



# El Tecolote

BULLETIN OF THE SANTA BARBARA AUDUBON SOCIETY, INC.

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## MONTHLY MEETING—SEPTEMBER 28, 1979

### "LURE of the RAPTORS"

Glenn Olson, Assistant Representative on the staff of the Western Regional Office, National Audubon Society will share his unusual color slides for this evening's program. Glenn has a BA from U.C.S.B. and has an extensive background in ornithological research on the Golden Eagle and was fortunate to study in Ecuador and the Galapagos Islands. Glenn's slides will feature hawks, eagles and falcons of the West. Come and join us at the Fleischmann Auditorium, Museum of Natural History at 8:00 p.m. Each monthly meeting is followed by an important function—eating goodies, and drinking coffee or tea while visiting with the guest speaker and friends. **We need help!**—Cookie bakers, and people to set-up and clean-up. Please sign up at this first meeting of the year to bring goodies and to help for the remaining meetings. You can also help by bringing **your own cup**. Styrofoam cups are wasteful and non-biodegradable.

## CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

- September 15 Saturday** El Capitan Meet at Museum of Natural History at 8:00 a.m. for car pooling. A half day trip. Driver donation \$1.00. Leader: Ron Smith
- September 29 Saturday** McGrath Park, Ventura Meet at Museum of Natural History at 8:00 a.m. for car pooling, or at McGrath Bridge at 8:45 a.m. Driver donation \$2.00. Leader: Jim Greaves.

## TENTATIVE SCHEDULE—PLAN AHEAD

- October 13** Hollister Ranch—Brooks Allen  
**October 22** Lake Piru—Bill Gielow  
**October 28** Sandyland Slough—Bob Hough
- November 3** Lake Los Carneros—Ann Terry  
**November 10** Gibraltar Dam—Joe Gartland  
**November 17** S.B. Airport, Sewage Treatment Plant, Goleta Slough—Up for Grabs!
- December 2** Lake Cachuma—Jim Hodgson, Dave Vincent and Ron Smith  
**December 8-9** Carrizo Plains Weekend—Joy Parkinson  
**December 15** Atascadero Creek and More Mesa—???
- January 12-13** Morro Bay—Sid and Mary Tarbox  
**January 26** Point Mugu—Ron Dow

Our Catalina trip for October had to be postponed until the Spring. More information will be forthcoming.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

One anticipates much Audubon activity both nationally and locally in the upcoming 1979-80 year. Given the items on the planned agenda, the year promises much potential for local involvement of the membership. When one considers the probability of unforeseen items being added through time, the anticipated year takes on a vaguely frenetic quality.

Frequently, one hears the question "what can I do to help"? There are two basic categories of activity (which are not mutually exclusive) through which one may be of meaningful assistance to the Audubon cause: 1) sharing in the administration of SBAS and 2) direct action, including letter writing, attendance at local government hearings, enlisting new members, publicizing our monthly meetings, participation in Christmas Count and other special activities. The former category includes volunteer work on one or more of our various committees, reports of which are included in this issue of *El Tecolote*. Committees vital to our efforts, such as Education and Conservation, are always interested in gaining new working members. Knowledgeable field trip leaders are needed, and volunteers are appreciated.

A unique activity is planned for November 24 in cooperation with all California Audubon societies. A "Birdathon" will take place on this date, benefitting Audubon's battle to save Mono Lake and the California Condor. Briefly, borrowing from the walkathon/jogathon themes used for various causes, persons solicit sponsors to donate a fixed amount per bird species seen while birding on this date. Audubon's Western Regional office is offering participants various prizes (trips, spotting scopes, binoculars) for most birds seen and most money raised. This will be a fine opportunity to enjoy a day of birding, do some positive Audubon publicity, and contribute tangibly to these important causes. Details will be forthcoming.

Tomi Sollen and I attended National Audubon's convention in Estes Park, Colorado in June as SBAS delegates. I was impressed by our new national president, Russell Peterson, and found the convention most worthwhile. A brief report will be given in the business portion of our first monthly member's meeting on September 28.

After three years' service Virginia Smith and Leila Eisbiorg's terms on the SBAS board of directors expired in May. We thank them for their service. Virginia and husband, Clark, are moving to Mammoth Lakes, California, and we will miss them.

At our annual picnic June 2 Cherie Bratt and David Vincent were elected to fill the vacated board of directors positions. Cherie is our Christmas Bird Count compiler and past chairman of the County Planning Commission, and David is a State of California Park Ranger at El Capitan State Beach. We are pleased to welcome them to their new positions of leadership with us this year.

A final note, one of considerable importance to SBAS. Our local work, and that of National Audubon, is founded largely by our membership subscriptions to *Audubon* magazine and the National Audubon Society. Due to inflation our membership fees have gone up and, although this is yet another rising expense, the importance of our work demands that the added few dollars not cause us to stop our contributions. Consider giving *Audubon* magazine and Audubon membership to family and friends as Christmas presents. Such a present would be welcomed by most people, and the financial benefit to our work multiplied across the nation is considerable. We earnestly seek your membership, assistance, friendship, and look forward to working together in the coming year.

Good birding—Brad Schram

## FIELD TRIP COMMITTEE REPORT

In surveying our 1978-79 season, we have had a total attendance of over 500 members and friends of the Santa Barbara Audubon Society participate in field trips. During the past year we conducted two boat trips; one to San Miguel, and a day on Santa Cruz Island with Cary Stanton and the Nature Conservancy. Two very successful week-end trips were enjoyed: A bus trip to the Carrizo Plains and our first week-end at the CIMI at Two Harbors in Catalina.

We conducted over forty local walks and attempted to cover every area from Lompoc to Ventura, both mid-week and week-ends. I value the close cooperation of my committee and wish to thank all of my leaders—all volunteers—who made this inspiring year possible. They are Brooks Allen, Dean Bazzi, Bill Gielow, Ann Terry, Sid and Mary Tarbox, Ruth Parker, Russ and Mary Spowart, Brad Schram, Richard Webster, John Bullock, Jean Okuye, Joan Lentz, Linda O'Neill, Bob Hough, Louis Bevier, David Vincent, Joe Gartland, Jim Hodgson, June and Bill Gardner, Paul Lehman, Virginia Puddicombe, Joy Parkinson, Tomi Sollen and Cherie Bratt.

Despite the high cost of fuel, we will attempt to plan local trips very carefully and try to carpool in advance. Naturally the driver donations will be much higher. We welcome any and all suggestions and help in order to make this season even better than the last with something for all of our members. Members who would like to be either a **trip leader**, or act as a **trip coordinator**, or submit ideas for future trips please call Minna Smith at 966-7971

Respectfully, Minna Smith

## EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT

In June the Education Committee completed its busiest year to date. It not only increased its activities with South Coast schools, but also began offering slide shows to groups of senior citizens. Five different talks were developed—a fall and winter show stressing the birds of our various habitats, a spring show on nesting activities, modifications of these for use with classes preparing for Conservation Camp at Lake Cachuma, and a show on bird migrants. These were used in 123 slide talks to over 4700 people of who 3900 were children in 27 of our area schools.

Additionally, the Committee arranged 40 special bird walks, 16 for school children and 24 for visiting adults and newcomers to the area. Our visitors came from communities across the United States, from Canada, and from abroad. In all, we were able to share the pleasure and ecological importance of birds with over 5300 people.

Also, under the leadership of Virginia Smith we continued our rotating exhibits at the Botanic Garden and the Goleta Library. Rebuilding of the Santa Barbara Library has made it necessary to withdraw that exhibit temporarily. Exhibits were also placed at the January program commemorating the oil spill and at the April Sports and Leisure Exposition.

This range of activity was made possible only by the fact that we had a large committee which was aided by 16 other members who assisted in securing new slides, printing duplicates, leading walks, and preparing exhibits. With such support we hope to improve the range and quality of our show, to offer slide talks to schools which we cannot visit personally, and to inaugurate new information services to the visiting public.

This year we shall miss Virginia Smith's leadership in our exhibit work and Bill Drew's help as photographer, speaker, and walk leader. Both have moved from the Santa Barbara area. Hopefully we shall find new volunteers to join us in their stead.

Respectfully, Sid Tarbox, Chairman

Leila Eisberg\*  
Jeri McMahon

Jean Okuya\*  
Beverly Smaniotto

Cherie Bratt  
Nancy Crawford\*

Minna Smith  
\*New members in 1979-78

## THANKS!

Each year the SBAS offers a scholarship to the Audubon Ecology Camp in the West. This year I was fortunate to be a recipient of this scholarship. The experience of spending two weeks in the Rocky Mountains learning about some of the ecological relationships which make the natural world so fascinating will remain with me throughout my life. I will be able to make use of this information both as a member of Audubon and as a State Park Ranger. Thus I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the entire membership for having the opportunity to participate in this worthwhile experience. I hope that I will be able to share some of this experience with each of you.

David Vincent, State Park Ranger

In order to facilitate communications between the SBAS membership and its Committees and Officers the following list of names and addresses is published. Please feel free to contact these people concerning questions or suggestions you have.

## OFFICERS

**President:** Bradford K. Schram, 460 Amherst Dr. Goleta, CA 93017 964-9534

**Vice-President:** Cherie Bratt, 6506 Camino Venturoso, Goleta, CA 93017 967-7043

**Corresponding Secretary:** Joan Lentz, 433 Pimiento Lane Santa Barbara, CA, 93108 969-4357

**Treasurer:** Tomi Sollen, 825 N. Soledad, Santa Barbara, CA 93103 966-4836

## COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

**Membership:** Jean Johnson, 266 Canon Drive, Santa Barbara 93105 687-1651

**Editor:** John Bullock, 217 South Third St. Lompoc, CA 93436 736-8074

**Conservation:** Joy Parkinson, 568 Beaumont Way, Goleta 93017 967-9371

**Program:** James H. Tannahill 1367 Plaza Pacifico, Santa Barbara 93108 969-5193

**Education:** Sidney E. Tarbox, 616 Calle Palo Colorado, Santa Barbara 93105 687-2067

**Field Trip:** Minna Smith, 1600 Garden St. Santa Barbara 93101 966-7971

**Publicity:** Ada Babine, 207 Cordova Drive, Santa Barbara 93109 962-2042

**American Birds:** Paul Lehman, 35 Sonoma, Goleta 93017 968-7394

**Christmas Count:** Cherie Bratt

**Camp Promotion:** Tomi Sollen

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Brad Schram  
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Russell Spowart, 3370 Via Dona, Lompoc 733-1525  
David Vincent, El Capitan State Beach, Goleta 93017 968-0982

### **ROBERT FROST FILM**

Dewitt Jones, award-winning filmmaker and National Geographic photographer, will personally narrate his latest film, **The New England of Robert Frost** on Wednesday, October 10, 1979, 8:00 p.m. at the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History. This lecture film is a special fund-raising event for The Nature Conservancy's Santa Cruz Island Preserve.

For advanced tickets (donation \$5.00) make checks payable to The Nature Conservancy. Please mail with self-addressed stamped envelope to: Robert Frost Film, c/o Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History, 2259 Puesta del Sol, Santa Barbara, 93105. For further information call Joy Parkinson, 967-9371.

### **EL TECOLOTE DEADLINE**

The deadline for contributions to the October issue is Friday, September 29 (monthly meeting). Bring your contributions to the meeting or send them early that week to John Bullock, 217 South Third street, Lompoc, CA 93436.

### **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 giving all the latest information.

### **ADDRESS CHANGES AND EL TECOLOTE MAILING PROBLEMS**

Send address changes to Jean Johnson, 266 Canon Drive, Santa Barbara, CA 93105 or call Jean at 687-1651.

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

The SBAS Board of Directors meets in the Junior Library at the Museum of Natural History at 7:30 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month. The next meeting will be September 13. Members are welcome to attend.

### **EL TECOLOTE**

Santa Barbara Audubon Society  
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