

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

### Audubon & Climate Change Actions Gail Richards, President

Audubon believes that climate change is the #1 threat to birds. What are National Audubon Society (NAS) and Audubon California doing to address it, and how can we join in efforts to make a difference?

**National Audubon Society** works with federal and state lawmakers to achieve common sense solutions to climate change. *Current campaigns include: 1) protection of landscapes* that birds need to survive *and that* can naturally store carbon; 2) support for a transition to 100% clean electricity; 3) setting binding emission reduction targets and 4) support for technology innovations that will reduce greenhouse gases.

Audubon CA is working with state legislators to support programs that contribute to reducing the impacts of climate change on birds and their habitats. State priorities include 1) using regenerative grazing to sequester carbon and increase grassland climate resiliency and grassland bird habitat; 2) estuary conservation; 3) forage fish conservation; 4) marine bird monitoring; 5) renewable energy, influencing state climate policy and plans; 6) bird-friendly solutions at the Salton Sea; 7) Climate-smart native plant gardening and restoration in urban areas: 8) living shoreline restoration: 9) and at Starr Ranch, the monitoring and collecting of data on climate change impacts.

How can you help? When you receive a *Call to Action* from NAS or Audubon CA, take the time to respond. We are assured by our state and national leaders that our voices actually make a difference in the outcome.

#### Sea and Sage Audubon

Our new **Climate Change Committee** is a subcommittee of Conservation. "We will strive to educate ourselves and our community about issues impacting climate at all levels, including habitat creation and preservation, personal choices, organizational decisions, and public policy." This committee meets monthly to identify concrete steps that we can each take to make a difference. Suggestions will appear in the Tattler and in other communications as Climate Tips, with topics such as what's really happening with recycling, conserving water, avoiding single use plastics, reducing food waste, and other ways to reduce our carbon footprints.

Our new Legislation and Advocacy Committee, another subcommittee of Conservation, is working to "expand our program of outreach to elected officials and expand our engagement of chapter members with more training and more opportunities for them to communicate directly to office holders at all levels".

#### General Meeting - Online Presentation Friday, May 20 - 7:00 PM Via Zoom "Meet the Birds" presented by Steve Kaye



Join us for an enjoyable photo experience that celebrates the beauty in nature. You'll see uncommon views of birds, learn a bit about birds, and discover how you can make a difference. Professional photographer Steve Kaye will show his photos and tell entertaining stories about the photos. This is an excellent program for anyone who wants to know more about birds. And

it's a wonderful reminder of the extraordinary beauty that we have outdoors. So bring a friend. If you have yet to attend a meeting, this program is for you.

Steve Kaye has been taking photos casually since 1965 and professionally since 2010. Now he uses his photos in

presentations, articles, and books to inspire respect for nature. He has spoken at photo clubs, judged photo contests, and conducted classes on Nature Photography.



Two of his photos appear in Woodpeckers of North America, by Stephen A. Shunk (published May 2016). During the past two years, he created 6 books that show his photos.

Please join us for this fun filled program. Meeting room opens at **6:30 PM**, join us for some **virtual games (e.g., bird trivia, bird ID, bird count)** prior to the 7:00 PM meeting. Here is the link you will need to join the meeting: <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89007950988</u>

See you there (virtually). If this link isn't working for you, try Meeting ID: 890 0795 0988

Need Help? email Jonathan Aguayo at: jonathan.aguayo@psomas.com

Jonathan Aguayo, Programs Chaír

# **Conservation** News

Susan Sheakley, Conservation Chair



Our next '4th Tuesday' Conservation Lecture, by Zoom, will be on Sunday, May 15th. Please join us!

## '4<sup>th</sup> Tues.' Conservation Lecture Sunday, May 15<sup>th</sup> – 3:30 pm

(As strange as it may seem, yes, the May '4<sup>th</sup> Tues.' will be on Sunday!!)

Zoom doors open at 3:00 pm

"Homegrown National Park " presented by Doug Tallamy



Our parks, preserves, and remaining wildlands no matter how grand in scale – are too small and separated from one another to sustain the native trees, plants, insects and animals on which our ecosystems depend. We can fix this problem by practicing conservation outside of wildlands. where we live, work, shop, and farm. Thus, the concept for Homegrown National park: a national challenge to create diverse ecosystems in our yards, communities, and surrounding lands by reducing lawn, planting native, and removing invasives. The goal of HNP is to create a national movement to restore 20 million acres with natives, an area representing  $\frac{1}{2}$  of what is now in lawn. We are at a critical point where we are losing so many native plant and animal species that our natural life support is in jeopardy.

However, if many people make small changes, we can restore healthy ecological networks and weather the changes ahead.



Sea and Sage is excited to be able to share this this 60-minute program, plus a 30-minute Q&A period, presented by Doug Tallamy.

### Please join us and bring your friends!

Advance registration is required. Registration opens on April 28<sup>th</sup> through our website: <u>www.seaandsageaudubon.org</u>

Look for **May** '4<sup>th</sup> **Tues**' **Conservation Lecture** under What's New or Conservation on the homepage. *Remember it's on SUNDAY, May 15 at 3:30 pm*.

## Snowy Plover Least Tern Quarterly

**Survey.** The May OC Beachwide Quarterly Survey will be scheduled to work with the Fish & Wildlife Service window survey. Watch our website for dates or contact

ocsnplsurvey@gmail.com . Sign up for your

beach if you have had the training. If you are interested in taking the training, contact Cheryl Egger at ocsnplsurvey@gmail.com.



Bruce Aird

## **Orange County Rarities** by Samuel Bressler

To report a RARE or UNUSUAL bird, or to receive reports from other birders about rare or unusual bird sightings here in Orange County, send an email to: <u>OrangeCountyBirding+subscribe@groups.io</u>

March is often considered the "slow season" of local birding, as we have all become familiar with the continuing winter vagrants, and spring has not yet brought a fresh flush of rarities. Nevertheless, continued observations of the winterers provides valuable information about how long they stay in Orange County before departing for the north. Furthermore, as seen below, diligent searching can turn up the earliest crop of spring migrants.

The wintering **Mexican Duck** at the Carr Park duck pond was last seen on March 11th. **White-winged Scoters** and **Long-tailed Ducks** continued off of Newport Beach, particularly Newport Pier throughout the month.

A **Neotropic Cormorant** continued on the Pond 1 island in San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary through March 14th. A pair of boobies were seen off our coast in late March: a **Brown Booby** on March 27th and a **Nazca Booby** on



March 31st. An onshore **Black-legged Kittiwake** on March 17th was a remarkable record for this normally highly pelagic gull. å

The Upper Newport Bay Little Blue Heron was present through

the end of the month, while the less frequently observed **Tricolored Heron** was last seen on the 19th. The Huntington Beach **Bald Eagle** continued shuffling between Bolsa Chica Ecological Reserve and Huntington Central Park. It was last seen at the former site on the 17th. It then likely resurfaced at Talbert Regional Park on the 30th and San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary on the 31st. This individual's continued wanderings will likely be a staple of this column for some time to come.

Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers continued at Vintage Park in Lake Forest through March 9th, and at Laguna Niguel Regional Park through March 22nd. The Irvine Regional Park Lewis's Woodpecker continued through the end of the month, while others were seen at O'Neill Regional Park on March 5th, and Featherly Regional Park on March 15th.

Hammond's Flycatchers continued at Pinecrest Park through the end of the month and at Oso Creek Trail through March 25th. One first seen at Serrano Creek Park on March 20th may have been an early spring migrant. A Gray Flycatcher was found at Irvine Regional Park on March 21st. The Chrisanta Drive Brown-crested Flycatcher in Mission Viejo continued through March 22nd, while a Tropical Kingbird was seen in the Bolsa



Chica Ecological Reserve/Harriett Wieder Regional Park area through March 13th.

Plumbeous Vireos at Craycraft Park in Mission Viejo and Serrano Creek Park on the 29th may have been overlooked wintering individuals or relatively uncommon spring migrants. A **Bank Swallow** at Laguna Niguel Regional Park on March 4th was definitely a spring migrant, just unusually early. The wintering **Varied Thrush** at Irvine Regional Park was last seen on March 12th, while the wintering **Mountain Bluebird** at Quail Hill was last seen on March 3rd.

A motley crew of wintering sparrows persisted in the county until various points throughout the month. The Clark Regional Park **Clay-colored Sparrow** was seen through March 12th, while one continued at a private residence in Placentia through the 20th. A third bird reported at El Toro Memorial Park March 29th-31st may have been an overlooked wintering individual or an early migrant. The **Harris's Sparrow** at Tustin Legacy Park continued to hang out with White-crowned Sparrows throughout the month. **White-throated Sparrows** continued at Aurora Park through March 2nd, in Vintage

Park and a Buena Park residence through March 11<sup>th</sup>, Russell Cook Park through the 26th, meaning that Orange County continued to host all four species of North



American *Zonotrichia* sparrows in March. The wintering **Vesper Sparrows** were seen along the Puma Ridge Trail in Irvine Regional Park through the end of the month, though the one along the Arroyo Trabuco was last seen on March 3rd. A **Green-tailed Towhee** at Talbert Regional Park March 21-23 may have been a spring migrant.

On the other hand, most of the unusual warblers seemed to have departed the county before the beginning of March, and they were not replaced by any fresh spring vagrants. The only notable exceptions were a **Black-andwhite Warbler** that continued through March 21st, and an **American Redstart** at San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary through March 20th.



# **Chapter News & Announcements**

Sea and Sage Audubon Society's mission is to protect birds, other wildlife, and their habitats through education, citizen science, research, and public policy advocacy.



### Audubon House Volunteers



We would like to thank the following people for helping to staff Audubon House in April and May: Susie Burgess, Emmett Carlson, Jim Fiedler, Gregg Figge, Carol Getz, John Hargrove, Ann Harmer, Sue Henry, Sarah Jayne, Dave Kramer, Lauretta Kyle, Mary

Meister, Bobbie Miller, Paula Monroe, Steve Munzinger, Dagmar Muthamia, JoAnn Nothhelfer, Roberta Ray, Barbara Reber, Jennifer Reed, Linda Reed, Paul Saiki, Dev Sellin, Susan Sheakley, Monte Taylor, Pat Wells, Phil Westin.

Our Volunteers greet visitors, answer the phone, sell merchandise, answer questions about birds, etc. If you are interested in helping at Audubon House, please call one of our Audubon House Volunteer Coordinators: Paula Monroe (480-299-9885) or Dev Sellin (714-943-3682).

**Field Trips** are listed on page 8 of this issue and on our webpage. Our Summer Pelagic Trip is scheduled for Saturday, August 13<sup>th</sup>; see webpage for information.

Special Birdability Event at the Least Tern

**Natural Preserve. Friday, June 10<sup>th</sup> – 9:00 am at Huntington State Beach**. This event is described as "limited accessibility" because it does not have shade or seating, so participants should bring portable chairs and wear hats. From the parking lot to the closest area for viewing is approximately 100 feet. Handicapped restrooms are available. California State Parks has agreed to waive the parking fee for this event.

Following a morning of watching busy Least Tern parents feed their chicks, we will tailgate in the parking lot for brunch (bring your own). Register by contacting <u>NancyKenyon@cox.net</u>. (Remember to provide your Covid vaccination info.) Questions about the event? Contact Sharon Rockwell at <u>srockwell@writeme.com</u>. Want to learn more about Least Terns? Go to the Sea and Sage webpage and click on Least Tern Project.



**WANTED** – Scott Thomas wants info on nesting hawks and owls here in Orange County. If you find one, please send the info to Scott <u>redtail1@cox.net</u>; give the location of the nest & the bird species. Please don't post this info anywhere! We don't want to draw attention to any nesting birds.This info is <u>only</u> for Raptor Research.

### Slate of Officers & Directors for 2022

Voting will take place at our May 20<sup>th</sup> General Meeting for the slate of officers and directors which were placed in nomination at the Annual Dinner on March 18<sup>th</sup>. There were no nominations from the floor.

President: Vice President: Secretary: Treasurer: Director 2025: Director 2025:

Gail Richards Jonathan Aguayo Kate Grabenstein Chris Byrd Mary Ellen Wynn Andrea Carpio

Nominating Committee: Carolyn Noble, Devon Bradley, Vic Leipzig and Nancy Kenyon

## Your Donation Brings Santa Ana children to the Wetland

Sea and Sage Audubon brings Santa Ana elementary students to the wetland to experience scientific concepts in the field and to learn how to protect the environment. We pledged to pay for all bus transportation this year, and you can help sponsor these children! All donations are helpful: \$300 for 30 students (one bus), \$150 for 15 students (half bus), \$100 for 10 students, \$50 for 5 students, \$10 for 1 student. Send check to School Bus, Sea and Sage Audubon, 5 Riparian View, Irvine CA 92612. If you have questions, contact Project Director Trude Hurd by email: <u>seaandsage@sbcglobal.net</u>. Thank you for helping to get children outdoors into nature at an exciting wetland habitat!



## Sponsor Audubon Adventures for School Children

Audubon Adventures is a colorful 4-page nature magazine for children about nature. We provide three topics to all Santa Ana students participating in our field trip program. This year's topics are Get to Know Birds, Hummingbirds, and Plants for Birds. One teacher writes: "My students enjoy reading about science. The short articles were just right for the time we had to share our reading." If you value reading about nature for children, then please consider sponsoring a classroom set of 32 magazines about one topic for only \$12.50. All donations are appreciated. Send check to Sea and Sage Audubon, 5 Riparian View, Irvine, CA 92612. If you have questions, contact Project Director Trude Hurd by email: <u>seaandsage@sbcglobal.net</u>.





## Summer Bats 2022

San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary, Irvine, CA

Experience the marsh at dusk and after dark when bats arrive in small numbers to feed on flying insects. Participants take an outdoor evening walk along the ponds in search of two species of bats. We will use our eyes and bat sonar detectors to find the bats which frequently fly over our heads! We will also learn about their interesting lives.

## **ON-LINE REGISTRATION OPENS MAY 1st.**

https://www.eventbrite.com/e/summer-bat-walks-2022-registration-305095979287

Choose from one of these dates: Saturday August 6 (8:00 PM-9:15 PM) Saturday August 13 (8:00 PM-9:15 PM) Saturday August 20 (7:45 PM-9:00 PM) Saturday August 27 (7:45 PM-9:00 PM) Saturday September 3 (7:30 PM-8:45 PM)

- This is a pre-paid event with on-line registration for adults and children ages 10 years and older.
- Program fee is \$15 for adults and \$8 for children ages 10-12 (there is an additional on-line registration fee.) Children must be accompanied by an adult.
- Due to the presence of disease-carrying insects, there is a strict clothing requirement of long sleeves and long pants. For your safety, failure to comply with the clothing requirement means you <u>cannot</u> participate in this event.
- Pandemic precautions for this modified event include no indoor presentation, smaller groups (maximum 12 participants), and naturalists will be vaccinated. Depending on Covid cases in August, we might require all participants and naturalists to wear facial masks for the program.

For answers to your questions, email: <a href="mailto:summerbatwalks@gmail.com">summerbatwalks@gmail.com</a>



Bat art by Donna Robb

	Chapter Operations (Excluding Educ. Project)	San Joaquin Marsh Education Project	Combined
BALANCE SHEET			
Assets			
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash & Equivalents	307,070	137,305	444,375
Investments	947,266		947,266
Other Current Assets	33,993		33,993
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	1,288,329	137,305	1,425,634
FIXED ASSETS			
Furniture & Equipment, etc.	4,324		4,324
TOTAL ASSETS	1,292,654	137,305	1,429,959
Liabilities and Equity			
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Restricted Funds and Payables	21,741	38,319	60,060
TOTAL LIABILITIES	21,741	38,319	60,060
EQUITY			
Endowment Fund	701,775		701,775
General Fund	488,180		488,180
Conservation Fund	80,958		80,958
San Joaquin Marsh Fund		98,986	98,986
TOTAL EQUITY	1,270,913	98,986	1,369,899
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	1,292,654	137,305	1,429,959
INCOME & EXPENSE STATEMENT			
Income			
Chapter Transfer to Marsh Education Project		24,000	*see note
Dues Split	11,369		11,369
Direct Mail Appeal	87,117	11,753	98,870
Other Donations	69,897	300	70,197
Grants		50,000	50,000
Birding Skills Workshops	30,210		30,210
Merchandise Sales - Bookstore	11,381		11,381
Other Income	25,420	34,353	59,773
TOTAL INCOME	235,393	120,406	331,799
Expenses			
Chapter Transfer to Marsh Education Project	24,000		*see note
Education Program Expenses		115,989	115,989
Newsletter Publication	17,688		17,688
Committee Expenses	22,133		22,133
Cost of Sales - Bookstore	15,960		15,960
Other Chapter Expenses	116,035		116,035
TOTAL EXPENSES	195,816	115,989	287,806
NET ORDINARY INCOME	39,577	4,416	43,993
INTEREST AND INVESTMENT INCOME (LOSS)	94,526	14.36	94,540
NET SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	134,103	4,431	138,533
*Note: Internal transfer of \$24,000 not shown in combined to	itals.		

## Chapter Financial Report - 2021

# **Directions and Membership**

Sea and Sage Audubon Society's mission is to protect birds, other wildlife, and their habitats through education, citizen science, research, and public policy.



### **Tattler Subscriptions**

Non-Audubon members or members from other Audubon chapters who wish to subscribe to our chapter newsletter, may do so for \$14.00 per year. Make check payable to "Sea and Sage Audubon" and mail to: Tattler Subscriptions, 32 Almond Tree Ln, Irvine CA 92612

### **Go Paperless!**

Sign up to receive your newsletter via email — get your issues faster, help save natural resources, reduce waste, and help our chapter save money! You can read it online or print out the pages you need to refer to more frequently. It is in pdf format and will look and print exactly like the original ones. Photos will be in color. Send an e-mail to <u>nancykenyon@cox.net</u> to start your paper-free Tattler delivery today! (offer good only for chapter members in good standing)

## Remember Us in Your Will or Trust

Please remember to include "Sea and Sage Audubon Society" by name (tax ID#23-7003681) in your will or trust.

## Directions

to the San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary (5 Riparian View, Irvine)

#### **Our entrance is from** Campus Dr., not Michelson

From the San Diego Fwy (405): Exit on Jamboree, south toward Newport Beach. At the 1st signal, Michelson, turn left. Continue on Michelson (past the old entrance to the SJWS) to the 5th signal which is Harvard and turn right. Drive to University & turn right. Drive to Campus Drive & turn right. Stay in the far right lane and immediately turn right onto Riparian View which will enter the San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary. The entrance road is marked by a green sign. If you miss the turn and reach Carlson, turn right and go around the block again to Harvard. The sanctuary is open every day from dawn until dusk.

> **Audubon House** 949-261-7963

## Sea & Sage Reading Group

Please join us for one of our upcoming monthly Sea & Sage Reading Group sessions where we'll be discussing the following:

• May 17<sup>th</sup> – Robin Wall Kimmerer's Braiding Sweetgrass (Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge and the Teachings of Plants)

The group meets via Zoom on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month at 1:00 pm and we love and welcome new comers. Please join us for what should be a lively discussion. For more information, visit the Reading Group page on the Sea & Sage website: https://www.seaandsageaudubon.org/ Chapter/ReadingGroup.html

#### Temporarily Away or Moving?

Please notify Jim Kissinger of your new address if you are temporarily, or permanently, moving from your current address; or, let him know if you do not want to continue to receive the Tattler. This will save us postage.

Jim Kissinger, Membership Chair membership@seaandsageaudubon.org

## **Audubon Membership Application**

We invite you to become a member of the National Audubon Society and the Sea and Sage Audubon chapter. Members receive the AUDUBON magazine as well as the WANDERING TATTLER newsletter. **NEW MEMBERSHIP is \$20 for an individual or for a family.** (The membership is good for one year.)

To join: Complete the form below & mail it along with your payment to: Sea and Sage Audubon, PO Box 5447, Irvine CA 92616 *Make your check payable to:* NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY. *Please pay by check only; do not send cash.* Or, go online to: http://tinyurl.com/hyeaw67 (Our chapter code is C15)

**To renew membership:** renew directly with National Audubon by direct mail or online: (Renewals are \$20 per year.) <u>http://tinyurl.com/zjbs5tt</u>

Name	
Address	
City, State, Zip	
Phone	C
E-mail	C

#### Sea and Sage Audubon PO Box 5447, Irvine CA 92616 **RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

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#### **BOARD MEMBERS**

#### **Executive Committee:**

President	Gail Richards	714-267-2420
Vice President	Jonathan Aguayo	805-204-6986
Secretary	Kate Grabenstein	714-540-6768
Treasurer	Tom Van Huss	714-417-9940
Director 2022	Samuel Bressler	657-378-5367
Director 2022	Star Howard	949-770-3177
Director 2023	Martin Fee	714-508-0630
Director 2023	Devon Bradley	949-287-1715
Director 2024	Ashley Hopkins	248-342-6796
Director 2024	Catherine Steinberg	949-378-6501
Past President	Doug Lithgow	714-962-4145

#### **Committee Chairpersons:**

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Archives & Records	•	
Audubon House		
Audubon House Volunteers	Paula Monroe	480-299-9885
Audubon House Volunteers	Dev Sellin	714-943-3682
Bird Information	. Sylvia Gallagher	714-962-8990
Bird Surveys	. Darrell Wilson	714-401-7852
Conservation	. Susan Sheakley	949-552-5974
Counsel		
Development & Events	. Cheryl Thomas	949-294-2275
Education	. Carolyn Noble	714-731-9091
Events & Exhibits	.Mary Joseph	714-848-8362
Field Trips	.Nancy Kenyon	949-786-3160
Finance	. Hal Sheakley	949-552-5974
Insurance	.Vic Leipzig	714-848-5394
Membership	. Jim Kissinger	949-713-1148
Newsletter Editor		
Partners in Flight		
Programs		
Raptor Research		
Research Grants		
Science		
SJWS Liaison		
Social Media		
Starr Ranch/Envir. Liaison		
Webmaster		
Webpage: http://www.sea		

#### STAFF

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#### **OTHER CONTACTS**

Wetlands & Wildlife Care Center – for injured or sick birds and other native wild animals in need of help (corner of Newland & PCH in HB) 714-374-5587. <u>http://www.wwccoc.org/</u>

#### SCHEDULE of CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

#### May 2022:

	· ,	
ALL	MONTH	Orange County Spring Count Time is up to you
01	Sun	Spring Pelagic Trip ® (Full)6:30 am
01	Sun	* * Registration opens for Nature Day Camps
01	Sun	* * Registration opens for Summer Bat Walks
03	Tues	Conservation Committee Mtg. via Zoom6:45 pm
07	Sat	Nature Walk at the SJWS ®9:00 am
07	Sat	Field Orientation for New LETE volunteers8:00 am
08	Sun	Bird Walk at the SJWS ®8:00 am
10	Tue	Board Meeting
15	Sun	Carbon Canyon bird walk ®8:00 am
15	Sun	Field Orientation for New LETE volunteers8:00 am
15	Sun	'4 <sup>th</sup> Tues' Conservation Lecture via Zoom3:30 pm
17	Tues	Sea & Sage Reading Group1:00 pm
19	Thurs	Bolsa Chica bird walk ®8:00 am
20	Fri	GENERAL MEETING via Zoom7:00 pm
29	Sun	Upper Newport Bay bird Walk ®8:00 am

#### June 2022:

04	Sat	Nature Walk at the SJWS ®9:00	am
07	Tues	Conservation Committee Mtg. via Zoom6:45	pm
10	Fri	Birdability event at LETE preserve ®9:00	am
12	Sun	Bird Walk at the SJWS ®8:00	am
14	Tue	Board Meeting	pm
00	Fri	NO GENERAL MEETINGS UNTIL SEPTEMBER	
19	Sun	Anaheim Coves Park bird walk ®8:00	am
25-2	6 S/S	Mammoth Lakes weekend trip ® (Full)5:15	am
26	Sun	Upper Newport Bay bird Walk ®8:00	am
28	Sun	'4 <sup>th</sup> Tues' Conservation Lecture tenta	tive