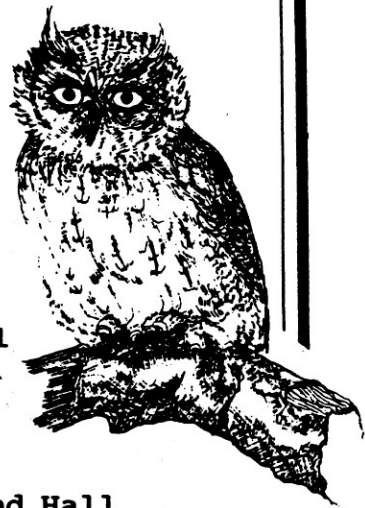


El Tecolote

SANTA BARBARA AUDUBON SOCIETY

Ron Hirst
Editor

Vol.30, No. 1
September 1991



Friday Evening
September 27, 1991
8:00pm

Farrand Hall
Mus. Natural History

"The California Condor Recovery Program"

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service biologist coordinating the California Condor Recovery Program, Mr. Robert Mest, will present information and slides. The existing condor recovery project, future breeding programs, and the possible release of these great birds into the Grand Canyon area are subjects that he is very knowledgeable in. Mr. Mest has done extensive raptor research studies involving bald eagles in Alaska, Canada, the western U.S., as well as desert areas of Arizona and New Mexico. Perhaps in the near future we'll be able to go back to the lookout point and see the magnificent condors soaring free once again! Mr. Mest knows all the details and will share them with us.

CALIFORNIA CONDOR

Gymnogyps californianus

A huge black raptor with large white triangles on underside and white bar on upperside of long, broad wings. Adult has orange-yellow head; subadult's is orange-yellow with some black mottling; immature's is dusky. Adult and subadult secondaries are silvery above. Immature white triangle is mottled dusky. Condors soar with wings in a slight dihedral.

**** Special Project Meets Community Needs ****

For years the joys of birding have been open to all able-bodied Audubon members. But, for lack of access and available support services --that special enjoyment has not been an option for the disabled, blind, frail elderly and low-income minority youth in our community. Our local Audubon has begun a program to make outdoor appreciation experiences more accessible for them.

A pilot program was successfully run in 1990-91. Rob Lindsay, Carpinteria biology teacher and former Audubon president, managed four outdoor classrooms reaching 64 residents who otherwise wouldn't know a house sparrow from a flycatcher. A grant from the United Way of Santa Barbara County made the project possible.

Paul Lehman, an expert on bird vocalizations and among the leading ornithologists in California, introduced 12 partially-sighted adults from the Braille Institute to native birds at the Botanical Garden. Rob won rave reviews from seniors living at Vista del Monte teachers' retirement home. He introduced them to marsh and water birds, and native plants, at Lake Los Carneros and the Bird Refuge. Ron Hirst took twelve Girl Scouts out on a boat trip on Lake Cachuma. Highlights included spotting Golden Eagles and nesting swallows.

Under Rob's leadership the project was so well received that Audubon is expanding it this coming year. We will provide ten trips reaching 150 people --thanks to renewed funding from United Way. This year, Joy Parkinson will be project director. Joy is one of the founders of the Santa Barbara Audubon Society and has been active in environmental and community organizations for more than 30 years. A former County Parks Commissioner, founding member of the Los Padres Forest Interpretive Society, and currently coordinator of the Coastal Resources Information Center -- Joy will administer the grant and liaison with field leaders and local organizations. For more information about the project, or to volunteer --please call Joy at 964-1468.



United Way
Helps Here

AUDUBON ACTIVITIES CALENDAR



September

- Sat. 14 CARPINTERIA CREEK CLEANUP. A repeat of our successful cleanup of 1989 where 2200 lbs. were picked up. There's much less now but continual vigilance is needed. Meet at end of 6th St. next to the creek. 9-noon and refreshments provided. Wear grubby clothes and bring gloves.
- Sun. 15 GOLETA BEACH/DEVEREUX SLOUGH. Meet at the Goleta Beach pier at 7:30am for a half day observation trip for shorebirds and wetland birds. This is a good time for migrant shorebirds. **Leader:** Everett King (962-0883) The trip is cosponsored by the Coastal Resources Information Center.
- Sat. 21 ADOPT-A-BEACH. The Coal Oil Point beach will be adopted for the 4th year in a row by us. This beach cleanup is part of a nationwide shore cleanup and scientific study of trash. 9-noon at Coal Oil Point. Take the Devereux Slough road (corner of Storke & El Collegio) to the point.
- Sun. 22 McGRATH STATE BEACH. One of the best wetland areas in the tri-counties. Gulls, terns, shorebirds and ducks are plentiful. Least Terns and other rarities are probable. Meet at the Andre Clark bird refuge at 7:30am for our half day trip to Ventura. **Leader:** Ron Hirst (967-0138).
- Fri. 27 MONTHLY PROGRAM: "The California Condor Recovery Program", see page 1.
- Sat. 28 NORTH GOLETA/SAN JOSE CREEK. This field trip will focus on riparian habitat along San Jose Creek and other local birding hot-spots. Meet leader Karen Bridgers (964-1316) at 8:00am. The bike bridge where Berkeley Rd. meets San Jose Creek is the starting point.

October

- Sun. 6 SANTA BARBARA CHANNEL PELAGIC TRIP. CRIC and Audubon are cosponsoring another exciting fall wildlife cruise. The 88 foot CONDOR will cruise, midchannel, in a westerly direction from Santa Barbara Harbor. The greatest concentration of sea animals and birds is found in this area. We hope to be able to cruise around the west end of San Miguel Island to see the elephant seals and other sea mammals at Tyler Bight. We hope to encounter whales, dolphins, sharks, shearwaters, storm petrels, fulmars, phalaropes, jaegers, and if we're VERY lucky there may even be a Black-footed Albatross! Our marine biologist will be Dr. Charles Woodhouse of the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History, and we will have bird experts aboard. Depart from Sea Landing at 7am, return about 6pm. Make \$48 per person checks payable to CRIC, same address as our Audubon office. Confirmation, a map, and additional information will be sent to you. CRIC phone number is 964-6477.
- Sat. 12- MORRO BAY/MONTANA DE ORO. This overnight trip will be co-led by our
Sun. 13 own Everett King and expert S.L.O. birder Jim Royer. This is a prime time for rare passerine birds and a few stops will be made at hot spots on the way to Morro Bay. 15 people can be accommodated at our campsites and the trip limit will be 20. A wide range of birds will be seen and will include warblers, lots of species in Morro Bay and possible rarities just about anywhere. Leave 8:00am Sat. and return Sun. afternoon. Call the Audubon office or Everett King for more information or to sign up.



If there is heavy rain on the day of the trip please call the leader.

CONSERVATION COLUMN

Our star conservation chair is out for the summer. Margaret is a Ranger/Naturalist in Yosemite where she leads tours and gives splendid outdoor concerts on the flute. If you're in Yosemite look her up and hear a concert, I'm told it's wondrous.

In her absence five letters have come in responding to issues we have. Your board has concerned itself with the Cave Creek, AZ mining project, our national energy policy, wetlands and Coastal Sage Scrub including the highly threatened California Gnatcatcher. Politicians and government agencies have been responding to our concerns. Your board writes many letters about environmental problems.

Lee Moldaver has been active in the hot issue of a county Open Space District. He moderated a public meeting recently on that. He attended the San Jose Creek Restoration Project press conference. Ron Hirst also attended both these events. Karl Weissman, former editor and erstwhile office volunteer, spoke at a press conference against toxic chemicals. He and Assemblyman O'Connell then signed a giant postcard petition to the Governor while being filmed. A few days later the Sea Cliff toxic spill happened. Way to go Karl! Ron Hirst and Lee Moldaver spoke against the proposed San Marcos Golf Course which will be next to Lake Cachuma. Supervisors Owens and Wallace voted against the course but were outvoted so expect development next year.

Ron and Sally Walker represented our chapter at the National Audubon biennial convention in Estes Park, CO. The six full days of activities, workshops, lectures and presentations went nonstop. Themes recurrent through a number of meetings included habitat preservation, wildlife protection, forests, wetlands, energy policy, international cooperation, ecotourism, population-environment conflicts and numerous chapter strengthening and leadership tips.

Our chapter wrote a letter in support of the Carpinteria Creek Committee's grant request to the state. They successfully were awarded \$12000. for creek restoration. They are now attempting to raise a large amount of money to purchase two creekside properties slated for development. This issue, plus the Open Space District and More Mesa and weekly ecological crises are plenty of work for our conservation minded members who could donate some time. Call Ron to volunteer.

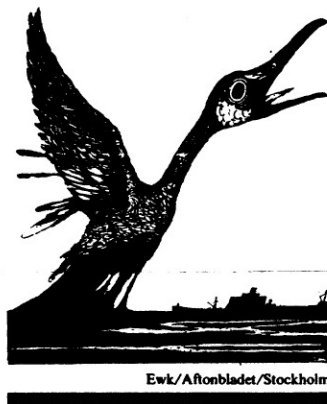
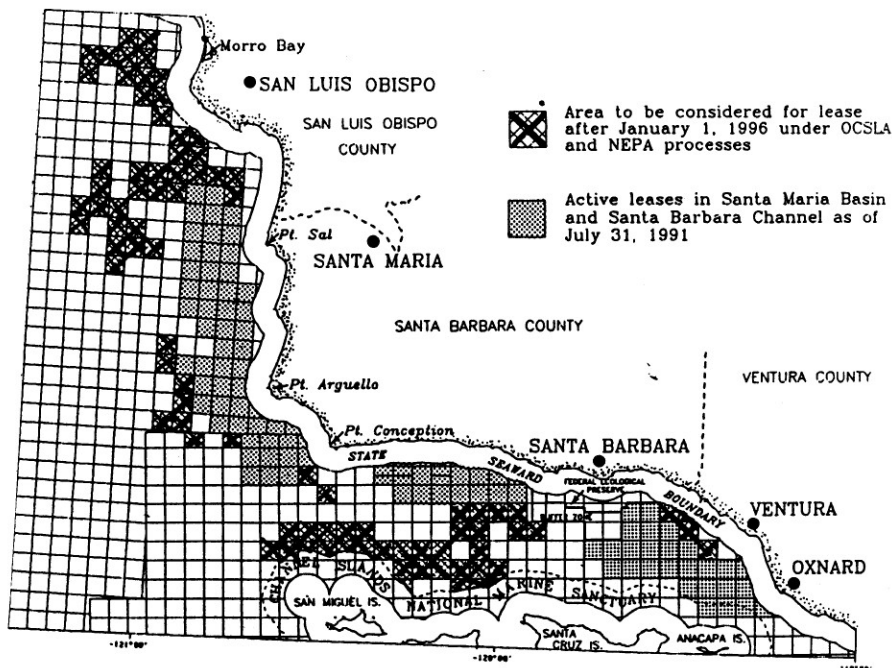
BIRDATHON 1991 a fun time

Wynne Tufnell did a marvelous job promoting and participating in our spring Birdathon. This annual event brings in needed funds for our chapter and a selected national activity. This year we raised \$265. towards our goal of improving the Bird Refuge and helping the Audubon wetlands high priority campaign. Wynne was a very good sport and only counted those birds she saw well. Ron's tally was somewhat higher, 98, but a flash of feathers just might have been enough for him to identify some of those.

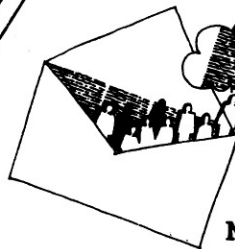
President's Message

Critical chapter needs right now are newsletter editor, education activities chair and the hospitality coordinator in that order. Anyone with experience in these areas or with an interest in learning how to do them is strongly encouraged to call me right away.

CONTINENTAL SHELF NATURAL GAS AND OIL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PROPOSED COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAM 1992-1997



In case you're not aware of the status of oil production off our coast let me inform you. There are about 21 platforms in the active lease area now. 9 more have been proposed and additional ones are possible. The proposed 1996 lease will double the active lease areas. Simple deduction indicates that means there is a possibility that in the future there could be 60 platforms where now there are 21. If you have comments about the proposed 1996 lease you can write to Director, Minerals Management Service (MS-4013), 1849 C St., NW, Rm. 2525, Washington, D.C. 20240. Mark the mail "Comments on the Comprehensive OCS Program". Deadline for comment is Oct. 29th. There is a copy of the entire OCS plan in our office. Governor Wilson will comment to the Secretary of the Interior. For your comments to be considered by the Governor please send them to James Strock, Secretary for Environmental Protection, 555 Capitol Mall, Suite 235, Sacramento, CA 95814 by Sept. 23rd. Your comments will make a difference!



National Wildlife Refuges

ACTION ALERT!! Action needed: Write Congressman Lagomarsino asking him to co-sponsor Rep. Studd's "National Wildlife Refuge System Act" - H.R. 2881. WHY?: To give the refuge system a guiding policy and to promote system wide planning including co-operation between the Fish & Wildlife Service and other agencies that share jurisdiction. The National Wildlife Refuge System is the ONLY system of federal lands managed primarily to preserve and enhance wildlife. This system includes:

- ✓ 466 units encompassing over 91 million acres
- ✓ 100 endangered species and 750 birds, 230 mammals
- ✓ Wetland, riparian, alpine, desert, marine habitat

The **THREATS**: 62% of all refuges have **HARMFUL ACTIVITIES** occurring within their borders and 16% are threatened by uses that U.S. Fish & Wildlife considers **INCOMPATIBLE** (i.e.- Airboats, ORV's, Water Skiing, Mining, Grazing, Military Exercises, Facility Rental, Oil/Gas Extraction). The Service currently lacks the authority to cancel harmful and incompatible uses. **WRITE**: 314 E. Carillo St., Santa Barbara, CA 93101.

HELP WANTED!

Those of us who work in the SBAS office enjoy it very much, but we could use a little help.

The duties are light: answering the phone (you meet some interesting people that way), handling the mail, some filing and light typing, if you wish.

The main thing is to keep the office open as many hours as possible, so that people can use the library, or obtain information about various conservation or Audubon events. The answers to most questions asked can be found in the many resource publications available in the office.

Please consider donating 2 to 4 hours per week, or perhaps signing up as a substitute for when the regulars are unable to work.

This is a very pleasant office, and we are sure that you will enjoy serving SBAS in this way, if you give it a try.



PICNIC Starts Off 1991-92 Chapter Year

At our annual meeting on June 2, new board member, Ben Berkowitz and the continuing board members were elected unanimously. The picnic was enjoyed by all at the lovely Giorgi Park. Tomi Sollen, the picnic coordinator, gives thanks to Marge Cappiello, Ed and Joy Parkinson, Dorothy Martone, Minna Smith, Ron Hirst, Betty and Joe Bazzi, Carol Rae, Nancy King, Jean Mosely, Ada Babine and Bob Sollen for their help.

SANTA BARBARA AUDUBON SOCIETY - OFFICERS 1991-92

President	Ron Hirst	967-0138
Vice President	Lee Moldaver	682-2120
Secretary	Nancy King	687-2079
Treasurer	Ben Berkowitz	687-6122
Conservation	Margaret Eissler	964-6486
Education	(vacant)	
Programs	Sally Walker	569-5388
Field Trips	Everett King	962-0883
Membership	Marie Slaton	683-2935
Newsletter	(vacant)	
At-Large	Joe Martorana	685-4045
	CHAIRS	
Hospitality	(vacant)	
Publicity	Betty Bazzi	967-5200
Rare Bird Reporter	Karen Bridgers	964-1316
Rare Bird Tape	Santa Barbara	964-8240
Bird Refuge Census	Helen Matelson	966-3217

OFFICE VOLUNTEERS

Please check appropriate box(es) and mail to the office. Thank you.

	AM 10-12	PM 12-2	PM 2-4
MON			
TUE			
WED			
THU			
FRI			

WEEKLY _____ MONTHLY _____ SUBSTITUTE _____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____

August Board of Directors Meeting

Reports on the National conference were given. The status of conservation activities, programs, education activities, treasury, and upcoming projects was covered. Votes were taken on the new Audubon Adventures fundraising initiative and approval was unanimous. Initiative will include soliciting donations from the public, members and selected corporations.



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SANTA BARBARA AUDUBON SOCIETY

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