

El Tecolote

BULLETIN OF THE SANTA BARBARA AUDUBON SOCIETY, INC.

November, 1986
Volume 23, Number 9



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

Mary Ann Ambrose
Editor

MONTHLY PROGRAM OCTOBER 24, 1986

Richard Ives will present a slide show and lecture on the "Birds of Nepal and India" (a more specific geographic area than was originally planned). The show will begin at 8:00 p.m. in Farrand Hall at the Santa Barbara Natural History Museum.

Mr. Ives has traveled extensively in Asia and regards Asia and its wildlife as his subject. He is currently writing "A Field Guide to the Natural Areas of Asia." He is president of Naturequest, a nature tour organization based in Sonoma, California.

There will be a pre-meeting workshop on migrant ducks presented by Brooks Allen in the Bird Hall of the museum at 7:00 p.m.

MONTHLY PROGRAM NOVEMBER/DECEMBER December 5, 1986

This will be "MEMBERS' NIGHT" where members can bring their slides and share them with the group.

This is how it works: Each person will be allotted 5 - 10 color slides of environmental or natural history experiences. You will be limited to a maximum of ten slides.

Call Herb Drapkin, our program coordinator, if you wish to appear in our Members' Night (683-3374). Don't be shy - let's share our own nature experiences!

LENTZ' BIRDWATCHING BOOK BECOMES A TALKING BOOK

Our Joan Lentz' and Judith Young's popular Birdwatching: A Guide For Beginners has been narrated onto a Talking Book cassette (Sept. - Oct. '86 RC 23709).

Talking Books are published and distributed free of charge to blind and handicapped individuals who participate in the Library of Congress free reading program.

FIELD TRIP REPORTS

HOLLISTER RANCH September 21, 1986

A beautiful sunny day was spent at the Hollister Ranch. The only problems were that we started too early and arrived at Agua Caliente Canyon before the birds woke up!

Birding was not as good as I had expected it to be; however, 81 species were observed. Highlighting the trip were an Osprey flying along the cliffs near the road and Sora and Virginia Rails at the end of the day. Other mentionables were an early Bonaparte's Gull and Eared Grebe. Also Fox, Lincoln, and Golden-Crowned Sparrow and a Blue-Gray Gnatcatcher.

This trip will be repeated in the spring so those of you who were unable to attend will have another chance to visit this beautiful spot. Until then, good birding!

Brooks Allen

SOUTH COAST BIRD REPORTS

Los Angeles	(213)874-1318
San Francisco	(415)528-0288
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 Chris Benesh at 685-7549. Happy birding!

GOLETA CREEKS September 27

A lovely morning was spent with Joan Lentz around San Jose Creek. (Joan kindly filled in for Karen Bridgers, whose mother passed away - our heartfelt sympathy to Karen.)

Everyone had a good chance to use Chris Benesh's lesson on Yellow, Orange-crowned & Wilson's Warblers!

In addition there was a very cooperative Red-breasted Nuthatch (unusual at this lower elevation), Black-throated Gray Warbler, Vaux's Swift, Cedar Waxwings, a Western Wood Pewee, Red-shouldered Hawk, and a Warbling Vireo.

Everyone also got another "lifer" - John Dunn, our speaker at Friday's program, joined us mid-morning!

A WEEK AT POINT REYES

I recently spent a most delightful week of hiking, birding, and learning all about the Point Reyes Peninsula, sponsored by Elderhostel, an organization for those over 60 who are active and have an insatiable curiosity about our world.

The week took place at Point Reyes National Education Center, Point Reyes, Ca. 94956, (416)663-1200 (another program is to be run soon). We had the privilege of studying with Al Molina, Anne Rovetta, Bob Stewart, Doug Emory, and Mike Ellis. All are experienced Naturalists, some specializing in biology, geology, and, of course, ornithology. In 5 days we saw 90 species. Bob Stewart put up mist nets and we were able to see closeups of Yellow Warblers, Willow Flycatchers, and Western Flycatchers.

The natural beauty of the area is unsurpassed - the solitary beaches, color of the chaparral, wooded trails, superb trees and flowers, lighthouse, Farrallon Islands, and of course the birds!

We were 22 brave souls with crude sleeping accommodations, no electricity, and toilet facilities 150 yards from the bunk! The social hall and dining room were modern and the meals gourmet.

Elderhostel also sponsors trips to Southern Arizona, Wisconsin, Stevens Point and others. Write: Elderhostel Catalogue, 80 Boylston St., Suite 400, Boston, Mass. 02116.

Minna Smith

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

Friday,
October 24, 1986

Monthly Program - John Ives presents "Birds of Nepal and India" at 8:00 p.m. in Farrand Hall at the Santa Barbara Natural History Museum. Pre-meeting workshop on fall ducks in Bird Hall at 7:00. Devereux Slough and Goleta Beach - Shorebirds, ducks, even some brushy edge to house surprises. The more shorebirds you see, the more familiar they become - and these fall trips are a great chance to encounter them! Meet at Goleta Beach at 7:00 a.m.

Leader: Joan Lentz
969-4397

Sat./Sun.,
November 1 & 2
Sunday,
November 2, 1986

MORRO BAY HAS BEEN CANCELLED due to scheduling conflicts for our group leaders!

Goleta "Hot Spots" - This trip, originally scheduled for the next week on November 8th, has been moved up to increase chances for encounters with the last of the fall migrants. Meet at Magnolia Center off Hollister at 8:00 a.m. (changed also) Leader: Chris Benesh
685-7549

Thursday,
November 6, 1986

Monthly Board Meeting - This month's meeting will be held at the home of Audrey von Bieberstein, 4690 La Espada Drive, Santa Barbara at 7:00 p.m.

Sunday,
November 16, 1986

Vandenburg Air Force Base - Marsh and shorebirds. You must make reservations with the group leader because we are limited to the number of individuals allowed on base. Meet at 7:00 a.m. at K-Mart Center off Hollister. Leader: Brooks Allen
965-3949

Sunday,
November 23, 1986

Point Mugu - This trip is also changed from Saturday the 22nd. This change is due to hunters - who you probably would not want to compete with for the attention of the birds! Marsh, shorebirds and ducks should be expected. Call for reservations; again, access is limited to a small number. Meet at 7:00 a.m. at the Bird Refuge. Leader: Brooks Allen
965-3949

Friday,
December 5, 1986

Monthly Program - "Members' Night" begins at 8:00 p.m. in Farrand. See first page for details. Workshop topic has not been selected as yet - if you have any requests, let Chris Benesh or Brooks Allen know.

Sat./Sun.,
December 6 & 7

Carrizo Plain - Winter home of a large population of Sandhill Cranes. Some wintering ducks, Mountain Plovers, sparrows, and owls also can be expected. Meet in the shopping center off Casitas Pass Road and Hgwy. 101 in Carpinteria at 7:00 a.m. The California Valley Motel (805)475-2261 has rooms if you want accommodation. Leader: Brooks Allen

Saturday,
December 13

Lake Cachuma/Nichols-DeLongpre Ranch

Saturday,
December 20

Mt. Pinos

SPLINTERS FROM THE BOARD

Board members Audrey von Bieberstein, Brooks Allen, Jim Hodgson, Minna Smith, Mary Ann Ambrose, Eric Rosa, Carol Rae, Herb Drapkin, and, of course, Marge Cappiello, who hosted us were present.

The Treasurer's Report and the new budget are still forthcoming.

The changes in membership dues allocation were discussed - see article in this issue for details.

The Christmas Count has tentatively been scheduled for January 3, 1987. Enrollment form is included in this issue. Please complete and return.

Jim Mills, a former president of Audubon, attended the meeting to bring to our attention some concerns for plans for Los Padres National Forest. Again, see article in this issue for details.

Because of liability issues, we will need to go to the Mission Council of the Boy Scouts to get approval for use of their facility for the 1987 picnic.

Next meeting will be held at Audrey von Bieberstein's on Thursday, November 6, 1986.

How can a healthy adult be so tired at the end of the day when a bird weighing under an ounce can fly non-stop across the Gulf of Mexico?

Edwin Pope

OFFICE

We need an office volunteer for Fridays, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Please call if you can help in this important capacity. You don't need special skills.

After some switching around, the following people are now covering the office: Mary Ann Ambrose (Monday), Audrey von Bieberstein (Tuesday), Lyn Gausman (Wednesday), and Betty Bazzi (Thursday). Margaret Lennox seems like a regular as a very willing substitute - thank you, Margaret!

The office could use a straight chair in good condition and a small wall mirror. In keeping with the Depot period, these should be first quarter 20th century, if possible.

MEMBERSHIP

WELCOME TO THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS:

Joni Acquistapace, V. Barker, Eleanor Brown, Lee Browning, Ann Busath, Jan Buur, Edmond Cook, John Cowder, Ambrose Cramer, Joseph Dandona, Margaret Davis, Carmen Delbrook, J.R. Duffey, Alan Eisner, Robert Else, Thomas Glasgow, Nancy Groves, Jill Gunther, Robert Harridge, M. Heywood, Pamela Hudson, N. Hull, Sally Jones, Marilyn Kandus, James & Shirley Kodak, Michael Leeds, Charles Li, Phil Lockwood, Sheila Marrers, Katherine Mason, Bruce McGuire, H. Meisel, Mark Murason, Ralph Olsen, Erik Otto, Esther Peterson, Charles Restivo, M. Schafer, Karen Schapansky, Sandra Simonett, S. Snowfleet, G. Stagg, Michael Staub, Shirley Teoppner, Sai Tran, Wilma Wasen, Julie Wayne, Patricia Weilandl, Rosemary Whitney, Winfield Wigerden, Marjorie Wurtz, Julia Zaratzian.

Be sure to notify our Audubon office here in Goleta when you change your address so that your newsletter will reach you without interruption.

A gift membership to Audubon makes a great birthday or Christmas gift for a friend or relative. (We have included a form in this issue - see insert page.)!

Also, bring a friend to our next program! Do your part to make our membership grow.

HOSPITALITY

Hello! Hello!

Welcome one and all to the 1986-87 season of SBAS programs & events.

We'd like to meet you all, so please come to the wonderful slide shows and stop and chat with all of us afterwards (or before).

Anyone who feels like bringing goodies to share at the refreshment table is very welcome to do so - no advance notice need be given.

Here's a new, "old idea" we could restart this year: bring your own coffee or tea mug for your drink. It's better than using disposable styrofoam, and the coffee tastes better in a mug, too!

Looking forward to seeing you all this year!

Carol Rae

MEMBERSHIP GIFTS

Why not consider giving a friend or relative the perfect gift for a birthday or Christmas?! A local membership in Audubon is only \$10.00. Just fill out the form below and send it to our office. Forms for National memberships (\$30.00) are available from the office also.

As of next year, National Audubon will be changing the way in which dues is allocated back to local chapters and this could potentially reduce our revenues by a significant amount: If new members enroll through our local office, we will receive \$15.00 for each such enrollment; however, if new enrollments go directly through the National office in Boulder, Colorado, SBAS will receive only \$5.50 for each.

So it is important to direct any new national enrollments through our local office.

Santa Barbara Audubon Society LOCAL MEMBERSHIP

(\$10.00 per year)

Date: _____

I wish to present a gift membership to the following person:

Name _____

Address: _____

Zip _____ Phone _____

Make checks payable to
Santa Barbara Audubon Soc.
and mail to:

Membership Chair
300 N. Los Carneros
Goleta, Ca 93117

Gift presented by: _____

SANTA BARBARA CHRISTMAS COUNT

Saturday, January 3, 1987

Please complete this form and return to:

Name(s) _____

Phone _____

Address _____

Area preferred _____

Would like to work with: _____

Joan Lentz
433 Pimiento Lane
Santa Barbara, Ca. 93117
969-4397

(optional)

____ Leader

____ Feeder Count

____ Dinner

Believe it or not, it is time to plan for one of our biggest and best annual events: THE SBAS CHRISTMAS COUNT. Our date this year is January 3, 1987 (Saturday). This is a most enjoyable event and people at all levels of expertise are needed, from the backyard watchers to the advanced levels.

If you wish to participate, just complete the form above and return to the address listed on the form.

As in past years, this event will end with a festive dinner (a pot luck held at the Natural History Museum) at 6:00 p.m. If you wish to come to the dinner please check the "dinner" box on the form.

SUPPORT FOR LOS PADRES NEEDED

Jim Mills, from the Los Padres Forest Coalition (a coalition of conservation groups), brought information to the board meeting regarding the Los Padres National Forest Plan currently proposed by the Forest Service. This plan would guide forest management for the next 10-15 years, and covers Wilderness & Roadless Areas, Wild & Scenic Rivers, Oil & Gas Leasing, Shooting, Grazing & Prescribed Burns.

(The Coalition commends the Forest Service Plan overall, they propose certain changes that make a difference of some 235,000 acres designated as part of the forest, 62 miles of scenic river, more control of where shooting be allowed, etc.)

Letters are urgently needed to be sent to Forest Service, Art Carrol, Los Padres National Forest, 6244 Calle Real, Goelita, ca. 93117-203. The deadline for public input is October 30, 1986.

The coalition asks that you commend the Forest Service Plan and be positive, but urge them to adopt the Conservation Alternative's proposal.

More detailed information is available in a pamphlet from the Coalition; a copy is available in our office, or call Anne Van Tyne locally at 965-8709.

Your input does make a difference!

T-SHIRT DESIGN

We were unsuccessful in our earlier attempt to get those of you with artistic ability to present the society with a new bird design for our T-shirts.

Now our supply of T-shirts is very low and we have no design!

So we are again opening up a T-shirt design competition.

Our current designs are an owl's head and a hummingbird. The Board of Directors has agreed that we would like to continue using birds of the area .

A \$25.00 gift certificate for either the Botanic Garden gift shop or the Natural History Museum gift shop will be awarded to the designer of the selected work(s).

Drawings must be submitted to the office or to any board members by December 31, 1986.

EDITOR'S CORNER

Following is a letter I received and was asked to print in "El Tecolote" with the idea that it would be of interest to our readers.

It occurs to me that a "Letters to the Editor" column might be a valid forum for members to communicate on issues or concerns that are out there. So, this letter is published as the first of such an effort and I invite readers to submit other such letters to be shared!

Dear Editor,

Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama, are all very much in the headlines lately. Many of us tend to shrug and think, "Well, that's nothing to do with me." Well, avid birder or armchair naturalist you may be, think again. One of the places "our" birds migrate to or thru is Central America. And it's time you got involved.

I'm writing to share more information from the Environmental Project on Central America (EPOCA) with the Tecolote readers. (EPOCA was featured in last month's Tecolote - Editor's Note) The new S.B. chapter is headed by Tom Dudley (968-0128).

In the U.S., citizens, policy makers and the press debate the social causes and consequences of conflict in Central America, seldom addressing the profound environmental crisis now affecting the region. On the other hand, the U.S. environmental movement has neglected social issues when discussing the ecological crisis plaguing the isthmus. However, the region's social & ecological crises are intimately related products of unjust political & economic systems whose historical roots run deep.

The U.S. environmental movement must play an important role in reform in Central America by injecting its perspective into public debate: The raising of beef, cotton, & other export crops, the application of pesticides which are banned or restricted in the U.S., military construction and maneuvers, all have tremendous social and environmental impacts. The new environmental policies in Nicaragua are being destroyed by the area's civil war. Our government's military build-up in Central America is one of the region's greatest environmental problems.

We must join hands with others working for peace and justice in Central America, for peace and justice are the two fundamental pre-requisites for an environmentally sustainable future.

Locally, call COMPA, 962-0254 for news and action; and support EPOCA, from whose "Green Paper #2" this letter was written. They publish a series of reports - order them, read them, spread the word.

I'll write more and address more directly the crisis: eg., if those banned pesticides are used down there, then the U.S. imports them, and we consumers buy and eat them, where are those pesticides ultimately ending up?

Ask yourself questions!?!?

Carol Shulmistras

SANTA BARBARA AUDUBON SOCIETY

Committed to the sound use and conservation of our natural resources

SBAS OFFICE

300 North Los Carneros
Goleta, California 93117
(805) 965-1468

Office Hours: 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., Mon.-Fri.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OFFICERS

President	Chris Benesh	685-7549
V.P. Administ.	Audrey vonBieberstein	967-2866
V.P. Activities	Brooks Allen	965-3949
Secretary	Jim Hodgson	969-1209
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Programs	Herb Drapkin	683-3374
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Office Coordinator	Audrey vonBieberstein	967-2866
Newsletter Editor	Mary Ann Ambrose	685-1386

AD HOC COMMITTEES

Bird Seed	Esther Greene	687-2096
Rare Bird Alert	Chris Benesh	685-7549
Dial-a-Bird Tape		964-8240
Library	Audrey vonBieberstein	967-2866
Christmas Count		

Monthly programs are held at 8:00 p.m. in Farrand Hall at the Santa Barbara Natural History Museum on the 4th Friday of each month, September - May. The November/December meeting is held the 1st Friday of December. Non-members are welcome to attend.

EL TECOLOTE, the SBAS Newsletter, is published 11 times annually and is free to members. Subscriptions to non-members cost \$10.00. For information about membership please call our office. The office is open Monday - Friday from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

EL TECOLOTE

Santa Barbara Audubon Society
300 N. Los Carneros Rd.
Goleta, CA 93117

Non-Profit Organization

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