

El Tecolote

BULLETIN OF THE SANTA BARBARA AUDUBON SOCIETY, INC.

March/April 1989
Vol. 27, No. 6



MONTHLY PROGRAM

Farrand Hall
Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History
2559 Puesta del Sol

Friday, March 24, 1989

7:30 P.M. Coffee & Refreshments (social period)

8:00 P.M. DAVID ANDERSON, noted travel expert & wildlife enthusiast, president of Kenya Nature Safaris, who's led numerous trips to Africa's most exotic locales.



He will present "An East African Safari" (with slides), covering Kenya, Tanzania, Zaire, and the gorilla country of Rwanda.

Friday, April 28, 1989

7:30 P.M. Coffee & Refreshments (social period)

8:00 P.M. MARLA DALY, President, "Santa Cruz Foundation, author of "California's Channel Islands", UCSB grad, will offer a special, illustrated perspective on plant, animal & bird life.



She will present "California's Channel Islands."

No presentation last Friday in May, because:

Sunday, June 4, 1989

2:00-5:00 P.M. ANNUAL AUDUBON PICNIC,
Giorgio Park (San Marcos Rd. above Cathedral Oaks) Featuring food, refreshments, special presentations, surprises & FUN!

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The Santa Barbara Audubon Society was NUMBER ONE in the nation for the annual Christmas Bird Count (218 species; see inside for a full list). Special accolades go to PAUL LEHMAN, JOAM LENTZ & PAT KELLY for their organization. And to our many local members, for their tireless work on that cold, rainy day. In addition, the fast boat owned and steered by HENRY DEL GUIDICE added some unusual pelagic birds: the Sooty and Short-tail Shearwater.

Several board members met with the Goleta Valley Community Center board to submit plans to use office area reserved for a Coastal Resources Information Center.

April is our part of National Audubon's annual BIRDA-THON, which serves as a special fundraiser both for National and our local chapter.

Do consider attending the Institute of Desert Ecology at the B. Thompson Arboretum near Phoenix. Excellent staff, desert birds easily seen, wildflowers in bloom. A great learning experience I enjoyed. Call Office for more info.

FIELD TRIPS

MARCH, APRIL & MAY

1. Saturday, March 4, 8:00 A.M.

Bird Refuge to North Goleta. Half day. Five car stops along the way will allow us to see 75 species. Highlights may include: Summer Tanager, Pine Warbler and very rare Red-headed Woodpecker. Bring lunch & water. Meet at Bird Refuge. Leader: RON HIRST (967-4966).

2. Sunday, March 12, 7:30 A.M.

Devereux Slough. Half day. Migrants, shorebirds, and last Winter ducks will be seen. Includes walk to Coal Oil Point and around the slough. Meet at Devereux entrance, corner ElCollegio & Storke. Parking provided. Leader: ROB LINDSAY (964-9514).

3. Saturday, March 18, 7:00 A.M.

Vandenberg A.F.B. Half day. This seldom visited coastal area has interesting birdlife. Limited to 25 participants: no cameras or guns; US citizens only. Bring lunch, water, snack, and dress warmly. Co-leaders: RUSS SPOWART & RON HIRST (967-4966).

4. Saturday, April 8, 8:00 A.M.

Beginner's Walk. Half day. Botanic Garden & Rocky Nook Park. Meet at Rocky Nook. Leader: KAREN BRIDGERS (964-1316).

5. Saturday, April 15, 8:00 A.M.

Beginner's Walk. Half day. Devereux Slough. Meet at Devereux entrance, corner ElCollegio & Storke. Parking provided. Leader: JIM HODGSON (969-1209).

6. Saturday, May 6, ALL DAY

BIRDATHON. Get sponsors to donate 5-25¢ for each bird species you see today, helping Audubon fund projects like Carpinteria Creek habitat improvement & educational opportunities for youth. All Audubon friends & members: get sponsors and spend the day on your own, with eagle-eye leaders or on today's field trip. Have fund and raise money for Audubon. For more info, call the Audubon office at 964-1468).

7. Saturday, May 6,

7:00 A.M.

Riverbottom birdwalk. Half day. A repeat of last year's popular trips to the Santa Ynez River area will start with the scenic riverbottom walk. Details to be announced in next El Tecelote.



"It's For the Birds"

Santa Barbara Wildlife Care Network is planning its 2nd annual fundraising event to be held at Cliff House, Goleta, on Sunday, April 2, 2:00-5:00 P.M. This all volunteer, non-profit organization has over the last year cared for over 1,000 wild birds, including songbirds, raptors, sea & shore birds, nearly 70% of which have been successfully returned to the wild. Public support is important for help in covering costs of food & medical supplies.

If you can help, or want more event info, please call the Audubon Office at 964-1468.

MEMBERS, ATTEND BOARD MEETINGS,
and SPEAK OUT:

Thursday, March 2, 7:00 P.M. The Goleta
Library Conference Room

Thursday, April 6, 7:00 P.M. 1226 Anacapa
Street (2nd floor).

Members are always welcome at Board meetings. For more agenda info, either call the Audubon Office (964-1468) or Secretary Wynne Tufnell (568-2064, 9-5).



SANTA BARBARA AUDUBON SOCIETY CHRISTMAS COUNT

Record the total number seen beside each species name.
Species marked with an asterisk (*) or not on the list
require written details.

35	Red-throated Loon
5	Pacific Loon
13	Common Loon
64	Pied-billed Grebe
5	Horned Grebe
26	Eared Grebe
247	Western Grebe
5	Clark's Grebe
1	Northern Fulmar
19	Black-vented Shearwater
1	* American White Pelican
370	Brown Pelican
306	Double-crested Cormorant
238	Brandt's Cormorant
10	Pelagic Cormorant
	American Bittern
32	Great Blue Heron
30	Great Egret
40	Snowy Egret
9	* Cattle Egret
4	Green-backed Heron
43	Black-crowned Night-Heron
	* White-faced Ibis
19	Canada Goose
6	* Wood Duck
118	Green-winged Teal
234	Mallard
50	Northern Pintail
2	* Blue-winged Teal
10	Cinnamon Teal
80	Northern Shoveler
50	Gadwall
	* Eurasian Wigeon
152	American Wigeon
3	Canvasback
314	Redhead
94	Ring-necked Duck
2	* Greater Scaup
59	Lesser Scaup
1	* Black Scoter
98	Surf Scoter
1	White-winged Scoter
6	* Common Goldeneye
37	Bufflehead
10	* Hooded Merganser
32	Common Merganser
56	Red-breasted Merganser
187	Ruddy Duck
80	Turkey Vulture
	* Osprey
12	Black-shouldered Kite
7	Northern Harrier
23	Sharp-shinned Hawk
12	Cooper's Hawk
64	Red-shouldered Hawk
91	Red-tailed Hawk
2	Golden Eagle (adults)
64	American Kestrel
8	* Merlin
1	* Prairie Falcon
167	California Quail
1	Mountain Quail
3	Virginia Rail
5	Sora
1	Common Moorhen
605	American Coot
152	Black-bellied Plover
125	Snowy Plover
4	Semipalmated Plover
299	Killdeer
6	* Cassin's Kingbird
4	Horned Lark
2	* Violet-green Swallow
593	Scrub Jay
1063	American Crow
2	Common Raven
	Mountain Chickadee
232	Plain Titmouse
1793	Bushtit
1	Red-breasted Nuthatch
30	White-breasted Nuthatch
5	Brown Creeper
2	Rock Wren
13	Canyon Wren
105	Bewick's Wren
36	House Wren
2	Winter Wren
16	Marsh Wren
1	American Dipper

7	* Black-necked Stilt
2	American Avocet
21	Greater Yellowlegs
2	* Lesser Yellowlegs
112	Willet
3	* Wandering Tattler
3	Spotted Sandpiper
63	Whimbrel
2	* Long-billed Curlew
78	Marbled Godwit
3	Ruddy Turnstone
13	Black Turnstone
184	Sanderling
5	Western Sandpiper
16	Least Sandpiper
20	Dunlin
51	Long-billed Dowitcher
5	Common Snipe
	* Red Phalarope
5	* Pomarine Jaeger
3	* Parasitic Jaeger
524	Bonaparte's Gull
514	Heermann's Gull
257	Mew Gull
412	Ring-billed Gull
212	California Gull
6	Herring Gull
3	* Thayer's Gull
946	Western Gull
12	Glaucous-winged Gull
4	* Black-legged Kittiwake
1	* Caspian Tern
43	Royal Tern
69	Forster's Tern
44	Common Murre
1	* Cassin's Auklet
17	* Rhinoceros Auklet
920	Rock Dove
422	Band-tailed Pigeon
2	Spotted Dove
	* White-winged Dove
999	Mourning Dove
2	Greater Roadrunner
1	Common Barn-Owl
3	Western Screech-Owl
18	Great Horned Owl
1	Northern Pygmy-Owl
	Burrowing Owl
2	* Short-eared Owl
1	White-throated Swift
1432	Anna's Hummingbird
	* Costa's Hummingbird
	* Rufous Hummingbird (♂-♀)
2	* Allen's Hummingbird (♂-♀)
1	Selasphorus (sp.)
22	Belted Kingfisher
1	* Lewis' Woodpecker
546	Acorn Woodpecker
	* Red-naped Sapsucker
17	Red-breasted Sapsucker
41	Nuttall's Woodpecker
50	Downy Woodpecker
5	Hairy Woodpecker
237	Northern Flicker (R.-shaft)
	* Northern Flicker (Y.-shaft)
1	* Western Flycatcher
177	Black Phoebe
61	Say's Phoebe
	* Ash-throated Flycatcher
1	* Tropical Kingbird
16	Golden-crowned Kinglet
734	Ruby-crowned Kinglet
41	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
71	Western Bluebird
1	Townsend's Solitaire
102	Hermit Thrush
604	American Robin
3	* Varied Thrush
195	Wrentit
235	Northern Mockingbird
128	California Thrasher
281	Water Pipit
239	Cedar Waxwing
10	Phainopepla
49	Loggerhead Shrike
1896	European Starling
83	Hutton's Vireo
1	* Tennessee Warbler
164	Orange-crowned Warbler
4	* Nashville Warbler

2	* Yellow Warbler
2871	Yellow-rumped Warbler (Audubon's)
122	Yellow-rumped Warbler (Myrtle)
2	* Black-throated Gray Warbler
196	Townsend's Warbler
	* Hermit Warbler
3	* Palm Warbler
2	* Black-and-white Warbler
150	Common Yellowthroat
4	* Wilson's Warbler
1	* Summer Tanager
8	* Western Tanager
1	* Rose-breasted Grosbeak
	* Black-headed Grosbeak
179	Rufous-sided Towhee
488	Brown Towhee
6	Rufous-crowned Sparrow
10	Chipping Sparrow
133	Lark Sparrow
	* Sage Sparrow
144	Savannah Sparrow
42	Fox Sparrow
316	Song Sparrow
98	Lincoln's Sparrow
2	* Swamp Sparrow
2	* White-throated Sparrow
192	Golden-crowned Sparrow
2395	White-crowned Sparrow
	* Harris' Sparrow
1448	Dark-eyed Junco (Oregon)
3	Dark-eyed Junco (Glate-colored)
1	* Dark-eyed Junco (Gray-headed)
318	Red-winged Blackbird
3	Tricolored Blackbird
305	Western Meadowlark
1135	Brewer's Blackbird
81	Brown-headed Cowbird
	* Orchard Oriole
1	* Hooded Oriole
10	* Northern Oriole (Bullock's)
	* Northern Oriole (Baltimore)
1	* Scott's Oriole
218	Purple Finch
1547	House Finch
1	Pine Siskin
164	Lesser Goldfinch
	Lawrence's Goldfinch
177	American Goldfinch
443	House Sparrow

Additional Species:

7	Sooty Shearwater
3	Short-tailed Shearwater
1	Least Bittern
1	Snow Goose
1	"Eurasian" Green-winged Teal
1	Oldsquaw
10	Common Ground-Dove
1	Hammond's Flycatcher
1	"Cassin's" Solitary Vireo
1	Pine Warbler
1	American Redstart
1	Hepatic Tanager
1	Great-tailed Grackle
1	olive-sided Flycatcher
1	Eastern Phoebe

Additional species seen in count area
count week but not on count day:
American Bittern, Burrowing Owl
Steller's Jay, Warbling Vireo



TOTAL SPECIES 218
TOTAL INDIVIDUALS 36,201

COUNT CENTER 34° 27' N 119° 45' W

31 Dec 88; 5 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Temp. 38° to 58°F
Wind S, 0-10 mph Snow 0 inches
A.M.: cloudy, light rain
P.M.: partly cloudy

OBSERVERS: 97 in field in 44 parties
(non-owling) plus 2 at feeders.

Total party-hours 341 and 774 party-m.
288 hours and 230 miles on foot
40 hours and 505 miles by car
3 miles and 3 hours on bicycle
36 miles and 10 hours by boat
5 hours at feeders
1 hours and 15 miles owling.



Eric Hopson helped in the office on Monday through this February (when he enters Peace Corps service). ERIC, thanks so much. Now who will come forward to help staff the office on Mondays and Wednesdays? Volunteers are needed

Thanks to CLAUDIA KNUDSON, our office will again be open the first Saturday of the month from 1-4 P.M. Always call before visiting.

Thanks also to ROB LINDSAY & ED PARKINSON for helping fix our display case.

LIBRARY. Thank you, ALICE KLADNIK, for Audubon Magazines, bird pictures, & record album. The Education Committee can always use extra Audubon Magazines in the classrooms.

FLORENCE SANCHEZ donated 2 books to our library, one the very special (& funny) "Words for Birds", by Gruson.

The Birder's Handbook is back in stock. Call the office to place your order: \$13, tax included (When you can find it in the stores, it sells for \$15.95 + tax). Essential reading



SANTA BARBARA AUDUBON: Board & Committee Heads

President, Tomi Sollen Vice-President, Joy Parkinson Secretary, Wynne Tufnell Treasurer, Anne Eissler Field Trips, Ron Hirst Membership, Marie Slaton Newsletter, Lee Moldaver Office Coordinator, Audrey von Bieberstein Programs, Marge Cappiello Education, ~~Ron Smith~~ Conservation Com., Joy Parkinson Hospitality Com. Carol Rae Education Com., ~~Ada Babine~~ Publicity Com., Betty Bazzi Bird Refuge Census, Helen Matelson Rare Bird Alert, ~~Brooks Allen (965-3949)~~

At Large: Ron Smith Karen Bridgers (164-8240)

SANTA BARBARA AUDUBON SOCIETY, INC.

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Goleta, CA 93117
(805) 964-1468

Upcoming Meetings & Conferences

1. Kerncrest Chapter Audubon will host a Central/Southern Section Council meeting and wetlands tour in the Ridgecrest & China Lake area. MARCH 4-5, 1989. Call Lloyd Brubaker (619) 375-7245 for information.

2. 1989 California & Nevada Audubon Chapters Leadership Conference. Davis, California. APRIL 7-9. Workshops, seminars, fascinating speakers, National officers, government leaders & local naturalists will gather. Registration: \$18 per person. Accommodation & travel info available. Call (916) 481-5332 for information, or see printed material in local office. April 1 reservation deadline.

3. Institute of Desert Ecology, sponsored by Tucson, Arizona Audubon Society. Group camping, birding, workshops, etc. APRIL 20-23. Registration (including meals): \$245 per person. More info at Audubon office, or call Tomi Sollen

4. Northern Sierra Bird Symposium will take place JUNE 10-23, including workshops in recording birdsongs, function of birdsongs, birds of the Sierra Nevada, Nature Illustration, etc. Academic credit available. Site: San Francisco State's Sierra Nevada Field Campus at Yuba Pass. Contact Jim Steele (415) 338-1571 or 759-0970.

DIAL*A*BIRD 964-8240

South Coast Bird Reports:

Los Angeles (213)874-1318
San Bernardino (714)793-5599
San Diego (619)435-6761
San Francisco (415)528-0288

The murder of Brazilian rainforest preservationist Francisco Mendes, and the Antarctic oil spill remind all Auduboners just how fragile our world eco-system still is & how much we must do.

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