

El Tecolote

SANTA BARBARA AUDUBON SOCIETY

Correction

Please renumber two previous issues:
September, 1990 - to Vol. 29 No. 1
October, 1990 - to Vol. 29 No. 2

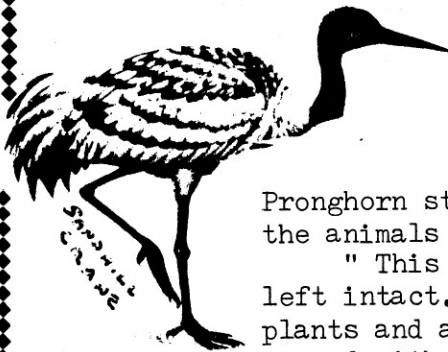
NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 1990
Vol. 29 No. 3



Farrand Hall
Mus. Natural History

Friday Evening
November 30, 1990
8:00 P.M.

CARRIZO PLAINS: LAST OF THE GRASSLANDS



Wildlife Research Photographer B. "Moose" Peterson, guest lecturer, will present a slide show of this exotic area at the general meeting on Friday evening, November 30.

He describes California's central valley as "once a vast grassland with herds of Tule Elk and Pronghorn stalked by Grizzly Bears. Today the grasslands and the animals they supported are nearly gone.

" This show looks at the last example of grassland habitat left intact. The Carrizo Plains is the home of many endangered plants and animals which we'll discover by starting below the ground with the sky the limit."

Mr. Peterson has spent years in wildlife photographic research in ornithology and mammalogy, including such rare and endangered species as the Southern spotted owl, black swift, and Least Bell's vireo, and his works have been widely accepted and published.



(Refreshments - 7:45 pm. Bring your cup)



AUDUBON'S 101st ANNUAL BIRD COUNT
COMING ON SATURDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1990

Auduboners and friends are all welcome to help the Chapter in one of the most important environmental events of each year - the 101st Annual Audubon Bird Count - to be held locally this year on Saturday, December 29th.

On this date, SBAS birders and friends spread out in groupsto cover the Santa Barbara count circle, a $7\frac{1}{2}$ mile radius centered at Foothill and San Marcos Roads, to identify and count all species and numbers of wild birds within our territorial circle, on land and sea. Every pair of eyes helps! The date (see BIRD COUNT p.3)

COAL OIL POINT YIELDS 400LBS LITTER
IN AUDUBON BEACH CLEAN-UP

Thirty-eight concerned students and Auduboners scoured Coal Oil Point Beach clean in the Chapter's 3rd Annual Adopt-a-Beach campaign, on September 22nd. Of the 400 pounds of trash and litter, over half was drink con- (see COAL OIL p.2)

Next Issue - Jan 15, 1991
Will Include Full Bird Count

A LETTER FROM HELEN MATELSON
PAWNEE NAT'L GRASSLANDS, COLORADO

Where were you the week of June 18, 1990? If the answer is other than Fort Collins, you missed the birding event..of the decade.

Located near Pawnee National Grasslands and the Colorado Rockies, the town hosted the 1990 convention of the American Birding Association...the best since my first in Bangor, Me., in 1980. Super birding is possible here where Eastern and Western birds co-mingle...and 700 super-birders as well from U.S., Canada, Mexico, and even Finland.

On a day's field trip, I netted the McGown's longspur of the prairie, and the White-tailed ptarmigan of the 12,000 foot tundra. ...Watching longspurs do their courtship display is a thrilling event.

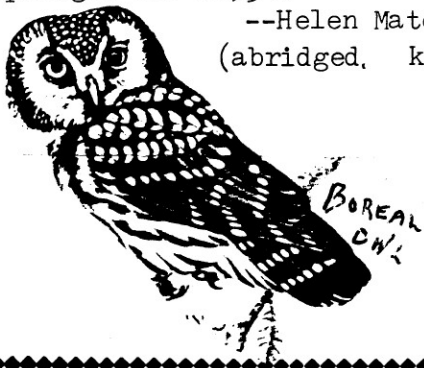
Workshops were conducted by Ken Kaufman, Dared Pearson, Frank Gill, and lectures by Roger T. Peterson...Shawneen Finnegan coordinated originals of wildlife art...

Guy McMaskie led a super-field trip of 250 plus birders by bus to a 10,000' high spot, where, in total silence all walked 100 yards into the forest, to surround a nesting box. A tiny scratch on the pole brought the owl out for a look...this beautiful little Boreal owl in the quiet forest calmly surveyed the scene and then popped back to care for her young.. an emotional experience for many in the group.

The next convention is at Mobile, Alabama, in two years, during the Spring migration.

For information on membership, contact the American Birding Association, Box 6599, Colorado Springs. Co. 80934.

--Helen Matelson
(abridged. klw,ed.)



COAL OIL POINT (continued)

ainers, with paper and plastics being the major balances of wastes collected.

The trash analysis, which is an important part of this nationwide coastal reclamation campaign, revealed that hundreds of non-degradable cigarette filters were found.

Four dead seals cast a saddening note to the affair. Causes of death were not determined by the clean-up groups.

--Tomi Sollen

AUDUBON BOARD REPORTS...



September: Ron spoke in Solvang against a proposed golf course near Cachuma Reservoir, with pesticide run-off and habitat disturbances being Audubon concerns. He has also filed Audubon's written comments on the Goleta Draft Impact Report. The Board also endorsed actions to continue follow-up protests against UCSB expansion plans at the Regent's meeting and with the Coastal Commission.

Board joined Audubon support for Prop. 130, the Forest and Wildlife Bond Act, and to oppose Prop 138, the timber industry counter-initiative.

Lee Moldaver reported on current conservation issues of concern, including development of Carpinteria Bluffs, S.B. Rehab. Institute's plans on Calle Reale (near Patterson), a 5-year redevelopment plan for the Bird Refuge, fund shortages for recapping the leaking Carpinteria oil wells; and a positive note on State funds expanding Purissima preserves!

Board endorsed "Save Ellwood Shores" move to publicize threats of overdevelopment of the rare dunes areas still remaining.

October: Board received \$2343 grant from S.B. Foundation, for education equipment and an office copier to augment ed activities. Letter of deep appreciation sent. Everett King welcomed scope and binoculars purchased under United Way grant received in August, as helpful tools for special field trip groups.

Board noted next steps needed against UCSB expansion plans, and agreed to join Sierra and other groups to raise funds and fight issues at Coastal Commission stages.

Board of Directors - 1990-1991

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Bird Refuge Census.	Helen Matelson...	966-3217



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As you may have seen, recent El Tecolotes have a new, livelier format. We can thank our new editor for the improvement. Our fund-raising activities have new impetus, with the receipt of grants from the United Way and the S.B. Foundation. In fact, all our Chapter volunteers are contributing at a high level. Feel free to call any of us when you have questions or comments.

In appreciation of the many friends and opportunities that Audubon has given me, I'm planning a World Birdathon next year. I'll raise monies from businesses and contributors for each bird species seen, and all of it will go to our Chapter.

With more money we will be able to fund scholarships, print more newsletters, and increase our conservation efforts on important local projects, such as the Andre Clark Bird Refuge, More Mesa, Carpinteria Creek and Slough, and the Devereaux Slough watershed.

Contributors will receive bird lists and diary-like trip notes. Plus we'll have an end of year party. Please make a tax-deductible pledge to me soon. The first trip is to Manzanillo, Mexico, on January 1-9, 1991.

Have a Happy Thanksgiving. And since this is also our December newsletter, it's not premature to wish you all a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays!!

-Ron Hirst

VENTURA BIRD COUNT - DEC. 31 - NEEDS HELP

The Ventura Chapter welcomes S.B.A.S. and friends help on their Christmas Count, set for Monday after our count day. Call Virgil Ketner (805-642-3480) if interested.



Saturday, December 29, 1990

Pat Kelly
554 Litchfield Lane
Santa Barbara, CA 93109
(805) 962-9916

(optional) ____ Dinner
 ____ Feeder Count
 ____ Leader

Preferred area-if yes, where:

Would like to work with:

Audubon Field Trips for November / December, 1990

JANUARY *

NOVEMBER

10 SAT **Santa Maria with Ron Hirst (967-4966).** This trip will include visits to well known shorebird areas, including Black and Betteravia Rds., the Santa Maria River mouth, and other local hot spots. Possibilities include Mountain Plover, Lesser Golden Plover, many ducks, shorebirds and raptors. Meet Ron at the Jack In the Box (Storke and Hollister), at 7:30 a.m. Bring water and lunch.

17 SAT **Devereaux Slough with Rob Lindsay (964-9514).** Devereaux is a favorite for ducks and shorebirds. Meet Rob at the west end of Del Playa Rd. at 7:30 a.m.

30 FRI 7:30pm CARRIZO PLAINS PROGRAM - see front page

DECEMBER

1 SAT **Figueroa Mountain** Led by Everett King (962-4397) this trip will be oriented towards finding birds in the higher altitude coniferous habitat. Meet at the Carls Jr. at State and La Cumbre at 7:30 a.m. Trip to return early afternoon. Bring water and a lunch.

8 SAT **Point Mugu Pacific Missile Test Center** This year, we've gotten permission for a guided ^{birding} tour of the base. Ron Hirst (967-4966) and Grace Smith will lead this trip. Expect to see many shorebirds and wetland birds. Meet at the Andrea Clark Bird Refuge at 7:30 a.m.

29 SAT **The 101st Audubon Christmas Bird Count** All are welcome to participate in the bird count. Many times in the past, Santa Barbara has been number one in the nation; let's see if we can do it again this year! See story, and sign-up coupon - page 3.

JANUARY

Jan. 12(Sat) Canada Larga Rd. Ventura, foothills above Ventura River. Good birding, burrowing and barn owls, phainopepla.

Jan. 19/20 (Sat & Sun) Carrizo Plains, with Moose Peterson. Overnight trip to this new Nature Conservancy. Sandhill cranes, raptors, reptiles.

* Call SBAS office in December to confirm details of January trips.

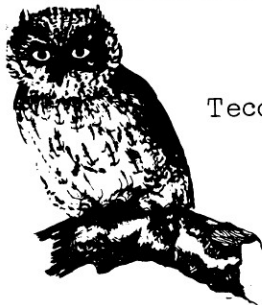


SANTA BARBARA AUDUBON SOCIETY

TIME-DATED MATERIAL

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