El Tecolote

BULLETIN OF THE SANTA BARBARA AUDUBON SOCIETY, INC.

May 1985 Volume 22, Number 5

SBAS Office 300 N. Los Carneros Goleta, CA 93117 964-1468 Robert Lindsay, President Penny Hannon, Editor



May 22 Wednesday

General Meeting - This will be our last program until September. On this night the upper reaches of Mission Canyon will be explored in photographs. Skye Bass, SBAS Board Member and office volunteer will share with us an outstanding selection of slides of this wild spot right in the Santa Barbara foothills. In addition, Chris Benesh, last year's recipient of SBAS's Dick Smith Scholarship to the Audubon Camp of the West in Wyoming, will show slides of his experience in the Rockies.

ANNUAL MEETING AND PICNIC June 8, Saturday

The 22nd Annual Meeting and potluck picnic will be held at Giorgi Park, a private park we used last August for our summer get-together, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. If you have never been to this secluded, tree-studded, creekside area, you are in for a very pleasant surprise.

Please bring your own main dish and prepare your favorite recipe for pot-luck affairs (enough for 12 persons). Also bring your own table service, (plate, fork, etc.). We will have a hot charcoal pit for cooking or heating food. The SBAS will also provide apple juice, coffee and cups, or bring your own.

If you want to swim in the free, large heated pool before eating, come at 11:00 a.m.

Shortly after noon, we will eat our gourmet repast at the picnic tables under the magnificent sycamores. A volleyball court and a basketball court are available for the energetic. Horseshoe pits are nearby, if someone will bring shoes.

This event is our festive gathering where members can relax and chat with friends and acquaintances and meet new members. This will be the day to select next year's Board of Directors, (refer to 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. Bring a friend, relative or spouse to double our previous year's attendance. Rob Lindsay, who has served a remarkable dual role as President and Editor of El Tecolote is leaving these two jobs after devoted service for several years. Please come (Continued on Page 8)



DIAL-A-BIRD

For current news of rare and unusual sightings in the Santa Barbara area, call 964-8420 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.

Happy Birding!

TIME TO RENEW YOUR BIRD SEED?

Once again on a regular basis, black-oil sunflower seeds are available at the SBAS office and General Meetings. We also have millett for \$1.00, \$3.00, and 25 lb. bag sizes. These two seeds are nutritionally the very best seeds available in the U.S. Not one will remain uneaten by the birds in your yard.

Esther Kiefer Greene



South Coast Bird Reports

Los Angeles 213-874-1318 San Bernardino 714-793-5599 San Diego 619-435-6767

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Nominations for the 1985-1986 Board of Directors

The following recommendations have been made by the Nominating Committee for the 1985-1986 Board of Directors. Nominated for another term are Louis Bevier, Skye Bass, Teri Ogden, Minna Smith, CarolRae, Herb Drapkin, Marge Capiello, and John Flavin. Nominated for a first term are Chris Benesh, Guy Tingos, Penny Hannon and Audrey von Bieberstein. My sincere thanks to all of them for their willingness to donate their time and energies for SBAS and the Audubon cause.

Rob Lindsay, President

Author, Author!

Jonathon Porritt, Director of Friends of the Earth, will be at the Earthling Bookshop on Sunday, May 26, 1985, at 3:00 p.m. He recently wrote an important book, Seeing Green, the Politics of Ecology Explained. Mr. Porritt is the leading spokesman for Britain's Ecology Party.

OFFICE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR SUMMER

If you have time this summer that you can donate to SBAS, we could use a few substitutes to work in the office. Some of our regular staffers will be out of town for a few weeks, so help is badly needed. No experience is necessary; our staff will give you all the training you need and help you in any way they can. If you can help, please call the office at 964-1468, on Tuesdays, between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. Pitch in! Let's keep SBAS working for you!

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

May 22 Wednesday General Meeting - MISSION CANYON AND WYOMING. See Page 1 for details. Meeting is to be held in the Fleishman Auditorium at the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History, and begins promptly at 8:00 p.m.

June 1 Saturday Field Trip - SANTA CRUZ ISLAND. All those signed up should make out a check for \$30 to the Nature Conservancy and mail to John Flavin, 205-B Los Aguajes Ave., S.B. CA 93101. Allow sufficient time for checks to travel through the mail system so that I receive them several days prior to the trip. Be at Sea Landing at the foot of Bath Street at or before 7:30 a.m. Parking is available in the City Parking lot-there is no street parking. Bring several layers of clothes-it's cold out there on the ocean. Bring motion sickness pills and use them. Take one a half hour before sailing, and bring your own food and water, as neither will be available. The trip takes 2-1/2 hours each way, and the rest of the time will be spent hiking on the island. Wear a good pair of hiking boots. No one under 10 years will be accepted. A form releasing The Nature Conservancy of all responsibility must be signed before departure. Any questions, please call John Flavin, 965-4979.

June 8 Saturday Annual Meeting - GIORGI PARK - PICNIC AND POTLUCK
Let's all turn out for this big event. Details on P. 1 of this issue.

June 23 Sunday Field Trip - MOUNT PINOS. This is a great place for some breeding mountain birds, and possibly a Condor or two. It will be a fairly strenuous hike from the parking lot to the top of the mountain. Meet at 5:00 a.m. in the parking lot at the SB Museum of Natural History. Bring your own lunch and water. Leader: Jim Hodgeson.

June-October <u>Field Trip</u> - THE FARALLON ISLANDS. Summer is almost here, and that means weekend boat trips to the Farallon Islands out of San Francisco Bay! The Oceanic Society offers natural history trips to the Southeast Farallon Island to show the public the importance of continued protection for this fragile ecosystem, which is now included within the Point Reyes-Farallon Islands National Marine Sanctuary.

Southeast Farallon Island, located 25 miles west of the Golden Gate, is noted for being the home of the largest sea bird colony in the contiguous United States. Imagine the clamor of hundreds of thousands of common murre, Cassin's auklet, pigeon guillemot, and cormorants! Add to that some tufted puffins, perhaps a peregrine falcon, and definitely pinnipeds and cetaceans, including humpback and possibly blue whales, and you have a never-to-be-forgotten experience.

If you are planning a weekend in the Bay Area, June through October, include this trip on your itinerary. The fare is \$42 for the 8 hour boat trip. Groups of ten, reserved under one name are \$37 per person. If interested, write to: Oceanic Society Expeditions, Fort Mason, Bldg. E, San Francisco, CA 94123, or phone (415) 474-3385.



OPEN LETTER TO ROBERT H. SOLLEN

Dear Bob:

It was with a great deal of pride that some Audubon Board members attended the dinner on May 2, 1985, when the Santa Barbara community gathered to pay tribute to your environmental reporting contributions for the past 17 years. They stood and applauded when you were introduced on the program. They laughed at the songs, skits, and diverse entertainment provided by your co-workers and friends.

The special miniature edition of the S.B. News-Press that was distributed on that night to the sell-out crowd, who came to honor you on your retirement, disclosed a revealing profile to your continuous committment, courage, and leadership in the cause of human rights. Both in your professional career, and carried through in private life, as a member of Audubon, Sierra Club, Nature Conservancy, News-Press Employees Assn., Museum of Natural History, American Civil Liberties Union, Friends of Channel Islands, etc., you have spoken and written eloquently for the silent majority. Whether is was a protest at a meeting against the use of napam, or a screaming outcry in Washington when denied a meeting with Interior Secretary Hickel, after the 1969 channel oil spill, you have truly been the voice and conscience of humanity.

The Sollen Environmental Investigative Reporting Scholarship Fund started with money generated by the dinner event, will help pay some of the expenses of free-lance independent environmental writers in the tri-counties area. Grants are expected to range from \$100 on up, and will be administered by the Citizen's Planning Association. This certainly seems a worthwhile follow-up to your newspaper career and should encourage budding writers. Audubon Society Board has made a contribution to this fund. Readers of this letter wishing to add their personal checks, may send them to Jeanne Supin, CPA, 916 Anacapa St., S.B., CA 93101.

Bob, there's always a desk, chair and typewriter waiting for you at the S.B. Audubon Office. Come drop in once in a while and write us an article on issues and concerns in conservation for El Tecolote. The birds, the beasts and the birders of this fair land salute you! We believe you have left one job only to find that you are on the threshold of even greater writing ahead. Best wishes.



Your Friend, Marge Cappiello, SBAS Board Member

Wild Birds Need You

To aid injured and sick wild birds, the Bird Rehabilitation Center of Santa Barbara County is being established and needs your help. Several individuals here in Santa Barbara have been caring for injured birds in their homes, but have more than they can handle. You can help this effort in many ways.

Ultimately, it is hoped that low cost property and/or a building can be found to house the center. In the meantime, volunteers are needed who can help care for injured birds, after being trained in their care by the center's staff.

Others could help with transporting recovered birds to release sites. Carpenters who can help build aviaries and incubators would be most helpful. Artists and others

who can help with publications are needed. And, of course, donations or those willing to help raise funds are desperately needed. SBAS has already donated \$250 to this worthwhile cause. Won't you help too?

If you can volunteer a service, provide a donation or just want more information, please write to the Bird Rehab. Center of Santa Barbara County, P.O. Box 4, Carpinteria, CA 93013. Thanks for your help in this important effort.

Rob Lindsay, President

SPLINTERS FROM THE BOARD

The last SBAS board meeting was held Thursday, May 9, 1985. Board members present were Rob Lindsay, Carol Rae, Skye Bass, Marge Cappiello, Herb Drapkin, John Flavin, Eileen Gray, Allen Bordofsky, and Teri Ogden.

The Treasurer's Report was submitted by Allen Bordofsky. His time is much appreciated, and we will miss him on the new Board of Directors.

Michi White and Jacqueline Unander spoke to the Board about the proposed Bird Rehabilitation Center that is being established. There is a tremendous need for a central place to bring injured and sick birds. If you know of a possible place for rent with low monthly cost, please contact Michi White at 684-1300. Also needed are people who can donate time to build equipment, feed birds, taxi birds to people who can care for them, etc. She needs volunteers to baby sit birds, and will provide necessary bird formulas and training. The Board unanimously voted to donate \$250 to this very timely and worthwhile cause.

The Board voted on and approved changing the monthly meeting to Farrand Hall at the SB Museum of Natural History, instead of the Fleishman Auditorium, beginning in September 1985.

The Cal PIRG (Bottle Bill) campaign in California is being kicked off again. The Board unanimously endorsed this Bill. (Refer to article following this section).

Final preparations were made for the Annual Meeting and Picnic, (see P. 1 for details).



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

Penny Hannon, Editor

Cal PIRG (Bottle Bill)

Santa Barbara County will lose 92% of its landfill space in the next decade. In addition, Ventura County will lose 77% by 1986, and 50% of the state's landfill capacity will be lost in the same time period. These figures are of great concern to Cal PIRG.

The Bottle Bill places a five-cent refundable deposit on all beer and soft drink containers (glass, plastic, and aluminum). The nickel deposit encourages recycling,

which reduces litter by almost 80% and saves our very precious natural resources.

Every year, Californians throw more than 264 billion containers into the environment. The Bottle Bill will reduce container litter by 80%, and will cut total litter volume by one-third or more. In addition, by recycling and reusing beverage containers, a California Bottle Bill will save the equivalent of 7,000 barrels of oil per day and 7.6 billion gallons of water per year.



Please offer your support by calling Cal PIRG at 961-3907, or stop by the 3rd floor UCEN on the UCSB campus, Room 3135. Author Burt Margolin (D), Los Angeles, and co-author Becky Morgan (R), Palo Alto of AB 2020, need your support at a local level if we are to get this passed by the State Legislature in Sacramento.



Penny Hannon, Editor

LIBRARY NEWS

We are honored and extremely grateful to Joe and Betty Bazzi for Dean's library of over 65 books. Because of this gift, our collection of the Bent Life Histories has grown; we now have all three volumes of the Audubon Society's Master Guide to Birding, and also from Dean's collection:

The Bird Watcher's America (Pettingill, ed.), 44 naturalists write about the best areas for birds in the U.S. and Canada. The Roseate Spoonbill (Allen) The Life of Birds (Welty) Ocean Wanderers (Lockley) The California Islands (S.B. Museum of Natural History) Studies in the Life History of the Song Sparrow, two volumes by the "Song Sparrow Lady", Margaret Morse Nice) Bird Behavior (Sparks) Between Pacific Tides (Ricketts and Calvin) A Natural History of American Birds (Forbush and May)

Our deepest thanks to Betty and Joe.

We now have gift plates to be placed in all the books and records donated to our library, past and present. Robert Carman graciously did the art work, and redrew our tecolote, added a border, some woodsy decoration, and printing. Thank you Bob!

Recently we were the recipient of a rather unusual gift, along with

some birding books. Adella Barnard's deceased sister, Gladys Barnard Armstrong, was an accomplished whistler. Miss Barnard has given us two textbooks on the art of whistling (including imitating birds), and a tape of her sister whistling to piano accompanymant. June Kelley is going to rebind these old books, one of which is a small leather volume. If you have always wanted to whistle and did not know how to get started, or to get the birds lured closer to your camera or binoculars, the SBAS library can help!

Maxine Tinney has also given the library bird guides; tree and mammal posters of Great Britian; a special portfolio published in 1906, titled Birds and Bird Homes-as they were snapped; the Mountain Lion, a novel by Robert Murphy. We appreciate these Maxine.

Books we have purchased for our library are: The Nat. Geo. Guide to Birds of N.A. The Golden Guide to North Am. Birds, new and revised

Attracting Birds (an Ortho book)

A Guide to the Birds of Alaska (Armstrong)

Field Guide to Western Bird's Nests

(Harrison)

Status and Distribution of Birds of So.

Calif. (Garrett and Dunn)

Audubon Demythologized

Birds of Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties (Webster, Lehman & Bevier)

Louis Bevier has kindly offered to give us a copy of Birds of San Diego County (Unitt), and to make us bird song tapes.

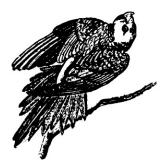
The Institute of American Research, across the hall from our Audubon office will soon have for sale Birds of Santa Barbara, by Edward S. Spaulding, first published in 1928. It is of historical interest, and will cost \$4.50. You may see a copy in our office or at our next General Meeting.

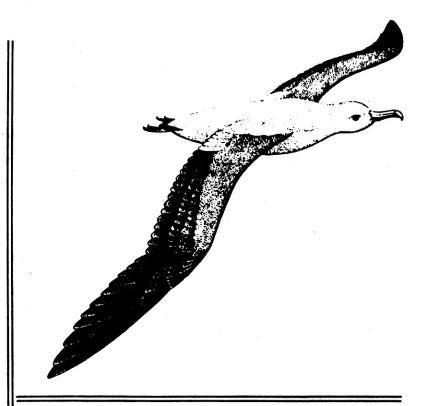
What can you do for your library? We need a small record rack or cabinet, plain metal bookends, '84 and '85 Audubon Magazines, library shelf boxes for magazines, a cassette tape box, and a fan for the office/library. Please keep looking for still-missing Audubon books. Check the due date on any borrowed books and records so that we may share. We will soon have official "overdue" postcards to send out when needed.

We have ordered a new supply of the National Geographic Bird Guide, for sale at \$15, and have American Bird copies to give away, thanks to several donors, and are making a collection of check-lists for your use. Remember that you may telephone for a book to be brought to you at the General Meeting, (by fall we will have a complete list of our books at the meetings), and at each meeting we will bring a sampling of books from our library. We hope to have many of our new and newly donated books at the May meeting. See you there.

> Audrey von Bieberstein, Librarian







MONO LAKE COMMITTEE

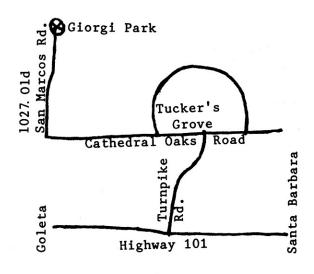
A newly formed non-profit organization called the Mono Lake Committee is sponsoring a 6-day, 350 mile bicycle trip to return water to Mono Lake, on August 26, from Los Angeles. The symbolic return of water to its natural destination is the focus of the 6th Annual Los Angeles to Mono Lake Bike-a-Thon.

Each rider will carry a vile of water from DWP's reflecting ponds and will return the water to its natural destination, Mono Lake. Some of this water once flowed through streams feeding Mono Lake, but was diverted to supply Los Angeles with cheap water. These diversions are destroying the lake.

To sign up, to volunteer the use of a support vehicle, to pledge support, or for more information, send a SSAE to: Mono Lake Bike-a-Thon, 1355 Westwood Blvd., #6, Los Angeles, CA 90024. Or call (213) 477-5754 or 477-8229. Registration deadline is August 9, and only 75 riders can participate.

(Annual Meeting continued)

and give him your personal thanks. We expect to see 100 members or more at 1027 Old San Marcos Road on June 8th. If you have any questions, call Marge Cappiello at 967-9569.





THE JAYS

Peanuts strewn in the feeder tray, Spurned by sparrow, seized by jay. As I watch admidst sounds galore, A raucous chorus asks for more.

Peanuts vanish with utmost speed, Borne by relays of jays with greed. Sparrows watch from nearby cedar, Await their turn at the feeder.

Peanuts wired in the feeder tray, Keep jays from taking them away. The tied shells are pecked and pounded, While I watch with joy unbounded.

Herb Drapkin

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