

# El Tecolote

BULLETIN OF THE SANTA BARBARA AUDUBON SOCIETY, INC.

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

Robert Lindsay  
President and  
Editor

## OCTOBER MONTHLY PROGRAM

Friday, October 25, is Double Feature Movie Night. A made-for-Audubon movie is bound to be special, and tonight we have two. "Last Stronghold of the Eagle" was filmed along the Chilkat River in southeast Alaska. Here, the greatest known concentration of Bald Eagles in North America congregates in the coastal rain forests of spruce and hemlock.

During the short intermission, Tom Rogers, Santa Barbara City Councilman, will make a brief presentation about the oil initiative.

The second movie will take us across America to the Maine coast. "Project Puffin" was filmed at eastern Egg Rock and chronicles the birds to the area. The once abundant species had group prepared artificial burrows. Then young Puffins returned to the colony.

The program begins at 8:00 pm in Farrand Hall. Nonmembers are welcome to attend. Refreshments will be served following the program.

## HELP NEEDED FOR SPECIAL FIELD TRIP

Wheelchair residents of Hillside House will be the guests of the Santa Barbara Audubon Society at a special birding trip to Lake Los Carneros on Saturday, October 26, 1985. Co-chairmen for this event are Brooks Allen and Louis Bevier. We need volunteers to help on this trip. If you can help us on this trip, please call the Audubon office. Your help will allow us to continue to expand this kind of service to our community. Won't you help?

## BOTANIC GARDEN PLANT SALE

The 25th annual sale of native California plants will be held in the Botanic Garden Courtyard, 1212 Mission Canyon Road, Santa Barbara, on Saturday, October 26. Featured are trees, grasses, shrubs, bulbs, and herbaceous perennials, plus an interesting selection of non-native material including succulents and container plants.

Hours are 9:00 am to noon for Garden members and 1:00-4:00 pm for the general public. Memberships supporting the Botanic Garden will be available the day of the sale. For information, call Lynn Ocone or Caroline Kuizenga at 682-4726.

## BIRDS IN SANTA BARBARA

by Paul Lehman

August shorebirding was largely concentrated at Laguna Blanca, where small numbers of Solitary, Semipalmated, Baird's and Pectoral Sandpipers were seen due to the low water levels.

The fall landbird season got off to a quick start this year with early, exciting sightings in late August of Red-eyed Vireo and Kentucky Warbler in Carpinteria and Worm-eating Warbler in Goleta. During the first half of September some of the local highlights included 2 Prothonotary Warblers in Carpinteria, Eastern Kingbird in Santa Barbara, and Bell's Vireo, Dickcissel, and Lark Bunting in Goleta. A Chestnut-backed Chickadee in Goleta establishes the second record for the South Coast of a species not particularly known to wander. Probably the most watched bird of the period was the adult Scissor-tailed Flycatcher present near Lompoc, the third record for Santa Barbara County.



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 Chris Benesh at 968-9434. Good birding !!!

## ATTENTION BIRDERS

I am putting together an Annotated Checklist of the birds of Devereux Slough and immediate surroundings and am interested in records of any unusual or interesting birds seen there, as well as common birds seen out of season. If you feel a sighting was at all interesting to you, chances are it is important for my project. Please try to include dates and year, numbers seen, and approximate location of bird(s) at the slough. Any help would be greatly appreciated. Send records to: Chris Benesh

c/o Santa Barbara Audubon  
300 N. Los Carneros  
Goleta, CA 93117

For questions, call Chris at 968-9434.



## \$2,000 ANNUAL RESEARCH AWARDS

The Los Angeles Audubon Society will be giving annual Research Awards beginning in February 1986. Award recipients will be limited to students, amateurs and others with limited or no access to major granting agencies. The Awards shall be given for research relevant to the biology of birds. Applicants must reside in southern California (from San Luis Obispo, Kern and San Bernardino Counties south) or be currently enrolled in a southern California academic institution; there is no geographical restriction on the research area. One or more awards will be given. The total amount to be awarded will be approximately \$2,000.

The application deadline for the 1986 Research Award is November 30, 1985. For applications, write:

Sharon Milder  
Education Committee Chairman, LAAS  
Los Angeles Audubon Research Awards  
134 Greenfield Avenue  
Los Angeles, California 90049



## CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

- Sunday  
October 6      Field Trip - Goleta creeks for fall migrants. Always good for surprises.  
Meet in parking lot at shopping center, Turnpike and Hollister. Park next  
to bank, not in front of Von's. Time: 8:00 am. Half Day.  
Leader: Guy Tingos  
687-8266
- Thursday  
October 10      Board of Directors Meeting - 7:30 pm. Meetings are held in the community  
room, upstairs at the Coast Federal Bank building at 1330 State Street in  
Santa Barbara. Members are encouraged to attend. All articles for the  
November El Tecolote must be submitted by this meeting.
- Saturday  
October 12      Field Trip - El Capitan Beach. Good for Warblers. Meet at K-Mart parking  
lot, northwest corner, at 8:00 am. Half Day.  
Leader: Chris Benesh (tentative)  
968-9434
- Sunday  
October 20      Field Trip - Hollister Ranch. A chance to see this beautiful unspoiled  
area on our coast that is off limits to the general public. Meet at  
K-Mart parking lot at 8:00 am. Bring lunch and water.  
Leader: John Flavin  
965-4979
- Friday  
October 25      Monthly Program - Tonight, at 8:00 pm in FERRAND HALL, is Double Feature  
Movie Night, featuring the Bald Eagle in Alaska and the return of the  
Puffin to the Maine coast. See page 1 of this issue for details.
- Saturday  
October 26      Field Trip - Santa Maria River Mouth. Shore birds, sea birds. Always a  
good area. Meet at shopping center at Turnpike and Hollister at 8:00 am.  
Bring lunch and water.  
Leader: Jim Hodgeson  
969-1209

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### OWLS OF NORTH AMERICA

The Los Angeles Audubon Society will offer a seminar on OWLS OF NORTH AMERICA, given by noted owl authority Jon Winter, Saturday, October 26. Several areas of owl biology will be covered with emphasis on vocal identification and instruction in finding these nocturnal creatures. Recent advances in owl behavior research will be covered, as well as their "unnatural history" - their place in folklore and mythology. The seminar will last about 5-1/2 hours, from approximately 9:30 am to 4:00 pm with an hour break for lunch. Cost is \$20 per person. Send a check and self-addressed stamped envelope (for further information and confirmation) to: Seminar Registration  
Los Angeles Audubon Society  
7377 Santa Monica Boulevard  
West Hollywood, CA 90046



### CALIFORNIA WILDERNESS CONFERENCE

The Tulare County Audubon Society announces a statewide California Wilderness Conference to be held at the Convention Center in Visalia, Friday-Sunday, October 25-27. During the three days of the Conference there will be speeches by nationally known environmental leaders, major photographic displays, commercial and organization booths, multimedia presentations, entertainment, in-depth and short workshops, student art, and thousands of dollars of raffle and drawing prizes. For registration information or inquiries write to the Calif. Wilderness Coalition at: P.O. Box 269  
Porterville, CA 93258  
(209) 784-4477 - Bob Barnes

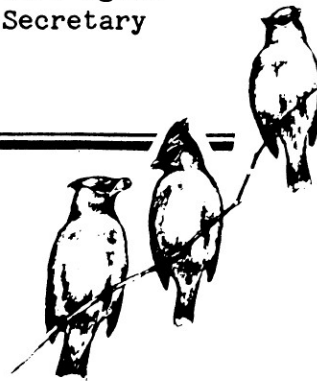
## SPLINTERS FROM THE BOARD

Thursday night, September 12, board members Skye Bass, Chris Benesh, Carol Rae, John Flavin, Guy Tingos, Minna Smith, Rob Lindsay, Teri Ogden, Bill Dahlke and Audrey von Bieberstein gathered at the Coast Federal Building, 1330 State St.

First order of business was to welcome Bill Dahlke and Jim Hodgeson to the board. Jim was on his honeymoon (congratulations, Jim) so the board didn't meet him. The board passed a resolution (vote 9-1) to send a letter to the Los Padres Forest Supervisor at the National Forest Service supporting a designated area for mountain bicycles and banning them from trails in the National Forest. We had an update on the Santa Barbara Bird Refuge. The city is seeking funds from the Nature Conservancy. The city would like our support for the plan which the Conservancy adopts. The plans for the October wheelchair-bound bird trip are going great, but we need more volunteers; if anyone is interested, please call the Audubon office.

Our next meeting will be October 10 (see calendar). Anyone interested is more than welcome.

Teri Ogden  
Secretary



### INTEREST IN BIRD-WATCHING SOARS

According to a recent United States Fish and Wildlife Service survey, people in all walks of life are enjoying our feathered friends. The survey finds that about one quarter of the American population watches birds and that 3 percent of this group consider themselves to be "committed" birders. A committed birder, by definition, can easily identify 40 different species of birds. Birders are also well informed about key wildlife and environmental issues.



### THANKS FROM THE EX-PRESIDENT

Dreena and I would like to thank all of you who contributed to our wedding gift from Audubon, and for the warm words that accompanied it. Your generosity and kindness is much appreciated.

Our honeymoon was outstanding. We stood on the edge of active volcanic craters, snorkeled with Green Sea Turtles, and your ex-president spotted a respectable 25 new birds. We couldn't have asked for more.

Robert Lindsay



### OFFICE NEWS

Thanks to Barbara de Wolfe for responding to our request for a desk chair. (Please know that we are most grateful to all those who originally contributed office furnishings. We're sure you understand that as time passes, some items will need to be replaced and we'll want to upgrade the office whenever possible.)

Betty Bazzi is now our regular Thursday volunteer. Lyn Gausman has moved to Wednesdays (and Skye Bass is a substitute). We need one more regular office volunteer, and substitutes, too. Please give us a call! It's a very pleasant place to spend part of a day.

Audrey von Bieberstein  
Office Coordinator



### LIBRARY NEWS

The library has received a 3-record album of Western Bird Songs (the Peterson Field Guide Series) from Edith Wilson and an Audible Audubon (machine and six sets of bird cards) from Ben Swatt. Thank you! In case you are not familiar with Audible Audubon, a picture card is inserted in a small hand-held machine, and a recording on the back of the card tells something about the bird and plays its song. This donated set will be used by the Education Committee.

We still need a small record cabinet and metal book ends.

We are putting some of our collections of material in boxes and large envelopes; for example, condor information. Look for our Great Britain packet at the monthly meeting.

Thanks, Rob, for the additional shelf.

Audrey von Bieberstein  
Librarian

### ANSWER FOR THE MONTH

The question? In August we asked you to tell us what "El Tecolote" really means. Your answers follow:



Dear Audubon Colleagues,

El Tecolote means the owl. At least in Honduras and Mexico it does. Other words for owl in Mexico are lechuza, buho, mochuelo, but tecolote is the most popular.

See Cassell's Spanish Dictionary, edited by Edgar Alison Peers, José V. Barragán, et al. Or come talk to my Spanish-speaking kids at La Patera School.

Hasta Luego,  
Sema English

Dear Rob,

"Tecolote" is Spanish American for "Owl." The word is not used in Spain, but is commonly used in Mexico and other Spanish-language countries in the Americas. My source is the University of Chicago Spanish Dictionary, but I'm sure any good-sized Spanish dictionary will tell you the same.

As you know, SB Audubon was founded in June 1963. Members were invited to suggest names for our bulletin...My suggestion was "El Tecolote," which received the most votes. I drew the first masthead (on a mimeo master, yet) and we used it from November of 1963 - with occasional variations as the mood struck me - until May of 1966, when we unveiled our new masthead designed by Dick Smith, using his photograph of a young screech owl...

Anytime you have any questions about how and why of the early days of SBAS, try asking -

"Grandma Audubon"  
(Joy Parkinson)



### MEMBERS' SLIDE NIGHT ANYONE?

Among all our globe-trotting amateur photographer members of Audubon, surely there are enough out there in our readership who would be willing to be part of an upcoming monthly program.

Do you have a dozen or so natural history slides that you are really proud to have captured? Here's your chance for a "show and tell" session that everyone enjoys. Not only birds, but any flora, fauna, landscapes, seascapes, etc. that caught your eye.

Call Marge Capiello at 967-9569 or the Audubon office at 964-1468 and let's put together a good show.

### EDUCATION COMMITTEE

An organizational meeting was held on Friday, September 13, at the home of the chairperson. Our new Fall slide show on "Migration" was viewed, discussed and the scripts distributed. Our school letters to the principals, and teacher publicity are ready to be mailed October 1. We are seven strong, fully able to cover Carpinteria, Montecito and Santa Barbara. We need people in Goleta to take the telephone calls, arrange appointments and also take the shows to the Goleta schools. Anyone with free time during the day who is interested in joining our committee please call Minna E. Smith at 966-7971 early any morning.



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