

El Tecolote

BULLETIN OF THE SANTA BARBARA AUDUBON SOCIETY, INC.

December, 1986
Volume 23, Number 10



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

Mary Ann Ambrose
Editor

MONTHLY PROGRAM DECEMBER 5, 1986

Our combined November/December program will be "MEMBERS' NIGHT" which is an opportunity for you to share your own slides and experiences related to birds or other environmental or natural history subjects. Each person will be allotted 5-10 slides and time to present them. There is still time to arrange for your participation - just give Herb Drapkin, our program coordinator, a call (683-3374). Don't be shy! Everyone has valuable experiences to share.

Program starts at 8:00 p.m. in Farrand Hall at the Natural History Museum.

Pre-program workshop begins at 7:00 p.m. in the Bird Hall. This month's workshop will look at differences in common raptors that might be encountered in such areas as the Carrizzo Plain, which happens to be the destination of the next day's field trip. Ferruginous, Rough-legged, and Red-tail Hawks will be examined, as well as some falcons if time allows.

MONTHLY PROGRAM JANUARY 23, 1987

"BIRDING IN WYOMING: REVELATIONS OF SOME AUDUBON CAMP FOLLOWERS" is our first presentation of 1987. Local recipients of grants to Audubon's Camp of the West at Wind River, Wyoming will describe their exciting experiences. Color slides and anecdotes will augment their presentation. Bridget Recht, Chris Benesh, and John Sterner will be on hand to answer questions during and after their program, which starts at 8:00 p.m. on Friday, January 23, 1987 at the museum.

HOLIDAY WISHES

This is the last Tecolote for 1986 - we won't be publishing January's till after the 1st of the year.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a warm and wonderful holiday season. We look forward to seeing you all during the next year. Make Audubon a part of 1987! Start with the Christmas Count on January 3rd.

Mary Ann Ambrose



CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

Thursday, December 4, 1986

Monthly Board Meeting is again changed to a Thursday from our set Monday. Meeting will be at Herb Drapkin's home : 241 Moreton Bay Lane, #4, Goleta at 7:00 p.m. All are welcome.

Friday, December 5

Monthly Program features "Members Night" during which we share our own slides of natural history or environmental subjects. Pre-program workshop on raptors at 7:00 p.m. Program at 8:00 p.m.

Sat./Sun., December 6 & 7

Carrizo Plain field trip will take participants to the winter home of a large population of Sandhill Cranes. Some wintering ducks, Mountain Plovers, various sparrows, and owls can be expected. Meet in the shopping center off Casitas Pass Road and Hghy. 101 in Carpinteria at 7:00 a.m. on the 6th. The California Valley Motel (805-475-2261) has rooms if you want accommodations. Bring your own food for the weekend.

Leader: Brooks Allen
965-3949

Saturday, December 13

Lake Cachuma/Nichols-DeLongpre Ranch: This day trip will take participants to a variety of habitat for wintering birds - water, woods, grasses, and scrub. Good "warm-up" for the Christmas Count! Meet at the FivePoints Shopping Center on Outter State Street at 7:30 a.m.

Leader: Jim Hodgson
969-1209

Saturday, December 20

MT PINOS: This day trip, for those of you who either have all your Xmas shopping done, or don't care, will take participants through a variety of habitat also. For details call

Leader: Jim Hodgson
969-1209

Wednesday, December 31

Deadline for T-shirt designs!

Saturday, January 3, 1987

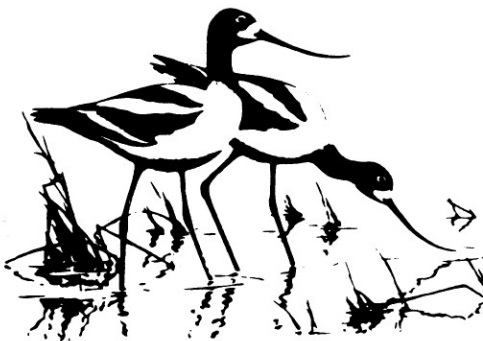
ANNUAL SANTA BARBARA AUDUBON SOCIETY CHRISTMAS COUNT! Join this fun event for a whirlwind of bird identification and socializing over a delicious pot luck dinner in the evening after a long (but fun) day of activity. See article and enrollment form on 5th page.

Monday, January 5

Monthly Board Meeting - Call office after Decemebr 4 for details.

Friday, January 23

Monthly Program features "Birding in Wyoming: Revelations of Some Audubon Camp Followers" which will give 3 of our locals a chance to share their experiences at the camp. Starts at 8:00 p.m. in Farrand Hall at the Museum of Natural History.



SPLINTERS FROM THE BOARD

Marge Capiello, Guy Tingos, Mary Ann Ambrose, Patty Tunnicliffe, Jim Hodgson, Erik Rosa, Herb Drapkin, and Blase Maffia, and, of course, Audrey von Bieberstein, whose home we visited for the meeting, were present.

Linda Krieger from The Land Trust for Santa Barbara County came to present information regarding their organization. She will be presenting a slide show and talk at an upcoming monthly program.

Expenditures from 1986 were presented and a budget for 1987 will be presented at the December Board meeting.

A new application form for the Dean Bazzi Scholarship was presented as well as proposals for some changes in how we administer it that should facilitate awarding it. This should be finalized at the next board meeting.

Our liability insurance is being reviewed to be sure we meet the requirements of the Scout Camp for our 1987 picnic. Save May 31st, Sunday, for our Annual Meeting to be held at Camp Alegre again.

Birds in Santa Barbara, a publication available at the Natural History Museum, was discussed. It is due to be reprinted and needs to be updated. The Board will evaluate the feasibility of SBAS contributing money for this. Paul Lehman was an original contributor to this handy guide to the area.

A new printer for the Tecolote was discussed, and as you may see from this issue, the board agreed to try a new one, who, though a bit more expensive, has committed to more timely service.

Next Board meeting will be at the home of Herb Drapkin, 241 Moreton Bay Lane, #4, in Goleta. All are welcome!

LIBRARY

We thank Dorthea Fox for the following books donated to our library:

The Audubon Guide to Attracting Birds - J. H. Baker
Handbook of California Birds - Brown, Weston, and Buzzell
Birdwatcher's Guide to Wildlife Sanctuaries - Kitching
Mexican Birds - Sutton

Thanks are overdue to Jeannette Petterson and Martha Hazelette for their contribution of Audubon magazines and other publications.

ALASKA TO BENEFIT MONO LAKE

The 2 week trip begins June 21 and includes the Kenai Peninsula, Glenallen, & Matanuska Valley, Camp Denali, Anchorage, and may go to Galcier Bay. Cost is \$2300 plus air fare. Some monies will go to benefit the lake.

For information, send a SASE (legal size) to ALASKA '87, c/o M. Bennet, 2719 Marin Avenue, Berkeley, CA. 94708.



OFFICE

We are still in need of a Friday volunteer.

On Sunday, October 19, during Goleta Depot Days, Carol Rae, our Hospitality Chair, held open house in our Audubon office upstairs in the depot from 11-4. (Our office is in the room that was the bedroom of the family living quarters of the depot agents.) Many visitors wandered in, bought bird seed, picked up newsletters and membership applications, and asked questions. Thank you, Carol Rae.

Last month we requested a straight chair and a small mirror for the office.

How about lace curtains (with valances!) and a rug, too?

CHRISTMAS SHOPPING

If you are stumped for a gift for the person who has everything, do they have a local subscription to EL TECOLOTE? Or might they enjoy a subscription to the national magazine?

Call the office for details!



BIRDS OF SANTA BARBARA

September and early October 1986 produced somewhat fewer rarities than we have become accustomed to at this peak of rarity season. A brief Philadelphia Vireo in Carpinteria was Santa Barbara County's long awaited first record; it is a casual, but annual, visitor to California from the east. Other local highlights included 3 Northern Parulas, Magnolia Warbler, Blackburnian Warbler, and 2 Dickcissels. A Yellow-billed Cuckoo in Carpinteria for 9 weeks is the fifth record for this species in the County this decade.

In the Santa Maria Valley, there was a veritable invasion of Ruffs (a Siberian shorebird), with an unprecedented 6 individuals seen. Another Siberian visitor, a Red-throated Pipit, was briefly present in early October. Lastly, an adult Arctic Tern at the Santa Maria River mouth was a very unusual onshore record for this normally highly pelagic species.

Additionally, late fall provided 2 additional Red-throated Pipits, a Chestnut Sided Warbler, a Swamp Sparrow, a Franklin's Gull and Santa Barbara's second and third County records of Pine Warblers (both briefly present at Gaviota.)

Paul Lehman

"GOLETA HOT SPOTS"

This November 2nd field trip was planned to go where the birds were, and the place turned out to be Gaviota.

A group of about 10 spent a beautifully warm, sunny morning walking among the park's many tamarisk trees. Our stroll payed off handsomely as we were treated to incredible views of a young Swamp Sparrow. These birds are normally very secretive, hiding in thick vegetation, but this bird's only shelter was some short weeds and a parked R.V. We then looked at nearby Song Sparrows and saw how different the 2 species are. Also exciting were at least 2 Palm Warblers among the many Yellow-rumps. We wound up by comparing the 2 local races of White-crowned Sparrow. It was all very enjoyable, with a mammal (Harry Bat?) to liven things up.

Thanks to all of you who enjoyed this morning with me, and hope to see more of you on future outings.

Chris Benesh

GOLETA BEACH

On October 25 twenty Auduboners enjoyed a gorgeous, clear fall morning of birding at Goleta Beach and Devereux Slough. Total bird species observed for the morning was nearly 60! A highlight was a good look at 2 very cooperative Pectoral Sandpipers, which fed on the mudflats within easy viewing distance. Also, the number of shorebirds at Devereux was incredible!

Elegant Tern, Common Snipe, Dunlin, and Greater Yellowlegs were found at the slough, among others. A female Hooded Oriole near the Devereux School was also interesting.

Joan Lentz

IVORY-BILLED WOODPECKER SIGHTED!!

It's true - earlier this year reported by ornithologist Lester Short. This is the first undisputed sighting in Cuba since the 70's. Thought to be extinct, the IBW used to be common in southern U.S. till its habitat & food were destroyed by extensive foresting.

Cuba has promised to limit foresting, but there is concern about their being able to limit the influx of birders anxious to see this rare bird, but whose presence could be harmful to them!

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!

CHRISTMAS COUNT - 1986!

Set Saturday, January 3, 1987 aside for our annual Christmas Bird Count and complete the enrollment coupon below and send it off in tomorrow's mail!!

Paul Lehman will again be our compiler, with Joan Lentz helping out because Paul will be out of town from December 12 - 30th. Please direct all of your questions to Paul, except for this time period. Either save all your questions up and give Paul a call on December 31, Jan. 1 or 2; or you can call Joan while Paul is gone. (Paul:967-2450; Joan: 969-4397)

Participation is a key to success for this event - birders of all levels of expertise are needed - this is not just an event for "aces."

A boat is still needed (motorized) to help with the pelagic count.

The Pot luck dinner and tallying begins at 6:00 p.m. on the 3rd at the Natural History Museum. Please indicate on your enrollment if you plan to attend the dinner.

Mail enrollments to Joan, as indicated on the form.

SEE YOU THERE!!!

SANTA BARBARA CHRISTMAS COUNT

January 3, 1987

Please complete this form and return to:

Joan Lentz
433 Pimientto Lane
Santa Barbara, CA. 93108
969-4397

Name(s) _____

Phone _____

Address _____

Check any of the following options
you would like to do:

Area Preferred _____

Leader Feeder Count

Would like to work with _____

I (we) will attend dinner

SESPE COUNT

The annual Sespe count, done in the Fillmore/Piru area is planned for late December, though details are not yet finalized. This day count involves hiking for some parts, but not all of it. For further information, call Paul Lehman before December 12th. Send enrollment forms to Joan Lentz.

SESPE CHRISTMAS COUNT

December, 1987

Please fill out this form and return to :

Paul Lehman
c/o Joan Lentz
433 Pimiento Lane
Santa Barbara, CA. 93108

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Phone _____

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
Treasurer	Guy Tingos	687-8266

DIRECTORS-at-LARGE

Patty Tunncliffe		687-6154
Blase Maffia		685-4930
Minna Smith		966-7971
Hugh Ranson		968-5165

STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Field Trips	Brooks Allen	965-3949
Programs	Herb Drapkin	683-3374
Publicity	Erik Rosa	966-2383
Education	Mary Ann Ambrose	685-1386
Conservation	Brooks Allen	965-3949
Membership	Marjorie Cappiello	967-9569
Hospitality	Carol Rae	964-3827
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
U.S. Postage
PAID
Santa Barbara, CA
Permit Number 125

**Dated
Material
Please Carry
Promptly**