

El Tecolote

BULLETIN OF THE SANTA BARBARA AUDUBON SOCIETY, INC.

April, 1983
Number 20, Volume 4
Vol. 4



Robert Lindsay
President and Editor
P.O. Box 14005
Santa Barbara, CA 93107
968-8965

SBAS Office
300 N. Los Carneros
Goleta, CA 93117
(805) 964-1468

April 22 General Meeting - Tonight our speaker will be SBAS Field Trip Chairman
Friday Louis Bevier. Louis has been conducting research on Least Terns, a rare
and fascinating species which breeds in several locations in our re-
gion, and will present a talk and slide show on their natural history
and current status. Meetings are held in the Fleischmann Auditorium
at the Museum of Natural History and begin promptly at 8:00 pm.

SBAS Annual Meeting and Banquet

This year marks our 20th anniversary as a chapter of the Audubon Society. To celebrate this event, our annual meeting this year will be in the form of a banquet scheduled for the evening of June 3rd in the San Miguel Room at the Holliday Inn in Goleta. Plans include a 'no host' cocktail hour from 6 to 7 pm with dinner beginning at 7 o'clock. Dinner will be served buffet style with selections for all tastes and preferences.

Several speakers with long associations with our chapter will be present to reminisce about the origins of our organization and the many aspects of our region that make this such a special place. (If you have slides of the people and places that were part of our early history, please contact Joy Parkinson at 967-9371 to help her insure there will be a full record of 'the way we were'.)

Reservations are \$10.00. Please contact Minna Smith at 1600 Garden St. #35, Santa Barbara, CA 93101 or call her at 966-7971 if you plan to attend.

SBAS Office News

The SBAS office is open for business but still in need of volunteers. Numerous difficulties have been encountered in finding an office coordinator so staffing has been a great problem (as anyone trying to contact the office has discovered). Fortunately, long-time SBAS member Helen Matelson has accepted the position and is putting us back on track. Volunteers are needed for Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays from 10 until 2. The office, as we had hoped, is receiving numerous phone calls and visitors everyday. Please help us be available to the community. All volunteers will be thoroughly trained and greatly appreciated. If you can volunteer one day a week or two days a month, please contact Helen Matelson at 966-3217.

Remember, checklists, SBAS patches and bird seed are all available at the office as well as good birding at nearby Lake Los Carneros so stop in sometime. Again, we are in the Goleta Depot building (upstairs) located by the Stow House at Lake Los Carneros. See you there.

Birds in Santa Barbara

Sorry, but Paul Lehman is out of town this month birding up a storm in south Texas. We wish him good luck and many rare finds. His article will appear again in May.

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 three minute recording giving all the latest information. If you have any unusual or exciting sightings, please call Nancy Crawford at 964-7508. Remember, the tape is no better than the sightings that are reported. Things change fast in these times of migration so please let us know what you see. Good Birding!

Audubon Golden Trout Camp Scholarships

--NOMINATIONS REQUESTED--

Nominations are still being accepted for the two scholarships being offered this year to the Audubon Golden Trout Camp to be held this summer in the high Sierra Nevada Mnts. Nominees should be individuals who stand to gain from the experience and be in a position to use the experience for the benefit of the community. Nominees need not be members of Audubon.

The scholarships will cover all expenses associated with the camp. Recipients need only to provide their own transportation. Nominations can be made through any board member or by contacting the SBAS Office at 964-1468.

For more details on the Golden Trout Camp (all Audubon members are invited to attend), write or call: Mrs. Cindi McKernan
40 Sherril Lane
Redlands, CA 92373
714/793-7897

Field Trip Report - Lake Cachuma

Twelve birders, with the kind permission of the owners and operators of the Nichols - DeLampre ranch, enjoyed a lakeshore stroll, despite the ominous presence of rainclouds. Evidence of spring was everywhere (unfortunately including the absence of certain ducks and geese which have already moved north). Wildflowers were in profusion in the meadows, horses tended their new born, and a western bluebird was seen fighting his reflection in a car rear-view mirror unable to drive away the mysterious intruder. In addition, two Osprey were with us throughout the morning.



Dean Bazzi

Joke for the Day:

Q. How much electricity does it take to ruin our National Parks?

A. That's easy; One Watt.

Membership

At last current membership information is coming in from National Audubon. According to their records, our members now number 1,125 including a member in Israel, Canada, and one in Mexico. We also have an additional 50 local members. This will be my last opportunity to write on membership as I am resigning from this position in June. Thanks to all who have helped to keep and organize our voluminous records.

Minna E. Smith

Calendar of Coming Events !!

- April 22 General Meeting - Tonight our speaker will be SBAS field trip chairman Louis Bevier. See page one of this El Tecolote for details.
Friday
- April 24 Field Trip - Refugio Rd. Riparian songbirds, wildflowers and beautiful country will all be seen on this trip. We begin on the coastal slope of the Santa Ynez Mtns. and end at the Santa Ynez River near Solvang. Meet at Storke Rd. and Hollister Ave. in the parking lot near Jack-In-The-Box by 7:00 am.
Sunday
Leader: Robb Hamilton
967-0060
- May 7-8 Field Trip - Antelope Valley and Vasquez Rocks. Join us for what should prove to be a great overnight adventure to this high desert region of California. This trip will begin at 6:00 am at the Museum of Natural History. Car-pooling will be arranged at that time. Birding will ensue en-route to the Antelope Valley (120 miles away). Once there, leaders knowledgeable in the birds, plants and geology of the region will help us explore this diverse and interesting area. An evening social and discussion of the days sightings will be held at whatever campground is chosen by the leaders. Hotel accommodations can be found in the area for those who prefer not to camp. There is no attendance limit on this trip but please let us know if you plan to go so appropriate plans can be made by the leaders. If you plan to go, please call the SBAS Office (964-1468), Robert Lindsay (968-8965), or Louis Bevier (964-1030). Don't miss this one if you can make it.
Sat. & Sun.
- May 10 Board of Directors Meeting - 7:30 pm. Members are welcome to attend. This meeting is the deadline for all articles to be submitted for the May issue of El Tecolote. This meeting will be held in the Fleischmann Auditorium annex in the Museum of Natural History.
Tuesday
- May 15 Beginners Birdwalk - San Jose Creek. Lush riparian habitat will be found along the creek containing many of the characteristic breeding birds of our region. Meet at the Patterson Ave. bridge which crosses the creek $\frac{1}{2}$ mile north of Cathedral Oaks Rd. in Goleta at 8:00 am. Leader: Dean Bazzi
Sunday
967-5200
- May 22 Field Trip - San Antonio Creek, Barka Slough and the Santa Ynez River-mouth. A great trip covering three diverse habitats. The dense riparian vegetation along San Antonio Creek should be especially interesting due to its relatively pristine condition protected by Vandenburg Air Force Base. Meet at Storke Rd. and Hollister Ave. in the parking lot near Jack-In-The-Box by 6:00 am. Leader: Louis Bevier
Sunday
964-1030
- May 27 General Meeting - This night our speaker will be Beverly Steveson who will present a multi-media show on the deserts of California. This show is especially timely following the May 7-8 field trip. Meetings begin promptly at 8:00 pm. in the Fleischmann Auditorium at the Museum of Natural History.
Friday
- June ? Pelagic Trip ! - Arrangements are being made for an off-shore field trip some time early in June. Watch for announcements in the May issue of El Tecolote. Reservations and a small fee to cover the cost of the boat will be required. Petrels, Shearwaters and other ocean-going birds are expected on this trip as well as some close-up looks at the Channel Islands.

Board of Directors

One purpose of the coming Annual Meeting of the Santa Barbara Audubon Society (see article, pg. 1) is to select the Board of Directors for the chapter for the coming year. The following list of endorsements has been made by the nominating committee and approved by the current Board of Directors:

1. Robert Lindsay
2. Louis Bevier
3. Alan Bordofsky
4. Marge Cappiello
5. Violet Greaves
6. Sid Tarbox
7. Marilyn Ulveas
8. Nancy Crawford
9. Paul Lehman
10. Dean Bazzi
11. Carol Rae

As was reported in the March El Tecolote, a change in our By-Laws has been proposed that would increase the maximum size of the Board of Directors to 15 members to allow all committees and officers to be represented on the board. This change, which has the endorsement of the current Board of Directors, requires approval by vote of the general membership. Should this change be so approved, the following names are added to the list of those nominated and endorsed by the Board:

12. Ada Babine
13. Lila Eisberg
14. Jim Greaves
15. Bob Siegel

We are fortunate that so many able and productive people are willing to serve. The activities and responsibilities of our chapter are expanding rapidly and greater involvement by members will be crucial in the years ahead.



Education Committee - Help Wanted !

This year has seen the blossoming of the SBAS Education Committee. Much credit goes to Sid Tarbox and Lila Eisberg for the numerous, fine slide shows they have developed and made available to the public. Though our education programs have been going on for some time, this year has brought a great increase in demand for these shows. The result has been that the members of that committee have been going non-stop giving these shows to the various schools and civic groups which have requested them.

This function of SBAS is of enormous value to the community, but more speakers are needed to keep up with the demand for presentations. Volunteers to help give these shows are badly needed. If you might be interested, please call the SBAS Office or Lila Eisberg at 963-4886. All volunteers will be well prepared to give these slide shows and will find it to be a valuable and rewarding experience. Please help if you can!



Field Trip Goodies

Santa Barbara Audubon Society would like to thank Evelyn and Mae Owen who generously donated their Vivitar Telescope and some bird books to enhance our field trips and Library. Best wishes to them on entering Vista Del Mar.

More Mesa Benefit Brunch

The More Mesa Benefit Brunch, held last March 27th at the Sojourner Cafe in Santa Barbara was a great success adding almost \$800 to the SBAS Land Preservation Fund. This brings the total amount raised to over \$4,000. Our thanks to the owners of the Sojourner for sponsoring the event and supplying the food; to artist Chuck Abraham for his magnificent stain-glass piece raffled off at the brunch; to the Santa Barbara Winery for the case of champagne donated to the event; to all those who came to the brunch and/or bought raffle tickets; and especially to Terry Church who brought the whole thing off practically by herself. The battle to save More Mesa will continue.

Correction

Our Congressman, Robert Lagomarsino, is a co-sponsor of H.R. 1493 (not H.R. 1492 as stated in the March El Tecolote). This bill, if passed by congress, would allow trophy and sport hunting to take place in many of the National Parks in Alaska. If you oppose this piece of legislation, please write to Congressman Lagomarsino at the House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515 and ask him to withdraw his support of that bill. Only pressure from constituents can bring this about and save these lands from this unnecessary and detrimental abuse.

President Reagan Confused

At a press conference last month, President Reagan claimed that the nation's environmental leaders do not speak for the "rank and file" of their organizations and that he and Secretary Watt are victims of a "perception" that is "absolutely false" claiming his environmental record has been "far more successful" than that of any previous president.

If these comments don't agree with your perception, why not write a letter and tell him so. Just write President Reagan at The White House, Washington DC.

20500

Good News for Barrier Islands

Marylin Stevens Ailes, a charter member of SBAS, has received a certificate for her work on the Coastal Barrier Resources Act: "An act which establishes a Federal resource system of undeveloped coastal barriers in order that these fragile land forms may remain in their natural state." The act concerned barrier islands along the Atlantic and Gulf Coasts. The certificate was given to Marylin by the National Wildlife Federation and Americans for the Coast. This act was the only new environmental legislation passed last year in Congress. Marylin did a definitive survey of four islands off Virginia prompting her to discuss the problem with various congressmen. She was among 200 people invited to meet in Washington to learn how to present environmental problems to legislators, with apparent success. The conservation movement owes a great deal to such individuals who, through concerted effort, are helping to build a more healthy environment.

Velma Stevens

Least Bell's Vireo: Population Survey Volunteers Needed

The Least Bell's Vireo Working Group of the Endangered Species Office of the Fish and Wildlife Service will be conducting a state-wide survey to determine where and how many Least Bell's Vireos still occur throughout its breeding range. Only one previous survey has been conducted (in 1978) providing only limited information. These birds nest in riparian habitats which are declining rapidly from development and over-use of water resources so a pressing need exists to update and expand our knowledge. Legislators must be provided with sound, complete information if they are to be able to protect such rare species yet still meet the needs of our increasing population.

If you have any interest in this project, please contact Jim Greaves at 962-7317. Jim has been studying the local population of Least Bell's Vireo for some years and can provide you with all the information you need to get involved.

CONGRATULATIONS !!

On behalf of everyone I would like to congratulate Jim and Violet Greaves, SBAS Conservation Chairman and Secretary, on the birth of their son, Fielding Louis Greaves III, born April 6, 1983. I am glad to say mother and son (and father) are doing fine. Best wishes for a long and happy life.

Robert Lindsay



Name That Tune!

Yet more entries have been received in the selection process for a chapter anthem. Further contributions are still being accepted by the Editor. Recent entries include:

1. My Noddy Flies Over the Ocean
2. Yes, Sir, That's my Booby!
3. King of the Roadrunners
4. Oh, How Ibis You Tonight
5. Hawk, the Heron Egrets Sing
6. La Chachalaca
7. Deep Purple Finch
8. Bibbity-Bobolink-Boo

Though I might deny it if I were her, credit for the above goes to Joy Parkinson. Thanks Joy.



EL TECOLOTE
Santa Barbara Audubon Society
300 N. Los Carneros
Goleta, CA 93117
(805) 964-1468

Non-Profit Organization
U. S. Postage
PAID
Santa Barbara, CA
Permit Number 125

**Dated
Material
Please Carry
Promptly**