



# El Tecolote

BULLETIN OF THE SANTA BARBARA AUDUBON SOCIETY, INC.

September, 1978  
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## MONTHLY MEETING - SEPTEMBER 22, 1978

"KING OF THE SLOUGH - THE GREAT BLUE" & "A MARVELOUS BEAST, THE PELICAN"

Julia Thorne Chamberlain, better known as Judy, will exhibit and comment on her films featuring the Great Blue Heron and Pelican. Judy lives in "Sandyland" and has been interested in wildlife, birds, and photography since childhood. Thomas Say (Say's Phoebe) is one of her ancestors, and her family boasts 2 professional Ornithologists. The meeting will begin at 8 p.m., Friday, September 22, 1978, in the Fleischmann Auditorium of the Museum of Natural History.

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## CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

Sept. 22-24  
Friday,  
Saturday,  
Sunday  
Condor Watch - You may wish to camp at Mt. Pinos Campground on Friday evening. Meet the leaders at 10 a.m. Saturday in the parking lot at the end of the paved road on Mt. Pinos. We will spend most of the day near the condor observation sight looking for montane and migratory species. In the afternoon we will drive to Edmonston Pumping Station past Gorman, north on Interstate 5 to watch for returning condors, the head for home. Pack a lunch and snacks. Fast food stores available on the way to the Pumping Station. Take water, sunglasses, hat, jacket, and perhaps a chair for the vigil at the pumping station; spotting scopes are useful. If you prefer to stay in a motel, make reservations at the Caravan Motor Inn at Gorman, 805-248-6411.

Leaders: Linda Gielow & Donnis Goodwin  
For reservations: Gerrie Human, 969-4015

September 30  
Saturday  
Big Sycamore Canyon - Excellent streamside birdwatching in this canyon in the Santa Monica Mountains. Good spot for sighting migratory species. Carpool from All Saints by the Sea Church parking lot near U.S. 101 and Eucalyptus Lane (San Ysidro Road exit) at 7 a.m., or meet at the main entrance to Point Mugu State Park at 8:30 a.m. Pack a lunch. Driver donation is \$2.

Leader: Joe Gartland  
For information: Frank Noel, 684-4826

October 1  
Sunday  
Goleta Hot Spots - Find the migrating warblers! Meet at 8 a.m. in Tucker's Grove parking lot (Cathedral Oaks and Turnpike Roads), or carpool from the Museum of Natural History at 7:40 a.m. Driver donation 75¢.

Leaders: Jim Hodgson, 967-3627,  
& Dean Bazzi

October 2  
Monday  
Lake Los Carneros - Meet at the La Patera entrance to the property at 8:30 a.m. Spotting scopes are useful.

For information: Cherie Bratt, 967-7043

- October 7  
Saturday      La Purisima Mission and Vandenberg AFB - Meet at La Purisima Mission in Lompoc at 7:45 a.m. Good birding for raptors and shorebirds. Bring lunch, and wear warm clothing. Spotting scopes are useful, but NO CAMERAS on the base. Limited to the first 25 reservations. To carpool meet at Thrifty Drug Store parking lot at 5-Points Shopping Center at 6:30 a.m. Driver donation \$2.50.  
Leaders: Russ & Mary Spowart  
Reservations: Estelle Stray, 966-2946
- October 8  
Sunday      La Purisima Mission and Vandenberg AFB - Repeat of October 7 trip. This trip is also limited to the first 25 reservations.  
Leaders: Russ & Mary Spowart  
Reservations: Estelle Stray, 966-2946
- October 14  
Saturday      McGrath State Park - Shorebirds, peeps, terns, gulls. Meet at the All Saints by the Sea Church parking lot (San Ysidro Road exit off U.S. 101 in Montecito) at 8 a.m., or at the Standard Station off the Seaward Avenue offramp in Ventura at 8:35 a.m. Take a lunch. Driver donation is \$1.50.  
Leader: Ruth Parker  
For information: Minna Smith, 966-7971
- October 15  
Sunday      Bird Refuge and Harbor - Meet at the Bird Refuge at 8:30 a.m. Lunch is optional; spotting scopes are useful.  
Leader: Virginia Puddicombe, 969-1702

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Fall is probably the most exciting time of the birding year in coastal California. The months of September and October produce large quantities of passerine migrants moving south for the winter. Each year at this time are found those eastern vagrants, rare to California, about which one reads with wonder in the pages of American Birds. Diligent birding of streamside willows, tamarisk and cypress groves and other feeding and shelter spots along the coast during these months is certain to produce interesting birds - and probably some surprises. Please keep Cherie Bratt (967-7043) informed of your sightings.

Fall is also the start of Santa Barbara Audubon's active calendar of events. The field trip schedule notes provocative place names with the promise of interesting avian experiences and good company. Our monthly meetings are informative and also offer the opportunity to meet fellow members and borrow from among the varied selection of books in our library. Given the current wide-spread interest in wildlife, these meetings provide an opportunity to invite friends to illustrated discussions of natural history topics and introduce them to Audubon at the same time.

On October 14 our chapter will be host to the quarterly meeting of the Central California Audubon Coordinating Council. Consisting of representatives from California's Central Valley and central coastal Audubon Societies, these meetings allow local chapters to share ideas and experience, educate, and coordinate region-wide action where appropriate. The Santa Barbara Channel ecosystem will serve as the topic around which much of the discussion here will center. A full report of the meeting's proceedings will be made in the November El Tecolote.

At our August Board of Directors' Meeting we heard the unhappy news that 2 of our Board members, Bill Drew and Ron Smith, are moving and therefore must resign from their duties. We, of course, accepted their resignations with regret and wish them the best in their new circumstances. We are now searching for replacements who are acquainted and agree with Audubon's goals and possess an interest in serving in this capacity.

I hope to see you at our September 22 meeting. Until then, good birding.

Brad Schram

NOTES FROM THE MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

Your membership chairman has been going through her files in order to delete those members who have failed to renew their National Audubon memberships. If you would like the El Tecolote to be sent to you, even though you are not a member of National Audubon, please send a check for \$2.50-- a year's subscription-- payable to Santa Barbara Audubon Society, to Joan Lentz, 433 Pimiento Lane, Santa Barbara, CA 93108.

CONSERVATION COLUMN

In April, 1977, SBAS joined with the Friends of Dick Smith in recommending that the Madulce-Buckhorn Roadless Area of the Los Padres National Forest be named the "Dick Smith Roadless Area" with a view to its eventually becoming the "Dick Smith Wilderness." This area is part of RARE II (Roadless Area Review Evaluation, Phase II), a process which will determine which of the many roadless areas in the forest will be accorded wilderness status.

At its May, 1978 meeting, the SBAS Board of Directors passed a resolution recommending that the 74,300 acre Madulce-Buckhorn Roadless Area be classified for immediate wilderness and be renamed the "Dick Smith Wilderness."

The area has a diversity of wildlife-- the Condor is known to use it; the mountain lion, bobcat, and black bear are found there, as well as many other animals and birds. There are also caves containing well-preserved Chumash Indian pictographs, and the topography is varied and interesting.

If you agree that this area should be preserved in its natural state to protect wildlife and archaeological sites, AND, if you agree that a most suitable memorial for Dick Smith, our friend of many years, who loved and defended our back country, would be to name the Madulce-Buckhorn the "Dick Smith Wilderness," then there are 2 things you can do:

1. Write a letter to the Forest Service, expressing your desire to have the Madulce-Buckhorn Roadless Area classified for immediate wilderness. Tell them why. Be sure to include their code name for the area. It is 5124. Mail your letter to RARE II Coordinator, California Region, U.S. Forest Service, 630 Sansome St., San Francisco, CA 94111. Comments MUST be in by October 1, 1978.

2. Attend the Board of Supervisors' meeting on September 18, when the supervisors will be making a decision whether to support the proposal for wilderness for this area. A coalition of four organizations-- SBAS, the Sierra Club, Citizens' Committee for Wilderness, and Friends of Dick Smith -- has been doing a lot of work to get support from various local groups. They need your help. Your presence on September 18 will demonstrate to the supervisors that wilderness for the Madulce-Buckhorn Area, and its renaming the "Dick Smith Wilderness" is something Santa Barbara County citizens feel strongly about.

Write your letter today, and be at the September 18 supervisors' meeting. If you simply cannot attend the meeting write or call your supervisor before September 18 and tell him how you feel. Only your efforts can make the new wilderness a reality.

Joy Parkinson, Conservation Committee Chm.

The Point Reyes Bird Observatory First Annual Bird-A-Thon

The Point Reyes Bird-A-Thon is a new kind of bird count to raise funds for bird research and conservation. Long Point Bird Observatory in Canada originated the idea -- its 1978 Bird-A-Thon raised \$15,000 and its 1977 "top" birder raised \$27 per species! In recent years, PRBO, although generously supported by over 1800 members, has needed extra general financial support. We hope the Bird-A-Thon will give us the financial freedom to conduct our important long-term studies on the Farallon Islands, Marin County estuaries, and other habitats on the Point Reyes Peninsula. The count will take place on Saturday, October 7, 1978, anywhere in California. Here is a chance to have your big day and help PRBO at the same time.

You can help by (1) Sponsor any birder; (2) make a pledge to sponsor staff members of PRBO; or (3) sponsor yourself, even if you are a beginning birder. To sponsor choose an amount to pledge for each species observed by your volunteer bird counter on Bird-A-Thon day. For more information write: Point Reyes Bird Observatory, 4990 Shoreline Highway, Stinson Beach, CA 94970.

Nature Classes at the Museum of Natural History

There are still openings available in the nature classes at the Museum of Natural History, which begin the week of September 18. Classes for preschoolers include "Flight and Feathers" and "Doing Nature Things;" "The World of Trees" or "Junior Scientists" for first and second graders; "Blood and Guts," about how our bodies function, for third through sixth graders; "Beginning Nature Photography" and "Discovering Art in Nature;" a new course in astronomy for highschoolers; and "Exploring the Universe" for the whole family. There is a fee for the classes. For information regarding schedules, dates, and fees call the Museum of Natural History Education Center at 682-4334.

SUNRAE SOLAR WORKSHOP

A do-it-yourself solar workshop, sponsored by SUNRAE, a non-profit corporation, will be held October 13-14. The \$30 donation includes a comprehensive slide show, lecture, building session, breakfast, and a workshop t-shirt. For registration or more information call SUNRAE at 685-3343.

PEREGRINE FALCON RAFFLE

Our June raffle netted \$140 for Morro Coast Audubon's fund-raising drive to aid U.C. Santa Cruz' Peregrine Falcon captive breeding program. The winner of the Guy Coheleach print of the Red-shafted Flicker was Jeannette Friedman. Congratulations, Jeannette.

ATTRACTING BIRDS

For a free list of shrubs which will attract birds to your garden, send a self-addressed stamped envelope to Virginia Smith, 44 A.P.S., Santa Barbara, CA 93103.

NELSON METCALF

For those of you who haven't heard, Nelson Metcalf is ill. He would very much like to receive your cards and letters, but PLEASE NO calls or personal visits at this time. His address is 900 Calle de los Amigos, Val Verde, Santa Barbara, CA 93105.

DIAL-A-BIRD

For current 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

Send address changes to Joan Lentz, 433 Pimiento Lane, Santa Barbara, CA 93108, or call Joan at 969-4397. Let her know also if you are having problems receiving El Tecolote.

El Tecolote Deadline

The deadline for the October issue is Friday, September 22, 1978. Send or bring your contributions to Mary Lou Hand, 1731 Robbins Street, Santa Barbara, CA 93101, or call 682-4044.

El Tecolote  
Santa Barbara Audubon Society  
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