



CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS, Continued

Tropicbird, Long-tailed Jaeger, and Craveri's Murrelet are also possible.  
 Cost is \$19.00. For reservations, send check payable to Santa Barbara Audubon Society, to Brad Schram, 460 Amherst Dr., Goleta, CA 93017. Please include a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

Leader: Brad Schram, 964-9534

Sept. 22-24 Mt. Pinos Condor Search - Either camp on Mt. Pinos or provide your own  
 Friday, motel at Gorman. Will follow the latest reports from John Borneman,  
 Saturday, National Audubon Society's Condor Naturalist.  
 Sunday

Leader: to be announced; for information  
 call Minna E. Smith, 966-7971

\*\*\*\*\* NOTE \*\*\*\*\* Midweek trips can be arranged for interested parties - small groups,  
 and a good leader. For information call Minna E. Smith, 966-7971

\*\*\*\*\* WANTED \*\*\*\*\* Interested people for trip to Tiajuana River Valley near San Diego.  
 Will arrange for an experienced leader from San Diego Audubon.  
 Contact Tomi Sollen, 966-4836.

TENTATIVE FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE

October 1	Goleta Hot Spots	Leader: Jim Hodgson
October 2	Lake Los Carneros	Cherie Bratt
October 7	La Purisima Mission & Vandenberg AFB	Russ & Mary Spowart
October 8	same trip as October 7	" " "
October 14	Mc Grath State Park	to be announced
October 15	Bird Refuge, Harbor	Virginia Puddicombe
October 21	Hope Ranch & Beach	Bill Gielow
October 28	Devereux Slough	to be announced
October 29	Cold Spring Canyon	to be announced
November 4	Bird Refuge & Cemetery	June & Bill Gardner
November 5	Refugio Canyon	to be announced
November 11	Point Mugu	to be announced
November 17	Rattlesnake Canyon	to be announced
November 18	Gibraltar Dam	to be announced
December 2	Tucker's Grove	to be announced
December 9-10	Carrizo Plains	Joy Parkinson & Jan Hamber
December 16	Nojoqui Falls	to be announced

\*\*\*\*\* NOTE \*\*\*\*\* A Morro Bay weekend will be scheduled in November if desired. Con-  
 templated trips in the spring include Morongo Valley, Salton Sea, and Los Banos. Any con-  
 structive suggestions welcomed by the Trip Committee: Minna E. Smith, Chairperson; Bill &  
 June Gardner, Bill Gielow, Jim Hodgson, Alice Kladnik, and Brad Schram.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This is my first "President's Message" to Santa Barbara Audubon. I am quite sure that my frequent feelings of helplessness in the face of the destruction of critical habitat are widely shared by the membership. Similarly numbing is the waste of resources consequent to some popular forms of "recreation." Our seeming mutual impotence, however, is illusory.

Santa Barbara Audubon is a vehicle connecting us with like-minded persons throughout the United States. The history of SBAS is one of active participation in local and natural environmental issues. We have not been reluctant to express our views, have worked for the preservation of critical habitat areas, and have contributed of our means to accomplish these goals. Individually we may doubt our ability to alter poor planning, environmental ignorance, or politics dictated by short-sighted economic interests. Collectively, however, our 1200 member chapter is a significant voice, not to be dismissed lightly.

Two recent events stand out:

1) Under Joy Parkinson's leadership we have contributed, at this writing, 95 acres toward Nature Conservancy's purchase of Santa Cruz Island. Our \$6900+ donation was certainly not the critical factor allowing the Conservancy to exercise its option to purchase the island.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE, Continued

It and others like it, however, was significant in influencing other funding agencies to give grants to the Conservancy, since without popular support these agencies would have been reluctant to offer such assistance. Our contributions, therefore, have had a dual impact.

A June 25 conversation with Dr. Carey Stanton made it clear that he was impressed with your financial response to the need and was encouraged by such an expression of local support. It is not too late, by the way, to contribute to the Santa Cruz Island fund. Although the Conservancy has picked up its option to buy with 2.6 million dollars in hand, its total goal of 4 million dollars, including a 1.5 million dollar endowment of an on-going island management and education program, is yet to be met. You may send your contributions directly to the Conservancy at 425 Bush Street, San Francisco, CA 94108, or you may send a check payable to "Santa Cruz Island Fund" to SBAS, care of our treasurer, Tomi Sollen, 825 N. Soledad Street, Santa Barbara, CA 93103. Any amount is welcome, but as Barbara Horton of the Conservancy said, "If you are able to give 100 acres, please don't give 10."

2) The SBAS Board of Directors voted to loan National Audubon \$2500 toward the purchase of one of California's ten known producing Peregrine Falcon eyries. This eyrie and adjoining land have been purchased and will become a new State of California Ecological Reserve. The funds will be returned to us for further use when this new status becomes a fact.

The Board chose the above as high priority items during the past year. Your continuing comments and commitment are solicited so that we may maintain our work together toward those goals of education and preservation which unite us. Our time and resources are limited; we must therefore choose wisely those areas toward which we focus our energies and means.

Many of us originally joined Audubon because we were interested in birds. This is one of the most relaxing and fulfilling of avocations. Our education committee uses the wonder of birds to good effect in its outstanding ongoing work in the public schools. You may touch wild-ness by going to a quiet local beach or slough in the evening and watching and listening to the southward fall migration of shorebirds which has already started, as it does each year in late June. Be sure to let Cherie Bratt know of interesting sightings by calling the "Dial-A-Bird" tape (964-8240) and recording your sightings on the end of the tape.

On page four is a roster of SBAS Board members and committee chairpersons. If you have questions, suggestions, or a desire to serve in a particular area of interest, please contact the appropriate person.

Brad Schram

Education Committee Report for 1977-78

The Education Committee looks back on another busy and rewarding year, one in which an increasing number of members have assisted in staffing an expanding service program.

Again our heaviest workload has been in activities with the schools. Twenty-nine public and private schools used our slide shows this year; seven of these asked for five or more presentations during the year; and several asked for special bird walks as well. Groups ranged from 7 to 225 each, and the age range extended from kindergarten to junior high. While most used our regular fall or spring talks, a number requested talks with a special focus such as preparation for Conservation Camp at Lake Cachuma, or for a particular habitat bird walk. Probably our most unusual group was a room of deaf students for whom we provided a slide show and a bird walk last winter.

In addition, we gave numerous talks to special groups - scouts, trainees at A. Child's Estate, campers at Lake Cachuma, and senior citizens. In all, we made 110 presentations to over 4350 people. Cherie Bratt, Bill Drew, Jeri McMahon, Jean Okuya, Beverly Smaniotto, Minna Smith, and the chairman, Sid Tarbox, have all worked in this phase of our program.

Bird walks for visitors and new residents have been a second area of activity. We held six walks to water habitats in the winter and, despite some wet weather, had an average of 9 people per walk. We also offered bi-monthly walks in the Botanic Garden from October through June, and these drew an average of 6 each. The most satisfying aspect of this program is the opportunity to introduce Santa Barbara bird habitats to birders from across the country and to newcomers to this area. It enables us to offer birding help as well and has led to our bringing a number of new members into the Society. Cherie Bratt, Bill Drew, Dorthea Fox, Bill and June Gardner, Virginia Puddicombe, Tomi Sollen, and Sid Tarbox served as leaders.

Education Committee Report, Continued

A third area of endeavor has been exhibits, which have been the responsibility of Virginia Smith, assisted by Jean Rocha and Lynn Scarlet. This group has maintained a series of monthly exhibits at the Goleta and Santa Barbara libraries (except for the period in Santa Barbara since the library has been in temporary quarters) and has recently taken responsibility for a continuing exhibit at the Botanic Garden. In addition, the group won first prize at an exhibit by volunteer organizations held at La Cumbre Plaza in October.

The Committee continues to receive additions to its slide file from Society members, and this year has also been assisted in starting a nest collection. Our thanks to the members for this assistance, which has materially extended our resources. As our program grows, so do our needs for assistance from the membership.

Sidney Tarbox

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS  
OF SANTA BARBARA AUDUBON, 1978-79

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ada Babine	962-2042	207 Cordova Dr., Santa Barbara 93109
William B. Drew	687-9948	327 Northridge Rd., Santa Barbara, 93105
Leila Eisberg	963-4886	1400 Dover Rd., Santa Barbara, 93103
Joan Lentz	969-4397	433 Pimiento Lane, Santa Barbara, 93108
Brad Schram	964-9534	460 Amherst Drive, Goleta, 93017
Minna E. Smith	966-7971	1600 Garden Street, #35, Santa Barbara, 93101
Ron Smith	687-3963	3860 Fairfax Road, Santa Barbara, 93110
Virginia Smith	963-2875	44 Alameda Padre Serra, Santa Barbara, 93103
Tomi Sollen	966-4836	825 N. Soledad, Santa Barbara, 93103
Russell Spowart	733-1525	3370 Via Dona, Lompoc, 93436
James H. Tannahill	969-5193	1367 Plaza Pacifico, Santa Barbara, 93108

OFFICERS

President	Brad Schram
Vice President	Minna E. Smith
Corresponding Secretary	Virginia Smith
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COMMITTEES

American Birds	Brad Schram, Paul Lehman
Bird Refuge	Dorothy Martone, Joy Parkinson
Budget	Tomi Sollen, Minna E. Smith, Joy Parkinson, Sid Tarbox
Christmas Count	Cherie Bratt
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Hospitality	Wendy Bevier
Librarian	Donnis Goodwin
Membership	Joan Lentz
Programs	Jim Tannahill
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Massachusetts Audubon Society Texas Tour, April 1-15, 1978

It was my Texas birding debut! It would take years to explore the variety of bird habitats in Texas, especially for the novice. Texas is unique in the U.S. in that it offers spectacular birds from the vanishing Whooping Cranes to the nesting Golden-cheeked Warbler. Texas is for the birds!

The two-week tour covered 1800 miles. We were 14 congenial people from all over the country and were driven in two comfortable air-conditioned vans, and stayed at first-rate motels all the way. The food was to your choice and the very best. In order to save time we picniced every available day. Our leaders were James A. Lane, author of where to find exactly what bird in Arizona, Colorado, Southern California, and Texas (all obtainable in our Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History bookstore). His assistant was smiling David Capp, head of the Audubon Sanctuary in Sharon, Connecticut.

The trip began in Corpus Christi, where we saw our first Olivaceous Cormorants. Naturally the highlight was the boat trip on the M.V. Whooping Crane where we sighted within range for good photographs 27 cranes and one new baby!

Another outstanding memory was the dancing of (Atwater's) Greater Prairie Chicken in the Rio Grande Valley. A rancher marks a particular telephone pole in his field so we know where to watch. At dawn (5 a.m.) we saw five males cavorting over one female, who was off to one side disdainfully witnessing this performance.

Space cannot permit me to elaborate on all the exciting details, but we did cover the Santa Ana Refuge, Falcon Dam, Laredo, the Edwards Plateau, Concan, Austin, Houston, and finally Galveston for an amazing warbler migration and the Anahuac Refuge. I was able to add 47 new species to my life list, but more important, had the skill and expertise of such accomplished guides. Some other firsts were the Least Grebe, Green Jay, Brown Jay, many eastern warblers, the Clapper, Sora, and the White-necked Raven, and the Hook-billed Kite. Thank you James Lane.

\* Minna E. Smith

Birding Workshop at Cape May, New Jersey, September 22-26, 1978

What does a birding workshop offer? Simply looking at birds and identifying them will occupy by far the greater part of our time at Cape May, but we have also planned a series of informal lectures and discussions intended to complement the birdwatching. Illustrated with slides and museum specimens, these evening sessions will enlarge upon details of field identification, but will be aimed at imparting something more general that might be termed "bird appreciation." We'll also discuss things more concrete like optics and field guides, tape recordings, techniques of attracting birds in the field, in fact any birding subject that may arise. Our birding at Cape May Point will give us the chance to study hawks in the hand before their release from a banding station, and netting operations elsewhere may afford in-hand comparisons of other live birds.

On an average day at this season birds are abundant and extraordinarily visible. The number of birds present, the range of their plumages, and the ease with which they can be studied make Cape May an ideal site for a birding workshop. Five fall days there will sharpen the skills of any birdwatcher, experienced or not, from east coast, California, or Britain. We feel certain that for all participants the workshop experience will be a rewarding and enriching one.

Leaders will be Will Russell, Davis Finch, and Richard Stallcup. The three have a common and long-time interest in bird identification and look forward to the opportunity of sharing it during both the programmed and unprogrammed parts of the workshop.

Cost is \$150 from Cape May. Lodging and workshop events are included. Food and transportation are not, but most of our days will be spent on foot at Cape May Point and rides will be arranged as necessary.

For more information write: Northeast Birding  
Seal Harbor, Maine 04675  
(207) 276-3963

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Our Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History Book and Gift Shop needs willing volunteers, especially for mornings, 9-12. For information call Laurel Johnson, 682-4711.

Docent Training for Museum of Natural History

Beginning in September the Museum of Natural History will offer a series of Thursday morning training sessions for prospective volunteer guides, or docents. The classes provide the knowledge, skills, and practice needed to give general tours to both children and adults. This is an opportunity to share your interest in natural history with school children and other members of the community. For further information call the Docent Office, Monday through Friday between 9 a.m. and 12:30 p.m., at 682-2212

Paul Winter Consort

A wolf, an eagle, and a whale have received composition credits on The Paul Winter Consort's new album, Common Ground (on A&M Records).

The songs, "Wolf Eyes," "Eagle Song," and "Ocean Dream" are based on and incorporate the actual songs of wolves, whales, and eagles. The royalties the animals earn for their part in writing the compositions will go to a variety of wildlife conservation organizations.

DIAL-A-BIRD - For up to the minute news of rare and unusual birds in the Santa Barbara area call 964-8240 anytime, night or day. You will hear a 3-minute recording narrated by Cherie Bratt giving all the latest information.

Address changes and El Tecolote mailing problems should be addressed to Joan Lentz, 433 Pimiento Lane, Santa Barbara, CA 93108, or call 969-4397.

El Tecolote Deadline - The deadline for the September issue is Friday, August 25, 1978. Send or bring your contributions to Mary Lou Hand, 1731 Robbins Street, Santa Barbara, CA 93101, or call 682-4044.

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Santa Barbara Audubon Society  
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