bruce A. Sorrie, Point Reyes Bird Observatory Biologist, will present a slide program on one of the best birding areas in the United States. Bruce is a graduate of Cornell University, was a U.S. Navy photographer, and worked for the Massachusetts Audubon Society and Manomet Bird Observatory before joining PRBO. The meeting is at 8 p.m. in the Fleischmann Auditorium of the Museum of Natural History. At 7:30 p.m., there will be a bird identification class, with Paul Lehman instructing on gulls.

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

- February 12 Sunday Goleta Beach, UCSB Campus and Lagoon - Meet at 8 a.m. at Goleta Beach near the pier. Bird along the beach and estuary and then on to the campus. Leader: Sid Tarbox, 687-2067
- February 16 Thursday Board of Directors' Meeting - 7:30 p.m., Junior Library, Museum of Natural History. All members are invited.
- February 24 Friday Regular Monthly Meeting - "Birds of Southeast Arizona" at 8 p.m., Museum of Natural History. At 7:30, bird identification class on gulls. See details above. Be sure to bring a cup for refreshments!
- February 25 Saturday Dune Lakes - A private reserve in San Luis Obispo County near Oceano on Highway 1. Fine natural area for wintering ducks, marsh birds, and raptors. Limited to 24 members, so phone leader for reservations and carpooling information. Driver donation \$2.50. Spotting scopes are helpful; pack a lunch, and wear warm clothes. Priority will be given to those members who have not visited this beautiful area before. Leader: Tomi Sollen, 966-4836
- March 4 Saturday Lake Cachuma - One Bald Eagle and numerous Ospreys have been seen at the lake along with hundreds of ducks. Lunch is optional, spotting scopes will be helpful. Carpool from Thrifty parking lot in 5-Points Shopping Center at 8 a.m. or at the lake overlook on Hwy. 154 at 8:30. Leader: Joe Gartland, 968-3307
- March 25 Saturday Figueroa Mountain - Meet at Thrifty parking lot at 7:30 a.m., or at Bradbury Dam Overlook on Lake Cachuma at 8 a.m., to caravan to several birding areas, both canyon and montane. Take along good shoes, jacket, lunch, and a snack to share. Check with leader Friday p.m. before 10 for cancellation if rain threatens. P.S. The wildflowers may be spectacular. Leaders: Bill Gielow, 687-3466, and Joe Gartland

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS, continued

March 25 San Roque Canyon - Meet at the Filtration Plant on San Roque Road at
Saturday 8 a.m. for a morning hike up the canyon. Lunch is optional.

Leader: William Bailey, 965-3686

April 2 Big Sycamore Canyon - Excellent streamside birding in this canyon in
Sunday the Santa Monica Mountains. Good spot for sighting migratory species, especially orioles. Carpool from the ~~Von's~~ parking lot in Montecito at 7:30 a.m. or at Point Mugu State Park at 8:30 a.m. Pack a lunch. Driver donation \$2.00.

Leader: Frank Noel, 684-4826

April 15 Lake Piru - Good area for raptors, especially eagles. Carpool from
Saturday ~~Von's~~ parking lot in Montecito at 7 a.m. or meet at Henry's Cafe in Fillmore at 8 a.m. Spotting scopes are useful; pack a lunch.

Leaders: Jim Hodgson, 967-3627

Ron Smith, 687-3963

April 23 Spring Boat Trip to Anacapa & Santa Cruz Islands - We expect to see
Sunday migratory shore, land, and pelagic birds. ~~More details in the March El Tecolote,~~ but reserve your space immediately by sending a check for \$15 per person (\$16 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

All Saints
by the
Sea
Episcopal
Church
parking
lot, 83
Eucalypto
Lane
(San Ysidro
Lane Exit)

Meet at
Von's at
6:30am
or in
Ventura

at NPS building
at end of

anchors
way drive
at 1:30

Leave 8,
Return

Warm
Clothes,

Waterproof
jacket

Sturdy
Shoes,

lunch,

motion pills

Few
Spaces
left

SEND THIS FORM WITH YOUR CHECK

NAME _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED (\$15 per person; \$16 for non-members) _____

NAMES OF OTHERS IN YOUR PARTY _____

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

SANTA CRUZ ISLAND PRESERVE -- TWO WAYS TO HELP

1. Last September we were delighted to learn that the Nature Conservancy plans to buy 90% (55,000 acres) of Santa Cruz Island, and to maintain it as a nature preserve. The island supports 31 endemic plant species, 44 resident birds (including the endangered Brown Pelican), 121 migrant birds, 4 species of marine mammals, and other wild-life, including the rare Island Fox.

The Conservancy will gain control of 15,000 acres in July, and will have a conservation easement over the remaining 40,000 acres which it will also eventually own. The cost of purchasing and maintaining the property will amount to over \$4 million -- a bargain at today's prices, but still a fair piece of change! Much of the funding will be solicited from corporations and foundations, but they need to know that the community supports the project. Therefore, individual contributions are of vital importance. Local residents have a stake in the future of the Channel Islands. This is OUR front yard!!!

To help the Conservancy realize its goal but, more than that, to demonstrate our commitment to the preservation of this unique natural resource, the Board of Directors of SBAS has set aside \$2,000 to be used to match donations from our members. In other words, if you donate \$10 SBAS will send \$20 to the Conservancy!

President's Message, continued

Please make your check payable to Santa Barbara Audubon Society, Inc., earmarked "Santa Cruz Island Fund" and mail to our Treasurer: Minna E. Smith, 1600 Garden Street, Apt. 35, Santa Barbara, CA 93101. Be sure to include your name and address so that you may receive an acknowledgement. Contributions are tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law.

2. We have been asked if members of SBAS who plan to attend the Audubon Western Region Conference at Asilomar would be willing to staff a Santa Cruz Island exhibit table. The table would display maps, posters, brochures, and decals. This would require no more than an hour of your time during the entire conference, if several people volunteer.

The table will be set up in the main conference hall, and should be staffed for about $\frac{1}{2}$ hour before and after the regular programs. This is a neat way to meet fellow Auduboners from other Western chapters. I already have a couple of volunteers (including myself).

If you would like to help, please call me at 967-9371. Whether you can help or not, I would very much like to know how many SBAS members plan to attend the Conference. I find it a very worthwhile experience and hope that many members will join the three or four of us that I do know will be there.

Joy Parkinson

Peregrine Falcon Decals

The Department of Fish and Game has started mailing the new nongame wildlife decals to program supporters. Designed by a 14-year-old from Merced County, the decal features the endangered Peregrine Falcon, for which program funds help provide a guard on an eyrie at Morro Rock.

California's Nongame Wildlife Conservation Program, initiated 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ years ago, has raised well over \$56,000 for nongame wildlife projects. Funds this year will go to continue the guard at Morro Rock, to enhance the nesting habitat for Bald Eagles in northern California, and to construct nesting sites at Bair Island in San Francisco Bay for Forster's Terns.

Donations to the program may be addressed to "Wildlife," in care of Box DFG, Sacramento, CA 95801. Checks should be payable to "Nongame Wildlife." Persons contributing \$5 or more will receive the program's newsletter in addition to receiving a decal and a certificate. Jan Hamber will be collecting checks for the program at regular Audubon meetings in Santa Barbara, and mailing all collected in a batch.

California Islands Conference

A major conference dealing with scientific research on the California Islands has been organized by the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History. The symposium, which will be held at the Museum February 27- March 1, will draw scientists from around the country.

The islands off the coast of California and Baja California have been the site of considerable scientific research in the last decade. The purpose of this symposium is to summarize and advance knowledge on the islands and to provide a forum for researchers who are interested in the unique geographic and ecological settings in these islands and in islands in general.

Emphasis will be on the life and earth sciences. Seventeen invited papers, and fifty two contributed papers have been received. The meeting is funded in part by a grant to the Museum from the National Science Foundation. The symposium is primarily for scientists, students, and government personnel, but registration is open to the public. For information contact the administrative office of the Museum, 682-4711.

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RESULTS OF THE SANTA BARBARA AREA 1978 CHRISTMAS COUNT

The final number of species recorded in the 1978 Santa Barbara area Christmas Count was 214, with 2 additional species in the count period, but not seen on count day. The count was held on December 31, 1977, and boasted 142 participants, and 23 feeder counts.

Cherie Bratt

8 Common Loon	17 Red-shouldered Hawk	13 Common Murre
11 Arctic Loon	1 Rough-legged Hawk	5 Rhinoceros Auklet
182 Red-throated Loon	2 Golden Eagle	2909 Band-tailed Pigeon
17 Horned Grebe	13 Marsh Hawk	589 Rock Dove
38 Eared Grebe	2 Prairie Falcon	2 White-winged Dove
501 Western Grebe	3 Merlin	828 Mourning Dove
96 Pied-billed Grebe	173 American Kestrel	21 Spotted Dove
2 Northern Fulmar	454 California Quail	3 Roadrunner
5 Manx Shearwater	3 Mountain Quail	7 Barn Owl
150 Brown Pelican	1 Turkey	9 Screech Owl
2 White Pelican	6 Virginia Rail	11 Great-horned Owl
693 Double-cr Cormorant	10 Sora	1 Spotted Owl
170 Brandt's Cormorant	2 Common Gallinule	1 Short-eared Owl
10 Pelagic Cormorant	1040 American Coot	23 White-throated Swift
30 Great Blue Heron	91 Snowy Plover	1 Vaux's Swift
12 Green Heron	2 Semi-palmated Plover	1188 Anna's Hummingbird
37 Great Egret	473 Killdeer	4 Allen's Hummingbird (male)
41 Snowy Egret	1 American Golden Plover	9 Selasphorus (species?)
6 Cattle Egret	219 Black-bellied Plover	29 Belted Kingfisher
68 Black-cr Night Heron	2 Ruddy Turnstone	425 Common Flicker (Red-shafted)
3 American Bittern	34 Black Turnstone	451 Acorn Woodpecker
1 White-faced Ibis	5 Common Snipe	39 Yellow-bellied Sapsucker
2 Whistling Swan	1 Long-billed Curlew	6 Hairy Woodpecker
12 Canada Goose	71 Whimbrel	54 Downy Woodpecker
222 Mallard	21 Spotted Sandpiper	46 Nuttall's Woodpecker
13 Gadwall	112 Willet	1 Tropical Kingbird
400 Pintail	21 Greater Yellowlegs	1 Cassin's Kingbird
245 Green-winged Teal	271 Lesser Yellowlegs	78 Black Phoebe
6 Blue-winged Teal	147 Dunlin	38 Say's Phoebe
19 Cinnamon Teal	107 Long-billed Dowitcher	60 Horned Lark
344 American Wigeon	3 Short-billed Dowitcher	1102 Scrub Jay
179 Northern Shoveler	2 Dowitcher (species?)	2 Common Raven
1 Wood Duck	17 Western Sandpiper	1062 Common Crow
103 Redhead	189 Marbled Godwit	2 Mountain Chickadee
417 Ring-necked Duck	506 Sanderling	239 Plain Titmouse
18 Canvasback	1 American Avocet	2141 Common Bushtit
16 Greater Scaup	15 Red Phalarope	44 White-breasted Nuthatch
149 Lesser Scaup	3 Parasitic Jaeger	7 Brown Creeper
42 Common Goldeneye	1 Pomeraine Jaeger	306 Wrentit
77 Bufflehead	13 Glaucous-winged Gull	2 Dipper
5 White-winged Scoter	625 Western Gull	24 House Wren
111 Surf Scoter	15 Herring Gull	9 Winter Wren
1 Common Scoter	2 Thayer's Gull	117 Bewick's Wren
332 Ruddy Duck	421 California Gull	28 Long-billed Marsh Wren
4 Hooded Merganser	728 Ring-billed Gull	17 Canyon Wren
59 Common Merganser	454 Mew Gull	2 Rock Wren
49 Red-breasted Merganser	589 Bonaparte's Gull	417 Mockingbird
5 Turkey Vulture	117 Heerman's Gull	1 Brown Thrasher
47 White-tailed Kite	3 Black-legged Kittiwake	152 California Thrasher
25 Sharp-shinned Hawk	108 Forster's Tern	6196 American Robin
18 Cooper's Hawk	20 Royal Tern	355 Varied Thrush
95 Red-tailed Hawk	2 Elegant Tern	355 Hermit Thrush

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83 Western Bluebird	2 Palm Warbler	99 Pine Siskin
1 Townsend's Solitaire	1 Mac Gillivray's Warbler	673 American Goldfinch
52 Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	93 Common Yellowthroat	465 Lesser Goldfinch
102 Golden-crowned Kinglet	1 American Redstart	2 Lawrence's Goldfinch
1078 Ruby-crowned Kinglet	453 House Sparrow	270 Rufous-sided Towhee
298 Water Pipit	738 Western Meadowlark	894 Brown Towhee
8878 Cedar Waxwing	1 Rusty Blackbird	554 Savannah Sparrow
38 Loggerhead Shrike	1604 Red-winged Blackbird	1 Vesper Sparrow
1667 Starling	156 Tri-colored Blackbird	35 Lark Sparrow
50 Hutton's Vireo	2 Orchard Oriole	17 Rufous-crowned Sparrow
x Warbling Vireo	4 Hooded Oriole	1300 Dark-eyed Junco (Oregon)
2 Tennessee Warbler	16 Northern Oriole (Bull)	8 Dark-eyed Junco (Slate-cl)
1 Black and White Warbler	1 Northern Oriole (Balt)	30 Chipping Sparrow
85 Orange-crowned Warbler	2059 Brewer's Blackbird	1 Harris's Sparrow
2 Nashville Warbler	252 Brown-headed Cowbird	4272 White-crowned Sparrow
2 Yellow Warbler	1 Western Tanager	512 Golden-crowned Sparrow
1677 Yellow-rumped Warbler (Aud)	x Summer Tanager	5 White-throated Sparrow
90 Yellow-rumped Warbler (Myrt)	1 Black-headed Grosbeak	124 Fox Sparrow
2 Black-throated Gray Warbler	4 Evening Grosbeak	174 Lincoln's Sparrow
110 Townsend's Warbler	117 Purple Finch	482 Song Sparrow
4 Hermit Warbler	2791 House Finch	

x= seen in count period but not on count day

Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act

Congressman Lagomarsino is on the House Interior Committee, which will be marking-up HR39, the "Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act," early in the year. Please call, write, or telegram Mr. Lagomarsino as soon as possible and let him know that you support the subcommittee print of HR39, which is a compromise bill, but which will still provide the necessary protection for the federal national interest lands in Alaska. Urge his support on this issue and ask him to vote against any further reduction of the acreage proposed for protection, or other weakening amendments. We have the ability to strike a balance in Alaska, and HR39 provides us with this chance. Write: House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515.

Barbara Blake

Boundary Waters Wilderness Bill

Conservationists are hopeful that a strong Boundary Waters Wilderness bill will emerge from the House Interior Committee early in the year. The Boundary Waters Canoe Area, a million-acre lakeland wilderness located in northern Minnesota, was the subject of hearings before Chairman Phillip Burton's subcommittee on National Parks and Insular Affairs last September. The National Audubon Society and other environmental groups testified in solid support of Minnesota Congressman Donald Fraser's bill (HR2820) which would protect the entire BWCA from logging, mining, snowmobiles, and motorboats. An opposing measure which would remove 1/3 of the BWCA from wilderness designation, and a pro-wilderness bill from the Carter administration were also aired.

Chairman Burton has a new bill prepared for subcommittee mark-up, which conservationists expect will be a strong bill that can be supported with minor or no reservations.

The Canoe Area, stretching for 110 miles along the Minnesota-Ontario border, is the second largest unit in our National Wilderness Preservation System: larger than all other wilderness areas in the eastern U.S. combined, it contains the largest virgin forests remaining in the east, and sustains more wilderness recreation and serves more scientific and educational purposes than any other wilderness.

You are urged to write Congressman Lagomarsino (House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515), and ask him to support the strongest possible wilderness measures for the BWCA.

Dan R. Engstrom

HELP! for Injured Raptors - We need volunteers to transport injured raptors from the Santa Barbara area to Camarillo, where Dr. Ronald Dalzell, a veterinarian, cares for them in his home, providing all food and medical treatment. He needs people to drive the birds to Camarillo, using special boxes so they won't be loose in the car. If you're interested, please call Virginia Smith, 963-2875.

Audubon Institute of Desert Ecology - The Institute brings together 60 participants and 6 scientists and educators for field studies in the Sonoran Desert, focusing on the relationships between the plant and animal life and the physical characteristics of the desert.

This year's Institute is for those who enjoy camping, and will be held May 18-22, 25 miles north of Tucson. Field trips are scheduled each day. All food, serving, and clean-up are provided, but participants must furnish tents or campers. The fee is \$145. For more information write: Mrs. Beth Morgan, Director, Audubon Institute of Desert Ecology, 1642 N. Westridge Avenue, Tucson, AZ, 85705.

DIAL-A-BIRD - The DIAL-A-BIRD recording on January 31 reported Northern Shrike, Red-necked Grebe, Orchard Oriole, Rusty Blackbird, American Golden Plover, Common Goldeneye, and Summer and Western Tanagers. To hear what can be found today, call 964-8240, any time night or day, for Cherie Bratt's 3-minute recording.

ADDRESS CHANGES OR EL TECOLOTE MAILING PROBLEMS - Contact the new membership chairman, Joan Lentz, 433 Pimiento Lane, Santa Barbara 93108, 969-4397. Many thanks to the retiring chairman, Barbara Greene.

EL TECOLOTE DEADLINE - The deadline for the March issue is Friday, February 17, 1978. Send or bring your contributions to Mary Lou Hand, 1731 Robbins Street, Santa Barbara, CA 93101, or call 682-4044. All contributions are appreciated.

El Tecolote
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