

CACHUMA FLYER

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CACHUMA CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

This is the first year for the Cachuma Christmas Bird Count (CBC). Sponsored by the La Purisima Audubon Society, the count will take place within the 15-mile (diameter) circle shown below. Last year, the test count tallied 137 species - not bad for an inland count with less than a dozen people.

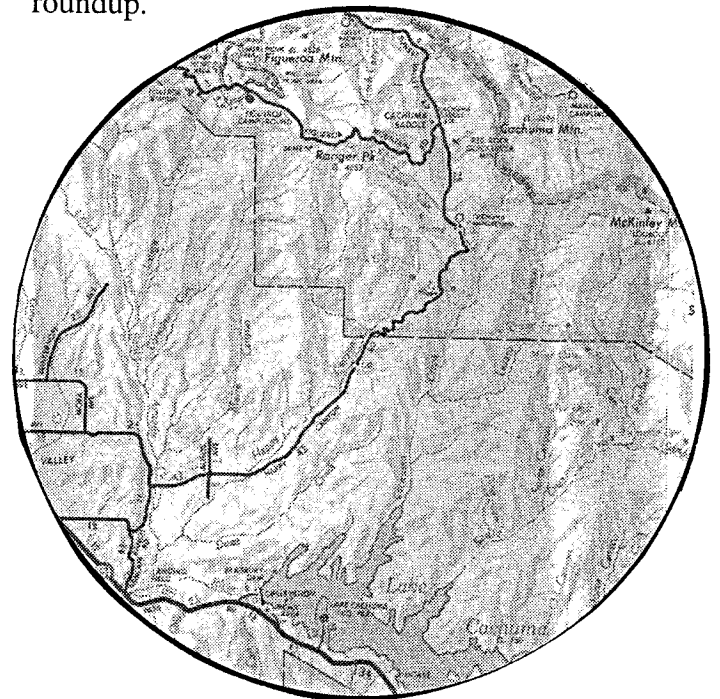
The date for the count will be December 29. This date was selected to resolve several potential conflicts with the Santa Barbara and Santa Maria CBCs. We're hoping that several birders will be available during this week between Christmas and New Year's day and that birders from Santa Barbara will be able to help out with this inaugural count.

The CBC evolved at the turn of the century and replaced the then-current custom of a contest that tallied the greatest number of birds that were shot and bagged. Since the map is not entirely distinct, please follow the circle markers (below) as the "true" circle location.

The circle has its center on Happy Canyon Rd., about 4-1/4 miles east of Alisos Rd. It includes Lake Cachuma (including Oil Cyn, but excluding the extreme east end), Armour Ranch Rd., Happy Canyon Rd., most of Baseline and Roblar Rds., Brinkerhof Rd, Figueroa Mtn. Rd. from a point about 1/2-mile west of the Figueroa Station to the Cachuma Saddle Guard Station, Sunset Valley Rd. to the Davey Brown Camp-

ground, Figueroa Summit, and approximately the first mile of the Catway. It just includes the Manzana Campground in the northeast. The Santa Ynez River is included to a point about 1-mile west of Highway 154.

Please contact Alex Abela (934-2873; abela@lightspeed.net) or Gene Lynch (736-8889; grlynch@sbceo.org) as soon as possible if you can make the count, as well as the area you prefer to cover. The lead time is needed for scheduling. Dinner (usually pizza) will be furnished at the tally roundup.



**Circle Of the Cachuma
Christmas Bird Count (CBC)**

GETTING TO KNOW US

Board member Carol Christensen Smagala comes by her Scandinavian maiden name through her parents who were first-generation Danes. Her affection for Solvang's food and its residents reflects this heritage



JOHN BARNEY/PHOTO

Professionally, Carol has been a Realtor in Santa Barbara for 23 years and currently works as an agent through Home Realty. She also taught elementary school in the Midwest and at San Roque parochial school in Santa Barbara.

Born in Chicago, Carol received a B.A. from Michigan State University in East Lansing. Her sister, with whom she shares her December birthday, still lives in the little town where they grew up—Constantine, Michigan. Carol volunteered as a Goleta 4-H leader in cooking, sewing, and as a community leader in the 1970's where she became acquainted with George Hughes and Linda and Neal Taylor.

Cooking is her favorite pastime, a skill she learned from her mother and has passed onto her four daughters. (One of whom, Stephanie, is responsible for our considerable supply of donated birdseed.) Reading is another passion of Carol's—with P.D. James near the top of her list of favored authors.

According to Carol, she was "drafted" into service with the Nature Center by the above-mentioned friends, but now finds it a "labor of love." Her favorite part of the Center is the flower/wild plant exhibit, but she is also inter-

ested in learning more through the astronomy programs.

She masterminded the Tenth Anniversary Party for the Center, and the Recognition Party in the fall. She has labored long and hard to acquire prizes for the Trout Derby for several years and serves as one of the Board's liaison members with the Docent Organization.

Her vision for the Nature Center is an "expanded, pristine facility with a cadre of **underworked** docents and Board members."

ONION-LOVER'S TWIST

Daryl Rutherford made this delicious bread for one of our recent gatherings and shared the following recipe with us. He says it works well in a food processor, if that's your style.

Bread	Filling
1 package yeast	1/4 cup margarine/butter
1/4 cup warm water	1 cup finely chopped onion
4 cups flour (2+2)	1 tbsp. Parmesan cheese
1/4 cup sugar	1 tbsp. sesame or poppy seed (or mixed)
1-1/2 tsp. salt	1tsp. Paprika
1/2 cup warm water	1 tsp. garlic salt
1/2 cup milk	
1/4 cup margarine/ butter	
1 egg	

In a large mixer bowl, dissolve the yeast in warm water (110 -115 deg.). Add 2 cups flour, the sugar, salt, water, milk, margarine, and egg. Blend on low speed until moistened. Beat 2 minutes at medium speed. Stir in the remaining 2 cups of flour by hand to form a soft dough. Cover, let rise in a warm place, 45-60 minutes. Press dough down and roughly shape the dough into a rectangle. Roll out into a 12 x 18 in. rectangle. Slice into 3 even (long) strips. Spread the filling (see below) down the center of each strip, fold over, and seal ends and edges, i.e., overlap the side of strips and pinch. On a greased cookie sheet, braid the 3 long rolls together. Form into a crescent shape. Cover, and let rise until double. Bake 30-35 minutes in an oven at 350 degrees.

The filling is made while the dough is rising the first time. Melt margarine/butter in a saucepan, add remaining ingredients. Cover and keep warm until ready to spread on the dough.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!

Fred Blaser
Betty Wimpres
Carol Smagala
Connie Howerton
George Smith
Becky Deutsch
Greg Donovan
Donna Shorts

Dale Findley
Daryl Rutherford
Helen Logan
Brian Lincoln
Lynda Williams
Donna Shorts

Helen Osenga
Marion Schlinger
Helen Logan
Brian Lincoln
Al Remenga
Bob Pike

Evert Schlinger
Tommy Miller
Ellen Lubic
Annie Ruano
Paul Roark
Linda Taylor

John Ahlman
Barbara Gutmann
Anne Plucy
George Hughes
Neal Taylor
Bob Runnels
Lorraine LaFargue

Don Wimpres
Evelyn Putnam

WHAT'S NEW?

- A reliable voice-mail system. It will be checked for messages every day and quick responses are promised. You can leave a message of up to 2 minutes. Just call 693-0691. If there is no response, you will be asked to leave your message.

- A Kodak, zoom-lens slide projector that will mate well with our recently acquired overhead projector for presentations publicizing the Nature Center. We have the Towbes Foundation to thank for the projectors, as well as a projection screen. We hope it will result in new Docents and Board members.

- A stereomicroscope for Docent use, thanks to a grant from the Page Foundation.

- Wonder of wonders! We finally have a new copier, as a result of a grant from the Wood-Claeysens Foundation. It is a Toshiba with many (but not too many) features. It has a 20-bin collator, enlarges and reduces, makes double-sided copies, and has several other features we will use often. This Flyer was printed on it, saving us many bucks.

OVER THE HORIZON

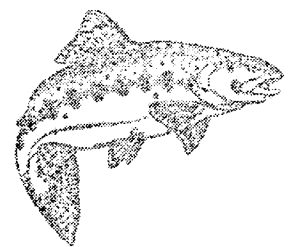
Eagle Count

The eagle count will be held the weekend of January 8-9 or 15-16. Stay tuned.



Trout Derby

The Fifth Annual Trout Derby is scheduled for the weekend of April 8-9. Even though it seems far away, the Trout Derby Committee has been starting the ball rolling. At a recent meeting it was decided to raise the early registration fee to \$25.00. After March 24, the fee will be \$30.00. Balancing this first-time increase is a decrease in registration fees for children ages 6 and under to \$5.00.



AMERICAN MISTLETOE

(Phoradendron serotinum)



The legendary mistletoe was known for centuries before the Christian era. It forms a drooping yellowish evergreen bush 2 to 3 feet long on the branch of a host tree. The flowers, in compact spikes are bisexual, unisexual, or regular. They are yellower than the leaves and give rise to one-

seeded, white berries, which, when ripe, are filled with a sticky, semitransparent pulp. These berries contain toxic compounds poisonous to animal and to humans.

Most temperate mistletoes are pollinated by flies and wind. Fruit-eating birds distribute the seeds in their droppings or by wiping their beaks against the bark of a tree. After germination, a modified root penetrates the bark of the host tree and forms a connection through which water and nutrients pass from host to parasite.

In some parts of Europe, the remnants of sacrificial ceremonies performed by ancient priests or Druids (Celtic: "Knowing [or finding] the Oak Tree") remain. Mistletoe was once believed to have magic power as well as medicinal properties. Later, the custom developed in England (and, still later, the United States) of kissing under the mistletoe, an action that once was believed to lead inevitably to marriage.



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