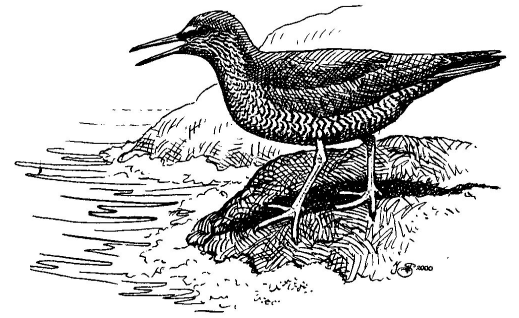


Wandering Tattler

March 2024
Volume 72, Number 6

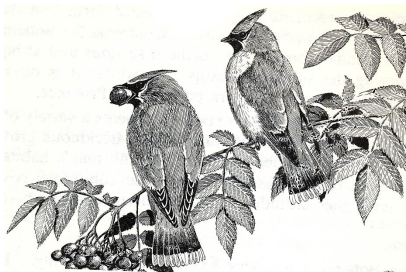


The Voice of SEA AND SAGE AUDUBON, an Orange County Chapter of the National Audubon Society

Come to our Annual Dinner on Friday evening, March 15th

- * Socialize with friends and new acquaintances
- * Participate in voting for your favorite bird photo
- * Play bird/trivia games
- * Bid for some nifty items at our Silent Auction
- * Rub elbows with the recipients of this year's Conservation Award and Letters of Commendation
- * Have fun browsing through our chapter displays
- * Eat a delicious dinner
- * Enjoy Jon Feenstra's program

Space is limited so get your reservations in now! See page 3 for full information about this special event.



Annual Dinner Program
March 15 – Friday evening – 6 pm

“The Birds of Ecuador: A Lot in a Little Place”

presented by Jon Feenstra



Jon Feenstra is a lifelong birder who moved from New Jersey to Southern California for graduate school at Caltech. After finishing a PhD in Physical Chemistry, he largely left that field and became a field biologist, finally making his weekend passion into a full-time job. He conducts bird surveys as an independent consultant for part of the year and spends the rest of the year traveling and leading tours for WINGS. He has led tours around the US, and also to Jordan and Tanzania, though Ecuador is his true home away from home, and he has been leading tours there for the past 15 years.

Conservation News

Susan Sheakley, Conservation Chair.



Note: No '4th Tues.' Conservation Lecture this month. **Other Meetings:** Conservation Committee **TU Mar 5** Tackling Climate & Trash **TH Mar 21** (Melissa Rapp, Co-Chair); Legislation & Advocacy **SU Mar 24** (Vic Leipzig, Chair)

Western Snowy Plover & California Least Tern OC Quarterly Survey:

If you have already attended a Snowy Plover Survey training session, join us in looking for Snowy Plovers, Least Terns, and their habitats on our local beaches, while helping to contribute to endangered species research. (Survey and training dates to be determined.)



This is the beginning of the Snowy Plover breeding season, and it is important to see how many Snowy Plovers are using our beaches and where the plovers are located. Volunteer surveyors may

choose their Orange County beach segment to survey by contacting Volunteer Coordinator, Cheryl Egger at ocsnplsurvey@gmail.com. For more info on Snowy Plover Surveys and maps of beach segments, visit <http://www.seaandsageaudubon.org>.

Select CONSERVATION; then – Conservation Bird Surveys — Western Snowy Plover & CA Least Tern Surveys — Survey Forms — Beach Assignments

2024 FERN ZIMMERMAN CONSERVATION AWARD AND LETTERS OF COMMENDATION

Each year since 1967 the Conservation Committee has presented the Conservation Award and Letters of Commendation to individuals or organizations that have made noteworthy contributions to the protection of habitats, natural resources, birds or wildlife in Orange County. This year at the Annual Dinner on Friday, March 15, it will be our honor to present the following:

Fern Zimmerman Conservation Award

* **Melissa Borde:** for her many contributions to the protection of the Bolsa Chica Reserve with a particular emphasis on the implementation of the Bolsa Chica Reserve Watch Program. As the Reserve Manager and Environmental Scientist at Bolsa Chica Ecological Reserve, Melissa manages one of the largest and last remaining coastal wetlands in Southern California. She oversees daily operations, infrastructure maintenance, biological monitoring and surveying of threatened and endangered species, and other tasks. To also bring together the three Bolsa Chica non-profit groups, along with Sea and Sage Audubon, to create the Watch Program, a collaborative, volunteer effort to help nearly 100,000

annual visitors better understand and respect the reserve, is a great achievement for conservation.

Letters Of Commendation

With recognition that window strikes take a heavy toll on birds, Sea and Sage commends two forward-thinking institutions that recently took steps to make their buildings more bird friendly.

* **Orange County Parks, Nix Nature Center:** for protecting birds from window strikes. The Nix Center installed bird deterrent film with rows of barely visible dots on large windows that were having repeated bird strikes. Birds do not recognize glass as a solid object and when it reflects habitats, it tricks them into flying into the glass and often dying. Researchers estimate that up to 1 billion birds die every year in the United States alone from colliding with glass. The dots are hardly noticeable to human visitors, but are real lifesavers to the avian visitors!

* **Huntington Beach Central Library and Supporters:** for protecting birds by adding strike deterrents to their windows. After being alerted by visitors and area residents that hummingbirds were dying in large numbers after striking the library's massive windows, the library applied bird deterrent film over selected problem windows. The costs of the treatment were covered by an anonymous donation for the materials and the challenging installation job. Since installation, the library has received no reports of dead birds.

WHO IS FERN ZIMMERMAN?



Fern Zimmerman was a true conservationist, grass roots organizer, birdwatcher, and chapter leader who contributed much to the development of Sea and Sage Audubon Society. Fern provided a constant source of optimism about

our ability to effect change in our environment and helped us find our voice in advocacy. Fern received the SAS Conservation Award in 1973. She continued as a conservation activist for 23 more years. After her death in 1996, Sea and Sage named its conservation award in her honor.

Sea & Sage Annual Dinner

Friday, March 15th at Mile Square Park Banquet Center

Our Guest Speaker is Jon Feenstra

He will speak on “The Birds of Ecuador: A Lot in a Little Place”

Though only the size of the state of Arizona, the nation of Ecuador has more than 1600 species of birds within its borders. A combination of tropical latitude, a span of 20,000 feet of elevation, coastline, varying habitat types, and plenty of rain make this one of the most bird diverse places on earth. This talk will delve into the habitats and the birds within, covering natural history and biology with lots of bird photos.

The evening will also include a Silent Auction and the presentation of our chapter's Fern Zimmerman Conservation Award and Letters of Commendation. The Mile Square Park Banquet Center is located at the south end of Mile Square Park, at the intersection of Warner and Ward, in Fountain Valley. Free parking is available. Below is the schedule for the evening:

No Host Bar: 6:00 p.m.

Dinner: 7:00 p.m.

Program: 8:00 p.m., sharp!

Location: Mile Square Park Banquet Center

Tickets: \$60 for all reservations received before March 1st
\$65 for reservations received on or after March 1st

Entrees: Mediterranean Chicken, Atlantic Salmon Filet, or Cauliflower Steak. All dinners will include a salad, fresh vegetables, freshly baked rolls, coffee, decaf, or iced tea, and a brownie or mixed berries sorbet (by request) for dessert.



MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS EARLY. Seating will be assigned in the order the reservations are received. If you wish to sit with friends, be sure they make their reservations on the same day you do. **Reservations will be made through Eventbrite, not by check.** You will receive a confirmation email after your reservation has been made. *ALL RESERVATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY THURSDAY, MARCH 7TH, at 11:59 PM.* If you are unable to use Eventbrite to make your reservation, please phone or email Nancy Kenyon (949-892-9212; nancykenyon@cox.net).

The Registration link is: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/sea-and-sage-audubons-annual-dinner-2024-tickets-792238385337> . This link is accessible in What's New on our website.

~ Photography Showcase ~

Love photographing birds? Share your stunning bird photograph captured in southern California and let others revel in its beauty at our Annual Dinner! You must attend the Annual Dinner on March 15th in order to win a prize. Use this link to enter:

<https://mailchi.mp/seaandsageaudubon.org/photo-contest-2>

Thank you so much!

Sea and Sage depends on your financial contributions to support our conservation and education programs. Your donations help make us a strong chapter. The following is a list of Annual Direct Mail Appeal Donors whose donations were received prior to January 31, 2024.

Elsie Addington	Mark Cleveland	Lindsay Fitch	Vicki Harris-Walker
Maria Alonso	Jane Collins	Susan Fletcher	Sharon Harrow
Alice Amico	Daniel Collins	Stephen Franklin	Ann Harvey
Tom & Lynda Armbruster	Candice Collins	Judith Frant	Drew Hatcher
Betty & Chuck Avey	John & Denise Corcoran	Marilyn Freeman	Lena Hayashi
Charles Baker	Mary Corey	Carlita Fuller	Joe & Mary Ann Hazelett
Rebecca Bates	John Corney	Beverly Gandall	Linda Hedemann
Barbara Bauer	Paul Davis	Rosemary Garcia	Patricia Heilig
Alan & Janet Baumann	Linda Davis	Dawn Garcia	Nancy Hensel
Robert Bein	Noel Davis	Amanda Gaskin	Victoria Hernandez
Cedric Berggren	Barbara Dawkins	Sandra Geiler	Terry Hill
Hans Ulrich Bernard	Lee Day	Robert Gershman	Francine Hintzman
Carolyn & Matt Biller	Lawrence De Graaf	Tom & Carol Getz	David Hochner
Katherine Billings	John & Judy De La Cuesta	Mary Ann Gholson	Marcia & Robert Holcomb
Earl Biven	Maria De La Maza	Dianne Gillespie	Chris Holland
Homer Bludau	Pete & Sandy DeSimone	Valerie Glass	Diane Hollenbeck
Lori Bocchicchio	Phyllis Dickinson	Todd Gordinier	Barbara Holloway
Jay Bock	Agnes Dickson	Susan Gordon	Timothy Hopkins
Betty Bohr	Lynne Domash	Mitsuko & Peter Gordon	Barbara Hosmer
Norris Brandt	Chris Donahoe	Kathleen Goulding	Robert House
Anne Breuer	Gwen & Dave Dorn	Kate Grabenstein	Che & Teresa Huang
Chris Byrd	Jane Drinkwalter	Alan Grant	Dawn Hubbard
Robert & Terry Callahan	Timothy Dunn	Alison Gregg	Lynn Hunt
Debbie Calvy	Dan D'Urso	Susan Grove	Trude Hurd
Patricia Camp	Deb & Mike Edson	Claire Grozinger	Jeffrey Isaacs
Diane Campbell	Leslie El-Sayad	David Gundling	Debra Iverson
Cheri Cancelliere	Mary Lou Engman	Eileen Halcrow	Melissa Jacobson
Nancy Cangiano	Seve & Deborah Epstein	Suzanne Hall	Steve Jelnick
Linda Carta	Jim & Diane Ewing	Becky & Bill Halladay	George Jennings
Cynthia Case	Martin & Janis Fee	Yi Han	Elia Jimenez
Nicole Cervi	Gayle Filtzer	Phyllis Hansell	Nancy Johnson
Victoria Cessna	Margo Finlayson	Barbara Harley	Jane Jones
Linda Chase	Richard Finley	Sheila Harlow	Linda Joplin
Frank Christensen	Stephanie Fisher	Ann Harmer	Mary Joseph

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Trudy Josephson	Paul Manaster	Laura Osteen	Brenda Sabin
Holly Joslin	Kay Marcantonio	Rae Otake	Jon Saltzman
Jacklyn Joyo	Mary Martineau	Cheryl Overend	Karl & Gloria Schlaepfer
Susan Juby	Kim Mason	Gordon Owens	Mark Scott
Fran Jutzi	Barry & Diane Master	Carol Paquette	Gloria Sefton
Betty Kanne	Robert & Marianne Matthews	Carin Parker	Larry & Linda Seidman
Linda Kearns	Joan McCauley	David Peck	Magdelene Seiler
Sara Kinert	James McConnell	Harry & Tracy Pellman	Mike & Barbara Sentovich
Connie Kirby	Peggy McGlone	Nancy & Steve Peralta	Karen Shaver
Jim and Judy Kissinger	Jane A. Megna	Lara Pergola	Susan and Hal Sheakley
Linda Kleinman	Sally Menzel	Rita Phillips	Barbara Shelton
Sue Kline	Derek Meyer	Thomas Pizzo	Stephen R. Shinn
Kathy Klingaman	Marilyn Meyer	Robert Polkinghorn	Steve Short
Markay Koontz	Jay & Marquita Miller	Roy Poucher	Annie & Robert Sill
Lucy & Paul Kramer	Hannah Mitchell	Margaret Priver	Frank Simon
Bill & Elizabeth Kramer	Charles & Kathryn Mitchell	Richard Purvis	Mary Anne Skorpanich
Beverly Krassner-Bulas	Mike Mitchell	Myra Radlow	Peter & Joy Sloan
Kyoko Kremp	James Mitchell	Claire Readey	Lana Small
Rick Kurjan	Thelma Miyashiro	Les Redpath	Sandra Smith
Heidi Kuyper	Andrew Mohr	Jennifer Reed	Gordon Smith
Sabrina LaRocca	Virginia Moore	Barbara Reed	Carol Smith
Toni Larson	David Morena	Dolores Reed	Thomas Snow
Anna Marie Lea	Steve Morris	Ronnie & Joan Regev	Kurt Speidel
Chuck & Ce Leavell	Dennis Mull	Pamela Register	Stephen Sponer
Vic Leipzig	J. Stephen Munzinger	Margaret Renton	Bev Spring
Babs Levitan	Karen Murphy-Schlaepfer	Sharon A. and Richard G. Ricciuti	Polly Stanbridge
Merri Levy	Dagmar Muthamia	Gail Richards	Ed & Joan Steiner
Doug & Diane Lithgow	Diana Nevis	Kathleen Ritsema	Judith Stepan-Norris
Hugh Logan	Lauren Nivans	Ann Robinson	Roswitha Stevens
Judith Lomax	Michaela Nollau	Sharon Rockwell	Diane Stovall
Eva Lydick	Frederick O'Brien	Jim Rogers	Bennet Strauss
Kathanne Lynch	Dennis & Marcia O'Hern	Susan Roice	Arthur Strauss
Tracy Maguire	Jane Olin	Tim Ryan	Kathy Stuart
Stephanie Makarewicz	Celine Osborn		

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 February and March: Kathy Blackmarr, Greg Figge, Bridget Gardner, Beverly Hargrove, John Hargrove, Ann Harmer, Mary Harward, Sue Henry, Sarah Jayne, Mary Meister, Paula Monroe, Steve Munzinger, Barbara Reber, Jennifer Reed, Paul Saiki, Dev Sellin, Susan Sheakley, Gwyneth Stolo, Art Strauss, Isabel Toteda, Barbara Wasbin, Phil Westin, Pat Wells, and Irene Wotta.



Our volunteers greet visitors, answer the phone, sell merchandise, answer questions about birds, check out binoculars, etc. If you are interested in helping at Audubon House, please call Dev Sellin, 714-943-3682 or Paula Monroe, 480-299-9885.

Thanks Gail!

I would like to thank Gail Richards for stepping in to edit the Nov, Dec/Jan, and Feb Tattlers for me while I was out of commission, with no access to my computer, due to a mobility problem. Gail graciously took on the task and did a great job! — Nancy Kenyon

Have fun and Let Your Avian Knowledge Soar!

If you are a birder, and enjoy playing games with friends and family, we have you covered at our Sea & Sage Nature Store. David Sibley has 3 fun games for bird enthusiasts: Backyard Birding Bingo, a Trivia game that includes 400 questions sure to test every birder's knowledge, and the newly revised and updated game of Flashcards. We also have the tremendously popular game of Wingspan, an award-winning strategy board game all about birds. Wingspan is played with cards that feature factual tidbits about different species that can be absorbed without being central to the gameplay.

— Catherine Steinberg

READING GROUP –Tues, March 19 – 1:00 PM

Reading Group: *Darwin's Armada: Four Voyages and the Battle Theory of Evolution* by Iain McCalman.

Starr Ranch Ecology Programs

Starr Ranch is offering education programs for kids and adults, March through June 2024. The programs include *Cougars, Bobcats and Coyotes; Birds of Starr Ranch* and nature walks. The cost is \$10 per person. For more information, check the Starr Ranch Sanctuary webpage or contact Sandy DeSimone sdesimone@audubon.org or 949-858-0309.

Help the CA Least Terns



Help the endangered California Least Terns by keeping your eyes on their active nesting colony. Volunteers watch for Least Tern breeding behavior, eggs, chicks, fledglings, and predators, and

record their observations as well as watch for the Western Snowy Plovers. Location? The Least Tern Natural Preserve is at beautiful Huntington State Beach at the Santa Ana River mouth.

New and returning volunteers are welcome to our Season Kick-off and Volunteer Training, which includes a slide show of the Breeding Biology of the Least Terns and Snowy Plovers.

Season Kick-off & Volunteer Training Wed., April 3rd from 6 - 8 pm

At Huntington State Beach HQ

Field Orientation (mandatory for new volunteers) will be at the Least Tern Natural Preserve, Huntington State Beach in early May. All new volunteers will become members of the Volunteers in Parks Program for California State Parks. All returning and new volunteers who have completed their paperwork and are actively volunteering will receive a beach parking pass for the State Parks in the Orange Coast District for 2024! Additional information about the program can be found on our chapter webpage: www.seaandsageaudubon.org



Donors – continued from page 5

Steve Sudoko, Laurel Sugden, Michelle Suggs, Peer Swan, Jill Swedo, Stephanie Tanton, John & Karen Terry, Linda Thomas, Debby Thyssen, Ellen Tipping, Suzi Tompkins, Nancy & Mark Tschiderer/Adamson, Elaine Tucker, Marjorie Tussing, Thomas & Edith Van Huss, Francis Viscount, Marika Walter, Teri Ward, Sudha Warriar, Barbara Wasbin, Joel and Gloria Weintraub, Steven & Ann Weller/Sakai, Philip and Judith Westin, Stephen & Nova Wheeler, Suzanne White, Barbara White, Wickramasinghe Family Fund, Gloria Widmann, Alma Williams, Stephen Williams, Janice Wilson, Sharon Wolfe, Jeanmarie Wong, Theresa Yates, Marian Young, Katherine Young, Gary Youngman.

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

It's the middle of winter, and it would seem that most vagrants would have been comfortably settled into their local haunts. And yet, many birds found earlier in the winter are now gone, and are replaced by new, previously unreported individuals. This is partly due to observer effort: where and when birds are found depends on when and where birders are looking for them. But birds have wings, and may be driven elsewhere by weather, disturbance, or perhaps general restlessness. The more birders who keep tabs on existing rarities and find vagrants in under birded areas, the better our understanding of such mid-winter movement will become.

Black Scoters and **White-winged Scoters** continued off Huntington Beach; these pelagic ducks were joined by a **Long-tailed Duck** at Huntington Beach Pier, which was first found on January 13th and continued through the end of the month. An **American Oystercatcher** continued in Dana Point through at least January 14th; likely the same bird was refound at Crescent Bay Point Park on the 17th. **Neotropic Cormorants** continued in their reliable locations, but new records at Craig Regional Park and Tustin Ranch Golf Course on January 9th provide evidence of their continued spread across the county. **Ancient Murrelets** have irrupted across much of North America this winter, so one in Dana Point Harbor from January 28th-31st was perhaps overdue. The **Little Blue Heron** at Bolsa Chica Ecological Reserve continued through the end of the month, as did the **Zone-tailed Hawk** at Serrano Creek Park. A **Zone-tailed** at Santiago Oaks Regional Park on January 9th was presumably a second individual; likely the same bird was seen along the Upper Santa Ana River on the 28th. The continuing **Prairie Falcon** at the Great Park was last seen on January 7th.

The **Yellow-bellied Sapsucker** at Harvard Community Park continued through at least January 30th as did the **Williamson's Sapsucker** at Los Pinos Probation Camp. **Gray Flycatchers** continued at Huntington Central Park through Jan. 17th and at Riverdale Park through at least Jan. 30th, while at least a half dozen **Western Flycatchers** were also found or relocated in January. A **Tropical Kingbird** continued at Bolsa Chica through the end of the month, though it almost exclusively frequented the restricted area. At least five **Plumbeous Vireos** continued in January, exclusively in central and south county, while a **Sage Thrasher** at Huntington Central Park was last seen on January 8th.

Easily the most impressive passerine found in the county this month, a **White Wagtail** first found on January 28th continued through the end of the month; this is one of very few records for this Siberian songbird in the county.

January boasted relatively few sparrows, at least compared to the veritable cornucopia present earlier this winter. Highlights included continuing **Clay-colored Sparrow** at Fairview Regional Park through January 6th, **Green-tailed Towhees** at Irvine Regional Park, January 7th and Overlook Park, January 29th, and a scattering of **White-throated** and **Vesper Sparrows** across central county.

The returning **Orchard Oriole** in Fountain Valley continued through January 6th, while an out-of-season, out-of-place **Hooded Oriole** was found in a neighborhood in Silverado on New Years Day and continued through the end of the month. The most notable overwintering warblers in the county were the continuing **Black-throated Green Warbler** at Chrisanta Drive (through January 23rd), the **Northern Parula** at Huntington Central Park (through January 16th), a new **Chestnut-sided Warbler** (from January 9th through the end of the month), and a **Grace's Warbler** in a residential area in Aliso Viejo (not chaseable). Other warblers included an **American Redstart** which continued through January 31st, a **Tennessee Warbler** at El Niguel Golf Course, and several **Black-and-white Warblers** throughout the county. The **Hepatic Tanager** and **Rose-breasted Grosbeak** at Serrano Creek Park were last seen on the 21st and 23rd respectively.

Accessible Birding and Lunch at the San Joaquin Marsh - Friday, April 19, at 9:00 am

Sea & Sage is sponsoring an accessible birding event at the San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary (SJWS) on Friday, April 19th, at 9:00 am. This is a slow walk on flat, hard-packed paths. The SJWS is a 300-acre freshwater wetland comprised of multiple ponds, some of which have islands for nesting birds. Over 200 bird species visit the Marsh annually. Join us for some excellent birding, a discussion of the history of the Wildlife Sanctuary, and a bring-your-own lunch. There are shaded picnic tables, a restroom with a handicapped stall, and a nature center inside Audubon House with a library, gift shop and taxidermy specimens. This will be our last accessible event before the summer break. There is no cost or parking fee for this event, but reservations are required. E-mail Sharon Rockwell at srockwell@writeme.com to register. Sharon will return your email with driving directions and instructions for where we will meet.

Northeastern (Inland) CBC Report - 12/15/23

The Northeastern CBC covers the inland areas of Orange County and is divided into the following sections: Irvine Reg. Park; Irvine Lake & vicinity; Silverado Canyon; Upper & Lower Black Star Canyon; Mountain Areas; Modjeska & Harding Canyons; O'Neill Reg. Park & Plano Trabuco; Lion Country & Areas south of the 405 (The area between Lake Forest & El Toro from Trabuco Rd. to Glen Ranch Rd, excluding Oso Reservoir); Mission Viejo-Lake Forest-El Toro & foothills; former El Toro Marine Base & foothill areas; Rattlesnake & Siphon Reservoirs; Peters Canyon Reg. Park & Lemon Heights. The Total Species for this count was 156. The number of participants was 98.

The count was coordinated and compiled by Doug Lithgow.

SPECIES	Total	SPECIES	Total	SPECIES	Total	SPECIES	Total
Canada Goose	233	Bonaparte's Gull	1	Cassin's Vireo	1	Vesper Sparrow	5
Egyptian Goose	50	Ring-billed Gull	181	California Scrub-Jay	234	Lark Sparrow	9
Wood Duck	15	California Gull	36	American Crow	1169	Savannah Sparrow	102
Blue-winged Teal	1	Herring Gull	2	Common Raven	558	Fox Sparrow	4
Cinnamon Teal	27	Double-crest. Cormorant	66	Tree Swallow	20	Song Sparrow	293
Northern Shoveler	289	American White Pelican	40	N. Rough-wing. Swallow	1	Lincoln's Sparrow	50
Gadwall	70	Great Blue Heron	10	Mountain Chickadee	41	Bell's Sparrow	1
American Wigeon	216	Great Egret	27	Oak Titmouse	108	Grasshopper Sparrow	1
Mallard	811	Snowy Egret	24	Bushtit	819	White-throated Sparrow	1
Northern Pintail	2	Black-crown. Night-Heron	15	Red-breasted Nuthatch	61	White-crowned Sparrow	1676
Green-winged Teal	41	White-faced Ibis	2	White-breast. Nuthatch	51	Golden-crowned Sparrow	38
Canvasback	9	Turkey Vulture	245	Brown Creeper	1	Dark-eyed Junco (Oregon)	95
Common Goldeneye	1	Osprey	4	Rock Wren	10	Western Meadowlark	378
Ring-necked Duck	63	White-tailed Kite	7	Canyon Wren	2	Bullock's Oriole	2
Lesser Scaup	43	Northern Harrier	15	House Wren	105	Hooded Oriole	1
Bufflehead	9	Sharp-shinned Hawk	3	Bewick's Wren	128	Scott's Oriole	2
Ruddy Duck	362	Cooper's Hawk	21	Cactus Wren	7	Red-winged Blackbird	35
California Quail	130	Bald Eagle	2	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	40	Brown-headed Cowbird	1
Pied-billed Grebe	16	Red-shouldered Hawk	37	California Gnatcatcher	17	Brewer's Blackbird	18
Horned Grebe	1	Zone-tailed Hawk	1	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	209	Great-tailed Grackle	21
Eared Grebe	37	Red-tailed Hawk	156	Wrentit	113	Orange-crown. Warbler	100
Western Grebe	64	Barn Owl	15	Western Bluebird	248	Common Yellowthroat	142
Clark's Grebe	55	Western Screech-Owl	13	Hermit Thrush	42	Yellow-rumped Warbler	2106
Rock Pigeon	2	Great Horned Owl	25	American Robin	27	Black-thro. Gray Warbler	2
Band-tailed Pigeon	25	Belted Kingfisher	5	Varied Thrush	1	Black-and-white Warbler	1
Eur. Collared Dove	26	Lewis Woodpecker	1	California Thrasher	54	Townsend's Warbler	27
Mourning Dove	456	Acorn Woodpecker	360	Northern Mockingbird	78	Summer Tanager	1
Greater Roadrunner	2	Red-naped Sapsucker	2	European Starling	273	Western Tanager	2
Common Poorwill	2	Red-breast. Sapsucker	5	Cedar Waxwing	154		
White-throated Swift	25	Downy Woodpecker	7	Phainopepla	6	EXOTICS	
Anna's Hummingbird	265	Nuttall's Woodpecker	117	House Sparrow	23	Mandarin Duck	2
Costa's Hummingbird	1	Northern Flicker	68	American Pipit	128	Domestic Duck	8
Allen's Hummingbird	243	American Kestrel	38	House Finch	1091	Indian Peafowl	20
Virginia Rail	2	Merlin	6	Purple Finch	2	Lilac-crowned Parrot	4
Sora	4	Peregrine Falcon	1	Pine Siskin	1	Swinhoe's White-eye	111
Common Gallinule	1	Red-crowned Parrot	50	Lesser Goldfinch	579	Pin-tailed Whydah	33
American Coot	814	Cassin's Kingbird	120	American Goldfinch	15	Scaly-breasted Munia	39
Killdeer	59	Black Phoebe	271	Spotted Towhee	152		
Least Sandpiper	24	Say's Phoebe	76	Green-tailed Towhee	1		
Wilson's Snipe	16	Vermillion Flycatcher	3	Rufous-crown. Sparrow	24		
Spotted Sandpiper	10	Hutton's Vireo	9	California Towhee	275		
Greater Yellowlegs	1	Plumbeous Vireo	1	Chipping Sparrow	60		

San Juan Capistrano CBC Report - 12/23/23

The San Juan Capistrano CBC covers the southern section of Orange County and is divided into the following areas: Laguna Niguel Regional Park & vicinity; San Clemente; Caspers Wilderness Park; Pelagic Areas along the coast, or a Sea Watch from land; Saddleback College & vicinity; Upper San Juan Creek & vicinity; Aliso-Woods Canyon; Dana Point: Doheny State Beach, Dana Point Harbor, Dana Point Headlands, Salt Creek Beach, local parks, golf course; Thomas F. Riley Wilderness Park, Sienna Botanica Trail, Arroyo Trabuco Wilderness, Jeronimo Open Space Park, Esencia Sports Park & Orchard Loop Trail. The count was organized and compiled by Darrell Wilson.

The Total Species for this count was 133. The number of participants was 43.

SPECIES	Total	SPECIES	Total	SPECIES	Total	SPECIES	Total
Canada Goose	133	Northern Harrier	2	Belted Kingfisher	4	American Pipit	61
Egyptian Goose	1	Sharp-shinned Hawk	2	Acorn Woodpecker	41	Cedar Waxwing	110
Gadwall	2	Cooper's Hawk	14	Nuttall's Woodpecker	55	Phainopepla	2
American Wigeon	30	Red-shouldered Hawk	30	Downy Woodpecker	5	Orange-crowned Warbler	51
Mallard	250	Red-tailed Hawk	41	Northern Flicker	14	Nashville Warbler	1
Cinnamon Teal	21	Sora	1	American Kestrel	9	Common Yellowthroat	110
Northern Shoveler	12	Common Gallinule	8	Merlin	3	Yellow Warbler	1
Green-winged Teal	2	American Coot	271	Peregrine Falcon	6	Yellow-rumped Warbler	904
Redhead	2	Black-necked Stilt	9	Black Phoebe	154	Townsend's Warbler	2
Lesser Scaup	7	Black Oystercatcher	3	Say's Phoebe	36	Wilson's Warbler	1
Surf Scoter	4	Black-bellied Plover	14	Cassin's Kingbird	70	Chipping Sparrow	3
Bufflehead	1	Snowy Plover	61	Hutton's Vireo	6	Lark Sparrow	41
Hooded Merganser	9	Killdeer	31	California Scrub-Jay	48	Dark-eyed Junco	20
Red-breasted Merganser	4	Spotted Sandpiper	15	American Crow	4398	White-crowned Sparrow	319
Ruddy Duck	78	Greater Yellowlegs	4	Common Raven	48	Golden-crowned Sparrow	3
California Quail	5	Willet	12	Mountain Chickadee	8	Song Sparrow	201
Pacific Loon	2	Whimbrel	18	Oak Titmouse	16	Lincoln's Sparrow	5
Pied-billed Grebe	10	Marbled Godwit	4	Bushtit	309	California Towhee	92
Western Grebe	13	Sanderling	111	Red-breasted Nuthatch	19	Spotted Towhee	50
Clark's Grebe	3	Least Sandpiper	22	White-breast. Nuthatch	4	Summer Tanager	2
Brandt's Cormorant	91	Wilson's Snipe	1	Rock Wren	4	Western Tanager	1
Double-crested Cormorant	100	Bonaparte's Gull	1	House Wren	30	Western Meadowlark	8
Pelagic Cormorant	4	Heermann's Gull	68	Bewick's Wren	42	Great-tailed Grackle	12
American White Pelican	9	Ring-billed Gull	117	Cactus Wren	2	Bullock's Oriole	2
Brown Pelican	124	Western Gull	230	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	15	House Finch	664
Great Blue Heron	10	California Gull	270	California Gnatcatcher	7	Lesser Goldfinch	157
Great Egret	14	Glaucous-winged Gull	7	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	78	American Goldfinch	2
Snowy Egret	24	Royal Tern	23	Wrentit	48	House Sparrow	8
Green Heron	1	Rock Pigeon	216	Swinhoe's White-eye	148		
Black-crown. Night Heron	7	Eurasian-collared Dove	9	Western Bluebird	80	EXOTICS	
Yellow-crown. Night Heron	5	Mourning Dove	147	Hermit Thrush	18	Scaly-breasted Munia	55
White-faced Ibis	26	Greater Roadrunner	1	American Robin	4	Pin-tailed Whydah	5
Turkey Vulture	90	White-throated Swift	89	California Thrasher	30		
Osprey	4	Anna's Hummingbird	122	Northern Mockingbird	40		
White-tailed Kite	3	Allen's Hummingbird	182	European Starling	150		

NATURE DAY CAMPS 2024

at the San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary in Irvine

On-line Registration on Eventbrite opens February 1.

Enroll your child in our week-long camps to discover the joys of nature and bird-watching with Orange County's birding experts! Each camp includes daily walks, keeping a nature journal, nature art, and important bird topics taught by Audubon Naturalists. A different camp shirt for each camp is included. Confidential scholarships available upon request.



Fledgling Camp for ages 7-8 from June 17-21

Camp meets 8:30 AM to 1:30 PM. Campers will learn all about the wonderful life of common birds at the marsh and gain experience in beginning bird-watching techniques.

Fee is \$250 regular / \$225 Audubon members (use promo code MEMBER).

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/fledgling-camp-tickets-790346958027>



Marsh Camp for ages 9-10 from June 24-28.

Camp meets 8:30 AM to 2:30 PM. Campers will learn about more bird types, bird anatomy, bird life cycles, pond life, and more.

Fee is \$275 regular / \$250 Audubon members (use promo code MEMBER).

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/marsh-camp-tickets-790353818547>



Coastal Camp for ages 11-12 from July 8-12.

Camp meets 8:30 AM to 2:30 PM. Campers will focus on shorebirds of freshwater and saltwater marshes and enjoy one off-site trip to Bolsa Chica Ecological Reserve (parents provide transportation).

Fee is \$275 regular / \$250 Audubon members (promo code MEMBER).

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/coastal-camp-tickets-790355192657>



Advanced Bird Camp - Grasslands for ages 13-16 from July 15-19.

Camp meets 8:30 AM – 2:30 PM. Campers will focus on grassland habitat, learn about the diversity of sparrows and other grassland birds, and enjoy at least one off-site trip (parents provide transportation).

Fee is \$300 regular / \$270 Audubon members (promo code MEMBER).

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/advanced-bird-camp-grasslands-tickets-790359074267>

Questions?

- For Fledgling, Marsh or Coastal Camp, contact Deborah Brin at deborah@brin.net
- For Advanced Bird Camp, contact Mary Ellen Wynn at ricewynn@gmail.com
- For general camp questions, contact Project Director Trude Hurd at seaandsage@sbcglobal.net

Visit our website at <https://seaandsageaudubon.org/home-sas/education/#NatureCamp>

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 advocacy.



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 large 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
Open daily - 8 am to 4 pm
949-261-7963

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>

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

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C15

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Come to our Annual Dinner!

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 Director 2026 Maia Nguyen 714-333-5734
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 Webmaster... Darrell Wilson 714-401-7852

Webpage: <http://www.seaandsageaudubon.org>

STAFF

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 Marsh Education Project Director Trude Hurd 949-261-7964
 Education Assistant
 Sales Manager Catherine Steinberg .. 949-261-7963
 Administrative Aide Sandrine Biziaux-Scherson.. 949-261-7963

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

(p) – OC Parks card or pay park fee at entrance
 (R) – Space limited; reservations necessary – see webpage

March 2024:

05 Tues Conservation Committee Mtg via Zoom 6:45 pm
 07 Thurs Deadline for Annual Dinner reservations 11:59 pm
 09 Sat Winter Pelagic Trip ® (rescheduled) 6:30 am
 10 Sun Monthly bird walk at the SJWS ® 8:00 am
 12 Tues Board Meeting via Zoom 7:00 pm
 13 Wed UNB by pontoon boat ® 8:15 am
 15 Fri Caspers Wilderness Park bird walk (p) 8:00 am
 15 Fri ANNUAL DINNER ® 6:00 pm
 17 Sun Carbon Canyon Reg. Park bird walk (p) 8:00 am
 19 Tues Reading Group via Zoom 1:00 pm
 21 Thurs Bolsa Chica bird walk 8:00 am
 31 Sun Upper Newport Bay bird walk 8:00 am

April 2024:

02 Tues Conservation Committee Mtg via Zoom 6:45 pm
 03 Wed Least Tern Season Kickoff 6:00 pm
 6-7 S-S Eastern Sierra Weekend Trip ® 7:00 am
 09 Tues Quail Hill Open Space Preserve bird walk ® 7:00 am
 09 Tues Board Meeting via Zoom 7:00 pm
 14 Sun Monthly bird walk at the SJWS ® 8:00 am
 16 Tues Reading Group via Zoom 1:00 pm
 17 Wed UNB by pontoon boat ® 8:15 am
 19 Fri Accessible birding trip at the SJWS ® 9:00 am
 19 Fri GENERAL MEETING via Zoom 7:00 pm
 21 Sun Anaheim Coves Park bird walk 8:00 am
 23 Tues 4th Tues. Conservation Lecture via Zoom 7:00 pm
 28 Sun Upper Newport Bay bird walk 8:00 am