



# El Tecolote

BULLETIN OF THE SANTA BARBARA AUDUBON SOCIETY, INC.

Volume 16, Number 3  
March, 1978

*same  
# as  
April*

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967-9371

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1731 Robbins Street  
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## Monthly Meeting - March 31, 1978 "THE AUDUBON ISLANDS"

John C. Borneman, NAS Condor Naturalist, will narrate a brand-new slide program on National Audubon Sanctuaries and Nature Centers. The Audubon Sanctuary system was the first private sanctuary system in the United States and now comprises over 170,000 acres in 64 sanctuaries ranging in size from about 2 to over 26,000 acres. The Nature Centers provide educational programs for schools and other groups.

This will be a very interesting evening, so note the date change, and bring a friend. The meeting will begin at 8 p.m., in the Fleischmann Auditorium of the Museum of Natural History. At 7:30 p.m. Brad Schram will present a pelagic bird identification class.

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## CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

- March 10  
Friday      Owl Seminar - Learn to recognize and call the owls. Sign up for this or April classes by calling Cherie Bratt at 967-7043. Depending on the response future classes may include an overnight to Figueroa Mountain. The fee for the evening's owling is \$5.      Leader: Paul Lehman
- March 23  
Thursday      Board of Directors' Meeting - 7:30 p.m., Junior Library, Museum of Natural History. All members are invited.
- March 25  
Saturday      Figueroa Mountain - Meet at Thrifty 5-Points 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 evening before 10 for cancellation if rain threatens. P.S. The wildflowers may be spectacular.      Leaders: Bill Gielow, 687-3466, and Joe Gartland
- March 25  
Saturday      San Roque Canyon - Meet at the Filtration Plant on San Roque Road at 8 a.m. for a morning hike up the canyon. Lunch is optional.      Leader: Bill Bailey, 965-3686
- March 31  
Friday      Regular Monthly Meeting - "The Audubon Islands," presented by John C. Borneman, at the Fleischmann Auditorium of the Museum of Natural History. Bird identification class on pelagic birds at 7:30 p.m. Be sure to note the date change.
- April 2  
Sunday      Big Sycamore Canyon - Excellent streamside birding in this canyon in the Santa Monica Mountains. Carpool from Von's parking lot in Montecito at 7:30 a.m., or meet at Point Mugu State Park at 8:30 a.m. Pack a lunch. Driver donation \$2.00.      Leader: Frank Noel, 684-4826

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS, continued

- April 15 Lake Piru - Good area for raptors, especially eagles. Carpool from the  
Saturday All Saints by the Sea parking lot, 83 Eucalyptus Lane in Montecito (San  
Ysidro Lane exit from U.S. 101) 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,  
and Ron Smith, 687-3963
- April 23 Spring Boat Trip to Anacapa & Santa Cruz Islands - There are still a few  
Sunday spaces remaining, so reserve your space now 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). Priority  
will be given to currently listed members. Limited to 48 people, all  
other checks will be returned. Meet at Von's parking lot on Montecito  
at 6:30 a.m., or in Ventura at the National Park Service building at the  
end of Anchors Way Drive at 7:30 a.m. The boat leaves promptly at 8 a.m.,  
and will return at approximately 4 p.m. Wear warm clothes, a waterproof  
jacket, sturdy shoes; pack a lunch and motion sickness pills.  
Leader: Jim Hodgson, 963-3627

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SEND THIS FORM WITH YOUR CHECK

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED ( \$15 per person; \$16 non-members) \_\_\_\_\_  
NAMES OF OTHERS IN YOUR PARTY \_\_\_\_\_

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

WE HAVE PASSED THE \$2,000 MARK!!!

Thanks to those of you who have contributed so generously, the Nature Conservancy is \$2,000 nearer to its goal of purchasing over 90% of Santa Cruz Island for a nature preserve, as SBAS has matched your donations which now amount to over \$1,000. Individual contributions, so far, have ranged from \$2 to \$200. All are greatly appreciated. I am proud to be a member of the Santa Barbara Audubon Society.

As I said last month, local support is of vital importance if the Conservancy is to receive grants from corporations and foundations.

Now we are going for the second \$2,000. Any amount is welcome, and every donation will be matched up to the limit of our present commitment. After that, the Board of Directors will undoubtedly discuss a further commitment, if sufficient interest is maintained.

It costs \$72 to buy and maintain one acre. SBAS members and friends have already purchased over 27 acres of this special island. Let's keep up the good work. Those of you who haven't yet made a donation, please remember that your donation, however small, contributes to the total purchase.

Please help us realize our goal. Santa Barbara Audubon is the leader, locally, in supporting this project. Let's keep it that way! Just think, maybe the Bald Eagles and Peregrine Falcons may one day nest again on Santa Cruz!! Thank you.

Joy Parkinson

ALASKA COALITION

A local group of the Alaska Coalition is organizing to further public knowledge of federal lands legislation in Congress. Final vote is scheduled for fall, 1978. The bill will establish new National Parks, Wildlife Refuges, National Forests, and Wild Rivers. If you have lived or visited Alaska, or just want to become more familiar with the Alaskan wilderness, contact Al Scholl, 966-1420 for meeting times.

FRIENDS OF CAVE CREEK CANYON, READ THIS!!!!!!!

WHAT IS THIS? It's an appeal to you to write a very necessary letter to the Coronado National Forest in Arizona, asking them to protect a place you know and love -- Cave Creek Canyon, in the Chiricahua Mountains.

FACTS: Cave Creek Canyon is the most diverse biotic unit in the entire National Forest system.

Cave Creek Canyon is the most heavily birded place in the National Forest system, and probably the most heavily studied by research biologists.

The Forest Service will soon be deciding the course of future management for this canyon. Wildlife should be the highest priority, but we need to let them know how we feel. It won't happen otherwise.

WHICH RESOURCES WILL THEY EMPHASIZE? Right now, the main local pressures on Cave Creek are for continued grazing, hunting, and trapping, a paved and improved campground system, a paved trans-mountain highway, and perhaps even a fishing lake. If there is no other than local input from the public, this will probably be the future of the canyon - at the expense of its enormous biological resources.

WHY IS CAVE CREEK CANYON SO VALUABLE A PLACE? Because of its enormous biological diversity. The basin is the area drained by Cave Creek and its tributaries, and it covers five life zones, from Hudsonian at Chiricahua Peak with its Englemann Spruce and breeding Golden-crowned Kinglets, down through Canadian, Transition, Upper and Lower Sonoran Desert, with Roadrunners and Cactus Wrens. There are over twelve miles of tree-lined streambeds, with pine and oak woodlands on the surrounding slopes, and tall red rhyolite cliffs over all.

WHAT SHOULD BE DONE? The Cave Creek Basin should be declared a Wildlife Habitat Management Area. This would mean that the Forest Service would agree to manage primarily for wildlife in the canyon, under a formal management plan that spells out in detail just what will be done and what will not be done.

The South Fork should be declared a National Zoological Area. This designation, more powerful and restrictive than the above one for the basin, will serve to emphasize the uniqueness and national significance of South Fork, and it will permit the Forest Service to do anything necessary to preserve its biological values.

WRITE A LETTER to:

Ken Weissenborn, Supervisor, Coronado National Forest, 301 West Congress St.,  
Tucson, Arizona 85701

AND

Benjamin Brunner, Douglas District Ranger, 1925 A. Avenue, Douglas, Arizona  
85607

POINTS TO MENTION IN YOUR OWN WORDS:

1. Point out the national significance of Cave Creek Canyon as a biological area, both for birding and research. If you come a long distance to visit it, tell them.
2. Ask that they designate the Cave Creek Basin as a Wildlife Habitat Management Area.
3. Mention the importance of maintaining the values and conditions that attract scientists and birders to the canyon.
4. Request that they inform you of any action or proposed action regarding Cave Creek Canyon's future.

OUR CHANCES ARE VERY GOOD ---- IF WE WRITE

## TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO - NOVEMBER - 1977

A lifetime dream realized - a trip to the islands of Trinidad and Tobago! This was a Questers Tour (my third, the others being Hawaii and the Everglades). There were twelve in our party, under the capable leadership of Dr. Woody (Daniel) Hartman of Maine. Our headquarters in Trinidad was the Asa Wright Nature Center and in Tobago, the Arnos Vale Hotel. The Wright plantation consists of 400 acres, formerly devoted to growing cocoa and coffee. The vegetation is lush and green, and Bananaquits, Honey Creepers, four varieties of Tanagers, and many types of hummingbirds inhabit the shrubbery. Through the scope on the screen porch can be viewed such birds as the Channel-billed Toucan, oropendolas, and the Golden-olive Woodpecker.

Trinidad is an island 60 miles square, with three mountain ranges, swamps, rain forests, and mangrove and pine forests. Aside from the first day spent at the Center to visit the Oilbirds who live in a cave on the grounds, we had escorted tours to other birding spots on the island. Beautiful beaches border both the Atlantic and the Caribbean. We were able to combine swimming and snorkeling with our daily birding experiences. Over 400 species of birds have been recorded on Trinidad, and 181 on Tobago.

The most exciting day was spent in the Caroni Swamp. Here our boatman had staked out a Potoo (a member of the Nightjar family). It was posed against the trunk of a mangrove tree, and seemed a part of the tree. At sunset while we sat in our boats, 10,000 Scarlet Ibis and three kinds of egrets (Common, Snowy, and Cattle) came in to roost. They fly across the blue sky in flocks of from twenty to over one hundred. The trees appear to be Christmas trees alive with shimmering red and white birds, a truly memorable sight. I was able to add 100 new species of birds to my world list.

Among the exotic birds seen were seven kinds of tanager (not found in the U.S.), the Green-tailed Jacamar, Red-breasted Blackbird, three kinds of parrots, the Yellow-rumped Cacique, and the White-tailed Nightjar found in Tobago. "A Guide to the Birds of Trinidad," written by Richard French proved an invaluable reference book and can be obtained in our Museum Bookstore. Certainly the wonders of these islands cannot be absorbed in twelve days. Some spring I shall revisit Trinidad and seek out some of the remaining three hundred species!

Minna E. Smith

And speaking of tours...

## NATIONAL AUDUBON GALAPAGOS ISLANDS TRIP

The April 13-28, 1978 trip to tropical Ecuador and the Enchanted Islands has several openings. Several members of SBAS have made the trip and can discuss specifics. Contact Julian Moody or Arthella Jacot in Santa Barbara, or Russ Spowart in Lompoc. The Ecology Workshop is designed to give a taste of the Andes, a cruise on a tributary of the Amazon, and 8 days on the M/V Iguana for unforgettable stops at 6 of the Enchanted Islands.

The program includes round trip airfare from Miami to Quito, Ecuador and return, transportation, meals, and hotels in Ecuador, and all portage, taxes, sightseeing, etc. A naturalist-leader will accompany the group, as well as local English-speaking guides. The cost is \$1,100-\$1,200, with a \$200 deposit per person at the time of registration. For more information write Holbrook Travel, Inc., 3520 N.W. 13TH Street, Gainesville, FL 32601.

## AUSTRALIA! CAMPING WITH THE WILDLIFE

A 31-day deluxe camping tour, wildlife and natural history oriented. Visit the Great Barrier Reef, see kangaroos, koalas, parrots, and penguins. Departs June 19, 1978, and returns July 19. The cost is \$1875, including airfare, food, meals, other transportation, etc. For information : Dr. Barry Thomas, Department of Science Education, California State University at Fullerton, Fullerton, CA 92634.



## FIELD TRIP REPORTS

### Bird Refuge, Cemetery, and Harbor Area, February 4, 1978

On a partially overcast Saturday morning, 15 eager birders met at the Bird Refuge to begin a field trip which lasted until mid-day. At the Refuge we were fortunate to observe the White Pelicans both afloat and in flight. An Eared Grebe, Green Heron, Cooper's Hawk, and a Yellowthroat were the most interesting finds there. At the cemetery a large flock of Brewer's Blackbirds and Starlings, two dozen Killdeer, several California Quail, a solitary Long-billed Curlew, a Whimbrel, and a Red-tailed Hawk among several other species, were observed.

At the marina, Red-throated Loons, including one which we picked up on the beach and restored to the water, was last noted swimming away from shore although obviously not in the best of health. Black-bellied and Snowy Plovers, Elegant and Forster's Terns, Horned, Western, and a single Red-necked Grebe were seen. Spotted and Western Sandpipers, Bonaparte's Gulls, and a Black Turnstone were also found in addition to the common gulls, godwits, Sanderlings, Red-breasted Merganser, and Surf Scoter. The group tallied a total of 63 species in the course of the day.

William B. Drew

### Goleta Beach, UCSB Campus and Lagoon, February 12, 1978

The outing to Goleta Beach and the UCSB Campus turned out to be an endurance contest between the weather and a dozen optimistic birders. After about two hours the weather won. Raindrops on lenses make bird study frustrating.

As a result, only a part of the territory was covered and only 46 species were spotted, though these included a few pleasant finds such as the White-throated Swift, Water Pipit, and Black Turnstone.

Also, it was a pleasure to have a visitor from Los Angeles and two visiting professors and their wives from UCSB. We hope they will be back again when the weather is more kindly.

Sid Tarbox

### Local Coastal Program Development Series

Santa Barbara County, Carpinteria City, Santa Barbara City, and the Continuing Education Division of Santa Barbara Community College are offering a series on the development of the Local Coastal Program (LCP) for the coastal zone of the County and Cities. The series begins on Tuesday, April 11, at 7:30 p.m., and runs for 4 consecutive Tuesdays at the Santa Barbara County Planning Commission Hearing Room, 123 E. Anapamu Street. The Planning Departments preparing the land use plans for the LCP will make presentations. Topics to be covered include an overview of coastal planning issues, as well as discussions of energy, agriculture, coastal recreation, beach access, and habitat areas.

The purpose of the series is to provide the public an opportunity to learn about the issues involved in preparing the LCP before the formulation of the land use plan. This is not a public hearing, but an effort to involve the public in a discussion of coastal planning issues.

### Community Environmental Council Library

The Ecology Center Library and the Community Environmental Council offices have completed their move to the Lobero Building. This unique environmental lending library has been expanded and reorganized, and specializes in self-help books on alternative energy, energy conservation, gardening, and environmental building design. There is an excellent collection of teachers' aids on energy and resource conservation and over 100 reports on local environmental issues. The library is open Monday - Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and anyone may purchase a library card for \$1, allowing the holder to check out material for 2 weeks. The library is on the ground floor facing the courtyard of the Lobero Building, 924 Anacapa Street.

Decal--- Again! - In case you have forgotten you can donate to the California Non-game Wildlife Conservation Program by sending your check to "Nongame Wildlife," Box DFG, Sacramento, CA 95801, or give your check to Jan Hamber at the SBAS monthly meeting for mailing in a batch. Donors will receive a decal of the Peregrine Falcon, a certificate, and, if the donation is for \$5 or more, they will also receive a periodic newsletter. Encourage your friends and neighbors to contribute too!

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THE BIRD WATCHER

If bird there be eluding me;  
If any such exist;  
One little bird, unseen, unheard,  
That somehow I have missed;  
Though winds be howling all around,  
And snowdrifts hide the frozen ground,  
And no sane bird of any feather

Would ever brave such ghastly weather,  
Still I simply must go through sleet and snow.  
I have to seek, I have to find  
That one dumb bird that's lost his mind,  
And add him to my list.

-Phoebe Reed

Reprinted from Wandering Tattler, Sea and  
Sage Audubon Society, Santa Ana, California

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DIAL-A-BIRD - Call 964-8240 to hear the latest news on rare and unusual birds to be found in the Santa Barbara area. You will hear a 3-minute recording, detailing all the latest finds, narrated by Cherie Bratt. Call anytime, night or day.

ADDRESS CHANGES AND EL TECOLOTE MAILING PROBLEMS - Contact the membership chairman, Joan Lentz, 433 Pimiento Lane, Santa Barbara, CA 93108, or call 969-4397.

EL TECOLOTE DEADLINE - The deadline for the April issue is Friday, March 24, 1978. Send or bring your contributions to Mary Lou Hand, 1731 Robbins Street, Santa Barbara, CA 93101, or call 682-4044. The time between now and then will find your editor honeymooning (and birding!) in the sun of Hawaii - but I'll be back in plenty of time to do the April issue. Aloha, Mary Lou

El Tecolote  
Santa Barbara Audubon Society  
P.O. Box 2067  
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