

El Tecolote

BULLETIN OF THE SANTA BARBARA AUDUBON SOCIETY, INC.

Summer, 1983
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SBAS Office
300 N. Los Carneros
Goleta, CA 93117
(805) 964-1468

Robert Lindsay
President and Editor

Sept. 23 General Meeting - John W. Flavin, a charter member of SBAS, has returned to Santa Barbara after many years, a number of which he spent in various parts of Africa. Tonight he will share some of his wildlife experiences from the dark continent with a slide presentation on South Africa. This meeting will be held in the Fleischmann Auditorium at the Museum of Natural History and will begin promptly at 8:00 pm.
Friday

SUMMER EVENTS

Summer Pot-Luck

Santa Barbara Audubon's annual summer get-together is going to be a real treat this year. If you enjoyed the 20th anniversary banquet in June and want to see your "birding buddies" again, or if you missed that gala evening and want to participate in another social gathering, then this is for you.

How would you like to attend a pot-luck affair with free swimming available in a large pool? All this in a private park amidst a setting of magnificent Oaks, Sycamores and Bay trees beside a babbling brook.

If you will be in town on Saturday, August 20th, mark the date on your calendar so you won't miss this event. Just prepare your favorite recipe for pot-luck dining and bring it along with a beverage and table service. A charcoal fire will be available to cook or heat food. Watermelon, cookies and fruit juice will be provided.

We will expect to see everyone at 1027 Old San Marcos Rd. north from Cathedral Oaks Rd on August 20th from 11 am. until the food is gone. See you there.

Field Trip - Sandyland Slough

This trip will be held on Wednesday, August 24th. Meet at the Museum of Natural History at 8:30 am. for car-pooling, or at the gate at the lower end of Santa Claus Lane at 9:00 am. (Park opposite the stores, facing north.)

This trip provides an excellent opportunity to view shorebirds and marsh-birds on private property. Call Minna Smith at 966-7971 if you plan to go.

Leaders: Minna Smith
966-7971
Bob Hough
684-1540

Pelagic Field Trip - See page 3.

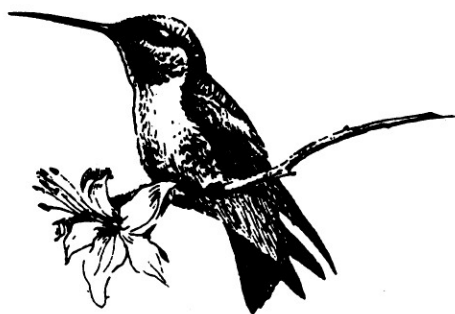
Birds in Santa Barbara
by Paul Lehman

The late spring and early summer seasons this year in the Santa Barbara region were less than outstanding for unusual sightings. In fact, it was quite dull.

In late May and early June a Northern Parula Warbler and several Chimney Swifts were in Goleta. There were also sightings of the annually-occurring Rose-breasted Grosbeak and Indigo Bunting.

Certainly the highlight of this period was the Wood Stork present sporadically in the Sandyland Slough area in Carpinteria; alas primarily on private property. This represents one of only a handful of records for the Santa Barbara region in the past fifty years.

Otherwise, the only sighting of note was a Red Crossbill on Figueroa Mountain in early July. This species is rare in our region at all times and is particularly unusual in summer.



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.
Good Birding !

SBAS Office

Most of the members of the Santa Barbara Audubon Society have never been to our new office. It is a worthwhile place to visit when you are out near Lake Los Carneros and the Stow House.

To get there, drive along Los Carneros Rd., north of the 101 Freeway, and turn in to the driveway to the Stow House. Park in the lot on the left, for Museum visitors, then walk through the line of Eucalyptus trees along the path to the yellow Goleta Depot Building. Our office is on the 2nd floor in the south-east corner of the building.

We are now open Monday through Friday from 10 am to 2 pm this summer. Stop by to see our fine collection of bird books, magazines, old copies of Audubon Magazine, Audubon T-shirts, bird seed, SBAS patches, and Santa Barbara area field guides and bird lists for sale. Or call for answers to your questions about SBAS Field Trips, Channel Island Trips, injured bird information or any other inquiries. Again, the telephone number is 964-1468.

It is heartening to see how well volunteer efforts have put together a viable, functioning office from four bare walls. However, there is still a list of items needed to complete basic requirements. Among these are: a four or six foot step ladder, a wall clock, cork bulletin boards, an electric typewriter with elite-sized type. Most important, we still could use more volunteers to staff the office. Our goal by mid-September is to be open 6 days a week for 6 hours a day. That will require a minimum of 12 volunteers who will contribute three hours of time per week. If you can't be a regular staff person but could give time once a month, or be on our stand-by list to fill in when a sudden need arises, please let us know. Men as well as women are invited to join this cooperative effort.

Do come and see our office, and see the birds by the lake too.

Marge Capiello
Office Liaison

PRESIDENTS ADDRESS

This begins my second term as the president of Santa Barbara Audubon. I hope this year will be as good as the last. I would like to congratulate the entire Board of Directors from last year for a job well done. Going off the board are Minna Smith, Joe Boyd and Joe Gartland. My thanks for all they have done for SBAS. Continuing board members include Violet Greaves, Nancy Crawford, Bob Siegel, Sid Tarbox, Jim Greaves, Louis Bevier, and Dean Bazzi. We are lucky to have so much talent and experience to rely on for yet another year. Joining the board for the first time are Allan Bordofsky, Sylvie Robillard, Carol Rae, Ada Babine, Marge Cappiello, Paul Lehman and Lila Eisberg. I welcome each new member and look forward to their contributions. SBAS is a much larger, more diverse organization than it was a year ago. With the addition of our new office and the increased demand for activities and community involvement, the new board has its work cut out, but I feel every confidence that we are equal to the task.

This promises to be an exciting year. Though we are usually inactive in the summer, this year we have already begun preparations for the year ahead. More special field trips are being planned this year than in years past. These trips require a great deal of organization and preparation but are well worth it. See page five for more details on these outings. Utilization of our office continues to increase and I expect it to be a smooth functioning operation by the end of this calendar year. Special thanks to office coordinator Helen Matelson for the great job she is doing. And thanks to all those who have volunteered to staff the office. This is an especially difficult task in this start up period and I am grateful to those who are seeing it through. Our programs will continue as usual. Our education committee will surely be as busy as last year. The work of this committee is very important in spreading the word of conservation and as such it provides a great service to the community. In addition, many other events and activities are being planned. I hope all of you will take advantage of all that SBAS has to offer. And please let us know if there are activities you would like to see added to those already planned. SBAS is here to serve you but can only do so if we know what you want.

SBAS will continue to be involved in local conservation issues. This is especially important in this era of tight budgets and environmentally unsympathetic administrations at both the state and national level. We must work not only to prevent the erosion of two decades of sound environmental policy and legislation, but to progress further until a healthy, diverse world is assured for future generations. Your continued involvement with Audubon is at least one step in that direction.

So here's looking forward to the new year. I look forward to seeing you all in the year ahead and thank you for your continued support.

-- SEPTEMBER PELAGIC FIELD TRIP --

That's right, we will be having a pelagic (ocean) trip on September 25th. We will be taking the Sea Hawk out of Sea Landing (off Cabrillo near the harbor) for a full day exploring the Santa Barbara Channel and waters around San Miguel Island looking for shearwaters, petrels, murrelets, murrelets, puffins, auklets, and the many other birds we're never likely to see from shore. The trip will begin at 5:30 am and should end by 6:00 pm if the birding is good.

Because of problems in previous years, reservations must be made by Sept. 1. The cost will be \$30.00 per person. No refunds will be made for cancellations after Sept. 1. Please make checks out to S.B. Audubon Society and send them to Louis Bevier at P.O. Box 3847, Santa Barbara, CA 93105.

By way of advise, be sure to get a good nights sleep the night before. The channel can be rough at times so eat a sensible breakfast if you are susceptible to motion sickness. Bring your own food and beverages, but no ice chests. Weather may be a little unfriendly so bring plenty of warm clothes.

If you have any questions, or need more information, contact Louis Bevier at 964-1030. See you all there.

Robert B. Lindsay
President
Santa Barbara Audubon Society

SANTA BARBARA AUDUBON SOCIETY

LIST OF OFFICERS
AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

President:

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Santa Barbara, CA 93105

Field Trip Committee:

Ada Babine 962-2042
300 N. Los Carneros
Goleta, CA 93117

Programs:

Dean Bazzi 967-5200
560 Beaumont Way
Goleta, CA 93117

Publicity Committee:

Carol Rae 964-3827
300 N. Los Carneros
Goleta, CA 93117

Conservation Committee:

Paul Lehman 967-2450
P.O. Box 1061
Goleta, CA 93116

~~More Mesa Committee:~~

~~Jim Greaves 962-7317~~
~~1021 De La Vina Cot. C~~
~~Santa Barbara, CA 93101~~

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45 Rubio Rd.
Santa Barbara, CA 93103

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

Coordinator: Helen Matelson
966-3217

COMING EVENTS FOR NEXT YEAR !

FIELD TRIPS

Santa Barbara Audubon will continue to sponsor a wide variety of field trips this year. We are glad to see that field trip attendance has been increasing in the last year and hope the trend continues.

Regularly scheduled field trips for the coming year include walks in the Santa Barbara Botanic Gardens every first and 3rd Tuesday of the month from 9 to 11 am. This is a delightful activity for out of town guests and residents alike.

In addition, there will be a habitat walk around Lake Los Carneros the third Saturday of each month. These walks will begin from our office at the Goleta Depot. Sightings from these walks may prove influential in the development of the Lake Los Carneros area.

Our Beginners Bird Walks will continue with one or two such trips each month. Begun last year, these walks tend to emphasize the more common birds of our region and basic birding skills. But exciting sightings are often made thanks to our well qualified leaders.

Our regular field trips will also continue as usual. Most of these walks tend to be one day or half day trips to promising spots in the local area. Birders of all skill levels are invited to attend any SBAS field trip.

In addition to all these, a number of special trips are being considered. Though no firm schedules have been made, trips being considered include an overnight, winter trip to the Carrizo Plains for the Sandhill Cranes, a repeat of the very successful Antelope Valley trip of last spring, at least one pelagic trip (though perhaps not until spring), and an overnight trip to study the birds and plants of Figueroa Mountain. All in all, it looks like an exciting year.

Our special thanks to Louis Bevier, last years field trip chairman, for a job well done. And welcome to Ada Babine, our new field trip chairwoman.

Remember, the public is welcome on all our field trips. Watch for announcements in future issues of El Tecolote for for dates, times, and meeting places for all field trips in the coming year.

PROGRAMS

This year, our monthly programs begin with a slide show on the birds of South Africa to be presented by John Flavin, charter member of SBAS. (full announcement on page one) And in coming months, a number of other fine shows are being arranged.

This year, we are hoping to have a varied set of programs including shows on fire ecology, volcanoes, marine mammals, wildflowers, and as always, the birds and wildlife of our world. We also hope to host another member slide night, a popular evening in years past but not done of late. If you have any interest in participating in a member slide night, please contact the programs chairman.

As before, meetings will be held on the 4th Friday of each month (except December). Meetings are held in the Fleischmann Auditorium at the Museum of Natural History and begin at 8:00 pm. The general public is welcome at all our meetings.

Our deep thanks to Joe Gartland for all he did in arranging our programs last year and for all the other chores he did for SBAS. And congratulations to Dean Bazzi as he takes over as Program Chairman. We all look forward to an interesting and entertaining year.



L.A. - Mono Bikeathon

Whether you are a beginner or expert, you are invited to cycle along with the 4th annual Los Angeles to Mono Lake Bikeathon.

The 6-day, 350 mile ride departs from L.A. Water and Power Headquarters on August 29th, and arrives at Mono Lake on September 3rd. Each cyclist carries a small vial of water from DWP's reflecting pool back to its natural destination - Mono Lake. Sponsors pledge a dime, quarter or more per mile to the cyclist of their choice. Last year over 30 cyclists of wide ranging abilities completed the trip, raising over \$13,000. Sag wagons carry our gear, and we camp along the way. It's fun, publicizes Mono's plight, and raises funds for the lake's defense.

If you would like to join the 1983 bikeathon, or would like more information on this worthwhile adventure, please contact David Takemoto-Weerts at our Sacramento office at:

926 J St. Bldg. Rm. 914
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 448-1045



Condor Exhibit

With California's increasing population of condor chicks much in the news, an eye-to-eye encounter with a flock of these rare and endangered creatures is being offered by the Los Angeles Natural History Museum in Exposition Park. Five newly restored and remounted California Condor specimens will be displayed on the Museum's 2nd floor through December 1983. So if you are going to Los Angeles this summer, we recommend you include this display as part of your itinerary.

But don't forget our own Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History. We have a fine condor display right here in town along with mounted specimens of nearly all the birds found in Santa Barbara. In addition, you will find displays and attractions highlighting the plants, animals, geology, habitats, and natural history of our fascinating region. Have Fun!



Arizona

For those of you with vacation time left this summer, I highly recommend a trip to Southeast Arizona. I was just there for the first time in May and was astounded by the beauty of the country and tremendous diversity of birds, many found nowhere else in the U.S. Field guides to birding in S. E. Arizona can be purchased at the S. B. Botanic Gardens or the Museum of Natural History. It's a little hot, but well worth the trip. I hope you can make it.

Editor

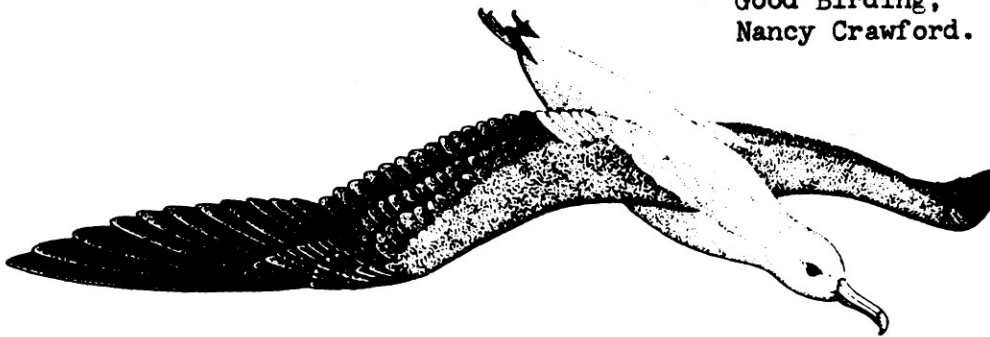
Membership Report

We would like to welcome to our chapter the following new members:

William K. Fitt, Mrs. Maryellen Glycer, Mrs. Arthur Hoskins, Conrad Jones, Gary M. Rauvola, Thomas A. Stone, Mrs. J. Condon, Judy Girod, Mr. John B. Hewitt, Mr. Gary W. Suffern, Mrs. Aleene Eckstein, Marilyn E. Fraser, Mrs. Wallace Hebbard, Bruce Pagliuso, Mary Fewel Smith, Craig Smith, C. Dana White, Julia Whitmore, Ms. Beryl P. Wilson, Wes Carpenter, Naomi Meyer, Mrs. F. C. Schillinger, Jerry Armstrong, Mrs. Dayton Kieswetter, Thomas A. Stone, Laura Wahl, Mark Hansen M. D., Dr. and Mrs. D. Barton Johnson, Beatrice Livingston, Beverly Troon, Mrs. Chris Brainard, June S. Kamback, Mike Carpenter, Barbara B. Boyd, Hope M. Anderson and Ann M. Stearns.

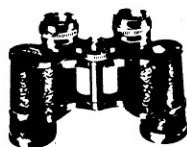
A pot luck gathering and field outings are being offered this summer. We encourage our members to come and learn more about S. B. Audubon. Our new board is ready and actively preparing an exciting year of programs, outings and other activities. I am your new membership chairman and hope to meet you at one of our functions.

Good Birding,
Nancy Crawford.



Scope and Tripod for Sale

Are you in the market for some new bird watching equipment? If so this should interest you. Walter and Dorothy Hirt have decided to sell their fine scope for a good price to any interested enthusiasts. They are offering a Bausch and Lomb Balscope Zoom Telescope, used only 4 or 5 times by the original owner, for \$175.00 or best offer. In addition, they are offering a tripod for the scope for \$25.00. If you are interested, please call Walter Hirt at 962-3639. Quite a deal for the cost conscious buyer.



T-shirt Logo Contest

As most of you know, we have been selling T-shirts for some time, a service first arranged by our current Field Trip Chairwoman, Ada Babine. But our stock is almost depleted so it is time to order more.

By vote of the Board of Directors, we have decided to hold a contest for a new design to be printed on the next set of T-shirts we buy. So if you have any artistic bent, why not see what you can come up with.

Entries must be received before the next board meeting, September 13, 1983. Selection of a design will be made at that meeting. The winner will be awarded a \$25.00 prize.

Please send all entries to Robert Lindsay, 300 N. Los Carneros, Goleta, CA 93117. For questions or more information, call Rob at 968-8965.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE SPEAKERS NEEDED

Our Education Committee continues to need more speakers to present our varied slide shows to the numerous schools and civic groups which request them. Last year, the demands on this committee increased greatly, a trend we expect to continue this year. Education speakers perform an important function enhancing the public interest in and knowledge of the natural world, furthering the cause of conservation. Activities in this committee will begin again in September so there is still time to prepare volunteers for the coming year. No previous experience is necessary.

If you have any interest in helping with this committee, please call Lila Eisberg at 963-4886, or the SBAS office at 964-1468. Volunteers will find it a rewarding experience and will provide a valuable service to the community. Please help if you can.



MEMBER PARTICIPATION NEEDED

This is just a notice of the many events sponsored each year by SBAS that require the involvement of our members. You all know about our field trips and monthly programs. Fortunately, these activities are generally well attended. But several other annual events could sure use a boost.

The annual Christmas bird count can never have enough people. Though many do participate in this activity every year, there is a lot of ground to cover and a lot of birds to count. If you haven't participated before, please consider it this year.

Last years Bird-A-Thon, our only annual fund-raising event, had only one SBAS member participant (who raised over \$60.00). This can be a very fun way to enjoy the birds of Santa Barbara and help out the chapter besides.

We received very few nominations for the Dick Smith Scholarship last year. I hope more are made this year.

Watch for announcements concerning these activities in future issues of El Tecolote.

EL TECOLOTE
Santa Barbara Audubon Society
300 N. Los Carneros
Goleta, CA 93117

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