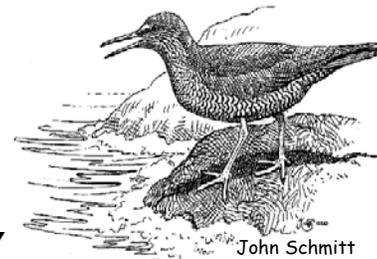


# Wandering Tattler

April 2007  
Volume 56, Number 7



The Voice of SEA AND SAGE AUDUBON, an Orange County Chapter of the National Audubon Society

## Addressing Nature Deficit Disorder - the Audubon Way

*by John Flicker, NAS president*

*The following article by John Flicker, President of National Audubon Society, appeared in the Fall 2006 issue of the Audubon Chapter Networker. This is a subject of great concern to me. Rather than put the article into my words, I believe it should be read by everyone as John Flicker wrote it. My hope is that it will inspire you to help children connect with nature with every opportunity that crosses your path. — Al Baumann*

At Audubon, we've always believed in the importance of connecting kids to nature—as a way to create meaningful learning experiences and to build an environmental ethic when attitudes and values are shaped and influenced. We know that caring about the environment at an early age can lead to a lifelong interest in protecting the environment. We also know that helping young people understand the connection between the quality of the environment and the quality of life gets a huge boost by spending time outside and in the community and seeing the connections first hand.

In the past year, the work Audubon does every day to connect kids to nature has been given a huge shot in the arm by a talented author: Richard Louv. As many of you know, Louv wrote the book *Last Child in the Woods*—highlighting the research that shows that kids who spend time outside are healthier, happier, and better adjusted. Spending time in nature, he says, also helps promote critical and creative thinking skills. Who wouldn't want their kids to be happier, healthier, and smarter? Unfortunately, the sad reality is that even though we're really understanding that spending time outside is good for kids, kids are actually spending less and less time outside every year. The reasons are varied—from the rise in electronic games that keep kids close to electrical outlets to the legal and safety issues that make it difficult for parents to feel good about sending their kids out to explore nature in the neighborhood.

Louv's book pulls together years of research about our children's loss of connection with the natural world. Many of the facts are things that we all subconsciously know: our children are spending more and more time in front of TVs, computers, and video games; being diagnosed with ADHD at increasing rates; and losing knowledge of nature.

*continued on page 8*

## General Meeting

April 20th - Friday - 7:30 pm

**“Orange County Great Park: Where  
we are and where we're going”**

*presented by Glen Worthington and  
Stephanie Pacheco*

The Great Park is taking shape on the site of the former El Toro Marine Corps Air Station and will encompass 1,000 acres to become one of the largest great parks in the world. Learn about the status of the Great Park master design plan, the process going forward, and efforts to incorporate 21st century sustainability concepts.

Glen Worthington is the Manager of Planning and Environmental Services for the Orange County Great Park. Prior to this appointment, he spent five years working on the City of Irvine's reuse planning efforts for the former MCAS El Toro. He was responsible for the environmental impact assessments as well as planning and zoning documents.

Stephanie Pacheco is the president of the Environmental Coalition for the Orange County Great Park and Great Park Communities, a group she formed with the environmental community in March of 2006. Stephanie has been Chair for the Orange County Conservation Committee, has served on the Executive Committee for Sierra Club's Orange County Group, was President of the Friends of Shipley Nature Center, and has been on the board of Amigos de Bolsa Chica.

Please join us in finding out how the future is shaping up for Orange County's Great Park. The doors open at 7:00, the meeting starts at 7:30 pm. We meet at the Irvine Ranch Water District Board Meeting Room at 15600 Sand Canyon Avenue in Irvine.

*Jay and Marquita Miller, Program Co-Chairs*

Our meetings are held in the Board Meeting Room of the Irvine Ranch Water District's main office on the east side of Sand Canyon Ave. at the intersection of Water Works and Sand Canyon, in the city of Irvine. If you are coming by freeway, Sand Canyon may be accessed from both Santa Ana Frwy (5) or San Diego Frwy (405); there are ramps from both the north and the south. (The Irvine Ranch Water District neither supports nor endorses the cause or activities of organizations which use the district's meeting rooms, which are made available as a public service.)

---

# Conservation News

by Susan Sheakley



---

## Celebrate Earth Day, Sat., April 21st Huntington State Beach - 9:00 to Noon

Join us and California State Parks for a morning of fun and light work at Huntington State Beach to help complete preparations of the California Least Tern nesting colony. Use the Magnolia Street entrance off Pacific Coast Highway. Go to the parking lot near the Santa Ana River. Fee waived for volunteers. Bring water, sun screen, "binocs", and gloves. If you have questions, call Susan Sheakley, 949-552-5974.

## Conservation Award and Letters of Commendation

**Peter Knapp** received the Fern Zimmerman Conservation Award at the chapter's Annual Dinner on March 16. The award recognizes Peter's long-term commitment and contributions to the Western Snowy Plover breeding population at Orange County's only nesting site in the Bolas Chica lowlands. Letters of Commendation went to:

**Dave Pryor**, his staff, and volunteers for their protection of nesting birds, and as ambassadors to the public, at the Huntington State Beach Least Tern Natural Preserve.

**Cheryl Egger**, as volunteer coordinator of colony monitors at Huntington State Beach.

**Loren Hays** for his long-term commitment to the Western Snowy Plover, California Least Tern and other shorebirds.

## National Climate Day of Action Event, Huntington Beach Pier, Sat, April 14th, 11:00 a.m.

The **Orange County Interfaith Coalition for the Environment (OCICE)** is supporting the National Climate Day of Action on April 14, 2007 by organizing an event at the Huntington Beach Pier. This will be one of nearly 700 events planned across the U.S.

It is part of a nationwide effort to raise awareness of the negative effects of global warming and to encourage Congress and other elected officials to reduce the nation's carbon emissions by 80 percent, by 2050, a 2% reduction each year. OCICE asks all Orange County citizens concerned about climate change to attend the event.

The event starts at 11 a.m. at the Huntington Beach Pier, off Pacific Coast Highway, between Beach and Goldenwest. From there the group will walk to City Hall to present a letter of support to the city of Huntington Beach for endorsing the U.S. Mayors' Climate Protection Agreement, a commitment by cities to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions.

"Huntington Beach is one of four cities in Orange County that have signed the agreement, and we hope our march will encourage other cities to follow suit," said Margaret Henke, OCICE. "We also want to let all our elected representatives in Congress and in California know that the time has come to take real action to stabilize our climate." RSVP for the event with OCICE at (714) 552-0333 or (714) 731-6775, or visit [www.StepItUP2007.org](http://www.StepItUP2007.org).

## Fish and Game Commission to Decide on Lead Ban in Condor Habitat

In April the California Fish and Game Commission will vote on decades of evidence that supports the need to ban lead ammunition in areas where the California Condors forage. Tejon Ranch, a large and active hunting area in the Condor's range, has banned lead ammunition over its entire ranch. The State, we hope, will follow this example and then take steps to ban lead ammunition statewide.

Lead in the environment is often fatal to all scavengers, including Golden Eagles and Bald Eagles. Lead from bullets has been found to affect humans that consume game. Our message is not anti-hunting; in fact, remains of hunting carcasses have become a critical source of food for many avian scavengers, but there simply are better choices available than lead ammunition. Some years ago, local biologists at Starr Ranch helped prove the case that copper is a safe and viable option to lead ammunition.

The Commission's decision will be posted on our chapter website. Please follow this issue with us. Your help may be needed.

## Observations of White-tailed Kite Nests Needed

Sea & Sage Audubon is conducting a survey of White-tailed Kite nesting territories in Orange County. We are looking for any and all information about the location of kite nests, or nesting activities, within the county. We would appreciate any information on the nesting activities of these birds, from as little as a single nest sighting, to regular observations at a territory. Pertinent information needed includes: the location, date, how many birds observed, and any behavioral information. (Please remember that while we need info, it is important to stay far away from an active nest and please avoid any disturbance around it.) Full information on this project can be found in the Conservation section of the chapter webpage at: <http://www.seaandsageaudubon.org>

# Rarities in Orange County

by Doug Willick

To report a RARE or UNUSUAL bird, or to receive the current RBA report for Orange County, call the OC RBA at (949) 487-6869.



Orange County was fortunate to have a number of exciting rarities spend the winter this year. These of course delighted local birders as well as lured in others from well beyond the county borders. We'll start off then with a recap of some of the winter rarities that continued to be seen into the last month.

Although the male **Hooded Warbler** in Mission Viejo disappeared in mid January, two other exceptional warbler rarities lingered on, including the **Worm-eating Warbler** at U.C. Irvine (through Feb. 17) and the **Yellow-throated Warbler** at Tewinkle Park (through at least Feb. 18). Other continuing warblers of note included an adult male **American Redstart** at Laguna Niguel Regional Park, through Feb. 10, and two **Black-and-white Warblers** (one at Huntington Central Park, Feb. 11, and another at Harbor View Nature Park, Feb. 21).

At Bolsa Chica, up to two **Reddish Egrets** and a **Brant** were again seen through at least mid February. An uncharacteristically cooperative **Least Bittern** continued to make appearances at Upper Newport Bay, with the latest report being Feb. 15. A **Bald Eagle** was seen again at the Seal Beach Naval Weapons Station, Feb. 4, where two to three **Ferruginous Hawks**, a **Peregrine Falcon** and a **Loggerhead Shrike** were also seen the same day (Robb Hamilton, Peter Gaede). At Tewinkle Park, a male **Eurasian Wigeon** was last reported Feb. 17. **Lewis's Woodpeckers** remained into February at two inland county sites (Black Star Canyon and O'Neill Regional Park). A **Winter Wren** was refound in Huntington Central Park, Feb. 7, where a **Summer Tanager** continued through at least Feb. 4. A **Swamp Sparrow** wintering at Laguna Niguel Regional Park was last reported Feb. 10.

During February several observers had interesting results

while searching through gull flocks along the county's coast. Doheny State Beach was again the hot spot, where three interesting gull observations were made. These included careful studies of a **Glaucous Gull**, Feb. 2 (Joe Morlan), and a **Lesser Black-backed Gull**, Feb. 11 (Nick and Mary Freeman). Even more intriguing was the report of a "possible" **Slaty-backed Gull** at Doheny, Feb. 14 (Dan Williams). Unfortunately, all three encounters were of the "one-day-wonder" variety, with none being refound for further study. The first two gulls were photographed, although no photographs were obtained of the Slaty-backed Gull, which if confirmed would establish a first county record. A few other previously reported Doheny notables continued to be seen, including a **Rock Wren** and up to two **Black Oystercatchers** through at least Feb. 17. As many as 8 Black Oystercatchers were again reported at Crescent Bay Point, Feb. 2.

Reports of alcids this past month included a dead **Rhinoceros Auklet** washed ashore in Huntington Beach, Feb. 13 (Tim Rhoades), and a **Common Murre** in Dana Point Harbor, Feb. 17 (Robert McNab). An adult **Bald Eagle** at Irvine Regional Park, Feb. 19 (Steve Metildi), was certainly an unexpected find at this location. Other miscellaneous new discoveries in February, from around the county, included a **Plumbeus Vireo** at Craig Regional Park, Feb. 4 (Jim Pike) to three **White-breasted Nuthatches** and a **Brown Creeper** at Ralph B. Clark Regional Park, Feb. 25 (J. Pike), and a **Varied Thrush** at Fairhaven Memorial Park, Feb. 5 (Doug Willick). At Yosemite Park (Laguna Niguel), a male **Hermit Warbler** and a **White-breasted Nuthatch**, Feb. 10, were nice surprises (Peyton Cook). A male **Rose-breasted Grosbeak** in a Laguna Beach residential area, Feb. 8

(Kaaren Perry) was visiting the same yard being frequented by a Black-headed Grosbeak earlier in the winter! A "**Red**" **Fox Sparrow** at Tucker Wildlife Sanctuary, Feb. 11 (Liga Auzins, Tom Wurster), was one of fewer than ten ever recorded in the county.

## Snowy Plover/Least Tern 2007 Season Kick-off

Peter Knapp, Photographer of the Natural World and Snowy Plover and Least Tern monitor at Bolsa Chica Reserve is our guest speaker.



Please come and enjoy his fantastic slide show and lecture about the breeding biology of these local plovers and terns.

**Wed., April 18, 7:00 p.m.**  
**Huntington State Beach**  
**Lifeguard Headquarters**  
**Magnolia St. Entrance off PCH**  
**Free Parking**

Our docent monitoring project at the state beach will be explained by David Pryor, the State Parks Environmental Scientist, and there will be a brief orientation for anyone who is interested in helping the birds this season.



You do not have to be a docent to attend. Please just come and enjoy the slide show. It is amazing!

If you cannot attend and are interested in becoming a docent, please contact:

Cheryl Egger at 714-842-9232  
[dc.egger@verizon.net](mailto:dc.egger@verizon.net)

# Chapter News & Announcements



For more information on Sea & Sage events and activities, check out our chapter webpage at: <http://www.seaandsageaudubon.org>

## Audubon House Volunteers

We would like to thank the following people for volunteering their time to staff Audubon House in March and April: Sonia Appell, Donna & Mike Augustine, Barbara Chidester, Carolyn Cooper, Tom Drouet, Fresia Escalona, Judy Fritts, Virginia Gochenour, Keats Hayden, Pat Heilig, Steve Jelnick, Lois Jones, Nancy Kenyon, Mary Martineau, Joan McCauley, Rosemary Price, Shirley Price, Betty Purdy, Roberta Ray, Barbara Reber, Mary Shandy, Bev Spring, Betty Swift, Celia Vorsanger, David Weber, Vic Westling.

## News from the Bookstore

Just out, the *ABA Birder's Guide to Southern CA* (5th edition), *Soaring With Fidel* (the 7,000 mile osprey migration), and *Birder's Don't Wear White* (light and funny collection of birding advice by Kaufman, Sibley, Dunne, Tim Gallagher and more). Also in, *Woodswoman IV* by Anne LaBastille. In stock now are birding vests, birding bags and new stocking designs (also in large sizes). On sale this month, all long-sleeved t-shirts (were \$19 now \$14.50).

## Sea and Sage Audubon Co-Sponsors Native Plant Garden Tour Sat., May 5th

Many of you know that usually each spring, the Orange County California Native Plant Society (CNPS) presents the Native Plant Garden Tour, of both public and private gardens. We are very excited that this year - because of our workshops in gardening with native plants - Sea and Sage Audubon was invited to join CNPS in sponsoring the Native Plant Garden Tour.

This spring's one-day tour will feature designs that demonstrate integration of California native plants into the landscape. You will find variety and inspiration. Some gardens incorporate natives without sacrificing fruit trees

and vegetable gardens. Others show mature groupings of native plants. And as one of the gardeners said, "The really great thing about planting natives, is that they attract birds to your yard!"

Nearly all of this year's gardens are new to the Native Plant Garden Tour.

The Native Plant Garden Tour is on Saturday, May 5, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free brochures listing the gardens and their locations will be available after April 15. There are several ways to obtain a copy:

Send a written request with a self-addressed stamped envelope to OC CNPS, P.O. Box 54891, Irvine CA 92619-4891.

For an E-mail Copy, visit the OC CNPS website at [www.occnps.org](http://www.occnps.org) and click on the Garden Tour link to leave your email address for an emailed copy. The map will be posted on the website on May 4 and 5 only. Visit the Sea & Sage website at [www.seaandsageaudubon.org](http://www.seaandsageaudubon.org) for a link to the OC CNPS website.

Pick up a brochure at Audubon House, the Tree of Life Nursery, or at the April General Meeting.

More information and photos are available on our chapter webpage at [www.seaandsageaudubon.org](http://www.seaandsageaudubon.org). If you have questions, contact Susan Sheakley at 949-552-5974.



## Camp Reunion

This year's Camp Reunion was held on March 18th for all the children who attended last summer's Nature Day Camp. The day's activities included a bird walk, crafts, and dinner. This festive event was a great way for the campers and their parents to renew old friendships and become better acquainted with each other. The event was held in the Duck Club.

## Celebrate International Migratory Bird Day at Starr Ranch Sanctuary!

This **FREE** event will be held Saturday, May 12th, 7 a.m. - 2 p.m., (drop in).

Relax and enjoy a family picnic, see birds up close in bird banding demonstrations, participate in a hawk research simulation program, observe the birds of Starr Ranch on guided walks, receive a free Bird Day poster and more!

RSVP by e-mail (preferred!) to [erynn.maynard@gmail.com](mailto:erynn.maynard@gmail.com) or call Justin at 949-858-3537. Please provide group size and contact info in your RSVP. You must RSVP to get directions to Starr Ranch (internet directions do not work).

## Shibley Nature Center Annual Spring Festival

Shibley Nature Center will hold its 2nd Annual Spring Festival on Sat., April 28th, from 9 am to 2 pm. The festival will be held at 17829 Goldenwest St. in Huntington Beach. From the 405 Freeway, exit on Goldenwest/Bolsa, go south; parking is just past Slater before Talbert. Admission is free! Activities include a Continental Breakfast, CA Native Plant Sale, Information Fair, Habitat Tour, Amphitheater dedication, Maypole Dance, Music by the Fifth Wheel Bluegrass Band. For additional info, call 714-842-4772 or visit their website at [www.shibleynature.org](http://www.shibleynature.org)

## Kern River Valley Spring Nature Festival

(formerly the Biofest) celebrates an area that has garnered international recognition for its natural diversity. Friday-Monday, April 27-30, 2007 sponsored by Audubon California Kern River Preserve. For Info—<http://kern.audubon.org/bioregion.htm>, or contact: Alison Sheehey at [krpfriends@lightspeed.net](mailto:krpfriends@lightspeed.net), (760) 378-202

# Sea & Sage Audubon Coastal Christmas Bird Count - 12/31/06

This Christmas Bird Count was organized, coordinated, and compiled by Curtis Johnson of Sea & Sage. A copy of the data for each section of the count can be found on our Sea & Sage webpage at [www.seaandsageaudubon.org](http://www.seaandsageaudubon.org). For a printout of the entire report showing each section's data as well as the totals, send a stamped, self-addressed, legal sized envelope to: CBC, c/o Nancy Kenyon, 32 Almond Tree Ln, Irvine 92612; be sure to specify which CBC you want a copy of.

Snow Goose	3	White-tailed Kite	18	Caspian Tern	21	Hermit Thrush	146
Brant	1	Northern Harrier	17	Royal Tern	31	American Robin	32
Canada Goose	532	Sharp-shinned Hawk	10	Forster's Tern	123	Varied Thrush	1
Gadwall	122	Cooper's Hawk	38	Black Skimmer	80	Wrentit	16
Eurasian Wigeon	2	Red-shouldered Hawk	29	Cassin's Auklet	12	Northern Mockingbird	90
American Wigeon	1531	Red-tailed Hawk	73	Rhinoceros Auklet	6	California Thrasher	1
Mallard	1053	Ferruginous Hawk	1	Rock Pigeon	2206	European Starling	1489
Blue-winged Teal	298	American Kestrel	63	Band-tailed Pigeon	5	American Pipit	322
Cinnamon Teal	155	Merlin	11	Mourning Dove	646	Cedar Waxwing	742
Northern Shoveler	1598	Peregrine Falcon	9	Common Ground-Dove	1	Phainopepla	1
Northern Pintail	874	Clapper Rail	112	Red-crowned Parrot	259	Orange-crowned Warbler	204
Green-winged Teal	866	Virginia Rail	18	Barn Owl	2	Nashville Warbler	1
Canvasback	9	Sora	29	Great Horned Owl	4	Yellow Warbler	2
Redhead	24	Common Moorhen	6	Burrowing Owl	5	Yellow-rumped Warbler	3099
Ring-necked Duck	20	American Coot	3301	Long-eared Owl	1	Townsend's Warbler	71
Greater Scaup	4	Black-bellied Plover	1607	Short-eared Owl	1	Palm Warbler	1
Lesser Scaup	1384	Snowy Plover	29	White-throated Swift	143	Black-and-white Warbler	2
Surf Scoter	599	Semipalmated Plover	822	Anna's Hummingbird	722	American Redstart	2
White-winged Scoter	1	Killdeer	378	Costa's Hummingbird	1	Worm-eating Warbler	1
Bufflehead	413	Black-necked Stilt	305	Allen's Hummingbird	200	MacGillivray's Warbler	1
Common Goldeneye	9	American Avocet	741	Belted Kingfisher	30	Common Yellowthroat	501
Hooded Merganser	8	Greater Yellowlegs	57	Woodpecker, Acorn	3	Wilson's Warbler	16
Common Merganser	2	Lesser Yellowlegs	3	Red-breasted Sapsucker	2	Summer Tanager	3
Red-breasted Merganser	45	Willet	783	Nuttall's Woodpecker	30	Western Tanager	3
Ruddy Duck	1689	Wandering Tattler	1	Downy Woodpecker	32	Spotted Towhee	32
Red-throated Loon	9	Spotted Sandpiper	27	Northern Flicker	52	California Towhee	89
Pacific Loon	21	Whimbrel	10	Gray Flycatcher	1	Chipping Sparrow	4
Common Loon	10	Long-billed Curlew	51	Black Phoebe	420	Clay-colored Sparrow	1
Pied-billed Grebe	176	Marbled Godwit	355	Say's Phoebe	77	Lark Sparrow	1
Horned Grebe	20	Ruddy Turnstone	4	Cassin's Kingbird	86	Savannah Sparrow	168
Eared Grebe	154	Black Turnstone	9	Loggerhead Shrike	13	Fox Sparrow	22
Western Grebe	455	Surfbird	34	Hutton's Vireo	9	Song Sparrow	455
Clarke's Grebe	20	Red Knot	24	Western Scrub-Jay	10	Lincoln's Sparrow	36
Black-vented Shearwater	2300	Sanderling	405	American Crow	1559	White-throated Sparrow	1
American White Pelican	151	Western Sandpiper	16392	Common Raven	43	White-crowned Sparrow	1444
Brown Pelican	371	Least Sandpiper	855	Horned Lark	169	Golden-crowned Sparrow	23
Brandt's Cormorant	375	Dunlin	227	Tree Swallow	49	Dark-eyed Junco (Ore.)	226
Double-crested Cormorant	844	Short-billed Dowitcher	80	N. Rough-winged Swallow	6	Red-winged Blackbird	766
Pelagic Cormorant	5	Long-billed Dowitcher	309	Barn Swallow	5	Tricolored Blackbird	1
American Bittern	3	Wilson's Snipe	50	Mountain Chickadee	1	Western Meadowlark	193
Least Bittern	1	Pomarine Jaeger	2	Bushtit	1115	Brewer's Blackbird	216
Great Blue Heron	116	Parasitic Jaeger	7	Cactus Wren	3	Great-tailed Grackle	58
Great Egret	122	Bonaparte's Gull	24	Bewick's Wren	11	Brown-headed Cowbird	38
Snowy Egret	243	Heermann's Gull	332	House Wren	53	Bullock's Oriole	9
Reddish Egret	2	Mew Gull	50	Winter Wren	3	House Finch	1711
Cattle Egret	3	Ring-billed Gull	1326	Marsh Wren	26	Lesser Goldfinch	301
Green Heron	18	California Gull	1908	Golden-crowned Kinglet	4	American Goldfinch	216
Black-crowned Night-Her	113	Herring Gull	7	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	419	House Sparrow	558
White-faced Ibis	36	Thayer's Gull	1	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	69		
Turkey Vulture	99	Western Gull	607	California Gnatcatcher	31		
Osprey	23	Glaucous-winged Gull	6	Western Bluebird	83		

---

# Birdathon 2007!

*Editor's note: This article was written several years ago after a first Birdathon experience. I've kept it to rerun because Neal did such a great job describing his feelings as a new member of our team as well as explaining what Birdathon is all about. Since that first year, Neal has developed into an experienced birder who is especially good at spotting and identifying those partial views one gets of "good" birds which are always lurking in the vegetation, and he hasn't missed a single Birdathon. I hope you will experience enough of the excitement of the event, after reading this article, to want to try it yourself this year. See article on the next page for ideas of places to go and how to form your own team. Or — give us a call; we'd be happy to offer some suggestions.*



## The Morning After by Neal Anderson

It's Sunday morning. My legs ache from hiking, my shoulders from carrying an overweight scope. But my spirit is in heaven. It's the day after the Birdathon and all is well.

Friday night and Saturday were my first attempt at a Birdathon and I didn't know what to expect. Mike and Margaret Smith, our chairpersons for this year's event, found a team that agreed to put up with me for the event, the Wandering Tattlers. I hope they don't tattle on my ineptitude.

Friday night at dusk, we assembled at Irvine Regional Park to look for owls, nighthawks and poorwills, in addition to whatever might show up. The five target species that my teammates wanted to find all showed up, so it looked like we were off to a good start.

Saturday morning we were to rendezvous at Audubon House at 5:15 AM, an ungodly hour. With my excitement, I couldn't sleep and got to Audubon House a half hour early. And I wasn't the first one there! Susan and Nancy finally showed up at the appointed time and told me we couldn't count the birds that I had already identified. It seems like at least two members of the team needed to identify the little critters. My first lesson. Off we went to Newport Pier for pelagic species. Again, we weren't the first team there. Next, we traveled down the coast to look for cormorants and a Wandering Tattler. Again we had success.

Up and down the coast we traveled. Back and forth from the coast to the foothills, always in search for something on our list or for something new, we raced against the clock. By dusk, I was exhausted, so too were my teammates, but we had fun.

Would I do it again? You better believe it. I can't wait for next year's Birdathon to start. Maybe then I will be able to contribute a little bit more to a team. Some of you may wonder what the Birdathon is all about. It's an event sponsored by National Audubon as a fundraiser. Local Audubon Chapters can participate in the event if they so choose. There are specific rules and regulations, such as the number of members in a team, the method of counting species, the species allowed to be counted, the time allowed, and the areas that can be investigated. The Birdathon happens to be one of our biggest and most successful fund raising events of the year. As a Chapter, we contribute fifty percent of our contribution to further the programs at Audubon California's Starr Ranch Sanctuary. For the many of you who have visited the Ranch, you know that our contribution is well spent.

So this year, when the Birdathon rolls around, I will be there and hope to see you there also. If you can't participate in the challenge of identifying species, please participate by sponsoring a team. Your donations go a long way in supporting our programs here in Orange County.



# Birdathon, Sat, April 28, 2007!

It's Birdathon time again! Time to start thinking about how you will get involved to help Sea and Sage. Birdathon is first and foremost a fundraising event. All money raised by Birdathon teams remains within Orange County, benefiting chapter education and conservation programs, and supporting the Starr Ranch Audubon Sanctuary. And it's a lot of fun too! What could be better than raising money for an important and worthy cause, while doing what birders do anyway?



So go out and do what birders do...spend a few hours in a local park or at San Joaquin Marsh, count species at your backyard feeder or at the end of Newport Pier. You may wish to join in the Big Day competition, to see if your team can find the most birds in 24 hours or better your personal record from previous year(s). Whatever form of birdwatching appeals to you, do it! All you need to do is to get family, friends, co-workers and random strangers to sponsor you a dime or a buck per species. Then go out and have fun. Afterwards you tell your sponsors how hard you worked for their donations, and let us know how you did...

Even if you are not into toting binoculars, you are still a critical part of Birdathon. All those people out in the field looking for birds need a purpose...they need you to sponsor them. So please consider making a donation; envelopes are included in this issue (or mail your donation to the Sea & Sage address). You can sponsor a team or sponsor the chapter as a whole. The top Big Day teams may see up to 185 species, whereas the chapter as a whole will probably total nearly 200. A pledge of only 10 cents per species would benefit the chapter to the tune of \$20.

Remember, Birdathon isn't just Big Day teams dashing like lunatics from dawn to dusk (however that IS fun...you ought to try it!). Birdathon is one of the ways that Sea and Sage raises funds for its projects in Education and Conservation, projects that in the long run benefit everyone in Orange County. So everyone reading this should be vitally interested in the success of this event, and the only decision is whether to gather sponsors, or to support the chapter...or both! I'll leave that up to you.

— Steve Alter

## Birdathon Participation Form



- Big Day** – I wish to be part of a team; please help me find a team
- Big Sit** – I will bird my yard or at the Marsh
- Favorite Park** – I will count birds in my favorite park \_\_\_\_\_
- City Count** – I will count birds in the city of \_\_\_\_\_
- I wish to sponsor this person or team** \_\_\_\_\_
- I will sponsor the chapter:** \$\_\_\_\_\_ per number of total bird species seen.
- I am sending a donation** in the envelope provided

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

If you would like to be a part of this year's Birdathon, please complete this form and mail it to: Birdathon! Sea & Sage Audubon, PO Box 5447, Irvine CA 92616. For more information, contact Al Baumann by phone at (949) 859-5081 or by email at <[aljanetbaumann@aol.com](mailto:aljanetbaumann@aol.com)>

# Addressing Nature Deficit Disorder

continued from page 1

Louv points out that six to eleven year olds spend an average of 30 hours a week looking at a television or computer screen, that there's been a 200% increase in the rate at which doctors prescribe antidepressants for children, and that a 2002 study in Britain showed that the average 8-year-old could better identify Pokéman (a Japanese card trading game) characters than the otters, beavers, and oak trees in their own communities.

This message has hit a nerve with the American public-everyone from concerned parents and teachers to developers and health advocates. Louv has been crisscrossing the country talking about connecting kids to nature and how to solve the problem he's coined "Nature Deficit Disorder." The good news is that now he has people everywhere talking about the fading connection between our children and nature-and how to fix it.

Louv is calling for a "no child left inside movement"- for a return to and appreciation of the natural world and for every school district in America to be connected to one or more wildlife-and-childhood preserves in its region. He's also calling for a camp revival. He is calling for exactly the kind of work we in Audubon are doing.

Through Audubon Chapters and at Audubon Centers around the country, children (and adults) are witnessing the magic of nature. They are learning the names of the plants and animals they see every day. They are learning the important connections between humans and nature. And they are forging memorable connections with the natural world.

Every part of the Audubon network is involved in the vital work that Louv has spotlighted. From the Nature Discovery Day camps of the Seattle Audubon Society in Washington to Raptor Encounters at the Green Mountain Audubon Society in Vermont, Audubon Chapters are helping young people experience the wonders of the great outdoors. And with close to 500 chapters throughout the country, Audubon is distinctly poised to help address "nature deficit disorder" by connecting young people to the nature in their own communities. We believe that it is through this connection that people will become stewards of our natural resources and care enough about the environment to protect it.

If you haven't read the book, I encourage you to do so. And use it to help make the case for why we need more nature, not less. It's an exciting opportunity for the Audubon network and an important opportunity for our country to rethink the way we think about nature and society.

# April Field Trips

For trip updates, visit <http://www.seaandsageaudubon.org>  
Questions about field trips? contact Field Trip Chair, Nancy Kenyon, at 949-786-3160 or [nancykenyon@cox.net](mailto:nancykenyon@cox.net)

## Peters Canyon

Sun, April 1st - 7:30 am

Peter's Canyon is a regional park which boasts a variety of habitats and birds. We will be walking on unpaved paths & roads so the walk will be cancelled if there has been recent rain. **Directions:** From #5 Freeway, take Jamboree east. Turn left on Canyon View Ave., not far from Santiago Cyn Rd. From #55 Fwy, take Chapman east. Turn right on Jamboree and right again on Canyon View; the park will be on your left. Be prepared to pay the \$5 parking fee into the machine if you don't have a regional parks decal. The regional parks card/pass cannot be used.

*Steve & Marian Alter, Leaders 949-669-9482*

## Santiago Oaks Regional Park

Sunday, April 1st - 7:00 a.m. (note: Time Change)

Join Linette Lina for a monthly bird walk at Santiago Oaks at 7:00 am. The mix of oak riparian and coastal sage scrub habitats make Santiago Oaks one of the best places in Orange County to find a variety of songbirds.

**Directions:** Take the 55 freeway to Katella Ave in Orange. Exit and drive east on Katella 3.2 miles to Windes Dr. Turn left on Windes Dr. and follow the signs to the park. **OR,** take Jamboree towards the mountains, all the way to its intersection with Santiago Cyn. Rd; turn left and follow Santiago to Windes Dr. Turn right on Windes and follow it to the park. Be prepared to pay the \$5 entrance fee if you don't have a county parks pass. Meet in the upper end of the parking lot. *Linette Lina, Leader*

## Villa Park Flood Basin

Saturday, April 7th - 8:00 am

The Villa Park Flood Control Basin is situated in the east Orange foothills between the Villa Park Dam on the north and Irvine Regional Park on the south. We will explore the basin's fairly extensive riparian and freshwater marsh habitats, which are associated with the Santiago Creek drainage. Although the area has received minimal birding coverage during spring, it is known to provide breeding habitat for a wide variety of riparian and marsh birds, including several declining southern California breeders, such as Least Bell's Vireo, Yellow Warbler, Green Heron, White-tailed Kite, Virginia Rail, Pacific-slope Flycatcher Swainson's Thrush, California Gnatcatcher, Hutton's Vireo, Yellow-breasted Chat, and Blue Grosbeak. Depending on conditions during the time of the trip, we will be walking a loop trail of approximately 2 to 2 1/2 miles. The trails are unimproved, but of reasonably good condition. The walk should last less than four hours, although it should be noted that there are no restrooms, water, or other amenities once we leave the parking area. *(continued on page*

# April Field Trips - continued



For trip updates & additional trip information, visit the chapter webpage at <http://www.seaandsageaudubon.org> . Trips marked with a ® require advance reservations. If you have any questions about the field trips or would like to make trip reservations, contact Field Trip Chair, Nancy Kenyon, at 949-786-3160, or [nancykenyon@cox.net](mailto:nancykenyon@cox.net)

## Villa Park Flood Basin - *continued*

**Directions:** take Chapman Ave. east from the Newport Freeway, to Irvine Regional Park. Immediately after entering the park (just past the entrance booth), make a left turn at the first opportunity. After passing the first parking lot on the left side of this loop road, we will meet in the second parking along this road, which will be on the right-hand side. This is the closest parking lot to the Villa Park Flood Basin. We will meet at 8 am, and we should be returning to the cars by approximately 11:30.

*Doug Willick, Leader*

## Monthly Bird Walk at the SJWS

**Sunday, April 8th - 8:00 a.m.**

Join Chris Obaditch for a monthly bird walk around the ponds of the San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary in Irvine at 8:00 am on the 2nd Sunday morning of each month. (See directions on page 11.) The walk, which is open to interested birders of all ages, will meet by the front door of Audubon House. Children under the age of 11 must be accompanied by an adult. *Chris Obaditch, Leader*

## Eastern Sierra Weekend FT ®

**Sat-Sun, April 14-15, 7:30 am**

We will meet in Lone Pine at 7:30 am on Saturday morning. From there, we will drive up #395 to Bishop, birding along the way. Target birds: Blue Grouse, Gray-crowned Rosy-finch, American Dipper. On Sun. morning, we will reassemble at 5 am to watch the Sage Grouse display on their lek. We will then proceed north to Mammoth and beyond, to look for Clark's Nutcracker, Black-billed Magpie, Sage Thrasher, Pinyon Jay, and Common Loon in breeding plumage. Trip fee is \$25. Make check payable to SEA & SAGE AUDUBON and mail to: Eastern Sierra Birds, c/o Nancy Kenyon, 32 Almond Tree Ln, Irvine CA 92612. Include your phone number and your e-mail address or a SASE or for trip confirmation and information.

*Roy Poucher, Leader*

*Nancy Kenyon, Trip Coordinator*

949-786-3160 [nancykenyon@cox.net](mailto:nancykenyon@cox.net)

## Laguna Niguel Regional Park

**Wed, April 18th - 7:30 am**

This park in the southern end of the county is a great place to see orioles and other spring migrants, as well as water birds on the lake. **Directions:** From the San Diego Fwy (I-5), exit at La Paz Rd and drive south towards Laguna Niguel. The park entrance is on the right shortly after crossing Aliso Creek Road. Entrance fee is \$3, or by annual pass. Meet at the first parking lot to the left of the entrance by Picnic Shelters #5 and #6. Bring binoculars, a scope if you have one, water and a snack. The field trip will end at noon. *Paul Klahr, Leader*

## Monthly Electric Boat Trips at UNB ®

**Wednesday mornings at 8:15 am**

**April 18, May 16, June 20, July 18, Aug. 15**

Join us for the rare chance of birding the Upper Newport Bay from the deck of a small electric-powered boat. Spotting birds from the water offers one a different perspective and the birds seem to view us differently also. Trip duration is about 3 hours. Participants may be asked to help count all birds seen or heard from the boat. Space is very limited because the boat is small; advance reservations are mandatory. Contact Nancy Kenyon for trip reservations at 949-786-3160 or [NancyKenyon@cox.net](mailto:NancyKenyon@cox.net) . *Nancy Kenyon, Leader*

## Hawk & Owl Banding Trips ®

**Sat., April 28th, 8 am - 1 pm; 12 pm - 5 pm**

**Sun., April 29th, 8 am - 1 pm; 12 pm - 5 pm**

(See chapter webpage for a full schedule of these trips, complete trip information, & photos.) Come to Audubon CA Starr Ranch Sanctuary and join sanctuary manager Pete DeSimone and Scott Thomas on a tour of the sanctuary and have the unique opportunity to observe owl chicks right at their nests. Pete and Scott have been studying nesting raptors here in the county for many years. On these trips, they will be banding the chicks right in front of the group. Trip participants will be able to help out and get right in the action with the young raptors. These trips include 3-4 hours in the field and a picnic lunch. Trip fee is \$40 per person; full time students & children under 10 are \$25. Advance reservations are necessary. Make checks payable to Sea & Sage Audubon & mail to: Banding Trips, c/o Nancy Kenyon, 32 Almond Tree Ln, Irvine CA 92612. Be sure to include your phone number and your email address or a stamped, self-addressed legal-size envelope for trip confirmation & directions.

*Pete DeSimone & Scott Thomas, Leaders*

## El Moro Canyon, Crystal Cove St. Park

**Sun, April 29th - 7:30 am**

Crystal Cove State Park has numerous excellent birding areas; on this trip we will visit 2-3 important ones: the Los Trancos parking; the beach for shorebirds if there's time, then on to El Moro Canyon. **Directions:** The Los Trancos parking area is on the inland side of Pacific Coast Hwy. 1/2 mile south of the Newport Coast/ Pelican Point traffic signal, and is 1.3 miles north of the El Moro School/ State Park traffic signal. Park entrance fee is \$10, or \$8 for seniors, so it is advisable to carpool. Bring binoculars, water, sunblock, hat and snack. The trip will end at 1 pm. *Paul Klahr, Leader*

---

# Pond Ponderings - (our education programs at the SJWS)



Art Meets Science ~ Summer Bat Walks ~ Seasons of Nature

---

## Art Meets Science

by Lori Kiesser

By the 2007/2008 school year, our Marsh Education Project will officially offer its new Art Meets Science program to 4th & 5th grade students throughout Orange County!

In collaboration with The Irvine Museum, this field trip combines art and science in an exciting way. Students will visit The Irvine Museum to view plein air art and learn how artists use science when creating these works out in nature. The students' field trip continues at the San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary where Sea & Sage Audubon volunteers guide the students on a nature walk. Students will learn about the science of wetland ecosystems, including the biology, interdependence, and risks to these fragile habitats. Students will also be encouraged to make observations about how natural habitats inspire and inform artists in the creation of their works. After the nature walk, students will record their personal observations in a nature journal. Students will also participate in a group project to create an eco-mural to take back to their school.

Development of this new environmental education project has been a labor of love. We received generous funding by the Joan Irvine Smith & Athalie R. Clarke Foundation plus another local anonymous foundation. With inspiring leadership by volunteer Lori Kiesser, program accomplishments to date include teacher surveys, focus groups, meetings with The Irvine Museum, and then the actual creation of the program. Naturalist recruitment and training will happen in spring 2007, and we will begin the pilot phase shortly afterwards. Our program has teachers excited, with the added bonus that it meets California Department of Education standards for art and science!

If you know of an artist, teacher, college student, or anyone else who can help with the program, please contact Lori Kiesser ([lorikiesser@yahoo.com](mailto:lorikiesser@yahoo.com)). If you know of anyone who might be interested in donating art supplies, such as rolls of recycled table liner paper, markers, stencils, paper to create nature journals, or other art supplies, please let me know!

## Greet Spring at the Marsh Sunday, April 15th at 9:00 am

After winter leaves, what new life emerges at the marsh? Use binoculars, microscopes, and magnifiers to find out! Discover a haven of nature in Irvine. Enjoy an easy walk around the ponds. Our naturalists will share the secrets of the marsh. Be amazed by the variety of birds, insects, and plants. Please RSVP to Audubon House at 949-261-7963.

---

## Summer Bat Walks

by Helen Nicholas



Are you and your friends looking for a unique experience? Have you done just about everything you thought there was to do in Orange County? There is one activity that comes to mind that truly deserves the designation of "unique". Sea & Sage Audubon Society invites you and your friends to experience a BAT WALK at night in the San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary in Irvine. Local bat specialist, Stephanie Remington, dispels many myths about bats with a wonderful slide presentation and a walk after dark around the marsh with sonar detectors tuned to the frequencies of the two most common species of bats living in our area. The sonar detectors alert participants to the presence of bats and, if you have quick adapting eyes, you will see the bats flying past overhead, eating (controlling) the mosquitos and other flying insects that come out at dusk. These tours will take place Friday May 25, June 8, June 22, August 10 and August 17 from 7:00 - 8:45 p.m. Cost is \$12 per adult and \$6 for children 7 - 12. Call 949-726-0858 for questions and registration. (A registration form is also on the chapter webpage.)

## Nature Walk Volunteers

by Trude Hurd

Imagine spending a morning peering through a magnifier at a bug on a leaf, watching ducks catch food, or noticing what plants are in bloom. Want to learn more about the wildlife of the San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary, and then share that knowledge with the public in a fun and interesting way? Our new Seasons of Nature program is looking for a few more enthusiastic people to help plan and lead morning nature walks on the third Sunday of the month from 9 am to noon. This nature walk emphasizes the CONNECTIONS between birds, plants and other animals. Detailed knowledge is not a requirement, as the nature walk leaders focus on just a few specific species and how they live in the marsh.

Our Seasons of Nature program is also looking for a new volunteer coordinator. The Coordinator's responsibilities include overseeing the monthly planning meetings, co-leading the quarterly public walks, and assisting the volunteer team with publicity and preparation of educational displays. Actual hours required are small but important.

If you are interested in either the educator or coordinator position, please contact Trude Hurd at (949) 261-7963 for further information.

## Your Membership Payment

## Directions to Audubon House

## Receiving the Tattler

### Your Membership Payment & Donations

If you are signing up as a new Audubon member be sure and use the application in the Tattler or on our website that has the C15 in the lower right hand corner. This tells National Audubon who to credit for your recruitment. Sea & Sage gets 100% of the first year's dues of new members (even if you give more than the minimum membership fee). When renewing your membership and you pay more than the standard renewal fee (\$35 for regular and \$15 for senior/student membership), the extra you contribute goes to National Audubon; the chapter does not get any of the contribution back. So, if you are feeling generous at renewal time and you want Sea & Sage to benefit, you should send your renewal fee to National and a separate check with your donation to the chapter. If you have any questions please contact Phil Brobst at (949) 261-7963.



### Directions to AUDUBON HOUSE and the SJWS

8:00 am - 4:00 pm daily  
(949) 261-7963



From the San Diego Frwy. (405), exit on Jamboree south toward Newport Beach. At the 1st signal, Michelson, turn left. Continue on Michelson to the 4th signal which is Riparian View; turn right toward the Irvine Ranch Water District plant. Follow the signs directing you to Audubon and the San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary. Follow the sign directing you to turn right down a short hill into our parking lot. The first building you see will Audubon House; parking is ample. Beyond Audubon House are the ponds and marsh mitigation areas of the San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary which are open every day from dawn until dusk.

### Tattler Subscriptions

Non-Audubon members, or members from other Audubon chapters, who wish to subscribe to our chapter newsletter, may do so for \$12.50 per year, for regular mailing. Those who wish to receive their newsletter faster, by 1st class postage, may do so for an additional \$6.00. Make check payable to: SEA and SAGE AUDUBON and mail to: Tattler Subscriptions, 32 Almond Tree Ln, Irvine CA 92612.



### Tattler Delivery

Those of you who read the Tattler cover to cover, know that Sea and Sage is trying to cut their expenses. We now post the Tattler on our chapter website. Members who wish to receive monthly e-mail notification that the latest issue of the tattler is online, should send an e-mail to [nancykenyon@cox.net](mailto:nancykenyon@cox.net). This method of Tattler delivery not only helps cut costs and conserve resources, it also is much faster since the Tattler is posted immediately after it has been delivered to the printer

## Membership Application

**Membership:** We invite you to become a member of the National Audubon Society and the Sea & Sage Audubon chapter. **To join:** Please pay by check only; do not send cash. Make your check payable to: NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY, complete this form, and mail it along with your payment to: Sea & Sage Audubon, PO Box 5447, Irvine CA 92616-5447.

**National Audubon Society Membership: Check one** []

[  ] NEW MEMBERSHIP: \$20 - Individual or Family members [  ] RENEWAL: \$35 - Regular Membership  
[  ] NEW MEMBERSHIP: \$15 - Senior Citizen or Student [  ] RENEWAL: \$15 - Senior Citizen or Student

**Members receive:** AUDUBON magazine as well as the WANDERING TATTLER newsletter.

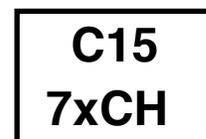
Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_



April 2007

# Sea and Sage Audubon Society

Chapter Mission Statement: Sea and Sage Audubon is a leader in creating an understanding of nature in Orange County, through conservation, research and environmental education programs for children and adults. This is accomplished with classes, field activities, publications and volunteer opportunities



Sea & Sage Audubon Society  
PO Box 5447, Irvine CA 92616

Non-Profit Org  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Santa Ana, CA  
Permit No 164

DATED MATERIAL PLEASE EXPEDITE!

## BOARD MEMBERS

### Executive Committee:

President.....	Al Baumann.....	949-859-5081
Vice President.....	Kaaren Perry.....	949-497-0884
Secretary.....	Marcia Marlowe.....	949-644-0559
Treasurer.....	Hal Sheakley.....	949-552-5974
Director 2007.....	Laura Wantz.....	949-494-4046
Director 2007.....	Pete DeSimone.....	949-858-0309
Director 2008.....		
Director 2008.....	Sandy DeSimone.....	848-858-0309
Director 2009.....	Mary Joseph.....	714-848-8362
Director 2009.....	Chuck Leavell.....	714-630-6497
Past President.....	Tom Croom.....	714-692-9683

### Committee Chairpersons:

Audubon House Volunteers..	Judy Fritts.....	949-551-4513
Birdathon (interim).....	Al Baumann.....	949-859-5081
Bird Information.....	Sylvia Gallagher.....	714-962-8990
Christmas Bird Counts.....	Curtis Johnson.....	714-739-5373
Conservation .....	Susan Sheakley.....	949-552-5974
Counsel.....	Rick Derevan.....	714-427-7016
Development.....	Cheryl Thomas.....	949-294-2275
Education (interim).....	Kaaren Perry.....	949-497-0884
Exhibits.....		
Facilities.....	Neal Anderson.....	714-441-0491
Field Trips.....	Nancy Kenyon.....	949-786-3160
Finance.....		
Great Park Liaison Chair.....	Diane Bonanno.....	714-572-9911
Hospitality-General Mtgs.....	Merri Levy.....	949-495-9482
Membership.....	Phil Brobst.....	949-261-7963
Newsletter Editor.....	Nancy Kenyon.....	949-786-3160
Oak Cyn Nature Center.....	Cathy Glasgow.....	714-998-8380
Partners in Flight.....	Janet Baumann.....	949-859-5081
Program Co-Chairs.....	Jay & Marquita Miller..	714-549-2912
Publicity.....	Catherine Waters.....	562-869-6718
Publishing.....	Sam Berry.....	949-646-1488
SJWS Liaison.....	Chris Obaditch.....	949-640-7234
Starr Ranch/Envir. Liaison....	Pete DeSimone.....	949-858-0309
Webpage.....	Nancy Kenyon.....	949-786-3160

### Chapter Office (AUDUBON HOUSE)..... 949-261-7963

Marsh Education Project Director...	Trude Hurd .....	949-261-7963
Marsh Education Project Dir. Assist	Deborah Brin.....	949-261-7963
Conservation Director Orange Co...	Scott Thomas.....	949-293-2915
Administrative Aide.....	Rebecca Craft.....	949-261-7963
Sales Manager.....	Debby Thyssen.....	949-261-7963
Chapter Website.....	<a href="http://www.seaandsageaudubon.org">http://www.seaandsageaudubon.org</a>	

### Other Personnel

Bluebird Information.....	Dick Purvis.....	714-776-8878
OC Rare Bird Alert Hotline....	Joel Weintraub.....	949-487-6869
Slide Lending Library.....	Claudine Casey.....	714-968-3463

## CALENDAR

### April

01 Sun	Peters Canyon Regional Park.....	7:30 am
01 Sun	Santiago Oaks Regional Park.....	7:00 am
03 Tues	Conservation Committee Meeting.....	6:30 pm
07 Sat	Villa Park Flood Basin.....	8:00 am
08 Sun	Monthly Bird Walk at the SJWS.....	8:00 am
10 Tues	Board Meeting.....	7:30 pm
11 Wed	Weir Canyon Natural History Walk.....	9:00 am
14/15 S/S	Eastern Sierra weekend trip.....	7:30 am
15 Sun	Seasons of Nature.....	9:00 am
18 Wed	Laguna Niguel Regional Park.....	7:30 am
18 Wed	Electric Boat Trip.....	8:15 am
20 Fri	GENERAL MEETING.....	7:30 pm
21 Sat	CA Least Tern Colony trip.....	9:00 am
28 Sat	BIRDATHON.....	starting time is up to you!
28/29 S/S	Hawk & Owl Banding Trips.....	8:00 am & 12 pm
29 Sun	El Moro Canyon, Crystal Cove State Park.....	7:30 am

### May

05 Sat	Native Plant Garden Tour.....	10:00 am
06 Sun	Big Morongo Preserve.....	7:00 am
06 Sun	Santiago Oaks Regional Park.....	7:00 am
12/13 S/S	Hawk Banding Trips.....	8:00 am & 12 pm
12 Sat	Internat. Migratory Bird Day Walk at the SJWS.....	9:00 am
13 Sun	Monthly Bird Walk at the SJWS.....	8:00 am
16 Wed	Electric Boat Trip.....	8:15 am
23 Wed	Baker Canyon Natural History Walk.....	9:00 am
25 Fri	Bat Walk.....	7:00 pm