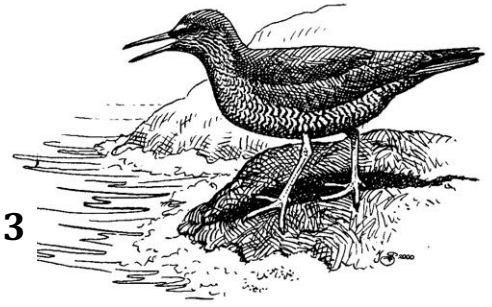


Wandering Tattler

Dec. 2022/Jan. 2023
Volume 72, Number 4



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

Our Annual Appeal

Gail Richards, President

Sea and Sage is a fully non-profit organization that continues to rely on the generous donations of our membership, continue the good work that we are doing. Each year, our members have generously supported Sea and Sage's important efforts to: 1) protect birds and other wildlife and the places that they live; 2) share the pure joy of birding; 3) educate lawmakers who can influence environmental policy; and 4) partner with the organizations that share our vision to maximize our effectiveness. As a Sea & Sage Audubon Society member, you share our achievements. When our members come together and leverage our collective power, Sea & Sage Audubon can make a big difference.

We have made it an organizational principle to only ask our members for their donations once each year. We have selected the month of December, as it follows the Giving Tuesday, on November 29, a global movement that inspires hundreds of millions of people to give, collaborate, and celebrate generosity.

We continue to be blessed with the kindness of an anonymous donor who has once again offered to **match dollar-for-dollar** every contribution of \$150 or more, up to a total of \$15,000. Be sure that all donations, of any size, are welcome. The official Annual Appeal letters will arrive with an envelope for remittance; or, for your convenience, you can now donate online with our link to PayPal: [https://www.paypal.com/donate?](https://www.paypal.com/donate?hosted_button_id=JQS47GHE54YZW)

hosted_button_id=JQS47GHE54YZW

You will receive a return acknowledgement of your donation for tax purposes, with a sincere thank you for your support. Please consider an end-of-year gift to further benefit birds.

General Meeting - Online Presentation Friday, January 20, 2023 - 7:00 PM

Via Zoom

“Conservation Research of Western Burrowing Owls in San Diego County” *presented by Colleen Wisinski*

Colleen Wisinski is the Conservation Program Manager for the Burrowing Owl Recovery Program at the San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance. The SDZWA BUOW program's main focus is the ecology and conservation of Burrowing Owls in Southern California, particularly of the breeding population in San Diego County. Colleen has been working with the San Diego population of Burrowing Owls since 2011 and the regional population since 2017. She is responsible for overseeing the field team, managing and analyzing data, and working with colleagues to make recommendations about management of the species to local land and wildlife managers. The SDZWA team uses a variety of techniques, including direct observations, remote cameras, GPS transmitters, color banding, translocation, and conservation breeding to monitor population dynamics and to help bolster the Burrowing Owl population. She'll share an overview of the SDZWA program and what's been learned over the years.

Colleen earned her bachelor's degree in Biology and Spanish from the University of Wisconsin - Green Bay, and her master's degree in Fish and Wildlife Management from Montana State University in Bozeman, where she examined survival and habitat use of Greater Sage-Grouse in southwestern Montana. Colleen loves that she gets to work outdoors and be creative to figure out how to answer research questions in the field.

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 to join the meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85915749565>

See you there (virtually).

(If this link isn't working for you, try Meeting ID: 859 1574 9565) Need Help? email

jonathan.aguayo@psomas.com

Jonathan Aguayo, Programs Chair

Conservation News

Susan Sheakley, Conservation Chair



The Conservation Committee meets on the first Tuesday. The next Committee meetings will be on December 6 and January 3rd. There will **not** be a December '4th Tuesday'. The next '4th Tuesday' Conservation Lecture is planned for Tuesday, January 24th Join us!

"4th Tues." Conservation Lecture

Tuesday, January 24th – 7:00 pm

Zoom Doors will open at 6:30 pm



"Rediscovering Ourselves through Nature and the Chaparral"

Presented by Richard Halsey, Director
California Chaparral Institute

Greetings! I know you will be pleased to learn that we will start the new year by welcoming back Rick Halsey, Director of California Chaparral Institute. Rick returns to share thoughts on the special nature of the chaparral, a local treasure.

Join Rick, writer, photographer, teacher, philosopher and guide, to explore how connecting with Nature through our local native habitats, especially the chaparral, offers us a way to "know thyself".

Advance registration is required & will be available on our website. See '**What's New**' or '**Conservation**'.



Tackling Pancake Breakfast Trash

Thank you for supporting the Scrape and Rinse Station at the Pancake Breakfast, and special thanks to all who helped at the station! Started in 2019, the idea of the station was to reduce trash from the Pancake Breakfast by using reusable tableware. The mission of TCT is to reduce trash going to the landfill and dispose of trash in an environmentally friendly way. By not using disposable plates, cups, and cutlery (200 sets!), the number of bags of trash generated at the event was greatly reduced. FORTY POUNDS of organic waste was recycled instead of going to the landfill! The Scrape and Rinse concept may be labor intensive but reducing the trash that goes into the landfill is worth it.

Our Top Three New Year's Resolutions to Become More Ecofriendly

Be an Environmentally Friendly Gardener

- Develop waterwise gardens
- Plant native plants
- Create garden habitat for birds & insects
- Make an herb garden for yourself

Reduce Merchandise Packaging

- Use reusable bags
- Buy in bulk
- Group items together when buying online

Decrease "to-go" Food Packaging

- Take your own utensils
- Ask to not be given the cutlery, plates & napkins
- Use reusable food containers when eating outside the home
- Take your own reusable containers for restaurant leftovers

Chapter News & Announcement

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 October through December: Kathy Blackmarr, Susan Burgess, Ann Chan-Verdugo, John Hargrove, Ann Harmer, Sue Henry, Sarah Jayne, Laretta

Kyle, Jay Matchett, Judy McInnis, Mary Meister, Paula Monroe, Dagmar Muthamia, JoAnn Nothhelfer, Roberta Ray, Barbara Reber, Jennifer Reed, Linda Reed, Paul Saiki, Dev Sellin, Catherine Steinberg, Barb Wasbin, Pat Wells, Phil Westin, Irene Wotta.

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). *WE WELCOME NEW VOLUNTEERS!*

Holiday Shopping in our Nature Store

The 2022 Sea and Sage Audubon ornament is now available. This year we are featuring the quirky and beloved **Greater Runner**. Be sure to come in and get yours before they are all gone. **Holiday Open House, Dec. 4th – 10:00 to 2:00.**

We also have several new and exciting gifts perfect for the avian lover on your holiday list. We take great care to bring you gift items that are thoughtful, local and eco-friendly. New in the Nature Store are Bird Identification posters, puzzles, enamel pins, stickers and embroidered patches, boxed Holiday cards and much more.

Happy Holidays!



Accessible Birding – Two Upcoming

Events! Each of these events was designed for those with mobility challenges, but all are welcome!

Dec. 26 - Christmas Bird Count, 8:30 AM

Please join us on December 26th at Riley Wilderness Park in Cota de Caza. From the paved parking lot to the garden area is about a 150 yard walk with places to sit along the way. Once in the lovely, shaded garden, you'll find many benches and a bird feed area. You will be paired with an experienced e-birder for bird identification

and counting. Facilities include Port-A-Potties and a water fountain at the entrance. We'll gather for bring-your-own brunch when we finish counting at about 10:00 AM. The event is free, but the park requires a \$3 entrance fee or OC Park card.

February 3 – Irvine Regional Park, 9 AM.

Join us for birding followed by a bring-your-own brunch. Our location is close to a parking lot with picnic tables and handicapped restrooms nearby. Anyone interested in a short walk can visit a nearby birdbath or nature center. The event is free, but the park requires a \$3 entrance fee or OC Park card.

For questions, registration, and specific event instructions, contact Sharon Rockwell at srockwell@writeme.com.

Show Your Support For Education!

We continue to need donations of any amount to support three education items during the 2022-23 school year. You can help bring elementary school children to the marsh for science programs by donating to our **School Bus Fund**. You can help keep our taxidermy bird collection in the best condition by donating to our **Taxidermy Bird Fund**. You can support literacy by providing Santa Ana school children with three **Audubon Adventures** nature newspapers (Get to Know Birds, Birds on the Move, and Safety for Birds in Flight). Each of these has a positive impact on children attending our Outdoor Adventures science discovery program.

To show your support, you can write a check and send it to Education, Sea and Sage Audubon, 5 Riparian View, Irvine CA 92612. Or you can pay by credit card at https://www.paypal.com/donate?hosted_button_id=ERUEBCQ2GVPD2. So easy!

If you have any questions, please contact Project Director Trude Hurd by email: seaandsage@sbcglobal.net. We appreciate your support of our education programs!

Sea & Sage Reading Group

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

Jan. 17 – Douglas J. Futuyama's *How Birds Evolve: What Science Reveals about the Origin, Lives & Diversity*

Orange County Rarities

by Samuel Bressler



Photos by
Don Hoechlin

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

October marks the latter half of peak songbird fall migration, and is often the more productive month, at least from a rarity standpoint. But the temperatures have begun to cool and the days are much shorter. Interspersed with the eastern vagrants that will rest and refuel for a few weeks before moving on are a smattering of montane and northern visitors who are the first true heralds of winter. Due to space considerations only the most notable sightings are reported here.

A **Mexican Duck** returned for its third winter to Carr Park in Huntington Beach on Oct. 20th, while a **Red-necked Grebe** made a one-day appearance off of Newport Pier, Oct. 2nd. A **Common Poorwill**, typically found in our interior foothills, was an out-of-place fall migrant at Huntington Central Park, Oct. 18-22; **Red-footed Boobies** were intermittently observed throughout the month along the Newport Coast. An adult **Little Blue Heron**, first observed in September, continued at Bolsa Chica through the end of the month, as was a presumably turning **Zone-tailed Hawk** in the Lake Forest area.

Mid-fall brought a spectacular irruption of **Lewis's Woodpeckers** to the mountains and foothills surrounding the Los Angeles basin, and while few of these made it as far south as Orange County, individuals were reported from Carbon Canyon Regional Park on Oct. 9th and San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary on the 26th. Birders should keep their eyes peeled in wooded parks in case more of these spectacular woodpeckers wander into the county.

Huntington Central Park hosted a staggering number of this month's rarities. The most notable of these finds was a **Philadelphia Vireo**; found on Oct. 22nd, this was the first for the county since 2013. Sadly, it did not stick around after being discovered. A **Least Flycatcher**



Least Flycatcher

Townsend's Solitaire



found Oct. 26th, continued through the end of the month in roughly the same area that one was found last year. Central Park also brought in a pair of montane migrants rarely seen near the coast: a **Brown Creeper** on Oct. 5th and a **Townsend's Solitaire**, Oct. 13th-16th. The latter was a third record for the park. Solitaires also turned up in

Limestone Canyon, Oct. 23rd, as well as Alta Laguna Park in Laguna Beach from Oct. 27th through the end of the

month; perhaps these sightings mark the beginning of a small movement of this species?

Clay-colored Sparrows were found at several locations in Oct., including Huntington Central Park, Mile Square Reg. Park, Irvine Lake, and Fairview Reg. Park, while the closely related **Brewer's Sparrow** visited a private residence in Costa Mesa, Oct. 18th. **Black-chinned Sparrows** are typically a strict spring/summer resident in the county, so a pair at Limestone Canyon, Oct. 23rd, were exceptionally late. A pair of **Bobolinks** were at the Seal



Baltimore Oriole

Beach Naval Weapons Station, Oct. 14th. **Baltimore Orioles** were present at Arroyo Park, Oct. 15th, and at Mile Square Reg. Park, Oct. 5th-10th. An individual seen on Oct. 19th may have been a separate individual.

Tricolored Blackbirds have essentially disappeared from the county, so one at Irvine Lake, Oct. 14th, was notable.

Oct. brought a cornucopia of rare and unusual warblers to our favorite migrant traps. **Northern Waterthrushes** continued at Arroyo Park through Oct. 2nd, and at Huntington Central Park through the end of the month. An **Ovenbird** was at Dana Woods Park, Oct. 8th-9th, while a **Lucy's Warbler** and **Magnolia Warbler** continued at Mile Square Reg. Park through Oct. 2nd and 16th, respectively. Also at Mile Square was a **Blackpoll Warbler**, Oct. 18th-19th. Gilman Park hosted a **Blackburnian Warbler** through Oct. 11th, and a **Chestnut-sided Warbler** through the 16th; other Chestnut-sided Warblers turned up at Huntington Central Park, Oct. 16th, and at Promenade Park in Lake Forest, Oct 31st. A **Painted Redstart** was at Pattinson Park in Huntington Beach, Oct. 27th-29th. In addition to these more notable species, **Black-and-white**, **Tennessee** and **Palm Warblers**, as well as **American Redstarts**, were found at several locations throughout the county.



American Redstart



Sea and Sage Audubon Society
Raptor Identification Workshops



Introductory Workshop: Sat-Sun, Mar. 4-5, 2023
Intermediate/Advanced Workshop: Sat-Sun, Mar. 11-12, 2023
presented by William S. Clark

Comprehensive workshops on raptor identification will be presented during two weekends in March, 2023. The instructor for the course will be Bill Clark, coauthor of *Hawks*, the raptor field guide in the Peterson series, and the *Photographic Guide to North American Raptors*. Bill has been conducting these popular workshops in Orange County and elsewhere for many years.

Although the pace and emphasis will vary with the experience of the participants, both workshops will first cover the basic field marks for the identification of California raptors. Then, a more thorough coverage of the field ID of *Accipiters*, eagles, and *Buteos* will be presented. Also discussed will be molt and its use in field ID, terminology, albinism and other unusual plumages. The field ID of vagrants to be expected in California will be covered, as well as how to document their sightings.

Each weekend will consist of a full day of Class instruction on Saturday. Sundays will be spent in the field with details announced on Saturdays. Bring lunches. **Full agenda of each weekend** will be posted on our webpage under the heading of Adult Education.

You will be required to sign a liability release form in order to participate in the field trips. Each vehicle must have an FRS radio (short-range radio for communication between vehicles.) Bring yours if you have one; loaners will be available.

The required text for the workshop will be the second edition of *Hawks* by Clark and Wheeler (Houghton Mifflin Co., 2001.) Recommended, but not required, is *Photographic Guide to North American Raptors* by Wheeler and Clark. These books are now out of print and you should purchase one or both of them from Amazon or some other book source.

Bill Clark has many decades of experience working with birds of prey and has published on a variety of raptor subjects, including many papers on raptor identification. He has taught hawk-ID classes and led hawk-watching tours for a long time.

Classes will be held in the big gray Learning Center at the San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary (near the Sea and Sage Audubon House). A map to the meeting place will be enclosed with the workshop confirmation.

The cost of the workshop is \$200.00 for each weekend—to be enclosed with your registration.

Enrollment each weekend will be limited to 25 participants and it may be cancelled if there is insufficient registration by Feb. 14. Don't wait until the last minute to register; you don't want your workshop to be cancelled because you forgot to register by that date! Confirmations and further information will be mailed out on Feb. 16, 2023.

Mail your enrollment form, check for the workshop fee, and a self-addressed stamped envelope (SASE) to: Raptor Workshop, Sylvia Gallagher, 21562 Kaneohe Ln, Huntington Beach CA 92646. Your form should be **postmarked no sooner than Wed, Jan. 18, 2023** (two-day penalty for early reservations). If you have questions, email Sylvia at sjrgallagher@yahoo.com (preferred), or call her at 714-962-8990.

Enrollment Form - Raptor Weekends with Bill Clark - 2023

Names of all participants _____

Address(es) _____ Apt. _____

City _____ ZIP _____ Phone(s) _____

E-mail _____ SASE enclosed? _____

Check your choice(s) of weekends. (Some people attend both.)

____ Introductory (Sat - Sun, March 4-5) — \$200 per person

____ Intermediate/Advanced (Sat - Sun, March 11-12) — \$200 per person

Workshop fees enclosed? _____ (Make check payable to: *Sea & Sage Audubon Society*.)



Christmas Bird Counts - 2022

We hope you will join us this year on one or more of our Christmas Bird Counts. Sea & Sage now has four Count Circles: Northeastern (Inland CBC), San Juan Capistrano (South County CBC), Puente Chino-Hills (North County CBC), and the Coastal CBC.

Northeastern (Inland) CBC on Sunday, December 18th. This count covers inland areas in Irvine, Mission Viejo, Lake Forest, and parts of Lemon Heights. If you are interested in this count and have previously participated in it, please contact the Area Leader with whom you worked. Or you may contact Doug Lithgow, the Compiler for this circle.

Next up is the **South County CBC on Monday, December 26th.** This count covers areas such as San Juan Capistrano, San Clemente, Dana Point, and Doheny State Beach to name a few. Please contact Darrell Wilson, the Compiler for this circle.

Following the South County CBC on Saturday, December 31st is the new **Puente Chino-Hills CBC.** This count covers areas of North Orange County. Please contact Samuel Bressler, the compiler for this circle.

Don't put your binoculars away just yet, because on **Monday, January 2nd is our fourth and final count, the Coastal CBC.** This count is our longest running Count Circle having been around for over 40 years. Please contact Bettina Eastman, the Coastal CBC Compiler for more information.

So please help us continue this cherished tradition of Community Based Science with your important bird observations.

All contact information is on the following pages.

Please contact your Area Leader if you wish to take part in the count again this year. If you are new to the CBC, contact Doug Lithgow, Coordinator for the Northeastern CBC on Dec. 18 (dmlithgow@aol.com, 714-962-4145).

NE (Inland) Compiler: Doug Lithgow
(714) 962-4145 - SUN, December 18
dmlithgow@aol.com

Irvine Regional Park

Area Leader: *Jan Gaffney*
(562-439-5631) janrduck@icloud.com

Irvine Lake & vicinity

Area Leader: *to be decided*
(714-962-4145) dmithgow@aol.com

Silverado Canyon

Area Leader: *Doug Lithgow*
(714-962-4145) dmithgow@aol.com

Upper & Lower Black Star Canyon

Leaders: *Al & Janet Baumann*
Aljanetbaumann@aol.com

Mountain Areas

Area Leader: *Brian Leatherman*
(714-779-7077) bleathermanwlb@aol.com

Modjeska & Harding Canyons

Area Leader: *Bruce Aird*
(940-458-1520) bruceaird@gmail.com

O'Neill Regional Park & Plano Trabuco

Area Leader: *Jerry Tolman*
(714-539-8040)

Lion Country & Areas south of the 405

The area between Lake Forest & El Toro to Glen Ranch Rd, excluding Oso Reservoir

Area Leader: *Bettina Eastman*
(714-293-1079) bettinae24@gmail.com

Mission Viejo, Lake Forest & Foothills

Area Leader: *Bettina Eastman*
(714-293-1079) bettinae24@gmail.com

Former El Toro Marine Base & Foothills

Area Leader: *Bettina Eastman*
(714-293-1079) bettinae24@gmail.com

Rattlesnake & Siphon Reservoirs

Area Leader: *Christine Tischer*
(714-955-1000) clmukai@netscape.net

Peters Canyon Reg. Park & Lemon Heights

Area Co-Leader: *Linda Oberholtzer*
(213-840-5546) lindaoberholtzer@gmail.com
Area Co-Leader: *Brad Dawson* (562-438-8898)

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San Juan Capistrano (South County)
Compiler: Darrell Wilson
(714) 401-7852 - MON, December 26
darrellwilson@cox.net

Laguna Niguel Reg. Park
Area Leader: *tba*

San Clemente
Area Leader: *tba*

Caspers Wilderness Park
Area Leader: *Diane Etchison*
949-388-0709; Detchison22@cox.net

Pelagic Areas or Sea Watch
Area Leader: *Jerry Tolman*
phone: 714-539-8040

Saddleback College & vicinity
Area Leader: *Mark Kincheloe*
kinch824@gmail.com

Upper San Juan Creek & vicinity
Area Leader: *Doug Lithgow*
(714-962-4145) dmlithgow@aol.com

Aliso-Woods Cyn & Ziggurat/Costco area
Area Leader: *Darrell Wilson*
(714-401-7852) darrellwilson@cox.net

San Clemente Hillside
Area Leader: *Kim Lopina*

Dana Point: Doheny State Beach, Dana Point Harbor, Dana Point Headlands, Salt Creek, local parks, golf course
Area Leader: *Joel Weintraub* & helpers
jweintraub@cox.net

Thomas F. Riley Wilderness Par
Area Leader: *Darrell Wilson*
(714-401-7852) darrellwilson@cox.net

For those who want a slower paced CBC at 8:30 AM Please join us at Riley Wilderness Park. Contact Sharon Rockwell to sign up - srockwell@writeme.com. See page 3 for full information on this trip.

Please contact your Area Leader if you wish to take part in the count again this year. If you are new to the CBC, contact Darrell Wilson, Coordinator for the San Juan Capistrano CBC on December 26. He will assign you to an area which needs your help.

Puente Chino-Hills (North County)
Compiler: Samuel Bressler
(657) 378-5367 - SAT, December 31
pacificgoldenplover@gmail.com

-
- **Chino Hills State Park**
 - **Carbon Canyon Wilderness Park**
 - **Craig Reg. Park**
 - **Yorba Reg. Park**
 - **Santiago Oaks Reg. Park**
 - **West Coyote Hills**
 - **Gilman**
 - **Tri-City Yorba Linda Lakebed Parks**
 - **Weir Canyon Nature Reserve**

Please contact Samuel Bressler if you wish to take part in this count again this year. If you are new to the CBC, contact Samuel who is the Coordinator this Puente Chino-Hills CBC on December 31. He will assign you to an area which needs your help.

Christmas Bird Counts - 2022

We hope you will join us this year on one or more of our Christmas Bird Counts. Sea & Sage now has four Count Circles: Northeastern (Inland CBC), San Juan Capistrano (South County CBC), Puente Chino-Hills (North County CBC), and the Coastal CBC.

Coastal CBC. Compiler: Bettina Eastman
(714) 293-1079 - MON, January 2, 2023
bettinae24@gmail.com

Westminster Mem. Park, Corner of Seal Beach NWR
Area Leader: *Linette Lina*
(714-721-4621) Littlewing250@gmail.com

HB Pier, Beach Areas north to edge of Sunset Beach, HCP west, Wintersburg Channel, Seapoint
Area Leader: *Vic Leipzig*
(714-330-3558) vicleipzig@aol.com

Bolsa Chica
Area Leader: *Terry Hill*
(714-756-0168) terryjohn@earthlink.net

Mile Square Park
Area Leader: *Linda Oberholtzer*
(213-840-5546) lindaoberholtzer@gmail.com

HB Wetlands, Fairview Park, Talbert Preserve, Banning Ranch, SA River Mouth, Canyon Park, CM Golf Course, Fairview Development Center, OC Sanitation District. Area Co-Leaders: *Lena & Nancy*
Lena Hayashi (714-321-1975) lenahayashi@gmail.com
Nancy Kappelmann (949-294-7262) nakdrd@aol.com

Older Areas within Santa Ana
Area Leader: *Tracy Mcguire*
(714-296-0740) tjm351@roadrunner.com

Centennial Reg. Park, Windsor Park, Carl Thornton Park, Former MCAS Blimp Base, Marine Corp. Memorial Park. Area Leader: *Bettina Eastman*
(714-293-1079) bettinae24@gmail.com

Upper Newport Bay - West Side
Area Leader: *Bettina Eastman*
(714-293-1079) bettinae24@gmail.com

Upper Newport Bay - East Side
Area Leader: *Devon Bradley*
(949-287-1715) devonjbradley@gmail.com

San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary, UCI Marsh
Area Leader: *Darrell Wilson*
(714-401-7852) darrellwilson@cox.net

Mason Reg. Park, UCI Campus & Foothills, Corona del Mar. Area Leader: *Bruce Aird*
(949-458-1520) bruceaird@gmail.com

Newport Harbor & Beaches
Area Leader: *Devon Bradley*
(949-287-1715) devonjbradley@gmail.com

Pelagic Areas along the coast
Area Leader: *Jerry Tolman* . (714-539-8040)

Please contact your Area Leader if you wish to take part in the count again this year. If you are new to the CBC, contact Bettina Eastman, Coordinator for this Coastal CBC on January 2nd. She will assign you to an area which needs your help.

Western Snowy Plover/CA Least Tern Survey
Currently, we do not have dates for the next survey or any training scheduled. Please check our website and social media for any announcements in the coming months for updates. Thank you for your interest and continued support!

Cheryl Egger
Survey Volunteer Coordinator
OCSNPLSurvey@gmail.com

We Appreciate Our Education Donors!

Trude Hurd, Project Director of Education

The Audubon Naturalists and I have been so excited to reopen Outdoor Adventures this year. We love sharing nature with children and seeing their faces light up while looking through binoculars and microscopes for the first time. This personal experience in nature has lasting impact! This year, we continued to offer free bus transportation and subscriptions to Audubon Adventures student nature newspaper for Santa Ana school children. These items cost money, so I made our request, and many of you responded!

We received donations totaling \$15,980 from 32 contributors to provide **SCHOOL BUSES** for 22 classes in spring 2022 and for 46 classes in 2022-23. Buses in spring cost \$6,542 while buses this school year are expected to cost \$13,800 for a total of \$20,342.

We are grateful to Anonymous (2), Mark Adamson & Nancy Tschiderer (2), Cindy Allen, Matt & Carolyn Biller, Kathy Blackmarr, Armida Brashears, Deborah Brin, Mary Cupp & Tom Makar, Daley Family Foundation, Debi Forsythe, Judith Frant, Judy Fritts, Amanda Gaskin, Kate Grabenstein & Steven Papian, Susan Kay, Nancy Kenyon, Paul Klahr, Patricia Knight, Bev Krasner-Bulas, Babs Levitan (2), Robin Maguire, Paula & David Monroe, Carol Paquette, Charlene Pinder, Helen Porter, Ann Sakai & Stephen Weller, Bev Spring, Gloria Widmann, and Tod & Linda White for bringing children to the marsh.

We received donations totaling \$2,243 from 6 supporters to give **AUDUBON ADVENTURES** newspapers to each Santa Ana child. Topics in spring were Get to Know Birds, Hummingbirds, and Plants are for Birds, while topics for 2022-23 are Get to Know Birds, Birds on the Move, and Safety for Birds in Flight. These cost \$3,675. A big thank you to Ann Barbour, Kathy Blackmarr, Daley Family Foundation, Judith Frant, Nancy Kenyon, and Gloria Widmann for their purchase.

A special feature of Outdoor Adventures is the opportunity for school children to be inches away from **TAXIDERMY BIRD** specimens so they can examine bird adaptations. We keep the birds dusted

and pest-free in addition to adding birds of interest. For example, this year we added a pair of Western Bluebirds for loan to Santa Ana classes. It was sponsored in memory of Sophie Wickramasinghe, one of our naturalists who loved sharing nature with school children.

We received donations totaling \$2,765 from 10 sponsors for our Taxidermy Fund. Many thanks to Rudi Berkelhamer, Kathy Blackmarr, Dejoie Blumberg, Daley Family Foundation, Amanda Gaskin, Beverly Hargrove, Trude Hurd, Carolyn Noble, Pat Sparks, and Doug Tolbert Estate.

Some donations are bittersweet from the death of a beloved family member. Margie Buckingham donated to our Taxidermy Fund in memory of her husband **Doug Tolbert** in addition to contributing 5 boxes of great birding books from his library. In addition to Margie's gifts, we received 7 more donations in Doug's memory totaling \$1,050 from Janis & Thomas Betts, Nancy Hadley, Kung Lin, Lucien & Ann Plauzoles, James Stuart, Doug Tolbert Estate, and Nadine Turner.

Many donors give to the Marsh Education Project without restriction. This allows us to use money where needed especially for any shortfalls with Outdoor Adventures. We gratefully received \$14,880 from these 9 donors: Anonymous, Kathy Blackmarr, Deborah Brin, Gordon Generation Foundation (Judy Gordon), Bing Liu, Donna Mackiewicz, Gary & Maya Matkin, Roger's Gardens, and Kumar Wickramasinghe.

Finally, a huge thank you to Sea and Sage Audubon for supporting education with an annual subsidy of \$24,000, an Anonymous Foundation with a BIG heart, and Irvine Ranch Water District who allows us to provide environmental programs in a beautiful wetland. We love you!

There is still time for you to donate to the education project in 2022; email Trude Hurd at seaandsage@sbcglobal.net for information about how to send a check or use PayPal. Thank you!

Our Pancake Breakfast & Margaret Carlberg

Our Pancake Breakfast

Word got out that we were having another Pancake Breakfast this year and an approximately 200 people showed up for it. We did something different this year. To prevent crowding in the Duck Club, we set up half the tables in the Duck Club and the other half outdoors. The food was delicious, especially those delicious pancakes!

Mary Joseph was the guiding light behind this event and she put countless hours into preparing for it. We could not have done it without our wonderful volunteers who helped us by putting up signs, directing parking, food preparation and afterwards clean up, collecting tickets, cooking the food, refreshing the condiments, leading a bird walk, staffing scope stations, all areas of the popular book sale, staffing the Chapter Ambassador Table, the Education Table, the Welcome Table, Audubon House, Native Plant Sale, Scrape, Rinse & Waste Separation & Disposal operation. Catherine Steinberg decorated the tables inside and out with seasonal decorations that set the mood for a festive atmosphere.



The weather was perfect and even the birds were cooperative. The used book sale generated a lot of interest, the bird walks went well, the raffle tickets were eagerly filled out and stamped (winners were Victoria Smith, Karen McKinley, James Scannell, and Laura Cook); LuAnn Baker won the hummingbird gift basket raffle from Wild Birds Unlimited, for bringing her reusable tableware, a lot of people went out on the bird walk while others visited the outdoor displays inside the Duck Club and the Audubon House Nature Store, talked with Alan Barry from WBU about their bird feeding problems, checked out the new optics from Optics4Birding. A number of enthusiastic volunteers helped at the Scrape & Rinse station; they were well organized and able to keep it moving.



We want to thank everyone who helped make our Pancake Breakfast such a success and those who attended it. We hope to see you at next year's Pancake Breakfast on October 28, 2023.

— N. Kenyon
— Photos by Doug Lithgow

Remembering Margaret Carlberg

I met Margaret many years ago when the two of us were on a small committee, mulling over some science projects for the Orange County Science & Engineering Fair. At that time, Sea & Sage gave a couple of prizes to students who turned in interesting science projects; we, of course, were interested in the projects focusing on birds, the environment, and conservation. With her background in teaching chemistry and working with students dedicated to learning about science, she was a valuable asset. I still remember her graciousness and charm, and the way she made me feel useful to the project even though I was not much help. I felt very privileged to work with her.



She served as president for Sea & Sage in the 1970's and worked hard at bringing the strongly differing factions of our organization together. At the time conservationists felt birding was trivial, while birders saw it as a way of drawing people in to learn about conservation needs. This helped our organization move

forward as professionals to monitor and protect birds and valuable habitat. Under her tutelage, we became an organization that the county respected and listened to. In spite of teaching and other activities, her kids were grown by then, she also worked hard to get the avid Sea and Sage birders interested in conservation so that when they went on birding field trips, they also paid attention to native plants and valuable habitats for wildlife and the importance of preserving them.

As time passed, her interest in birds waned ("I'll never become a really good birder," she told Sylvia Gallagher once.) She became expert in edible native plants and how to incorporate them into tasty dishes. This was a natural combination of her love of chemistry and nature both. She prepared a fascinating program on the subject—free samples and all—which she presented to Sea and Sage and other community groups.

Throughout most of her life Margaret and her husband Dave were very active in Amigos de Bolsa Chica, an organization dedicated to preserving that wetland so that greedy land barons were unable to destroy it by building a string of hotels, apartments and a marina there like Huntington Harbor. When she joined Sea & Sage, she became active in conservation and education and attended many meetings at Fern Zimmerman's home where she met other members with like interests.

Margaret passed away in early November, but she will always be remembered by those of us fortunate enough to know her and appreciate her many talents.

— Nancy Kenyon and Sylvia Gallagher

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 nancykenyon@cox.net 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

AH is usually open daily from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM. The restrooms, trails, and parking lots are open from dawn until dusk. Call 949-261-7963 for information.

Your Membership Payment

Do you want to join National Audubon and Sea and Sage? Use the membership form at the bottom of this page. An Individual Membership or a Family Membership is only \$20. Sea & Sage receives 100% of a chapter generated new member's dues for the first year. Mail the form and your check - payable to National Audubon Society - to Sea and Sage Audubon, PO Box 5447, Irvine CA 92616. If you want to use a credit card for your membership payment, go online to: <http://www.audubon.org/membership> If you have questions, please contact Membership Chair, Jim Kissinger, at membership@seaandsageaudubon.org

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.)

<http://tinyurl.com/zjbs5tt>

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C15

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

SCHEDULE of CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

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

December 2022:

04 Sun Holiday Open House 10:00 am – 2:00 pm
 06 Tues Conservation Committee Mtg. via Zoom..... 6:45 pm
 11 Sun SJWS Bird Walk 8:00 am
 13 Board Mtg. via Zoom 7:00 pm
 18 Sun Northeastern (Inland) CBC tba
 21 Wed Pontoon Boat Trip ® FULL..... 8:15 am
 25 Sun UNB bird walk cancelled
 26 Mon San Juan Capistrano CBC..... tba
 31 Sat Puente Chino-Hills CBC..... tba

January 2023:

02 Mon Coastal CBC tba
 03 Tues Conservation Committee Mtg. via Zoom..... 6:45 pm
 10 Tues Board Mtg. via Zoom..... 7:00 pm
 07 Sat CBC Specialties Trip 7:00 am
 08 Sun SJWS Bird Walk 8:00 am
 15 Sun Carbon Canyon Bird Walk 8:00 am
 17 Tues *Sea & Sage Reading Group* 1:00 pm
 18 Wed Enrollment for Bill Clark's Raptor ID class opens
 18 Wed Pontoon Boat Trip ® 8:15 am
 19 Thurs Bolsa Chica Bird Walk 8:00 am
 20 Fri GENERAL MEETING via Zoom..... 7:00 pm
 22 Sun Winter Pelagic Trip ® 6:30 am
 20 Fri GENERAL MEETING via Zoom..... 7:00 pm
 24 Tues 4th Tues Conservation Lecture 7:00 pm
 28-29 Sa-Su Salton Sea weekend trip ® FULL 7:00 am
 29 Sun Upper Newport Bay Bird Walk ® 8:00 am