

El Tecolote

SANTA BARBARA AUDUBON SOCIETY

Vol. 29 No. 6

March-April 1991



Farrand Hall
Museum of Natural History

Friday Evening
March 22, 1991
8:00 P.M.

GEOLOGY OF SANTA BARBARA COUNTY -

- FROM THE HARBOR TO LA CUMBRE PEAK

Follow noted geologist Thomas W. Dibblee, Jr. as he takes us in slide and talk on a tour of the fascinating geology of Santa Barbara, from the young (100,000 yr.) sandstones of the harbor, to the older (3,000,000 yr.) layers at La Cumbre Peak. The diatoms-laden Monterey shale, and Sespe's oil-bearing red rocks are among the many layers to be observed on the 'trip'!



Mr. Dibblee retired from an active career in field geology to a continued voluntary career in similar field mapping of Santa Barbara County and the Los Padres National Forest. He has been nationally recognized by awards and commendations for his contributions, and received the Distinguished Service Award for Geological Work from the U.S. Department of Interior in 1967. President Reagan honored him with the Presidential Volunteer's Award in 1983, and he has also received commendations from the U.S. Forest Service and the County of Santa Barbara.

Farrand Hall
Museum of Natural History

Friday Evening
April 26, 1991
8:00 P.M.

NATURE AND WILDLIFE IN RURAL EAST AFRICA

Biologist Bill Douros - in slides and talk - spends a month observing nature and wildlife along the Mchukichuk River in Eastern Kenya, near the Masai Mara Game Preserve.

Visiting with fellow biologists who were studying the foraging strategies of Thomson's gazelle, Mr. Douros put a keen eye to exploring and photographing the wild and natural area he found himself in.

As a graduate Marine Biologist (UCSB, 1985), Mr. Douros has pursued his interests from Vermont to Michigan, and from the Bay Area to tidal studies at Santa Cruz Island. He is currently Deputy Director of the County Energy Division.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: By Ron Hirst

Many thanks to our member, Ben Berkowitz. He donated an IBM-XT computer to the Chapter. It will be put to use in membership services, my World Birdathon (donations for our chapter still being sought, call me!), and various projects.

In the coming years, I see a number of local issues that we will need to address: a) More oil leases are possible just off our Coast; b) The Devereaux Slough watershed is threatened in many places by development; c) The Bird Refuge is very polluted; d) A current issue is whether mountain bikes should be allowed on single-track hiking trails under five-feet in width.

Your comments about any of these issues are welcome.

EARTH DAY 1991 -CELEBRATION - APRIL 20 & 21

Audubon Chapter welcomes EARTH DAY 1991 as a celebration of renewal, and will join the festivities again on the coming week-end of April 20 & 21 in Downtown Santa Barbara, centered around DeLaGuerra Plaza and State Street.

SBAS expects to participate by booth or table, and invites members to call the SBAS office now and sign on (964-1468).



CRIC OFFERS SPRING WILDLIFE CHANNEL CRUISE

Coastal Resources Information Center (CRIC) is sponsoring its second Channel cruise aboard the 88-foot CONDOR on Saturday, May 4. The cruise will explore the waters around Santa Cruz and Santa Rosa Islands, with visits into Painted Cave by small boat.

Birders may see Pink-Footed and Sooty Shearwaters, phalaropes, Jaegers, black-legged Kittiwake, Sabine's Gull, Pigeon Guillemot, Xantus' Murrelet and Cassin's Auklet. Marine mammals may include Risso's dolphins and humpbacked whales.

Shawneen Finnegan will again be the bird expert, and Dr. Charles Woodhouse the marine biologist.

CONDOR will depart Sea Landing in Santa Barbara Harbor at 7am, and returns at 5:30pm. Fare is \$48 per person, and early reservations with check payable to CRIC are advised. Mail to Joy Parkinson, CRIC, 5679 Hollister Ave., Goleta, CA. 93117. Call CRIC - 964-6477, or SBAS - 964-1468 for further information.

Next Issue: May-June 1991
News Deadline: April 15, 1991

ADMINISTRATION ENERGY PLAN ASSAULTS
ALASKA'S ARCTIC WILDERNESSES

The Administration's new National Energy Strategy promotes oil drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge as its major new initiative, instead of switching to energy conservation and efficiency, and alternative energy sources. The proposals, however, do join the debate which will start in Congress shortly, the first public review of this issue in a decade.

Margaret Eissler, Conservation Chair, states that now is indeed an appropriate time to look at long-range planning, for national security reasons, as well as for concerns over air, atmospheric resources, and our wildlife heritage. She urges Auduboners to join the debate, by becoming informed on the issues, and then expressing their concerns in writing to our Congressional Representatives and Senators, with information copies to the President.

Address representatives at the House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515, Senators at the Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510, and The White House at Washington, D.C. 20500.

EDITOR'S NOTE: As we go to print, the Administration released plans to sell new oil leases off the Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo coasts! (The attack on the Arctic was only a starter!)



WALKING THE SANTA BARBARA COAST

The COASTWALK organization has reached this county, having sponsored California coastal walks since 1983, starting in Humboldt County. A free slide show and talk on the four-day planned trip scheduled for June 1991 will be held by CRIC and County Trails Council on Monday, March 18, at 7:30 pm at the Goleta Community Center, 5679 Hollister Ave., Goleta.



SANTA BARBARA AUDUBON SOCIETY - OFFICERS 1990-91

President.....	Ron Hirst.....	967-4966
Vice-President....	Lee Moldaver.....	682-2120
Secretary.....	Nancy King.....	687-2079
Treasurer.....	Anne Eissler.....	964-2492
Conservation.....	Margaret Eissler.....	964-6486
Education.....	(vacant)	
Field Trips.....	Everett King.....	962-0883
Fund-Raising.....	Sally Walker.....	569-5388
Membership.....	Marie Slaton.....	683-2935
Newsletter.....	Karl L. Weissmann.....	967-3008
At-Large.....	Joe Martorana.....	685-4045
CHAIRS		
Hospitality.....	Carol Rae.....	964-3827
Publicity.....	Betty Bazzi.....	967-5200
Rare Bird Alert...	Karen Bridgers.....	964-1316
Bird Refuge Census..	Helen Matelson.....	966-3217
DIAL-A-BIRD TAPE...	Santa Barbara	964-8240

Editor.....Karl L. Weissmann.....967-3008

EDUCATION COMMITTEE REORGANIZED

The Education Committee, which had suspended operations temporarily because of staffing and illness problems, has been reorganized. Six new volunteers - teachers, professionals, and interns, have agreed to revitalize this activity.

The volunteers include Sheila Johnson, Nancy King, Eileen Hogg, Bonnie Gail, Ann Loustannou and Hilary Burke. They are undergoing Audubon orientation and already have scheduled several classroom visits.

SBAS is again soliciting inquiries for services of this committee.

Environmentalists are noting a concern over the impact of tourism and inadequate Ecuadorian Government regulation of population on the Galapagos Islands. From less than 4,000 tourists annually, the islands have topped over 50,000 visitors recently. Native population has also soared from a few hundreds to over 10,000, drawn by the need to service tourism.

RECOMMENDED READING: Feb. 25, 1991 issue of The New Yorker (65th Anniversary issue) has a fascinating essay on the life of John Audubon.

CHALLENGES OF CLIMATE, POPULATION, RESOURCES TOPICS AT AUDUBON CONVENTION 1991 AT ESTES PARK

The 1991 National Audubon Biennial Convention will be held in Estes Park, Colorado, July 21 thru 27, with 60 workshops exploring the theme of "Audubon in the Americas." Pollution and degradation to forests, wetlands and wildlife throughout the Western Hemisphere are also topics of concern.

Pre-and post-convention tours, as well as day trips in this locale should help make this convention a worthwhile experience.

Rates for six nights lodgings plus three meals daily range between \$250 and \$350 per person, at the Y Center at the park. Write Audubon Convention, 4150 Darley Ave. Suite 5, Boulder, CO. 80303, for a complete brochure and registration details.

FRIENDS OF SANTA BARBARA PARKS are sponsoring beautification and horticultural tours of local parks every third Saturday morning this year, from 9 am to 1 pm. The next events include:

On Saturday morning, March 16, Willoglen Park will be the site for play-equipment painting.

Saturday morning, April 20, Shoreline Park will have a Shore Birds Lecture, and also a Tree-planting activity.

Santa Barbara Parks Department furnishes tools, FRIENDS provides beverages. Call 965-3813.

AUDUBON BIRDATHON

MAY 11, 1991

By Wynne Tuffnel

A what you may ask? BIRDATHON* a fundraising event with verve, energy, ornithological expertise (provided by Ron Hirst) and hard work (provided by Wynne Tuffnel). BIRDATHON is a one day period of birding for bucks; we'll go out birdwatching on May 11 and count as many species as we can and you will pledge (hopefully) so much a species (10 cents, 15 cents, 20 cents, \$1.00) OR, if you prefer an outright contribution of \$10, \$25, \$50, \$100, it will be gratefully accepted. We promise you we will work just as hard.

Better still, be a BIRDATHONER; get your friends, relatives and co-workers to sponsor you and join us for a wonderful day of birding. We will begin at 7:30 a.m. at the harbor, then to the Maria Ygnacia Creek riparian habitat, up to El Camino Cielo, to Nojoqui Falls for lunch, on to Refugio Canyon, Goleta Slough and back to Santa Barbara. Call the numbers listed below for sponsor sign-up sheets.

Just so you'll know what you are getting into - last year Ron sited 120 species, while I, a complete neophyte, sited 40. When Ron pointed out a bird and I actually saw it I considered that a fair siting.

Half the money collected will go to National Audubon for their ongoing work to save our natural treasures. The other half is for the Santa Barbara Chapter and this year our share will go to a fund to revitalize the Bird Refuge. Bringing back the Bird Refuge to its original beauty will cost thousands of dollars but we hope Audubon's contribution will motivate others.

To make your pledge for the 1991 BIRDATHON, call me, (Wynne Tuffnel, 682-0607); Ron Hirst (967-4966); or Santa Barbara Audubon Society, 5679 Hollister, Goleta, CA 93117, (964-1468); or send your contribution or pledge to the Audubon office:



Name _____

Address _____

I pledge _____ per species.

I enclose my contribution of _____
in support of the 1991 BIRDATHON.

AUDUBON FIELD TRIPS

March / April 1991

By Everett King

MARCH

- 9 **Ventura County Game Preserve.** Ron Hirst (967-4966) will lead this trip to one of the better wet land areas on the central coast. Water fowl, raptors, owls, and wetland birds, and more can be expected. Meet Ron at the Andrea Clark Bird Refuge at 7:30 am for car pooling. Hip waders or old sneakers are recommended, also bring a lunch.
(Meet: Off 101 N - Cabrillo Blvd. Off 101S- Hot Springs Rd.)
- 23 **Goleta Beach / Devereaux Slough.** Everett King (962-0883) will lead this trip. Meet at Goleta Beach, by the foot of the pier, at 7:30 am. What we see at Devereaux is partly dependent upon the amount of water present. We will bird through noon, so you might want to bring a lunch.

APRIL

- 13 **Santa Barbara Harbour / Andrea Clark Bird Refuge.** Everett King will lead this trip. Meet at the Breakwater Restaurant at 7:30 am. We will work the harbour and then move on to the bird refuge. This is a shorter trip, we should be finishing up at around noon.
(Restaurant is adj. USN Trg Ctr. Harbor Way & W. Cabrillo Blvd)
- 27 **Mission La Purisima / Surf.** This trip will be co-led by Mike Kendall (688-2706), and Everett King. Meet at Carl's Jr. at State and La Cumbre Rds. at 7:00 am for car pooling. We will meet Mike at the Mission, and after birding in the vicinity, will move on to Surf on the coast, to see what we can see there in the way of shorebirds, water fowl, wet lands birds, etc. A lunch would probably be a good idea, as well as a jacket or sweater, as it is often windy at Surf.
(Meet: 101 LaCumbre Exit S.B.-to State St -to Carl's parking lot)

EXPLORE NEW MEXICO/EXPLORE THE SOUTHWEST

The Randall Davey Audubon Center is offering both river trips and overland mini-tours in the southwest focusing on natural history and environmental issues. This spring's offerings include the Salt River, Arizona, the Rio Grande, Texas, the Rio Chama, New Mexico, Bicycling the Bosque in New Mexico, the Big Bird Bash, Silver City, New Mexico and Exploring Southwest New Mexico. Call or write the Randall Davey Audubon Center, P.O. Box 9314, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87504-9314, (505) 983-4609.
(SBAS office - 964-1468 - has flyer)

Do the Write Thing.

Oil spills. Ancient Forests. Endangered species. Do you want to do something about these issues? You can—by joining the Audubon Activist Network. The Network is Audubon's corps of concerned citizens who want to make a difference in the environment. You will join over 20,000 activists who make their voices heard through letters and phone calls on local, state, national, and international issues.

As part of the Network, you will receive the new **Audubon Activist** now published on a monthly basis, as well as **Action Alert** bulletins on key votes in Congress. You'll also have access to the **Actionline** phone number with updates on late-breaking news. To join the Network, simply fill out the form below and send to: Audubon Activist, 950 Third Ave., New York, N.Y. 10022.

☐ I'd like to be an Audubon Activist! For my part, I pledge to take action by writing at least two letters and making at least two phone calls for Audubon each year.

Name _____

Address _____

Signature _____

If you are not a member of the National Audubon Society, please include \$20 membership fee with the form.



EL TECOLOTE

Santa Barbara Audubon Society
5679 Hollister Avenue
Goleta, Ca. 93117 (805) 964-1468

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