

El Tecolote

BULLETIN OF THE SANTA BARBARA AUDUBON SOCIETY, INC.

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P.O. Box 14005
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968-8965

COMING EVENTS !!!

- November 7 Field Trip - Santa Maria River Valley. Meet at 7:00 am in the parking lot near Jack-in-the Box at Hollister Ave. and Storke Rd. We will drive approximately 150 miles round trip with a lunch stop at the river mouth. This area is especially good for waterbirds. Bring a scope if you have one; very little walking on this trip. Leader: Louis Bevier
964-1030
Sunday
- November 9 Board of Directors' Meeting - 7:30 pm. Members are encouraged to attend. Meetings shall now be held in the new Audubon Office located in the Goleta Depot by the Stow House at Lake Los Carneros in Goleta. This meeting is the deadline for all Tecolote articles for next month.
Tuesday
- November 13 Field Trip - Beginner's Birdwalk; Maria Ygnacio and San Pedro Creeks. Meet at Rubera Rd. and University Ave. at 8:00 am. There will be short walks at these two creeks; trip is only half-day. Leader: Rob Hamilton
964-6211
Saturday
- November 21 Field Trip - Vandenburg Air Force Base. Meet at 7:00 am in the parking lot near Jack-in-the-Box at Hollister Ave. and Storke Rd. One must call to reserve space on this trip. Round trip mileage is about 150 miles, and we expect to return to Santa Barbara by mid-afternoon. Spectacular rocky shoreline found nowhere else in our county. Leader: Paul Lehman
967-2450
Sunday
- December 3 General Meeting - Tonight Dr. Rod Nash, professor of History and Environmental Studies, will be speaking this evening on "The American Wilderness, Past, Present and Future." Dr. Nash is a widely renowned environmental historian who played a leading role in the response to the 1969 Santa Barbara Oil Spill and was the author of the internationally published Santa Barbara Declaration of Environmental Rights. Meetings are held in the Fleischmann Auditorium at the Museum of Natural History and begin promptly at 8:00 pm.
Friday

Birds in Santa Barbara

by Paul Lehman

In a way, this has been a fall of contrasts. While the number and variety of vagrants occurring in the Santa Barbara area to date have been at or slightly above average, the number of more regular, western migrants has been quite low. At present, the cause(s) of these low numbers is unknown.

During September and early October, the most exciting sightings included Worm-eating, Bay-breasted, Magnolia, Chestnut-sided, Mourning and Canada Warblers, two Lark Bunting and two Dickcissels in Goleta; another Mourning, Blackburnian, and Virginia Warbler in Carpinteria; a Broad-winged Hawk at Refugio State Beach; and single Northern Parulas and Black-throated Blue and Prairie Warblers near Santa Maria. All of these eastern species are very rare or casual visitors to our area, primarily in the fall. A Bell's Vireo in Goleta in early September represents the first record ever of a fall migrant seen in this county. One or two "Yellow-green" Vireos in Goleta during mid-October were probably from western Mexico and had migrated approximately 180° in the wrong direction; this reversed migration also occurs regularly in Tropical Kingbirds, also from west Mexico, which occur here annually in fall in very small numbers. This is only the second or third record of this vireo (now considered a sub-species of the Red-eyed Vireo) for Santa Barbara County. A Great-tailed Grackle was in Goleta and later at Refugio State Beach in September; while there are only several records for the county, this species may well begin to occur with more regularity as it is increasing in abundance and spreading north throughout much on the interior Southwest.

Several unusual water birds also appeared during the early fall period. The highlights included three Stilt Sandpipers near Santa Maria and a Buff-breasted Sandpiper near Point Magu.

Finally, during the second week of October the Grace's Warbler was found to have returned for its fourth (at least) winter to Montecito. Quite a feat for this celebrity!

Dial-A-Bird

For Current news of rare and unusual birds in the Santa Barbara area call 964-8240 night or day. You will hear a three minute recording giving all the latest information. If you have any unusual or exciting sightings, please call Nancy Crawford at 964-7508. Good Birding!



CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

Once again it is time to start planning for one of our biggest events, the annual SBAS Christmas Bird Count. This years count will be held on Sunday, January 2nd. That sounds like a long way off but it isn't so start planning now. This is a most enjoyable event and people at all levels of expertise are needed, from back-yard birders to the truly expert.

If you wish to join in the fun, just fill out the form on the back page of this Tecolote and send it to Paul Lehman at the address given on the form. Paul has consented once again to be our count compiler and deserves our thanks and support.

As in past years, this years count will end with a festive dinner at which time the days totals will be compiled. If you wish to attend, check the dinner box on the form on the back page of this Tecolote.

Though details are not yet set, there will also be a Sespe Christmas Count on some weekday in late December. Please watch for further announcements.

If there are any questions or if you need more information, call Paul Lehman at 967-2450.

Membership Report

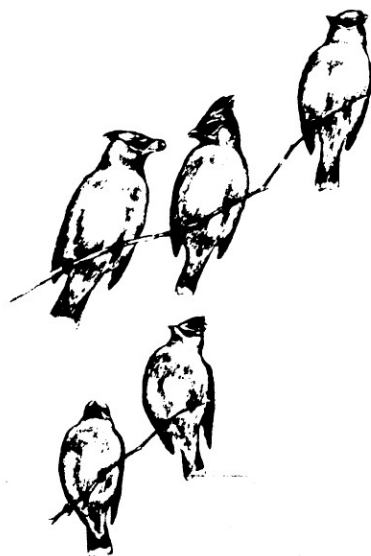
The last membership report from National Audubon Society is dated August, 1982. This includes only new members from June through early August. They are changing their computer system so that we will not receive any further reports until next month! If your name is not mentioned, or if there is a discrepancy in joining dates, please call me (966-7971) and we will try to correct any errors.

We are happy to welcome to our ranks Ruth Bardini, C.E. DeLaittre, Mrs. Davis Elkington, T.W. Foresman, Mrs. Helen Wells Frahm, Mrs. R. Gausman, Mr. Geoffrey Henson, Judy Jones, Bruce McGuire, Reva Evelyn Milne, Bruce M. Peterson & family, Robert Rebstock, Mrs. Joseph H. Smith, Ms. Patty Tunnicliffe, Frances M. Van Dyke, Mary A. Vittello, Dr. Marya Weinstock and Robert Zohn. Minna E. Smith
Membership Secretary

Membership Committee

The Board of Santa Barbara Audubon wishes to involve more members in our chapter activities. I am looking for volunteers to serve on the newly formed Membership Committee. The duties will include distributing Membership Blanks both local and National, and to actively recruit new members. We also would like to organize some social events for both older and younger members. Any workable idea to increase membership or enhance interactions between Audubon members will be promptly utilized. No large time commitment is required. Any help will be gratefully accepted. If you can help, please call me at 966-7971 (mornings). Hoping to hear from you.

Sincerely,
Minna E. Smith
Membership Secretary



ELECTION ENDORSEMENTS

Space restrictions prevent a full discussion of the following issues, but, by vote of the Board of Directors, the following measures are endorsed by SBAS:

STATE

- 1) Proposition 4: Lake Tahoe Aquisitions Bond Act
- 2) Proposition 11: Beverage Containers: Initiative Statute
- 3) Proposition 12: Nuclear Weapons: Initiative Statute
- 4) Proposition 13: Water Resources: Initiative Statute

LOCAL

- 1) Measure K: Charter Amendment #9

NAS Annual Meeting

As stated in last months Tecolote, the 77th Annual Dinner of the National Audubon Society will be held this November 4th at the Biltmore Hotel in Los Angeles, the first such event on the west coast. Speakers at this dinner meeting will include NAS President Russell Peterson and a new show on Mono Lake by David Gaine. The cost for the dinner and meeting is \$30.00. If you are interested in attending this event, please contact Rob Lindsay at 968-8965 as soon as possible.

FIELD TRIP REPORTS

Atascadero Creek Beginner's Bird Walk

Our first fall birdwalk for beginners drew a dozen participants to Atascadero Creek on a beautiful Thursday morning. While we did not find the Waterthrush or the Bobolink that were reported in the area, we did get good views of a score or more species. Among the more interesting were a pair of White-tailed Kites hunting, a Western Kingbird also foraging, and views of Loggerhead Shrike and Blue-gray Gnatcatcher.

Sid Tarbox
Leader



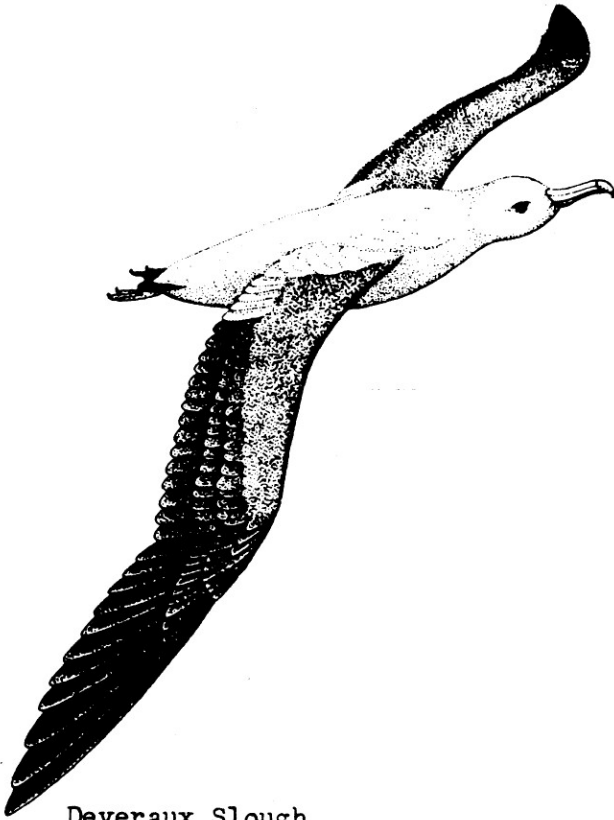
Catalina Island

Thirty Auduboners and friends were guests of the Catalina Island Marine Institute Sept. 10-12 for the third annual Audubon field trip to the island. At Toyon Bay five miles northeast of Avalon, institute specialists conducted field trips through the volcanic hills where the buffalo roam, and offshore in wet suits and snorkel gear to coves where many fish species flourish.

Laboratory demonstrations included a close look at a great variety of marine life, including microscopic projections of plankton scooped up during small boat excursions.

Indian lore, free time, campfires, a film of underwater habitat, and birding made the weekend pass quickly. Minna Smith led the group this year.

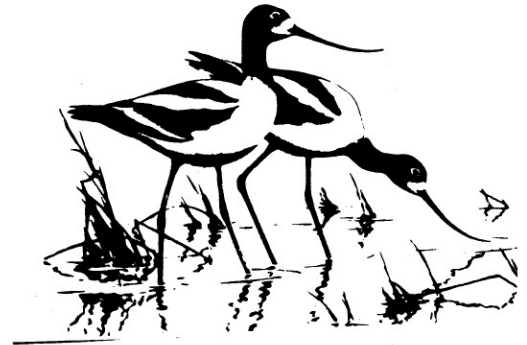
Bob Sollen



Deveraux Slough

Ten courageous birders braved a rainy morning to tour the Deveraux Slough and were rewarded with an end to the drizzle as the walk began. To our delight, in several minutes we were bathed in sunlight and blessed with many good views of an enormous variety of birds. As was expected, shorebirds abounded including American Avocet, Long-billed Curlew, both Greater and Lesser Yellowlegs, Dunlin, four Pectoral Sandpipers and a Red Knot. Herons and egrets, including a close look at a Green Heron, were easily had in the slough. Other interesting birds included Western Wood Peewee, Belted Kingfisher, Red-shouldered Hawk and White-tailed Kite.

Robert Lindsay



Conservation Committee message:

This year we are re-vamping the Committee. We will hold monthly meetings (or bi-weekly if necessary or desirable). The following will be required of volunteers:

1. At least $\frac{1}{2}$ day per week set aside for committee assignments;
2. At least one evening (afternoon) meeting per month (2 hour maximum);
3. Willingness to learn and train others, to understand basic environmental laws, ecological principles, semantics (precise, proper language use), etc.;
4. At least one area of expertise or concern in which you can develop a full understanding and become a leader in SBAS in that area;
5. Good sense of humor!

Examples of jobs to be done include:

1. Responsibility to help guide the future course of SBAS.
2. Participation in resource management.
3. Opportunity to testify on behalf of SBAS at workshops, hearings, with civic groups.
4. Chance to work with and meet others in the environmental community of Santa Barbara.
5. Chance to strengthen our position by forming coalitions with other groups interested in your area of expertise or concern.
6. Great chance to meet others in SBAS, as well as work with coalitions of our own committees and the Board of Directors.

Our first meeting will be as observers at the next Board of Directors meeting Nov. 9. See Calendar of Coming Events for meeting details. If interested, call:

Jim Greaves: Co-chairman
682-4711 day
962-7317 eves

Bob Siegel: Co-chairman
962-6500

CONSERVATION NEWS

Prop. 13 The lucky number for water

During the recent Peripheral Canal campaign, all sides agreed California needs a comprehensive water policy. Prop. 13 on the November ballot is the conservationists proposal for such a policy.

Key elements include:

Conservation: requiring economically competitive water conservation programs be developed at local levels before importation can begin. Price subsidies for large water users are discouraged.

In-stream: giving the Water Resources Control Board authority to sustain water levels in rivers, lakes, estuaries and wetlands for recreation, wildlife and water quality.

Groundwater: mandating locally developed and implemented management programs in basins currently identified as critically overdrawn.

The Water Conservation initiative has received considerable support from many conservation organizations including California League of Conservation Voters, National Audubon Society, Planning and Conservation League, Sierra Club, Friends of the Earth, and Friends of the River.

Wetlands Protection

Destruction of America's wetlands has been greatly slowed under section 404 of the Clean Water Act administered by the Army Corps of Engineers.

Now, William Gianelli, Assistant Secretary to the Army has issued regulations reducing the role of the corps and other agencies in wetlands protection. Projects permissible in wetland areas now include strip-mining, small hydro-electric facilities and others with no opportunity of site-by-site review of these projects. Even worse, unregulated development of prairie potholes, lakes and bogs is now permitted nationwide.

Groups to play a more restricted regulatory role include the Environmental Protection Agency and the Fish and Wildlife Service.

The last crushing blow is Gianelli's plan to limit the corps' jurisdiction to "navigable waters" which would exclude 85% of the wetlands currently covered by 404 including fresh & salt water marshes, bogs, wet meadows, prairie potholes, and bottomland hardwood swamps.

Santa Barbara Audubon Society
LOCAL MEMBERSHIP

(\$8.00 per year)

Date: _____

Name _____

Address _____

Zip _____ Phone _____

Make checks payable to Santa
Barbara Audubon Society and mail
to: Minna E. Smith
Membership Secretary
1600 Garden St. #35
Santa Barbara, CA
93101

INTERESTS

Please check:

- ☐ Conservation Committee
☐ Membership Committee
☐ Program Committee
☐ Publicity Committee

- ☐ Field Trip Committee
☐ SBAS Office Staff
☐ Other _____

Santa Barbara Christmas Count
Sunday, January 2, 1983

Please fill out this form and return to:

Paul Lehman
P.O. Box 1061
Goleta, CA 93116

Name(s) _____

Phone _____

Address _____

Area Preferred _____

Would like to work with _____

- ☐ Leader
☐ Recorder only
☐ Feeder Count
☐ Dinner

EL TECOLOTE
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Santa Barbara, CA 93102

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