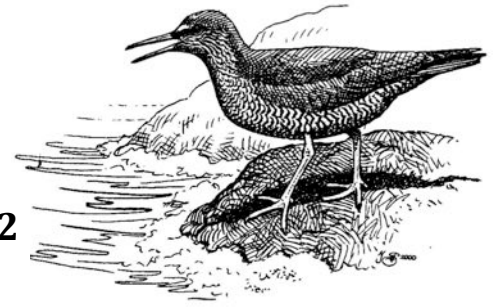


Wandering Tattler

June, July, Aug. 2022
Volume 71, Number 9



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

Summer is coming!

by Gail Richards, President

End of Summer BBQ

Our traditional Summer BBQ on the last weekend in July, has been rescheduled to the end of summer, on September 10th. This change came about as a result of scheduling errors over a year ago, during the pandemic. We misunderstood and thought the Duck Club was closed to the community. By the time we were aware that scheduling had resumed, another party had booked our traditional date. Please register now for the End of Summer BBQ. All details are included in this newsletter. We are looking forward to hosting another wonderful evening event.

Hummingbird Summer Campaign Returns, June 4-July 16

Roger's Gardens has long maintained relationships with several local non-profit conservation organizations, such as the CA Native Plant Society, the Surfrider Foundation, OC Coastkeepers and others. So, when they launched a Hummingbird Summer Campaign, last summer, they invited Sea and Sage to partner with them. The program was so successful that they have decided to promote it again this summer.

The goal of the Hummingbird Summer campaign is to encourage local gardeners to make their urban gardens more attractive to pollinators, butterflies, and other wildlife, particularly hummingbirds. Mary Joseph, Exhibits Committee Chair, has recruited volunteers to staff an exhibit table for the opening and closing days. Trude Hurd will distribute her Marsh Education brochure, "Hummingbirds of Orange County", which describes the varieties of Hummingbirds in OC and their proper feeding. She has discovered that many people don't know that there is more than one kind of hummingbird in OC.

Last summer, Roger's Gardens' staff decided to "step it up" to see what they could do to support Sea and Sage. Throughout their Hummingbird Summer Campaign, they presented a 'Roundup for Audubon' option at checkout, asking patrons if they would like to "round up" their purchase total to donate to Audubon. Ron Vanderhoff- General Manager and VP, said, "We didn't know what to expect, but the round-up idea was an immediate hit, and by the conclusion of the Hummingbird Summer campaign we had raised \$7,559 in donations and matching funds for the Marsh Education Program. We appreciate this continued partnership with Roger's Gardens with the opportunity to raise more funds for Sea and Sage.

This Year's Summer BBQ

Sat. evening, Sept. 10 – 5:00 to 10:00 pm
at the San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary

Program: "Rediscovering Ourselves Through Nature and the Chaparral"

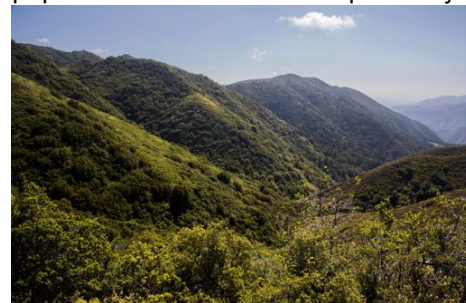
presented by Richard A. Halsey

After more than a decade we are pleased to welcome back Rick Halsey, Director of the California Chaparral Institute. In his prior talk, Rick spoke about the fire ecology of chaparral. Rick returns to share additional thoughts on the special nature of this local treasure.

Here are some words from Rick: "For more than two million years we evolved outside, in nature, driven by our instincts. Over the last several thousand years, our newly conscious minds have tried to reconcile the conflict between the demands of civilization, social expectations, and our ancient, wild selves. Yet despite our best efforts, the conflict persists, causing many of the personal, social, and environmental problems we face today. Nature provides the remedy

"Join us as we explore how connecting with Nature through our local native habitats, especially the chaparral, offers us a way to achieve what so many philosophers through the ages have identified as essential to achieving a meaningful existence – to "know thyself".

Halsey is a writer, philosopher, photographer, and a guide to help others reconnect with nature. He has given over 500 presentations and written numerous books, papers and articles over the past 15 years about the



importance of chaparral and connecting with nature. He works with the San Diego Museum of Natural History and teaches natural history throughout the state. The

second edition of his book, *Fire, Chaparral, and Survival in Southern California*, received an award from San Diego Book Awards Assoc. He taught biology, physics, and environmental science for over 30 years.

Please join us. See page 3 for BBQ information.

Conservation News

Susan Sheakley, Conservation Chair



Please join us! The next '4th Tues.' Conservation Lecture will be in September. The next Conservation Committee meetings will be on July 5 & Sept. 6. Tackling Climate & Trash Team will meet on June 16 & July 21 - contact Chris Byrd for more information. Legislation & Advocacy Team will meet June 26 - contact Vic Leipzig for more information and additional meeting dates for Legislation & Advocacy.

Tackling Climate and Trash (TCT)

The TCT team's self-assigned first mission is to gather information about what we can do as individuals to have an impact on climate change and reduce global warming. We know a reduction in carbon dioxide and methane emissions is required, but where to start? Below is a list from *Project Drawdown* of the **Top 20 High-Impact Climate Actions for Households and Individuals**. In the coming months, the TCT team will explore this list. We hope you will join us.

Reduced Food Waste - Plant-rich Diets – Recycling -Reduced Plastic – Composting - Recycled Paper- Public Transit – Carpooling - Electric Cars - Hybrid Cars – Telepresence - Electric Bicycles - Distributed Solar Photovoltaics – Insulation - LED Lighting - Solar Hot Water - High-performance Glass - High-efficiency Heat Pumps - Smart Thermostats - Low-flow Fixtures

In the meantime, consider these suggestions.

Have an Event Without Single Use Items

Many events that include a lot of people use paper and plastic items. Even though paper is biodegradable, it causes waste. Events of all sizes can be held without single use items. Large events may require that items be borrowed or rented.

Use:

- Regular China or Melmac dinnerware instead of paper.
- Regular silverware instead of plastic.
- Glasses or reusable plastic instead of paper or single use plastic.
- Coffee cups or mugs instead of paper or Styrofoam
- Large coffee makers instead of coffee that comes in disposable containers.
- Cloth tablecloths instead of paper.

- Cloth hand towels and napkins instead of paper.
- Live centerpieces (e.g., potted plants) instead of plastic decorations.
- No balloons.

- *Carolyn and Matt*

Reduce Paper Towel Use

Paper towels were invented by the Scott paper company in 1907, but they didn't appear in home kitchens until 1931. Americans now use around 13 billion pounds of paper towels each year, equivalent to 40 pounds or 80 rolls per person. To produce these, 110 million trees and 130 billion gallons of water are used.^{1*}

Most paper towels come from trees - and after use almost all are thrown into landfills, creating methane, adding to our waste problems. Even though clean paper towels are recyclable, once they are wet and contaminated, they are no longer recyclable.

What can you do right now as an individual?

Swap for 100% recycled. Cut your usage in half (or more) by using other options such as:

- To absorb excess oil, place the food on a cake rack with a plate underneath or place the food on a piece of bread that will absorb the oil.
- Wrap fresh herbs in damp cloth.
- Have a container of reusable towels or cloth in your kitchen.
- Repurpose old washcloths, handkerchiefs, T-shirts, etc.
- Buy a package of huck towels - 100% cotton, super absorbent, and will last years.
- Use Swedish cellulose dish cloths or microfiber cloths.

- *Celine*

*1

<https://www.theatlantic.com/family/archive/2018/12/paper-towels-us-use-consume/577672/>

End of Summer Barbecue



at the San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary
Sat, September 10th - 5:00 to 10:00 p.m.

Bring the family and join us for this special occasion: dining in the meadow, listening to the birds and watching them fly overhead, live music, evening walks around the marsh, and an interesting program about Nature and the Chaparral.

Our menu will include chicken, freshly grilled hot dogs, salad, beans, chips, watermelon, cake, lemonade, soft drinks, ice tea, and coffee. A vegetarian entree will be offered for those who specifically request it on their reservation form.

Tickets for the barbecue and program are \$20.00 for adults, \$7.00 for children under 5; tickets for the BBQ volunteers are \$15.00. Your ticket will cover your meal & beverage, evening marsh walks, and the program. You must pre-pay to make your reservation valid.

Activities begin at 5:00 pm when the Used Books Sale opens. Dinner will be from 6:00 to 7:00 pm, followed by the program (as soon as it is dark). The guided marsh walk will take in the sights and sounds as marsh life settles in for the evening. *Mosquitos may be present: wear clothing that covers your skin and/or apply mosquito repellent.*

This event is staffed entirely by chapter volunteers. If you can help us out in any capacity, we would really appreciate it, and you will save \$5 on your barbecue ticket! A signup sheet for volunteers will be posted on our chapter webpage. For information or questions about volunteering, contact Gail Richards at (714) 267-2420; agrigh@me.com.

Advance reservations for the Summer BBQ are essential so that we know how much food to buy. Those people who provide their email address or a stamped, self-addressed envelope, will receive a note from Nancy that their reservation has been received; they will also receive information about the evening's activities. Everyone will need to pick up their ticket at the Welcome Table when they arrive. **The tickets will not be mailed out ahead of time.** All attendees must have received their Covid vaccination shots. Please provide that information if you have not already given it to Nancy for field trips. *Please register before the end of August.* A word of caution: don't wait until the last minute to sign up! We expect this event to fill long before the event.

Summer Barbecue on Sept. 10th - Will YOU Be There?

Name _____ Number in your party _____

Email Address or stamped envelope _____

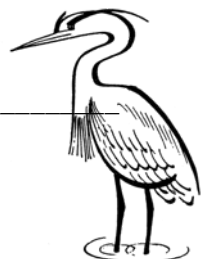
Do you want a vegetarian entree? _____ If so, how many? _____

Amount enclosed _____ (\$20 per person; children under 5 are \$7 each)

_____ (\$15 for Volunteers helping with the BBQ)

COVID vaccine info _____

Make your check payable to Sea & Sage Audubon and mail it with this form to:
Barbecue, c/o Nancy Kenyon, 32 Almond Tree Ln, Irvine CA 92612



Education News this Summer

Trude Hurd, Project Director of Education

My Special Day on August 13

Thirty years have passed quickly since I first walked into an empty, newly-restored historical cottage now called the Audubon House. Thanks to Sea and Sage's partnership with the Irvine Ranch Water District, I was hired to create and manage education programs about wetlands collectively called The Marsh Education Project at the San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary. By my side were the awesome volunteer naturalists who shared my vision that nature should be fun and accessible to everyone. These naturalists had a passion for nature, teaching expertise, humor, patience, and kindness that made our programs so popular. I have been so grateful and honored to work with them throughout the years!

We began the journey with Outdoor Adventures for 4-5th graders who learned the relationship between healthy water, pond invertebrates and birds. Since fall 1992, over 63,000 students have experienced this interactive program. Teachers praise the program and return year after year because it is valuable and changes lives.

Next came four week-long Nature Day Camps which quickly became six weeks with different topics depending on the children's ages. And when the campers became teenagers and wanted to continue birding with us, we designed the monthly Junior Naturalist program with bird walks and stewardship opportunities.

Still going strong are our summer Bat Walks where bats fly right over our heads at dusk and our monthly Nature Walks with its associated kiosk displays, seasonal photo show in Audubon House, and wildlife brochures.

For 10 years, we partnered with The Irvine Museum for 3-4th graders to view California plein air art at the museum and then visit the wetland to observe and sketch native plants and birds.

It's been a wonderful adventure, and special thanks go to the Education Chairs especially Kaaren Perry, Carol Getz, Vic Westling, and Carolyn Noble who donated many hours providing guidance and to our Education

Assistant Deborah Brin who helped me for 20 years to make Outdoor Adventures so successful.

The Marsh Education Project has been funded by hundreds of kind-hearted individuals who believe environmental education is important so that today's youth will become tomorrow's nature protectors. We also had two awesome partners who gave unrestricted funds for decades: Joan Irvine Smith & Athalie Clarke Foundation and a very generous Anonymous Foundation.

The journey continues, and hopefully with you! You can share your love of nature as one of our naturalists (new class this fall!) Enroll in one of our engaging programs! Tell others about our programs! Donate your talents! Make a donation! I look forward to continuing the Marsh Education Project and creating new programs so people can better understand and love the natural world.

We exceeded our goal for Bus Scholarships!

Thanks to 22 sponsors, we raised \$8,170 to bring 22 classes of Santa Ana students to the wetland. We are grateful to these kind people who enabled children to hold binoculars and use microscopes to watch wildlife while learning how their actions matter. Garfield teacher Cyndi Rhone wrote: "This is a fun, engaging learning experience. This field trip and classroom lessons provide much needed experiences in learning about nature around them."

Thank you to Anonymous, Mark Adamson & Nancy Tschiderer, Deborah Brin, Debi Forsythe, Judith Frant, Judy Fritts, Amanda Gaskin, Kate Grabenstein & Steven Papian, Susan Kay, Nancy Kenyon, Paul Klahr, Patricia Knight, Bev Krassner Bulas, Babs Levitan, Robin Maguire, Paula & David Moore, Carol Paquette, Charlene Pinder, Ann Sakai & Stephen Wells, Bev Spring, Tod & Linda White, and special thanks to **Gloria Widmann** for her extraordinary gift to help get Santa Ana children out into nature.

Summer Field Trips

Nancy Kenyon, Field Trip Chair



For trip updates & additional trip information, check our chapter webpage at: <http://www.seaandsageaudubon.org>. All Trips require advance reservations and all trip participants must be vaccinated against Covid. Questions about field trips? Contact Nancy at nancykenyon@cox.net

All field trips require advance reservations.

All trip participants must be vaccinated against Covid. Those people who have not gone on one of our field trips during the past year will need to provide their Covid vaccination info to Nancy Kenyon when making their reservation (type of vaccine and dates of shots). Check the chapter webpage to find out if the trip you want to go on still has room for you. *No walk-ons will be accepted.*

Monthly Nature Walks at the SJWS will be cancelled July, August, and September.

Anaheim Coves Park

June 19 & Aug. 21 – 8:00 to 12:00

Join Samuel Bressler for these alternate 3rd Sunday bird walks. *Advance reservations are necessary.*

Mammoth Lakes weekend trip

June 25-26 – 5:15 am both days

The trip is almost full. Contact Nancy if you want to go. *Advance reservations are necessary.*

Upper Newport Bay Bird Walk

Last Sun of each month – 8:00 to 11:30
(June 26 – July 31 – Aug. 28 – Sept. 25 – Oct. 30)

Join Mark Kincheloe, Jim Kendall and Betty Kanne for a monthly bird walk in Upper Newport Bay to check out the seasonal shorebirds, ducks, grebes, herons & egrets, etc. that frequent the bay. Bring binoculars, a field guide, and a scope if you have one. *Advance reservations are necessary*

Monthly Bird Walk at the SJWS

2nd Sun. of each month - 8:00 to 12:00
(July 10 – Aug. 14 – Sept. 11 – Oct. 9 – Nov. 13)

Join Jeff Bray for a monthly bird walk around the ponds of the San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary in Irvine at 8 AM. The walk, which is open to birders of all ages, but minors must be accompanied by an adult. *Advance reservations are necessary*

Carbon Canyon Regional Park

July 17 – 8:00 to 12:00

Join Samuel Bressler for this alternate 3rd Sunday bird walk. *Advance reservations are necessary.*

Bolsa Chica Bird Walk

Alternate 3rd Thurs. 8:00 to 12:00
(July 21 – Sept. 15 – Nov. 17 – Jan. 19)

Join Vic Leipzig for a bird walk at the Bolsa Chica Ecological Reserve. Come prepared for a great morning of birding. *Advance reservations are necessary.*

Summer Pelagic Trip

Sat, Aug. 13 – 6:30 am to 3:00 pm

Advance reservations are necessary.

5 spots left as of June 12; check Sea & Sage webpage for availability or to be added to the waiting list.



Upper Newport Bay by pontoon boat starting Aug. 24 – 8:15 to 11:30

(Aug. 24 – Sept. 21 – Oct. 19 – Nov. 16 – Dec. 21)

Join us for the rare chance of birding the Upper Newport Bay from the deck of a pontoon boat. Spotting birds from the water offers one a different perspective and the birds seem to view us differently also. Trips are limited to 15 persons and there is a \$17 trip fee per person payable in cash on the morning of the outing. Advance reservations are necessary; contact Nancy Kenyon to reserve a spot on the boat. nancykenyon@cox.net Directions & trip information will be provided to those with reservations.

A new field trip schedule is being planned for the coming year. I hope to have it finished so that I can post it in the September Tattler and on our webpage.

—Nancy Kenyon, Field Trip Chair



Remembering Carolyn

Carolyn Honer, 1929-2022

by Sylvia Gallagher

Carolyn Honer was my very first true friend. This is a history of a friendship and also a tribute to the person who was probably an active member of Sea and Sage longer than anyone else.

It started with Fern Zimmerman. About 1958, Carolyn became a kindergarten teacher in a school where Fern was principal. Fern soon learned that Carolyn had learned to love birds as a fifth grader. This love bloomed intermittently until Fern came along. With Fern's assistance, she developed that love and soon joined Sea and Sage Audubon.

Not much is known about the period between then and 1971, when my brother had a casual luncheon with Carolyn's father, who had been a good friend of our father. Through that connection Carolyn learned I was a novice birder who had been birding alone for three years. She immediately phoned me.

On July 12, 1971, she drove by to pick me up. Fern was with her. We went to what is now Santiago Oaks Regional Park. It was the very first time I ever went birding with another person.

I didn't realize it then, but Carolyn and Fern were important leaders of Sea and Sage, not just two nice new friends. Modest Carolyn was in the middle of serving 2 terms as secretary and one as vice-president (1970-1973).

I soon caught on to their serious, analytical birding style, which suited me perfectly. No bird, heard or seen, was allowed to pass unidentified if we could help it.

In 1980, Carolyn became chair of the Education Committee. She had the idea that we could make filmstrips to help elementary school children learn about birds. I happily joined with her on the project, and we spent countless hours together, literally finishing each others' sentences. We also sought slides to illustrate the text.

On Oct. 19, 1982, we were birding in two groups that Carolyn had organized to gather data for a Santiago Oaks bird list. My party was elsewhere when Carolyn encountered a man bearing a long lens and of course asked him if he was shooting birds. He was. Soon Jim Gallagher was a member of the Education Committee and the principal photographer for the film strips. Four years later I married him, and Carolyn hosted our small wedding, informal dinner and all, in her lovely yard.

After Jim and I married, I saw less of Carolyn. I started multisection workshops, one on Thursday mornings, her birding day. In between we took long trips, or I birded alone with my new recording gear.

Carolyn continued to bird with a group of congenial friends as long as she was able, nearly always with a purpose. She contributed to countless bird surveys of all types over the years.

Recently I told Carolyn's daughter, Ruth Honer, that I had felt bad for years about "abandoning" my good friend and not even visiting her very often during her long terminal illness. I said, "We were both the type of people who didn't just visit. We worked on things together, and that's what fed our friendship."

I felt so much better when Ruth replied, "You were two perfect peas in a pod—you both always had to be working on something, striving towards a goal, using your brains AND not wasting time."

Carolyn influenced so many of us. As for me, I can see her in just about every project I've undertaken over the years.

A Note from Ruth Honer & Chapter News

A Note from Ruth Honer to Sylvia about Carolyn Honer

We'd like you to know how very much you meant to our mom. She was an early S&S member and an active and dedicated one. Mom loved being able to give time and effort to S&S, especially in the area of education. She loved developing bird materials and, in particular, sharing specimens and bird information in every one of her grandchildren's classes!

Mom credited her original involvement in S&S to her close friend of many decades, Fern Zimmerman. In fact, Fern was first our mom's principal and education mentor when she started teaching kindergarten...before enticing Mom into the world of birding! Mom was grateful to help support Fern in her final years.

A very special thank you goes to Sylvia, a longtime family friend, as well as Mom's collaborator on the education committee. Our mom studied hard in Sylvia's own bird classes, even playing bird song tapes continuously in the car while driving! Thank you for your lasting friendship, your travels, for sharing your common love of birds, and for the many many many pleasurable years of birding together!

Carolyn's children: Ruth, Helen and Michael

If you would like to make a donation to Sea & Sage in the memory of Carolyn Honer, please send it to:

Sea & Sage Audubon
Attn: Chris Byrd
PO Box 5447
Irvine CA 92616



Do you remember your first bird guide?

For many bird enthusiasts, their first field guide was *National Audubon Society Birds of North America*. Now, for the first time in decades, the National Audubon Society offers a completely revised edition. The latest edition covers over 800 species of birds with more than 3,500 full-color photographs of birds in their natural habitat, often with four or five images of each species. This indispensable guide includes information on range, voice, behavior and nesting. This new edition also includes an important new category on conservation status and climate change. Essays by leading scholars in each field who provide holistic insights into the world of birds make this book an important addition to your library. Help support Sea and Sage by shopping at our Bookstore. We hope to see you soon!

— Catherine Steinberg

2022 Bloom-Hays Ecological Research Grants:

Five excellent student proposals were selected for funding by the Sea and Sage Student Grants Committee. The objective of the Bloom-Hays Ecological Research Grant is to advance ecological research, particularly research related to avian species and the natural communities upon which they depend, by providing funds or supplies to support research activities benefitting native species and habitats in Southern California.

Jessica Burton, California State University, Long Beach (MS) Optimizing Artificial Raft Placement for the Light-footed Ridgway's Rail" (*Rallus obsoletus levipes*)

Janelle Chojnacki, California Polytechnic State University, Humboldt (MS) Common Raven Movement Around Western Snowy Plover Nesting Habitat

Riley Jones, University of Nevada, Las Vegas (PhD) Clark's Nutcrackers as agents for Dispersal of Bristlecone Pine

Janine Fischer, University of California, Los Angeles (PhD) Effects of Interspecific Competition on Habitat Use by Stephens' Kangaroo Rat

Jessica Mullins, University of California, San Diego (PhD) Eleven Year Resurvey to Uncover the Life History Traits of Native Bees Resistant or Vulnerable to Habitat Fragmentation

Amber Heredia
Chair of the Student Grants Committee

Western Field Ornithologists Conference - Reno, Nevada September 7–11, 2022

Registration for WFO members – June 19
General registration opens – June 26

- Science Sessions
- Photo ID & Bird Sounds Challenge Events
- Workshops covering a variety of bird ID topics
- Full day & half day field trips
- Saturday banquet

The conference will be held at the Whitney Peak Hotel, Reno's only non-smoking/non gaming venue
<https://westernfieldornithologists.org/conference/>

Orange County Rarities

by Samuel Bressler



Photos by
by Don Hoehlin

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: OrangeCountyBirding+subscribe@groups.io

April and May mark the height of spring migration in Southern California. While our earliest swallows and hummingbirds pass through as early as January or February, and straggling Willow Flycatchers may not appear until June, the first two months of spring is when most of us will see our first neotropical migrants of the year, from the skulking MacGillivray's Warblers and Swainson's Thrushes of shrubby understory to regal Olive-sided Flycatchers staking an ephemeral claim to the tallest tree tops in our greenspaces. These migrants will be newly molted, showing off their finest spring breeding plumage, and many will be singing incessantly, even those that are still thousands of miles away from their summer abodes. Our marshes and beaches also host itinerant shorebirds, gulls and terns, some arriving from as far away as Argentina. Amongst these vernal visitors there is usually a vagrant, whether an eastern warbler or vireo consorting with a flock of orange-crowned or Townsend's warblers, or a rare gull or shorebird inconspicuously tucked into a flock of its more common relatives. And of course, there are some birds, ostensibly winter visitors, seemingly loath to part with the Southern California spring, who linger until April before embarking upon their great journey north. By May all of these birds will be well on their journey north, their destination either the tundra, boreal forest, or northern prairie.

The overwintering **Eurasian Wigeon** was last seen at Bolsa Chica Ecological Reserve on April 21, while a **White-winged Scoter** was last seen Newport Pier on April 22nd. **Black Swifts** were found on April 27th at Anaheim Coves Park and the Dilley Preserve. Silverado Canyon hosted a retinue of northbound **Calliope Hummingbirds** from April 6th through May 11th. Additionally, two Calliopes were found at Moulton Meadows Park on April 7th, while a female of this tiny, typically montane species was at Sea Terrace Community Park in Dana Point on April 8th.

Three **Black-footed Albatrosses** on the spring pelagic trip out of Dana Point on May 1st was one of very few records for the county. A migrant **Pacific Golden-plover** was found at Bolsa Chica Ecological Reserve on April 25th, while a **Solitary Sandpiper** in San Diego creek on April 24th was one



Solitary Sandpiper

of relatively few spring records (at least compared to fall, when this species is an uncommon but regular visitor). A **Laughing Gull** was at San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary on May. A pair of unusual terns were found in the Seal Beach area on May 23rd: a **Gull-billed Tern** at Seal Beach Naval Weapons Station, and a **Black Tern** at Seal Beach Pier.

A booby species, either **Masked** or **Nazca Booby**, was seen off Newport Pier on April 13th; these species are most reliably differentiated in the field by the color of the bill in adults (orange in Nazca vs. yellow in Masked). A booby photographed off Huntington Beach on May 29th was definitely a **Nazca Booby**. **Neotropic Cormorants** continued at San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary through the end of May, while other individuals were observed at Heritage Park on April 10th and Salt Creek Beach in San Clemente on April 26th. The Upper Newport Bay **Tricolored Heron** continued through May 4th, while a **Cattle Egret** engaged in unrequited courtship displays at the San Juan Creek Mouth on April 26th. **Yellow-crowned Night-Herons** continue to turn up at numerous locations throughout the county, however two individuals at the UCI Marsh from May 13-15 were exceptional.

The immature **Bald Eagle** that has bounced around central-coastal Orange County for the last year was last seen on May 21st at San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary; an adult bird was observed at Upper Newport Bay on May 18th. **Lewis's Woodpeckers** were observed at Irvine Regional Park on April 21st and at Limestone Canyon on April 15th. The overwintering Chrisanta Drive **Brown-crested Flycatcher** was last reported on April 11th, while a **Gray Flycatcher** was found at Shipley Nature Center at Huntington Central Park on May 22nd. **Purple Martins** were observed at San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary on April 25th and in Huntington Beach on May 9th; San Joaquin also hosted a **Bank Swallow** on April 22nd.

A variety of unusual spring vireos were found in the county. By far the most notable was a **Yellow-throated Vireo** at Huntington Central Park May 17th-18th. While **Bell's Vireos**, belying their federally endangered status, have become relatively common in riparian scrub across the county, one in Silverado Canyon April 6th was both unusually early and very out-of-place. A **Plumbeous Vireo** continued at Serrano Creek Park through April 15h. A **Brown Thrasher** at Seal Beach from April 25th-May 4th was only the county's ninth record.

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: OrangeCountyBirding+subscribe@groups.io

A mix of lingering overwinterers and migrants made the April-May period particularly sparrow-rich. The most notable new sparrow was a **Black-throated Sparrow** at Huntington Central Park from May 16th through the 21st. **Brewer's Sparrows** were found in San Diego Creek on April 2nd, and at San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary and Limestone Canyon on April 5th. A very out of place **Black-chinned Sparrow**, normally restricted to our local foothill chaparral, was at Huntington Central Park April 2nd-3rd. Meanwhile, known overwintering individuals included the **Harris's Sparrow** at Tustin Legacy Park, which was last seen on April 6th, **White-throated Sparrows** at Aurora Park (last seen April 5th) and in Buena Park (last seen April 18th), and a **Clay-colored Sparrow** in Placentia seen through April 9th.

A **Tricolored Blackbird**, now extirpated as a breeder in the county, was observed at Irvine Lake on May 15th, while **Yellow-headed Blackbirds** were observed at Fairview Park on April 30th, Harriett Wieder Regional Park on May 6th, and Seal Beach Naval Weapons Station May 18th. The only other vagrant icterid reported was a **Baltimore Oriole** at Mason Regional Park on April 21st.



Baltimore Oriole

The overwintering **American Redstart** continued at San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary through at least April 3rd. Two **Black-and-white warblers** passed through the county this spring: one at

Laguna Niguel Regional Park May 19th-21st, and a second, injured bird recovered from Anaheim on May 24th. Meanwhile, four(!) **Palm Warblers** were reported: at San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary April 20th, at Clark Regional Park on May 15th, one at Huntington Central Park May 2nd-3rd, and a long-staying individual at Eisenhower Park from April 21st-29th. Finally, a pair of **Chestnut-sided Warblers** passed through Laguna Niguel, with the first found along the Niguel Trail May 13th-14 and the second found at Laguna Niguel Regional Park May 19th. **Summer Tanagers** were found at Gilman Park

April 16th, Harriett Wieder Regional Park May 19th and, Huntington Central Park May 30th-31st. Two **Rose-breasted Grosbeaks**, one on May 27th, the other May 28th-30th, were found at Huntington Central Park.

Audubon House Volunteers



We would like to thank the following people for helping to staff Audubon House in May, June and July: Sarah Baker, Susan Burgess, Ann Chan-Verdugo, Bettina Eastman, Jim Fiedler, Carol Getz, John Hargrove, Ann Harmer, Sue Henry, Serena

Jackson, Sarah Jayne, Lauretta Kyle, Doug Lithgow, Jay Matchett, Mary Meisner, Bobbie Miller, Paula Monroe, Dagmar Muthamia, Steve Munzinger, JoAnn Nothhelfer, Roberta Ray, Barbara Reber, Jennifer Reed, Linda Reed, Paul Saiki, Dev Sellin, Susan Sheakley, Phil Westin and Pat Wells.

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).

Share Nature with School Children at the SJWS

If you are retired (especially from teaching) and looking for a rewarding place to volunteer, then consider joining our Outdoor Adventures team. You will learn fun interpretive techniques, make new friends, and help elementary school children enjoy nature. For a copy of our fall training schedule, contact Project Director Trude Hurd at seaandsage@sbcglobal.net. Do it for yourself and the children and Earth's future!

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:

- **June 21** – Jennifer Ackerman's *The Bird Way*
 - **July** – No reading group this month
 - **August 16** – Rachel Carson's *Silent Spring*
- Check our webpage for more information.



Sea & Sage Audubon

Bird Embroidery Class

WITH SYLVIA GALLAGHER



Many people have enjoyed looking at Sylvia Gallagher's hand-embroidered birds—on quilts, pictures, and shirts—and wondered how she does it. For at least nine Saturday mornings, **July 16 through Sept. 10** (longer if interest persists), 9:30 am. to 12:30 pm, she will teach a workshop, sponsored by SEA AND SAGE AUDUBON, on how to do this sort of embroidery. Participants will learn how to select a bird picture, transfer it to cloth, select embroidery floss colors, and do the stitches to bring the bird to life. The stitches involved are mostly her versions of satin stitch and long-and-short stitches which are quite different from those described in most embroidery books and websites. Occasionally other stitches such as French knots, outline stitch, blanket stitch, etc., are used for accents.

Individualized instruction will allow the class to accommodate all levels of embroidery skill--beginner to expert--and all will find themselves learning new techniques. You will be taught how to do satin and long-and-short stitches, and any other stitches you need and are unfamiliar with, and maybe even a better way thread a needle. The cost for the class is \$100.00 for new students and \$60.00 for continuing students who will need less assistance. This price includes a brand new illustrated document explaining how to do the two main stitches.

Repeaters are urged to sign up again and continue to develop their skills. This class is open to men, as well as women. Come on, guys, be the fifth man to give it a try!

At the first session, beginners will learn and practice two stitches and learn how to get started on their choice of one of the class projects. Continuing students should come ready to work on and receive help with a project.

At the second session, (July 23), Sylvia will present a slide-illustrated program. In it, she will take you step-by-step through the entire process of converting to stitches a painting or photograph of a bird. (This process is fully applicable to subjects other than birds.) You will also be able to see some of her finished embroidery, including one of her quilts.

The class will be limited to 12 participants and will be cancelled if fewer than eight registrations are received by July 7. Please do not sign up if you expect to miss more than two meetings. (Exceptions may be made if there is room.) If you have not seen the introductory slide lecture, you must attend the second meeting, July 23. There will be a number of additional spaces for those who just want to attend the July 23 slide lecture (\$15.00 plus \$10.00, incl. tax, if you want the written instructions on how to do this work.)

People who register for the class must present documentation that they have received full immunization for COVID including at least one booster. Top-quality masks will be required whenever you are working close to another person.

The class location is Sylvia's air-conditioned home in Huntington Beach. Send your reservation form, a check for the fee, and a self-addressed stamped envelope (SASE) to **Embroidery, Sylvia Gallagher, 21562 Kaneohe Ln, Huntington Beach CA 92646**. Reservations must be **postmarked** (or hand delivered) **no earlier than Mon., June 13** (2-day penalty for early reservations). Confirmation, a map to the meeting place, and a list of needed supplies will be mailed to you as soon as possible after 8 registrations have been received.

If you have questions, email Sylvia: sjrgallagher@yahoo.com. Although her phone number is 714-962-8990, messages left on her answering machine will not be returned. Email is better if she doesn't answer the phone.

Reservation Form - Bird Embroidery Class - (Summer 2022)

Names of all participants _____

Address(es) & Zip _____

Phone(s) _____

E-mail _____



Check one: Entire series, new student (\$100) _____

Entire series, continuing student (\$60) _____

July 23 lecture **only** (\$15) _____ July 23 lecture plus "how to" document (\$25) _____

Self-addressed stamped envelope enclosed? _____

Check for \$_____ payable to SEA AND SAGE AUDUBON enclosed? _____ (NO Credit Cards)

Copy of documentation of full immunization for COVID including at least one booster enclosed? _____

(Those who don't submit this documentation will have to present, at every class meeting, proof of a professionally performed test for immunity done no more than two days previously.)

New Webpage Coming!

For the past THREE years, we have been working on a newly formatted webpage, using new software, to make our webpage more modern. We are using much of our original webpage contents, but are also improving the contents as well as adding new material. Darrell Wilson is our Web Designer and he has been working with a committee of eleven wonderful people who meet with him weekly. Members of the committee have provided us with lots of excellent content as well as written whole sections complete with photos. Every week we discuss our additions and Darrell shows us how it can be formatted. We are now on the homestretch and expect to switch over to the new webpage this summer. Like many computer projects, it will be a work in progress. We hope you will like it!

Website Committee: Darrell Wilson, Jonathan Aguayo, Samuel Bressler, Chris Byrd, Trude Hurd, Nancy Kenyon, Jim Kissinger, Vic Leipzig, Doug Lithgow, Gail Richards, Scott Thomas, Tom Van Huss.

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.)

<http://tinyurl.com/zjbs5ft>

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____



C15

Sea and Sage Audubon
 PO Box 5447, Irvine CA 92616
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 Permit No. 164

Summer BBQ - Sept. 10th



We hope you can come!

BOARD MEMBERS

Executive Committee:

President Gail Richards..... 714-267-2420
 Vice President Jonathan Aguayo 805-204-6986
 Secretary Kate Grabenstein 714-540-6768
 Treasurer..... Chris Byrd 714-639-0967
 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
 Director 2025..... Mary Rice Wynn..... 714-458-0778
 Director 2025..... Andrea Carpio 314-960-8956
 Past President..... Doug Lithgow 714-962-4145

Committee Chairpersons:

Archives & Records..... Chris Byrd 714-639-0967
 Audubon House Doug Lithgow 714-962-4145
 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 Sean Sherlock.....
 Development & Events..... Cheryl Thomas..... 949-294-2275
 Education Carolyn Noble 714-731-9091
 Exhibits & Events 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..... Nancy Kenyon..... 949-786-3160
 Partners-in-Flight..... Janet & Al Baumann
 Programs..... Jonathan Aguayo 805-204-6986
 Raptor Research Scott Thomas 949-293-2915
 Research Grants Amber Heredia 714-812-2430
 Science Bruce Aird 949-458-1520
 SJWS Liaison Chris Obaditch 949-640-7234
 Social Media..... Sandrine Biziaux-Scherson.949-413-0297
 Starr Ranch/Envir. Liaison. Sandy DeSimone 949-858-0309
 Webmaster...Nancy Kenyon...(Webpage Design: Darrell Wilson)
 Webpage: <http://www.seaandsageaudubon.org>

STAFF

AUDUBON HOUSE 949-261-7963
 Marsh Education Project Director Trude Hurd 949-261-7964
 Education Assistant.....Deborah Brin 949-261-7964
 Sales Manager Catherine Steinberg.. 949-261-7963
 Administrative Aide..... Sandrine Biziaux-Scherson.949-413-0297

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. <http://www.wwccoc.org/>

SCHEDULE of CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

® Advance Reservations needed. \$Class or Trip fee needed.

June 2022:

19 Sun Anaheim Coves Park ®.....8:00 am
 21 Tues *Sea & Sage Reading Group* 1:00 pm
 25-26 S-S Mammoth Lakes weekend trip ® \$ 5:15 am
 26 Sun Upper Newport Bay Bird Walk ®.....8:00 am
 26 Sun Legislation & Advocacy Team Mtg.....4:30 pm

July 2022:

05 Tues Conservation Committee Mtg. via Zoom.....6:45 pm
 10 Sun SJWS Bird Walk ®.....8:00 am
 16 Sat Bird embroidery Class begins ® \$9:30 am
 17 Sun Carbon Canyon Bird Walk ®.....8:00 am
 21 Thurs Bolsa Chica Bitf Walk ®.....8:00 am
 21 Thurs Tackling Climate & Trash Team Mtg.....tba
 31 Sun Upper Newport Bay Bird Walk ®.....8:00 am

August 2022:

09 Tues Board Meetings via Zoom7:00 pm
 13 Sat Summer Pelagic Trip ® \$6:30 am
 14 Sun SJWS Bird Walk ®8:00 am
 16 Tues *Sea & Sage Reading Group* 1:00 pm
 21 Sun Anaheim Coves Park ®.....8:00 am
 24 Wed UNB Pontoon Boat Trip ® \$8:15 am
 28 Sun Upper Newport Bay Bird Walk ®.....8:00 am

September 2022:

10 Sat End of Summer Barbecue ® \$5:00 pm