

El Tecolote

BULLETIN OF THE SANTA BARBARA AUDUBON SOCIETY, INC.

Nov. - Dec., 1984
Volume 21, Number 10



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

Robert Lindsay
President and Editor

January 23
Wednesday

General Meeting - Tonight our guest will be Dr. Larry Friesen, Professor of Biology from Santa Barbara City College. Larry has a fantastic collection of slides of insects and other arthropods and will take us on an entertaining tour into the world of these amazing animals. So plan to come on down and see close up those tiny beasts so common, yet seldom seen. This meeting will begin at 8:00 pm in the Fleischmann Auditorium at the Museum of Natural History. Don't miss it!

SBAS Christmas 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 Saturday, December 29th. 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 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 6 pm (promptly!) 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.

We are still in need of a boat on count day to count pelagic species up to three miles offshore for all or part of the day. If you know of an available boat, please call Paul at 967-2450.

Though all the details are not yet set, there will also be a Sespe Christmas Count on December 26th. The form for this count is also in this Tecolote. If you have questions or need further information, call Paul Lehman at 967-2450.



Birds in Santa Barbara

by Paul Lehman

Although the volume of regular western migrants was not very good, October hosted a good number of exciting vagrant species. Probably the rarest sighting of the month was the Brown-crested (Wied's Crested) Flycatcher in Goleta, October 21-24. This interior southwest species had never been recorded in the Santa Barbara region, and only once before had it been seen along the coast of the state. A Great Crested Flycatcher was in Carpinteria for the third record of this species, and three Least Flycatchers in the region was a good count for this eastern species. Exciting warblers included a male Hooded for one day in Santa Barbara; Canada Warbler in Montecito; Magnolia, Black-throated Blue, and Chestnut-sided Warblers in Goleta; and, especially, an immature Grace's Warbler in Carpinteria (different individual from the wintering adult in Montecito). Other local goodies included single Bell's Vireo at Gaviota and in Carpinteria (this species is extremely rare in migration), a Lark Bunting in Goleta; Lapland and Chestnut-collared Longspurs near Santa Maria; a 2,000 Black-vented Shearwaters off the Santa Ynez River Mouth. At the end of the month several lowland sightings of Red Crossbills may portend an invasion of this erratic species, and numbers of the normally-pelagic Northern Fulmar were being seen "begging" for food around local wharfs and piers. Lastly, the now famous Little Curlew near Santa Maria was last seen with certainty on October 14.

South Coast Bird Reports

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



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!



Santa Maria Christmas Count

Participants are being sought for the Santa Maria Christmas Bird Count to be held Sunday, January 6, 1985. Any interested people should contact Jody Venema (481-3976 eves.) as soon as possible so we can begin to set up zones and leaders. Also, let us know if you would be interested in leading or birding a particular area.

Thanks,
Jody L. Venema
Bird Count Leader
Los Padres Audubon
Santa Maria, CA

(I regret to say that the Santa Maria count was scheduled outside the official count period. But don't let that deter you, it will be no less fun.)

Edit.

Membership Report

We would like to welcome the following new members to SBAS: Clare Barrios, M.M. Brock, Mrs. Eldon Haskell, David M. Hirt M.D., Anita Karr, Mary L. Keho, Florence M. Larrick, Pam Rowland, Lawrence Westbury D.D.S., Ms. J. Atkins, Robert I. Boertson, Isabel C. Ebel, Mr. Roger W. Haushalter, Erica T. Hill, Joshua Macias, Gilbert Makus, Earl Osterhoff, Doris B. Peterson, Brad Sayra, James Seibert, Bertha Woods, Robert Andre, Mr. Richard Downey, Linda Hawkins, Olive T. Jackson, Phil Nilson, and Sterling Price.

We hope you will be active and take part in our many activities. Watch the Tecolote for committees that need your help, or call and leave your name at the office if you can assist in any way. Thank you.

Good Birding,
Nancy Crawford

SBAB Library

Just a quick reminder that SBAS has a fine (and growing) library at our office. Our collection includes a good selection of field guides as well as numerous books on birds and other natural history subjects. These books are available for loan to any member of SBAS. We also gratefully accept any books you may wish to donate to enhance our collection, and we also appreciate any recommendations you may have concerning desirable additions to the books available. Please contact Audrey VonBieberstien, SBAS librarian, on duty at the office every Tuesday.

We would like to thank Helen Matelson for her donation of Birdwaters Digest to our library.



Bird Seed

Don't forget, the best birdseed in town is available at the office or at any of our general meetings. Millet can be purchased for \$1.00 for 4 pounds. Black sunflower seeds are available for 50¢ per pound or \$1.00 for two pounds. Larger quantities can be delivered if your feeder is busy enough.

Volunteer of the Month

This month, it is my pleasure to select Nancy Crawford as the volunteer of the month. Nancy has been an integral part of SBAS for as long as I can remember and I'm delighted to have the chance to give her the recognition she deserves. Over the last several years, Nancy has served on nearly every committee and has always performed her duties admirably. She has served as our treasurer, membership chair, field trip leader, education speaker, and much more. In addition, she has generously hosted most of our board social gatherings and has always been a delight to work with. She can generally be found behind our information table at our general meetings so next time you come, do stop by and give her the thanks she deserves for all she has done.

Nancy, you are a dear friend and I feel lucky to have been able to work with you.

Robert Lindsay



CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS!!

December and January

- December 1 Field Trip - Carrizo Plains. Please note the change in plan from the
Saturday original announcement. THIS TRIP WILL BEGIN AT THE MUSEUM OF NATURAL
HISTORY -- NOT FROM MILPAS. We are still expecting to meet at 5:00 am.
Don't miss this outstanding trip, it's worth the extra effort.
(Bring lunch & water) Leader: John Flavin
965-4979
- December 4 Botanic Garden Walk - Walks begin in front of the bookstore at the
Tuesday Botanic Gardens at 9:00 am. Walks last about 90 minutes.
Leader: Joan Lentz
969-4397
- December 5 General Meeting - Tonight our speaker will be Meaton Freel of the Los
Wednesday Padres National Forest. See last months El Tecolote for details.
Meetings are held in the Fleischmann Auditorium at 8:00 pm.
- December 9 Field Trip - McGrath State Beach. Join us on this journey to one of
Sunday the best shorebird areas on the south coast. Meet at the Andree Clark
Bird Refuge at 7:30 am. Leader: Tom Worster
(Be sure to bring a lunch)
- December 13 Board of Directors Meeting - 7:30 pm. Members are welcome to attend.
Thursday Meetings are held at the Coast Federal Bank building, upstairs at
1330 State St. in Santa Barbara.
- December 18 Botanic Garden Walk - See Dec. 4
Tuesday
- December 29 Christmas Bird Count - See article, Pg. 1.
Saturday
- January 6 Field Trip - Santa Barbara Harbor and Bird Refuge. The harbor and
Saturday refuge generally have a few goodies and always make for a pleasant
morning of birding. Meet in front of the Naval Reserve building at
the S. B. Harbor at 8:00 am. Leader: John Flavin
965-4979
- January 10 Board of Directors Meeting - 7:30 pm. Members are welcome to attend.
Thursday See Dec. 13 for time and meeting place. This meeting is the deadline
for all articles to be submitted for the January El Tecolote.
- January 12 Christmas Count Hot Spots - If rarities are your interest, then don't
Saturday miss this trip. Here's a chance to try and relocate some of the
exceptional birds that always seem to be found on the count day. Meet
in the parking lot at Von's market, Hollister Ave. at Turnpike at
8:00 am. Leader: Paul Lehman
967-2450
- Jan. 2 & 16 Botanic Garden Walks - see Dec. 4
Tuesday

(con't.)

COMING EVENTS (con't)

- January 20 Field Trip - Paradise Road. This trip will take us into the oak wood-
Sunday lands and riparian areas of the upper Santa Ynez Valley. Land birds
should abound on this trip. Meet at 7:30 am in the parking lot at
Von's market, Hollister Ave. at Turnpike. Leader: Guy Tingos
(Bring a lunch.) 687-8266 (morns.)
- January 23 General Meeting - See Pg. 1 for details. Meetings are held in the
Wednesday Fleischmann Auditorium at the Museum of Natural History at 8:00 pm.
- January 26 Field Trip - Figueroa Mountain. Though snow may prevent us from
Saturday reaching the very top, even the lower slopes of this area host a great
assortment of birds. Be sure to dress warmly. Meet in the parking
lot at Von's market, Hollister Ave. at Turnpike at 7:00 am.
(Bring a lunch.) Leader: Robert Lindsay
968-8895
-

Field Trip Report

Our leisurely stroll along lower Winchester Creek on October 13 should have been billed as a Woodpecker Workshop! Six species: Acorn, Hairy, Downy, and Nuttall's Woodpeckers, Northern Flicker, and Red-breasted Sapsucker were observed. Also present were small numbers of recently-arrived winter residents such as Ruby-crowned Kinglets, Yellow-rumped Warblers, and White-crowned Sparrows. The surprise of the day was a White-winged Dove which materialized, posed, and disappeared. I'd like to thank those present for making my first trip as a leader an enjoyable one.

Guy Tingos

Santa Barbara Botanic Garden

Docent Training Class

If you are interested in spending one morning or afternoon per week enhancing the environmental awareness of young people, the docent program of Santa Barbara Botanic Garden provides a great way to learn more about California native plants and ecology while helping others gain your appreciation of nature. Call Ruth Meadows, Docent Director, or Steve Timbrook, Coordinator of Education, at 682-4726, for docent training class application information. A new class begins in January.

From the Education Committee

The Education Committee is responding to all the requests for our Fall Show from local public and private schools. With the able cooperation of Virginia Collett and Lila Eisberg in Santa Barbara, Nancy Crawford and Iris Rigoli in Goleta, and Jane Murray in Carpinteria and Santa Barbara, it has been a pleasure to coordinate this project.

We hope to interest more of our members in participating in our school visits. It is a rewarding and genuinely rich learning experience. More assistance will be needed in our busy spring season.

Minna E. Smith
Education Committee Chair
966-7971 (early mornings)

Farewell to Dean Bazzi

It is with great regret that I announce the recent death of our friend and coworker Dean Bazzi, tragically killed in an automobile accident. Dean was an important and well loved part of SBAS and he will be dearly missed by the many of us who knew him. The following articles are a last farewell to this special man.



For Dean

To the Members of the Audubon Society

We as Dean's Mother and Father want you all to know the place you hold in our hearts.

Dean was one of the fortunate people who experienced pure happiness in this life, a happiness that could only be attained through the guidance of God to enter into your society where he was surrounded by thoughtful, caring, kindred spirits who fill their lives in the activity, enjoyment, and protection of God's beautiful creation.



Love to you all,
Joe & Betty Bazzi

Dean Bazzi Memorial Fund

A special fund has been established in Dean's memory through the Santa Barbara Audubon Society. Many thanks to those of you who have contributed so generously. Further contributions will be gratefully accepted. I wish there were more we could do.

In many ways, I feel inadequate to be writing these lines because I was not that close to Dean. I knew him well enough to feel a profound loss, but I feel more for the many of you who knew him better and loved him more than I did. I knew him well enough to know how great your pain and loss must be.

It is not fair or just that the best of us should die so young, but Dean did a lot with the time that he had. He always looked for the best in the world through his study of classical music, his interest in and appreciation of all living things. He was a joy to be with and I think he touched us all just by being himself.

I was lucky to have had Dean to work with in the Audubon Society. He was always quick to volunteer, never left a task unfinished. He was meticulous in everything that he did and set a fine example. In all the time I knew him, I never heard a mean thing come from him or a bad thing said about him.

I don't think Dean was ever aware of his own value, or of how much he was liked and respected, but that was part of what made him special. We are all better for the time he shared with us, and if I were to describe Dean in a single sentence, I would say that he was one of the few purely good people I ever knew.

For now, we all share in the grief at his passing, but the parts of Dean that he left with us will last long after the grief has gone. He will live forever in our memories and in our hearts.

So Dean, I just want to say that I am honored to have known you. I thank you for all you did for all of us. I'm just sorry to have to say goodbye so soon.

Robert Lindsay

Splinters from the Board

The last meeting was held November 8th. Members present included Robert Lindsay, Louis Bevier, Carol Rae, Teri Ogden, Sid Tarbox, Marge Capiello, Nancy Crawford, Paul Lehman, Minna Smith, Skye Bass, and John Flavin.

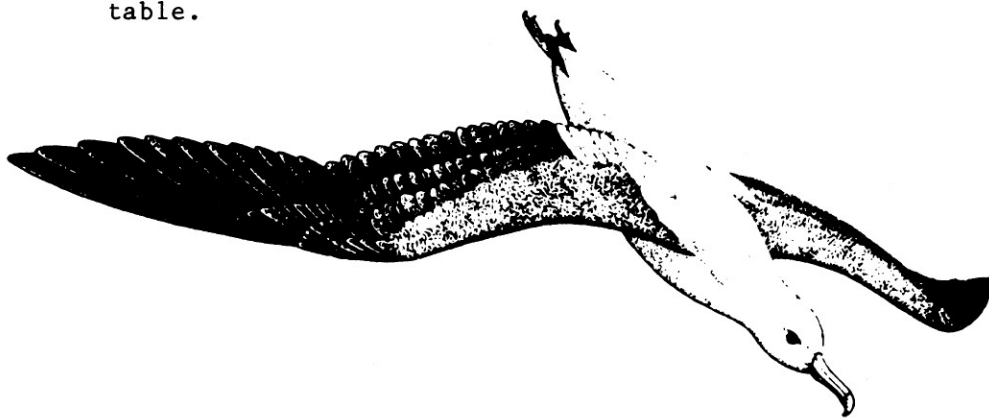
It was announced that the Santa Barbara Board of Supervisors will again be considering the Biological Evaluation of More Mesa on Nov. 19th. Robert Lindsay will attend to provide testimony for SBAS. Phyllis Matola of the Sierra Club came to inform us of the up-coming ballot measure concerning the Fess Parker Convention Center (see article on this page).

It was decided that we will not renew our membership with the Community Environmental Council. Though we support their work, the majority opinion of our board was that our money would be better spent on other organizations whose efforts more closely match our own. The Office Staff party planned for November was postponed as few could attend on the day arranged. Preparations for the SBAS Christmas Bird Count were discussed (see article on page 1). Initial discussion began concerning the Dean Bazzi Memorial Fund. Specifics should be finalized at the next meeting.

Fess Parker Convention Center To Be Put Before Voters

On January 22, 1985, the citizens of the city of Santa Barbara will have the opportunity to vote on whether to allow the construction of an enormous development on Ca-brillo Blvd. This project will cover 23 acres and include a 360 room hotel and conference hall large enough to seat 3,000 people. Santa Barbara Audubon has opposed this project from its inception. The nature of our opposition to the current project is three-fold; traffic problems will no doubt result from so large a project in an already congested area increasing driver frustration and local air pollution, an unacceptable increase in demand for our limited water resources will result, and the unspoiled view of our mountain areas from the beach will be blocked.

We encourage all voters in Santa Barbara to seriously consider the problems that will result if the project as currently planned were to proceed. Those who wish to actively support the opposition to this project may make tax deductible contributions to the East Beach Committee, 728 Chiquita Rd., Santa Barbara, 93103. (The East Beach Committee is an arm of the local Sierra Club, not affiliated with SBAS.) Though a smaller project would help fill a legitimate need in this community, we hope you will agree that the current project is too large to be acceptable.



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Sespe Christmas Count
Wednesday, December 26, 1984

Please fill out this form and return to: Paul Lehman
P.O. Box 1061
Goleta, CA 93106

Name(s) _____

Phone _____

Address _____

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