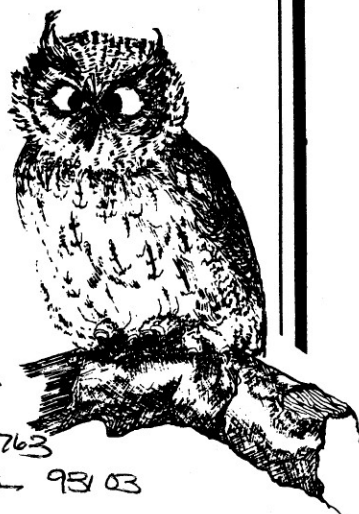


El Tecolote

BULLETIN OF THE SANTA BARBARA AUDUBON SOCIETY, INC.

May, 1984
Volume 21, Number 5



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May 25 GENERAL MEETING - THE FOUR SEASONS OF THE SIERRA
Friday Ines Roberts is an award winning local photographer and instructor who specializes in music-illustrated slide programs on various subjects (but primarily about nature). Tonight she will present an updated version of a program on the Sierra Nevada along with one or two other short presentations. This evening promises to be stimulating for the eye as well as the ear. Meetings are held in the Fleischmann Auditorium at the Museum of Natural History and begin promptly at 8:00 pm.

ANNUAL MEETING AND PICNIC June 9, Saturday

The 21st annual meeting and picnic will be held at Toro Canyon County Park from 11:00am to 3:00pm and will be in the form of a potluck. A hot charcoal pit will be provided for those who want to cook or barbeque their main dishes. In addition to bringing their own main dish, members should also bring one of the following:

- beans or casserole
- green salad
- bread or other salad
- dessert (includes fruit)

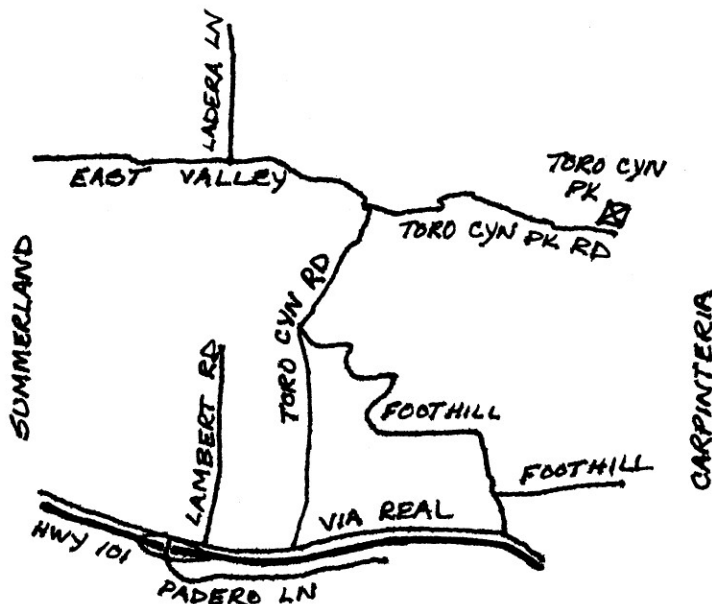
Drinks will be provided by SBAS (non-alcoholic), BUT BE SURE TO BRING YOUR OWN PLATES AND UTENSILS.

If you plan to attend (we have a maximum limit of 100) or have any questions please call the office at 964-1468, or Dean Bazzi at 967-5200.

This once-a-year festive gathering is a chance for members to meet other members as well as socialize with old friends. And remember, this will be the day to select next year's Board of directors (see April El Tecolote for a

list of those nominated) as well as proposed changes in our By-laws which require approval by the general membership. This is the time when your voice is needed to be sure that Santa Barbara Audubon represents you.

See you there!!!!



PROP 18: PARK BONDS ACT

Proposition 18 on the June 5 Calif. primary election ballot will provide \$370 million for local and state parks. More than 80% of the bond funds are slated for development and improvement of existing parks, with acquisition of new parklands limited to land needed for operation of current parks.

With the demand for outdoor recreation facilities becoming greater - especially in urban areas - many people are being turned away from overcrowded and overused recreation facilities.

A YES vote on Proposition 18 will allow recreation agencies to meet this increasing demand with development of recreational facilities where they are most needed.

Proposition 18 also provides funds for protection of our coast, wildlife, rare and endangered species, acquisition of new parkland in the Santa Monica Mts., and protection of the San Francisco Bay.



PROP 19: WILDLIFE/WETLAND BONDS

Proposition 19, on the June ballot, is a critically important bond measure which provides \$85 million to acquire and restore wetlands and other fish and wildlife habitat. This measure addresses one of the most serious environmental issues and deserves your strong support.

Wetland areas provide essential food and shelter to many irreplaceable species of birds, fish, and other wildlife. During the past century, California has lost 90% of our wetland areas. If some state action is not forthcoming, it will be catastrophic for Calif. fish and wildlife.



AUDUBON WESTERN REGIONAL CONFERENCE REPORT

Nearly 1,000 Auduboners came to roost Saturday through Tuesday, April 14-17, at the Asilomar Conference Grounds in Pacific Grove for the bi-annual Western Regional Conference of the National Audubon Society.

Several Santa Barbara members, including Vice President Carol Rae, attended the conference entitled "Water and Wildlife: An Audubon Perspective". Through panel presentations, displays and workshops the conference focused on programs and priorities related to the major issues of water and wildlife.

Russell Peterson, president of National Audubon, delivered an opening speech and was followed by John Ogden of the Condor Research Center. Events continued Sunday with a seminar on National Wildlife Refuges in the West, a survey of Audubon water and wetland issues emphasizing water law and the clean air act. The evening topics highlighted Audubon Sanctuaries and the National Predator policy.

Monday was the big field trip day with excursions ranging from pelagic birding out of Monterey Bay to an inspection of the UC Santa Cruz Predatory Bird Rehabilitation Facility where they captive breed the peregrine falcons. Concurrent with the field trips were seminars on Species of Special Concern, Audubon Activists workshops covering acid rain, wilderness legislation and water legislation, and Audubon Chapter Leaders workshops including youth education and membership development.

Monday evening included a pictorial presentation of water in the west entitled "Reflections on the National Audubon Soc.". The final panel discussion was Tuesday morning on endangered species in the west: the Grizzly Bear, Peregrine Falcon, and Desert Pupfish.

Throughout the entire conference were exhibits for all to enjoy such as shows by wildlife artists and Audubon Education Center's Book nest, displays by the local Monterey Audubon chapter and Friends of the Sea Otter, and Tupper Ansel Blake's photographic exhibit on California Wildlife and Wildlands.

The Western Regional Conference is an opportunity to be in first-hand contact with what National Audubon is doing

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS!!

- May 25 General Meeting - THE FOUR SEASONS OF THE SIERRA
Friday See front page for details. Meetings are held in the Fleischmann Auditorium at the Museum of Natural History and begin promptly at 8:00 pm.
- May 27 Field Trip - SAN ANTONIO CREEK, BARKA SLOUGH, AND SANTA INEZ RIVER-MOUTH
Sunday A great all-day trip covering three diverse habitats. The dense riparian vegetation along San Antonio Creek should be especially interesting due to its relatively pristine condition. Meet at Storke Rd. and Hollister in the parking lot near Jack-in-the-Box by 6:00 am. Bring a lunch.
Leader: TBA
- June 2 Habitat Walk - RATTLESNAKE CANYON
Saturday We will explore both streamside woodland and chaparral to observe locally breeding birds (and hopefully avoid a close encounter with the canyon's namesake). This will be a moderate hike; boots are recommended. Also bring lunch and water. Meet at the Museum of Natural History at 8:00 am to carpool, or at the trailhead just west of Scofield Park off Las Canoas Rd. at 8:30 am.
Leader: Dean Bazzi 967-5200
- June 9 Annual Meeting - TORO CANYON PARK - PICNIC AND POTLUCK
Saturday Don't miss this great Audubon gathering and the election of the new Board of Directors. Details are on the front page of this Tecolote.
- June 16-24 Nature Conservancy's Bird Tour - SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY, MOJAVE DESERT, SOUTHERN SIERRA, CENTRAL COAST
This tour features the Nature Conservancy's 320 acre Kaweah Oaks Preserve, 3200 acre Creighton Ranch Preserve, and 1500 acre Kern River Preserve, with visits to the Tulare Lake Basin, Kern National Wildlife Refuge, Sequoia National Park, Sequoia National Forest, northwestern Mojave Desert, Carrizo Plain, and coastal Morro Bay. For further information write: THE NATURE CONSERVANCY, P.O. Box 4049, Visalia, CA 93278.
- June 24 Field Trip - FIGUEROA MOUNTAIN
Sunday This all-day excursion should provide good sightings for local nesting and mountain birds. Wear sensible walking or hiking shoes. Bring water and lunch. Meet at Storke Rd. and Hollister Ave. in the parking lot near Jack-in-the-Box by 7:00 am.
Leader: Rob Lindsay 968-8965
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- * August 14-17 Audubon Family Institute - CAMP O'WOOD, ARIZONA
Details in last month's Tecolote, or contact Mrs. Cheryl Lazaroff, Director, Audubon Family Institute, Tucson Audubon Society, 30-A N. Tucson Blvd., Tucson, AZ 85716. Phone: 602/323-9673
-
- August 18-19 Overnight Condor Watch - MT. PINOS
Details in upcoming Tecolote.
Leader: Jim Hodgson
-
- August 25 Workshop - SHOREBIRDS
Saturday A nominal fee may be charged for this worthwhile workshop with Jon Dunn. Details in upcoming issues.
- August 27 Bikeathon - LOS ANGELES TO MONO LAKE
All are invited to participate in this 350 mile ride. More details in upcoming issues, or call Stephen Osgood at 213/477-5754 or 477-8229.

Call John Flavin

Reg. Conference cont.....

and to become better educated about projects and programs that can be implemented within the local chapters. It is also the chance to meet "up close and personal" your Audubon leaders.

FIELD TRIP REPORT
Antelope Valley April 28-29

A small group of birders enjoyed an excursion to this arid region bounded by the San Gabriel and Tehachapi mts. Most of the first day was spent exploring the upper reaches of the valley. Included was a stop at Quail Lake where an Osprey permitted us some close views. Despite the poor wildflower display due to time of year and lack of rainfall, western kingbirds were present to add their color and animation to the roadsides.

Shorebirds were in abundance - and most in breeding plumage - at the Lancaster sewage ponds and a nearby marsh. Included were dunlin, avocets, stilts, and Wilson's phalaropes. There were many yellow-headed blackbirds (in full song), three white pelicans, eared grebes in breeding dress, and an assortment of ducks.

The agricultural ranchlands around Lancaster yielded a number of migrant landbirds including grosbeaks, tanagers, orioles, peewees, thrushes, warblers, a solitaire, and four species of empidonax flycatchers. Non-passerines included a pair of Swainson's hawks (dark phase), a barn owl, and a long-eared owl.

The last day concentrated on desert habitat (from creosote bottomland to yucca and juniper foothills) after spending a cool but enjoyable night at Saddleback Butte State Park with stars in profusion and white evening-primroses at our feet.

The desert stops were not as productive as they were last year being hampered by wind - a constant companion on the trip. However, we managed to view cactus wrens and black-throated sparrows. The presence of Brewer's sparrows (in singing flock) and Nashville warblers reminded us that spring migration was in full swing.

The view of Vasquez Rocks on the way back to Santa Barbara is always breathtaking and a fitting conclusion to this trip.

Dean Bazzi

EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT
FALL 1983 - SPRING 1984

The Education Committee's major project this year has been to assemble slide shows appropriate to the season's birds and present them to the schools of our area (Goleta, Hope district, Santa Barbara, Montecito, and Carpinteria). Slide presentations available during fall and winter were: SAVE OUR STREAMS, MIGRATING BIRDS, SANTA BARBARA BIRDS, CACHUMA BIRDS, SPRING BIRDS, and NESTING NEIGHBORS.

A cover letter was sent to principals in the area while publicity sheets went to all teachers in public elementary schools, natural history teachers at jr. high and high schools, and also to teachers in 18 private schools. In response we received requests for 95 talks and addressed a total audience of 2,970 (including some civic groups).

The cost of duplicating slides, printing publicity and mailing it out averages about \$75 each fall and spring; so we invest about \$150 to talk to about 3,000, or five cents per person.

The committee now has six volunteers to address the schools. Three others will probably be added when they have had more experience accompanying other speakers.

In addition to slide shows our members led students on four bird walks upon teachers' special requests.

-Lila Eisberg

ANNOUNCEMENT
Position Available

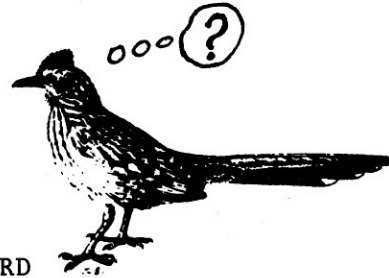
The Mono Lake Committee is seeking an executive director to administer this 6,000-member environmental public interest group. Req: 5 yrs. exper. in personnel and financial management, familiarity with environmental issues and politics, background in working with the media, and capability of managing an org. which relies entirely on sales, dues, donations and special events. Salary: \$24,000-\$28,000. Send resume (+ref. & salary history) to: Search Committee, Mono Lake Committee, 1355 Westwood Blve., #6, Los Angeles, CA 90024.

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NOTE: Any articles, announcements, ads, amusing comments and/or suggestions that you would like to see printed in the Tecolote, please give or mail to the editor on or before the second Thursday of every month. Member participation is encouraged and appreciated.



SPLINTERS FROM THE BOARD



The last SBAS board meeting was held Thursday, May 10, 1984. Board members present were Rob Lindsay, Sylvie Robillard, Carol Rae, Lila Eisberg, Sid Tarbox, Louis Bevier, Alan Bordofski, Marge Capiello, Dean Bazzi, and Terry Church.

Mike Kendall from the Wildlife Rehabilitation Project spoke to the Board about this active yet relatively unknown group of organized volunteers and their efforts to mend and rehabilitate wounded wildlife in the Santa Barbara County. Because of the project's work load, lack of funds, and its importance within our community, the Board unanimously voted to donate \$500 this year to the group pending a routine verification of its license and functions.

Sylvie Robillard discussed some of the questionnaire results to be announced in the September Tecolote, and Carol Rae announced her ideas for raffle prizes for those who returned their questionnaires by May 1.

Details for the Annual Meeting on June 9 were finalized by Dean Bazzi who reserved a space at Toro Cyn. Pk. More information is still being sought on the Cuyama Valley development plans and its potential impact on the California condor and other regional resources.

Rob Lindsay spoke of his concern about current development activity at the Bird Refuge. He agreed to contact the lawyer involved in organizing the committee legally entitled to oversee the development and ensure that all agreements are upheld by the developer. Rob also announced that the new owners of More Mesa have asked for a 6 month delay of the scheduled May 21st meeting at the County Board of Supervisors.

Lila Eisberg gave a report on the Education committee and mentioned Audubon's efforts to provide for more in-depth involvement with local schools. The Board, recognizing education as a primary Audubon involvement, discussed ways of expanding our educational programs and drawing upon more volunteer resources.

Minna Smith was added to the list of nominees for the new 1984-85 Board of Directors.

Terry Church
Editor



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MISSING TECOLOTES - It occasionally happens that members do not receive their issue of El Tecolote. If this happens to you, please call Nancy Crawford at 964-7508 so that she can notify our mailer. Sorry for the inconvenience!!!



MEMBERSHIP

A local membership (\$10.00 per year) in the Santa Barbara Audubon society entitles you to attend field trips and monthly general meetings; to elect local board members and to receive the El Tecolote, chapter newsletter. Membership in the National Audubon Society (\$30.00 per individual, \$38.00 per family per yr.) entitles you to receive the nationally acclaimed Audubon magazine and automatically enrolls you as a local member. Local and national membership applications are available now. Just contact our office at 964-1468.

QUESTIONNAIRE

All those who returned their questionnaires by May 1, will be eligible to receive a raffle prize. However, if you have not yet mailed yours in take a look at your March Tecolote or ask for one at the office. We are more than interested to know your feelings about Audubon activities and programs. Thank you.



For current news of rare and unusual sightings 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!

AND THE MORAL OF THIS STORY IS...

S/he who hoots with the owls at night cannot fly with the eagles at dawn.

EL TECOLOTE
Santa Barbara Audubon Society
P.O. Box 2067 *Office etc.*
Santa Barbara, CA 93102

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*annual Mtg & Potluck
Report*

*Those of us found ourselves at the
June 9th enjoyed the sun (& the shade)
and the food of our 2nd annual Mtg.
Recent also was a bit of frisky frolic
the only item of business was to elect our
present members of the board ^{100%} which we did
unanimously. ^{But} mostly the time was occupied
at a bit of frisky frolic, dog potting, & our
usual chatter & socializing. If
you missed this yr event, hope to see you
at the next!*