

# El Tecolote

BULLETIN OF THE SANTA BARBARA AUDUBON SOCIETY, INC.

September, 1984  
Volume 21, Number 8



SBAS Office  
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Goleta, CA 93117  
(805) 964-1468

Robert Lindsay  
President and Editor

Oct. 24      General Meeting - Plants and Flowers of the Channel Islands.  
Wednesday      Tonight's guest speaker will be Steve Timbrook, a botanist with the Santa Barbara Botanic Gardens, a member of Audubon and a dynamic speaker as his previous talks have shown. Tonight he will take us on a slide tour of our Channel Islands concentrating on the unique vegetation to be found there. This will be the first in a series of programs devoted to different aspects of the natural history of our islands. Remember, this show will be in FERRAND HALL next to the planetarium at the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History and will begin at 8:00 pm. All other shows this year will be held, as usual, in Fleischmann Auditorium. See you there.

## PRESIDENTS ADDRESS

Welcome to a new Audubon year. This will be the 22nd year of the Santa Barbara Audubon Society, and I expect it will be a good one.

To all our new members, I extend a hearty welcome, and hope you will all take advantage of the many things we have to offer. To our continuing members, I offer thanks for your continued support and look forward to seeing again the many of you who have become my friends.

In addition to our field trips and general meetings, SBAS also has a fine education program active in our local schools. We participate in a number of local conservation efforts and contribute to even more. We maintain an office at a local county park making numerous resources available to the community. We

can take pride in all SBAS has grown to be. But the need is still great to have more involvement by you, the members. Your input is always welcome, and any help you can give sincerely appreciated.

As your newsletter editor, I'll strive to keep you well informed of what's happening in your chapter. As your president, I hope I will represent your interests and look forward to working with our outstanding board of directors. So here's to the new year, let's enjoy it.

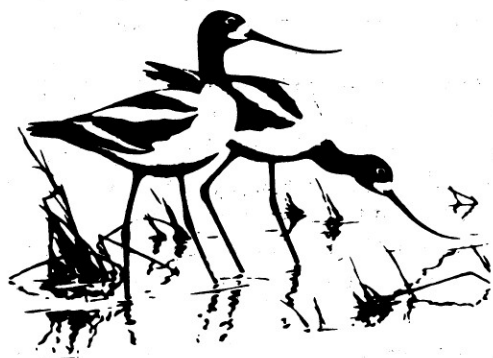
Robert Lindsay



## BIRDS IN SANTA BARBARA

by Paul Lehman

As the fall begins and the heat and humidity is hopefully behind us, the southbound migration of birds has long since been in progress. September and October are usually the most exciting months for birds with almost daily changes in the composition of species present and a good number of rarities seen. This years highlights to date include a Ground Dove, two White-winged Doves, three Clay-colored Sparrow, and several Bobolink in Goleta, two separate Northern Waterthrushes in Goleta and Carpinteria, a Summer Tanager in Santa Barbara, and two Indigo Buntings in Carpinteria. All of these, except the Ground Dove, are regular here in very small numbers each fall. Several Semipalmated Sandpipers were in both Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties during August; this eastern shorebird is now being found in small numbers each August in our area. Other shorebirds seen in our area in late summer were the annually occurring small numbers of Lesser Golden Plover, Solitary Sandpiper, Baird's Sandpiper, and Pectoral Sandpiper.



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 !!!

### Prairie Falcon Sightings

The SBAS office was recently contacted to solicit the help of any of our members in reporting recent sightings (since September 1st.) of a Prairie Falcon in the vicinity of East Camino Cielo and Painted Cave Rd. The bird was rehabilitated and released there around September first and hasn't been seen since. The person responsible wants to be sure it is all right since being released. To identify this bird, look for two missing primary feathers, two missing tail feathers, and a flight slightly favoring the right side. The bird is banded and has short jesses (straps) on his legs. It is a male bird. Anyone seeing a bird of this description should call Mike at 964-6979. He would be very grateful for your help.



## SPLINTERS FROM THE BOARD

The last board meeting was held on September 13, 1984. Members present included Robert Lindsay, Louis Bevier, Carol Rae, Allan Bordofsky, Nancy Crawford, Paul Lehman, Dean Bazzi, John Flavin, Skye Bass, and Eileen Gray.

Actions at this meeting began with the final adoption of the revised set of By-laws for our chapter, a project many months in the making. In addition, committee reports were received bringing the board up to date on all that was accomplished over the summer in preparation for the coming year.

At the urging of office coordinator Eileen Gray, plans to reward our office volunteers for their service were made (see article pg. 5). Conservation chair Paul Lehman reviewed the issue to be addressed by his committee this year emphasizing protection of our rapidly vanishing wetland and riparian habitats. Minna Smith, Education chair, is completing preparations for our fall programs, lacking only adequate personnel to present the shows to all who request them.



SBAS will also be participating in the activities of the Coastal Resource Information Center (CRIC) being established in the Goleta Community Center.

Finally, the board voted to make a \$100 contribution to the NAS Wildlife Rehabilitation Fund in support of the important work that group is accomplishing.

## CHANGES IN THE BOARD

As usual, the beginning of our active year has brought a few changes in our personnel. We are sorry to say that both Sylvie Robillard and Terry Church have moved away. Both these women made important contributions to our chapter and will be missed. Replacing Sylvie as our Secretary is Teri Ogden, a familiar and welcome face to many of us; I'm sure she will do well. And, replacing Terry is yours truly, once again writing your newsletter.

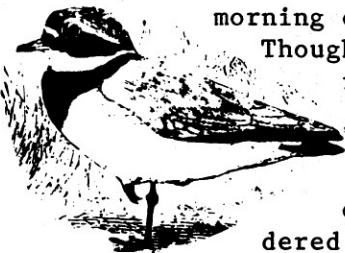
Lastly, an error was made in the address given for our Administrative V.P. Louis Bevier. So, for the record, you can reach Louis at:

P.O. Box 3874  
Santa Barbara, CA 93130  
964-1030

Robert Lindsay

## FIELD TRIP REPORT !

On Saturday, September 15th, a group of fifteen Auduboners met at the Devereaux Slough for a very pleasant morning of birding around the mud flat and adjacent beach.



Though shorebird migration is in full swing, the mud flat remains fairly dry. Despite that fact, a number of good birds were sighted including some early Pintail ducks, outstanding views of a pair of Green-backed Herons as well as Great Blue and Black-crowned Night Herons and both our common species of egret, Belted Kingfisher, Black-shouldered Kite, Hutton's Vireo, Yellowthroat, and Wilson's Warbler.

Good views of several of our small sandpipers were also found giving us all a chance to practice on this difficult to distinguish group of species. All in all it was a lovely, sunny day enjoyed by all.

Robert Lindsay



## SBAS OFFICE

The board of directors would like to thank the faithful and efficient staff of office volunteers who manned and womanned our office this long, hot summer. They deserve the thanks of all our members. They are: Audrey vonBieberstein on Tuesdays, Skye Bass on Wednesdays, Lyn Gausman on Thursdays, and Eileen Gray on Fridays. (Monday is temporarily uncovered.)

In recognition of their vital service, it was moved by the board of directors to reward and entertain them at a dinner party to be held each fall.

In addition, all office volunteers with 100 hours of service would be rewarded with an Audubon T-shirt specially designed in honor of their extra effort for the chapter.

The usual office hours are 10-2, Monday to Friday. We always welcome the help of other members in keeping these hours open. If you would like to contribute a few hours each month, please call the office (964-1468) or Eileen Gray at 967-0698.

We have several office projects to keep you busy! You would be trained by one of our current staff until you felt comfortable with it. As fall gets into swing, we will probably be getting many more visitors and calls for information. It is an interesting and often rewarding way to make your contribution to SBAS.

Eileen Gray

## Speaking of the office -

Sunday, October 14th of Goleta Valley Days, will be Depot day as well. So plan to come on down, not just for the fun of this historic train museum, but to stop by our office, located on the 2nd floor of the depot. A few of us are sure to be there to answer any questions, or just to say hello. Remember, we have the best bird seed in town.

Edit.

## Thanks from the library

Many thanks to June Kelley for library book binding, and for her offer to do so in the future. And thanks as well to the donor of The Audubon Society Master Guide to Birding, Vol. 1 (Loons to Sandpipers).

Audrey vonBieberstein  
SBAS Librarian



## BOTANIC GARDEN WALKS TO RESUME IN NOVEMBER

Under the direction of long-time SBAS member Joan Lentz, we are happy to announce that we will again be offering morning bird walks at the Santa Barbara Botanic Gardens on the first and third Tuesday of each month beginning this November 6th. As you may recall, staffing problems last year forced us to cancel this program during the spring so we are very grateful that Joan has consented to revive this popular activity.

So keep an eye out for further announcements in this newsletter and in local newspapers and plan to come down to this beautiful part of Santa Barbara. This is a good activity to plan for your out-of-town guests. We'll be seeing you.





## HELP STOP ACID RAIN

As part of the NAS effort to force a solution to this devastating and growing environmental problem, we have received a healthy supply of anti-acid rain postcards which we will be distributing at our next several general meetings (as long as the supply lasts). So, all you need to do is come to any of our meetings, fill out a card, then just leave it with us. We will be glad to pay postage and mail it for you. What simpler way could there be to help in the effort to find a solution to this deadly, continuing problem. We are so lucky to live in democracy where our representatives are responsible to us. Let's take advantage and make our views known. You can make a difference.



## Education Volunteers Needed

As we begin a new year for SBAS, the need for members to help us give our programs is great. Though this committee is as well staffed as any in our chapter, it is also the busiest. Our shows are in high demand in many of our schools and community organizations and more help is needed if we are to meet this demand.

So, if you have an interest in helping with this committee, please call Minna Smith at 966-7971. We will provide plenty of opportunity to become familiar with our shows and schedules are made at your convenience. Please help if you can, your efforts will be well rewarded.

## VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH

So many people work so hard to make SBAS all it is. There is no way to adequately thank and reward them all. But, as a step in that direction, one exceptional volunteer each month will be recognized in this newsletter for the contribution they have made.

As this is the first time this has been done, it is quite difficult for me to decide who among the many worthy people who make this organization work should be recognized first. But, I'm sure those in the know will agree with me that our first volunteer of the month must be Audrey vonBieberstein. Not only has Audrey been an office volunteer for longer than anyone, she has also done a great job there in getting us organized, training the volunteers who have followed her, and in consenting to be our librarian, a task which required a great deal of organizational work performed brilliantly. Audrey is an example to us all, as well as a pleasure to work with. And so, Audrey, I salute you, and am proud to select you as our Volunteer of the Month. You sure deserve it. Thank you for all you do to make SBAS great.

Robert Lindsay



## MEMBERSHIP

Thank you all again for your patience in waiting for necessary corrections and updating of our membership listing. Teri Ogden and I have finally completed the National Annual Membership list. We have checked it and are most hopeful that all addresses and names are current and correct. PLEASE check your mailing label and let us know if there are any further corrections to be made at this time.

We would like to welcome the following new members and hope that we see them soon at an outing or meeting; Tasha Becking, Jean Black, Janice Ferrick, Eric Hopson, William A. Innes, Evelyn D. Waer, Laurel Waugh, Martha Diaz, Paul A Green, Sandra J. Levee, Scott Love, Margaret MacCleod, Rosemary B. Mason, Mark Morehart, Mr. W. Orso, C. Roche, Bob Rodgers, Patricia Dillon, Phillip Flewallen, Andrea Jackson, Gary Staneff, Almundena Ortiz Cue, Robin Harwin, Andrea Moore, Gerald R. White, Gary Fredricks, William Arbuckle, Jean Bechtol, Deborah Dyer, Russell Hubbell, Mr. & Mrs. Anders Lodahl, Sindi Rust, and Harold H. Bass. Also, welcome to the following new transfers; Susan Jorgensen, David R. Reed, George Chapman, Olive J. Jackson, and Mr. & Mrs. Bruce M. Peterson.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to Teri Ogden for all her help in updating our current membership list. Thank you, Teri.

Sincerely,  
Nancy S. Crawford  
Membership Secretary



## DICK SMITH WILDERNESS

It is with great pleasure that we announce, for those who have not yet heard, that recent legislation has been passed making the Dick Smith Wilderness a reality at last. Much local effort was involved in bringing this event to pass and we are deeply indebted to all those who played a part. This new wilderness, adjacent to our San Raphael Wilderness area, was named for Dick Smith, a Santa Barbara resident, Audubon member, News-Press photographer, and Condor expert who played a vital role in the creation of the San Raphael Wilderness. This is indeed a fitting tribute to his many accomplishments in the field of conservation and preservation of wildlands. The creation of this new wilderness area took many years of hard work to accomplish. We are glad it has finally come to be.



#### BIRD PHOTOGRAPHY SEMINAR

A bird and wildlife photography seminar, sponsored by Los Angeles Audubon will be held October 20th from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. Experts Herb Clark and Arnold Small will cover a variety of topics aimed at giving us amateurs the know how to do it right. To register, send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to PHOTO SEMINAR, L.A. Audubon, 7377 Santa Monica Blvd., Los Angeles, CA, 90046 by Oct. 15, 1984. Sorry, NO registration at the door. The registration fee is \$20 per person. Reservations will be confirmed.

#### THE WORLD OF AUDUBON

As many of you may know, the National Audubon Society has been working with SuperStation WTBS to produce an exciting and educational program called "The World of Audubon", hosted by Cliff Roberts. This program will examine environmental issues in a positive and upbeat way. Themes include the interdependence of life forms and how we human individuals can make a difference in the quality of all life, not just our own.

This program will premiere on Monday, October 22 at 8:00 pm with encore presentations in the weeks that follow. Check local program listings for this rare bit of good television. Let's keep the Audubon cause alive.

#### SOUTH COAST BIRD REPORTS

|                |              |
|----------------|--------------|
| Los Angeles    | 213/874-1318 |
| San Bernardino | 714/793-5599 |
| San Diego      | 619/435-6761 |

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