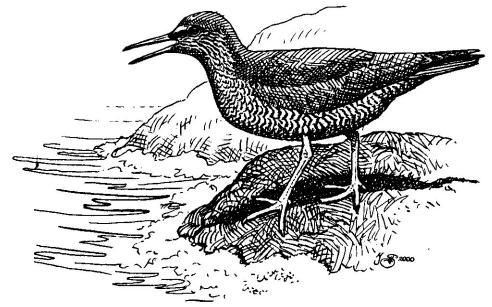


Wandering Tattler

September 2024
Volume 73, Number 1



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

Welcoming New Leaders *Jonathan Aguayo, President*

I'd like to acknowledge some important changes in our chapter's leadership and express our gratitude to those who have served with dedication and passion.

First, it is with great pleasure that I welcome Melissa Rapp as our new Vice President. Melissa has been a tremendous asset as our former Secretary. Her wealth of experience and deep commitment to our mission will undoubtedly serve us well in her new role.

Next, I'm thrilled to introduce Mary Harward as our new Secretary. Mary, who chaired the Institutional Review Board at St Joseph Hospital for six years and edited the medical text *Medical Secrets*, brings her organizational skills for our cause, making her an excellent addition to our team.

We are also delighted to welcome Pete Gordon as our new Board Director for 2025. Pete has been leading bird walks at Quail Hill and brings enthusiasm to the team. We look forward to his expertise and vision.

Additionally, Melissa Rapp and Catherine Steinberg will co-chair our Programs Committee. We eagerly anticipate the engaging speakers they will bring to our general meetings. I am confident they will do an amazing job!

We are excited to have Gail Richards as our new Chair of the Membership Committee. Gail, who hosts our Summer BBQ, is taking on this new challenge with her characteristic enthusiasm and dedication. Her efforts will be crucial in strengthening our community and ensuring that our members feel valued and engaged.

Of course, we wouldn't be where we are today without the hard work and dedication of those who previously held these positions. A big thank you to our outgoing Vice President and Chair of Programs, Christine Kim, and our previous Chair of the Membership Committee, Jim Kissinger. Your contributions have been invaluable, and we are deeply grateful for your service.

I would also like to thank the Executive Committee and Nominating Committee for their hard work in helping to fill these positions. Your efforts have been instrumental in ensuring a smooth transition and continued success for our chapter.

We are still looking to fill some key Chair positions for several committees. If you're interested or know someone who would like to take a leadership role, please let us know. We also encourage everyone to join any of our committees.

Thank you all for your continued support and dedication to our chapter.

General Meeting - Online Presentation Friday, September 20 - 7:00 PM Via Zoom

“How to Add ‘Albatross Counter’ to your Resume”

presented by Dan Cullinane



All three species of albatross that breed in the Northern Hemisphere have made a comeback on Midway Atoll. Midway Atoll, famous for the Battle of Midway that was the turning point of World War II in the Pacific, is now a Fish and Wildlife Refuge. Come learn how the annual albatross count on Midway Atoll is conducted, and how a small group of volunteers can count two million albatross in a mere three weeks time! See what other bird life can be experienced there and how you can become a volunteer counter on the largest albatross colony in the world.

Dan Cullinane is a retired high school science teacher and currently one of the Albatross Count Leaders on Midway Atoll. He is a longtime volunteer for Sea and Sage Audubon working as a Tree Swallow Monitor besides performing all the maintenance on the Tree Swallow boxes at San Joaquin Marsh. He also helps with the quarterly Western Snowy Plover Census along the coast.

Please join us for this special program. Zoom doors open at 6:30 PM. Join us for some virtual games prior to the 7:00 PM meeting. Here is the link you will need to join the meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88232772741>

Meeting ID: 841 9842 3399

Need help? Email Melissa Rapp at reedjandm@cox.net.

Melissa Rapp & Catherine Steinberg, Program Co-Chairs

Conservation News

Susan Sheakley, Conservation Chair



Meetings This Month: *Join us!* Conservation Committee **Tues SEPT 3**; '4th Tuesday' Conservation Lecture **Tues SEPT 24**; Tackling Climate & Trash **THURS SEPT 19**; Legislation & Advocacy **SUN SEPT 29** (Vic Leipzig, Chair)

'4th Tues.'

Conservation Lecture

Tues., Sept. 24, 2024

Program at 7:00 pm; Zoom Doors open 6:30 pm

"The Irvine-Laguna Wildlife Corridor; Preserving the South Coast Wilderness

presented by Norm Grossman, President of Laguna Greenbelt

The South Coast Wilderness is 22,000 acres of protected open space involving portions of the cities of Aliso Viejo, Irvine, Laguna Beach, Laguna Woods, Newport Beach, the County of Orange County, and the State of California. These 22,000 acres were acquired due to the efforts of citizens who understood the importance of preserving nature.



The South Coast Wilderness environment faces a potential catastrophic threat to the native wildlife. The 22,000 acres is not large enough to guarantee the genetic diversity necessary to maintain healthy populations, particularly under the increasing stress of a changing climate. This threat was identified almost 20 years ago by biologists who realized that the only practical long-term solution was to create a wildlife corridor between the South Coast Wilderness and the Cleveland National Forest. This became the basis of the six-mile-long Irvine-Laguna Wildlife Corridor (ILWC).

Norm Grossman, President of the Laguna Greenbelt, will present a brief history on the creation of the South Coast Wilderness and the challenges faced in maintaining wildlife resiliency. He will describe how the concept of the ILWC was developed as the first totally urban wildlife corridor in the country and discuss the project's current status.

Join us! to learn about this vital project. Preregistration is required. Link to preregister will be posted on our website by Sept. 1 under *What's New* and *Conservation*.



Shrinking the Summer BBQ's Carbon Footprint

The Tackling Climate and Trash (TCT) Conservation subcommittee thanks all of those who volunteered, brought their own reusable tableware, or used the scrape and rinse station at the BBQ. A special thanks to Gail Richards, the organizer of the BBQ, who supported our goals to reduce use of single-use items at our events and promote eco-friendly alternatives.

The TCT subcommittee focuses on what we can do as individuals and as an organization to reduce trash and combat climate change. By using reusable place settings, the Sea and Sage BBQ reduced trash and fossil fuel use in producing and shipping single-use plastics. We were able to keep plates, glasses, napkins, and cutlery for 200 diners from going to a landfill. Instead of purchasing plastic tablecloths, Gail acquired beautiful hand-sewn bird tablecloths that can be reused repeatedly. Organics and recyclable items were separated at a scrape and rinse station and sent for recycling. The packaging and donation of leftovers minimized food waste.

TCT also sought to educate on ways to reduce single-use household items. The laundry strips given as Welcome Gifts are a great introduction to reducing the use of single-use plastic jugs. The Door Prizes included alternatives to single-use paper towels, plastic sponges and plastic vegetable bags. With the support of Tree of Life Nursery, native plants and a gift card were at the Display Table. Native plants in many ways are the perfect sustainable plant, and blooming plants were on each dining table.

Thank you to the TCT subcommittee members: Susan Sheakley, Scott Thomas, Chris Byrd, Sudha Warriar, Kate Grabenstein, and Melissa Rapp. They coordinated the scrape and rinse process, carefully selected Welcome Gifts and Door Prizes, and even took home Sea and Sage place settings and tablecloths to wash.

Using single-use items may seem labor intensive, but if each of us tries to minimize our use of single-use items, together we can make a difference. As individuals and collectively, we can have a significant role in reducing our carbon footprint and easing the burden on our planet.

The TCT subcommittee meets monthly on the third Thursday of the month. If you are interested in joining us and helping to shape our projects, activities and research, please talk to Susan Sheakley or any of the individuals mentioned above.

—Melissa Rapp



Join our Outdoor Adventures Naturalists and Share Nature with School Children

For over three decades, Sea and Sage Audubon has helped school children develop a basic understanding of science and specific ways that they can protect nature and birds. Through our Outdoor Adventures science discovery program, 4-5th graders learn how to be responsible for the environment while surrounded by the beauty of a freshwater wetland. To offer this program, we rely on about thirty volunteer naturalists. If you are looking for a rewarding place to volunteer, then consider joining our Outdoor Adventures team!

You don't need to be a birding expert or have a science degree because you will learn program basics through our thorough training classes and newly updated training manual. All backgrounds are welcome from retired school teachers, engineers, camp parents, and more. What you do need is patience with children, a willingness to learn, and commitment of only 2 Tuesday or Thursday mornings a month (October through May) after you graduate.

Experience comes with practice, and you will have plenty of time to practice. Through 7 training classes and 8 rehearsal sessions, you will learn how to ask engaging questions and understand how to easily share the 3 activities. You will also make new friends and become more familiar with freshwater wetlands.

Naturalists work hard during the 2½ hour program as we rotate between an hour Bird Walk around the marsh, half-hour Pond Study activity in the lab, and half-hour Bird Adaptations lesson with taxidermy specimens. We also have fun. We see joy on children's faces as they use binoculars and microscopes for the first time. Their faces light up when seeing a Great Blue Heron walking on the path right in front of them. They get excited when hearing that they can return to the marsh with their families for free. Best of all is knowing that what we do as

naturalists is changing lives. According to a Santa Ana teacher, "this program exposes our students to a real-life experience that connects what we are learning in the classroom. My students get very little exposure to the outdoors and specifically observing wildlife in their natural habitat. This program has such a positive impact on them personally."

Does this speak to your heart? Or maybe you know someone who would enjoy being a naturalist? Don't delay; the training classes begin September 10th! They are on select Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 AM to 12:30 PM from September through December.

For a copy of the Fall Training Schedule, contact Project Director Trude Hurd by email at seaandsage@sbcglobal.net. By becoming an Outdoor Adventures naturalist, you will receive many rewards and Earth's future will be a better place!



Your Donation for a School Bus Brings Santa Ana Students to the Marsh

For many years, we have offered school bus scholarships to Santa Ana classes to attend Outdoor Adventures at the San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary. This school year, we are reaching out to even more teachers and students so they can benefit from our science program. We hope to fully fund 50 Santa Ana classes thanks to compassionate sponsors like you.

Bus costs vary due to distance and length of time. All donations are helpful: \$300 for 30 students (one bus), \$150 for 15 students (half bus), \$100 for 10 students, \$50 for 5 students, \$10 for 1 student.

If you support outdoor experiences for local deserving school children, then please consider sending a school bus donation this fall. Send your check payable to Sea and Sage Audubon to **School Bus, Sea and Sage Audubon, 5 Riparian View, Irvine, CA 92612**. If you have questions, email Project Director Trude Hurd at seaandsage@sbcglobal.net.

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

May and June are traditionally the two best months for spring vagrants; the bulk of typical spring migrants have already moved north, making it easier to detect that “weird” warbler or flycatcher. This year was no different. A small number of these vagrants might overwinter in July, which brings its own mix of unusual seabirds and waterbirds.

Only one record of **Black Swift** was reported in spring, presumably a late migrant at Chiquita Ridge on June 18th, which was quite late, as was a **Calliope Hummingbird** at Irvine Regional Park, May 5th-7th. The long-staying **American Oystercatcher** in the Dana Point Harbor area seems to have spent the summer well-north of its typical breeding range. A **Pacific Golden-Plover** was found at Bolsa Chica Ecological Reserve on May 18th, and was reported again on June 16th; this is a very rare spring migrant in the county, though not as rare as a **Pectoral Sandpiper** found at Bolsa Chica the same day.

Spring and early summer was a fruitful period for pelagic species vagrants. Orange County's first **Tufted Puffin** was recorded only last year; remarkably the county tallied two more individuals on May 3rd and 4th this year, both well offshore. Nearly as remarkable was the county's fourth **Laysan Albatross** on July 22nd. Other offshore reports included several **Leach's Storm-Petrels** on a July 21st pelagic trip and a **Sabine's Gull** seen offshore on May 4th. A lethargic **Masked Booby** found at Heisler Park on May 17th was brought in for rehabilitation on the 18th, while a **Magnificent Frigatebird** was seen off Crystal Cove State Beach, July 1st. Possibly up to three **Franklin's Gulls** were seen throughout the county in early May, with individuals seen offshore at Bolsa Chica Ecological Reserve and the San Juan Creek Mouth. This is a remarkably high spring count for this Prairie

Pothole-breeding species. A closely-related **Laughing Gull** was reported at Huntington State Beach on May 26th. **Common Loons** are regular in winter, but one that summered at Oak Canyon Nature Center was unseasonal (as well as being quite far inland).

For flycatchers, the only vagrant observed was a second county record for an **Eastern Wood-Pewee** at Huntington Central Park on June 8th-9th. This species is maddeningly-difficult to distinguish from our familiar Western Wood-Pewee; interestingly several other Southern California counties reported Eastern Wood-Pewees of their own in early June. A **Loggerhead Shrike** at Harbor Point Park on July 14th-15th was one of very few recent records along the coastal slope. Late spring also brought an influx of great vireo species to Orange County, with highlights including **Red-eyed Vireo** at Huntington Central Park, May 15th-27th, **Yellow-throated Vireo**, May 18th, and a **Philadelphia Vireo**, June 4th.

Warbler highlights included a **Bay-breasted Warbler** on May 29th and a **Hooded Warbler** on May 30th at Gilman Park and Canyon Park, respectively. Other warbler finds included a **Tennessee Warbler** and a **Black-and-White Warbler** at Huntington Central Park on May 19th and June 10th, and **Northern Parulas** at Hiltcher Park on May 13th-14th and Mason Regional Park, on June 13th. To wrap up with the cardinalids, an **Indigo Bunting** returned for its second summer to Blue Jay Campground, while **Rose-breasted Grosbeaks** were reported in unusually high numbers throughout the county.

Chapter News & Announcements



For more information about Sea & Sage activities, check the CALENDARS on our chapter webpage at seaandsageaudubon.org

Audubon House Volunteers

We would like to thank the following people for helping to staff Audubon House in June, July, August, and Sept:



Kathy Blackmarr, Bettina Eastman, Leslie El-Sayad, Judy Frank, Bridget Gardner, Bob Goldman, Jade Goodman, Elisa Guzman, Ann Harmer, John Hargrove, Mary Harward, Sue Henry, Sarah Jayne, Doug Lithgow, Judy McInnis, Mary Meister, Paula Monroe, Kelly

Morgan, Dagmar Muthamia, Steve Munzinger, Barbara Reber, Jennifer Reed, Christian Seierup, Dev Sellin, Susan Sheakley, Catherine Steinberg, Art Strauss, Adeena Syed, Paul Saiki, Barb Wasbin, Pat Wells, Phil Westin 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.

READING GROUP — Tues, Sept. 17 - 1:00 PM

Reading Group: *What the Robin Knows* - by Young

Early Reminder!! - Pancake Breakfast at the Marsh



Saturday, October 26

On Sat. morning, Oct. 26, we will again host our Sea and Sage Annual Pancake Breakfast at the Marsh (San

Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary) in Irvine. As always, the Breakfast menu will include pancakes, sausages, fresh fruit, orange juice, hot coffee, milk for the kids, and a morning of fun activities.

This event is more than just a pancake breakfast! Participants can browse through nature books at our famous Used Book Sale, spend some time in Audubon House and the Nature Store, visit the Wild Birds Unlimited and Optics4Birding booths, get your pictures taken at the photo booth, check out the native plants for sale, enjoy games for kids, and visit our many chapter exhibits. Complete information, including Reservations and Ticket Sales, will be in the October issue of the Tattler and on our website, www.seaandsageaudubon.org by mid Sept.

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

Book Sale

Our next used book sale will be held on Saturday, October 26, in conjunction with the Pancake Breakfast. We welcome donations of books in good condition (including novels). Unfortunately, due to space limitations, we cannot accept donations of artwork or any type of equipment. We hope to see you there!

New in the Nature Store

Wildlife lovers, this one's for you!

Stunning T-shirts from the National Wildlife Federation



featuring a lively 1970s-inspired design adorned with whimsical animal illustrations. This tee is colorful and supports wildlife conservation. With each purchase, The Landmark Project proudly returns a portion of the proceeds to the NWF, directly contributing to

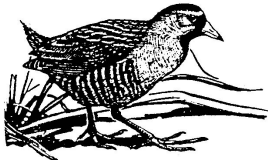
their vital environmental and conservation work. Sustainably made from 60% BCI cotton and 40% recycled polyester. Two colors to choose from. Get yours today!

≈ Coastal Cleanup Day in OC ≈

Saturday, Sept. 21 - 9:00 am to Noon

To participate in Coastal Cleanup Day sponsored by the CA Coastal Commission, check for details on their website at coastal.ca.gov. Detailed Information on organized cleaning sites for our coastal beaches and inland waterways will be posted on their webpage in late August and early September.





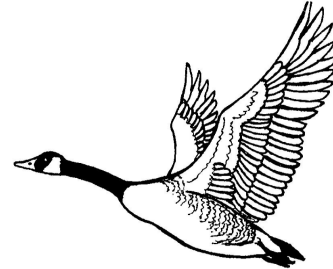
Sea and Sage Audubon Society 2024
Birds of Southern California
An Introductory Birding Skills Workshop
presented by Sylvia R. Gallagher



Sea and Sage Audubon Society is again offering a ten-week workshop on bird identification for beginning birders or those with a small amount of knowledge, which is most likely disorganized. Professional biologists whose expertise is not in ornithology or whose studies have been confined to just a few species or places, will find this workshop helpful, too. Each session will feature about 15 common birds of a particular local habitat on the coastal side of the mountains. With the use of printed worksheets and photos from the Sea and Sage Library, Sylvia Gallagher will help you to learn to identify those birds. In the process, you'll also be introduced to a variety of other topics, such as bird families, plumages and molts, bird topography, distribution and habitat preferences, behavior, vocalizations, the birding literature, birding ethics and etiquette, etc.

The topics to be covered in the series are:

1. Birds of neighborhoods.
2. Birds of playing fields and parking lots.
3. Birds of mudflats and shallow water.
4. Birds of the ocean shore.
5. Birds of the open country.
6. Birds of prey.
- 7,8. Birds of the streamside woodland (in 2 parts).
9. Birds of bays, lakes, and marshes.



Each person will attend ten weekly meetings via Zoom. For these, you'll need a computer and good internet access. Although sharing computers is possible, for best results, each person should have his/her own computer in a separate room. To accommodate people who do not live close by, and also meet popular demand, this workshop is presented remotely via zoom.

You will choose one of these three sections to attend:

- Tues. mornings: 9:00 a.m. – ca. noon, Oct. 1 – Dec. 10 except Nov. 26
- Wed. evenings: 7:00 – ca.10:00 pm, Oct. 2 – Dec. 11 except Nov. 27
- Thurs. evenings: 7:00 – ca.10:00 pm, Oct. 3 – Dec. 12 except Nov. 28

Four half-day field trips to Orange County locations will be scheduled, and each time you may choose Saturday or Monday. They are on the weekends following the 3rd, 5th, 7th, and 9th workshop sessions. Participants will be divided into small groups of 7-10 people with an experienced leader. The places will be Huntington Central Park (Oct. 19, 21), Crescent Bay Point & Upper Newport Bay (Nov. 2, 4), Irvine Regional Park (Nov. 16,18), and Yorba Regional Park (Dec. 7, 9), all Orange County locations. Except for FT #2, which depends on the tides, the trips will run from 8:00 AM till around noon.

Send your reservation (see form on page 7) for this workshop, **postmarked no earlier than Sept. 3** (2-day penalty for early reservations), to "Introductory Workshop, Sylvia Gallagher, 21562 Kaneohe Ln, Huntington Beach CA 92646." Priority for placement in sections will be based on postmark date. **Enclose a LONG (4" x 9½") self-addressed stamped envelope (SASE).** If you can afford it, also please enclose a workshop donation of \$130, (check, cashier's check, or money order) made out to Sea and Sage Audubon Society. **Confirmations will be mailed Sept. 23**, including further information. The donation may be paid in 2 installments, half with your reservation and the other half by Nov. 2.

The maximum enrollment for each section is 21. If any section does not have at least 12 people enrolled by Sept. 21, it will be canceled. Reserve early though, because some sections may fill quickly.

The required book for the workshop is the **7th edition** (no other!) of the *National Geographic Field Guide to the Birds of North America* by Dunn and Alderfer. Recommended, but not required, is *Birds of Southern California* by Garrett, Dunn, and Small. These books are available in the book section of the Sea and Sage Audubon House Nature Store, open daily from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm.

Shortly after the confirmations are mailed, you will also receive, this time via email, an access code to a portion of Sea and Sage's Dropbox where you will find the workshop's introductory pictures plus the printed material in .pdf form. **YOU WILL HAVE TO PRINT OUT THE TEXTUAL MATERIAL.** Read first the document entitled "READ FIRST" for further information. *If you have questions, contact Sylvia at sjrgallagher@yahoo.com (preferred) or 714-962-8990. If you phone and get no answer, don't leave a message; write an email instead.*

Enrollment Form for Workshop

Print VERY neatly!!!

Enrollment Form – Introductory Birding Skills Workshop (FALL, 2024)

Names of all participants _____

Address(es) _____

City _____ ZIP _____ Phone(s) _____

E-mail(s) _____

Check (or rank) your choice of section for the Zoom **workshop meetings**:

TUES. am _____ WED. pm _____ THURS. pm _____

Circle your choice of field trip dates—one date for each weekend. All are Saturdays and Mondays. (Places listed above.)

10/19 or 10/21 11/2 or 11/4 11/16 or 11/18 12/7 or 12/9

Rank your level of birding experience. This will help us plan the field trip leadership.

TOTAL beginner _____ In between _____ Some experience, perhaps disorganized _____

SASE enclosed? _____ Workshop donation enclosed? _____

MAIL TO: Introductory Workshop, Sylvia Gallagher, 21562 Kaneohe Ln, Huntington Beach CA 92646

Remembering Dick Cabe

Dick passed away in July, but we will always remember him for his birding enthusiasm and his patient demeanor. He and his wife, Pat, were both avid birders and active in the birding community for many years. Dick started casually birding in 1976 after seeing his "spark bird" - a Scott's Oriole - on a camping trip in Joshua Tree National Park. He didn't really get hooked on birding until he started taking Sylvia Gallagher's workshops. Eventually, he started keeping track by photographing his life birds as well, amassing well over 700 photographed species from Alaska to Florida as he and Pat traveled around the country.

In college, Dick earned a degree in accounting and then got his CPA license. He joined the family business of Cabe Brothers Toyota in Long Beach and later ventured into self-employment as a registered Piano Technician. Retirement was filled with birding adventures and travel to Russia, Alaska, Costa Rica, Canada, and the US.

He enjoyed a wide range of hobbies: fishing aboard his power boats, playing tennis, skiing, birding, gardening, music and reading. He and Pat led many birding field trips for Sea & Sage including Huntington Central Park and William Heise County Park near Julian. Pat was excellent at spotting birds and Dick was very patient when helping trip participants find those birds which were hidden in the vegetation.

Contributions in memory of Dick Cabe can be made to Sea and Sage Audubon Society, reflecting his lifelong appreciation for nature and the outdoors. <https://seaandsageaudubon.org/home-sas/support-us/#Donate>



Chapter News & Announcements



For more information about Sea & Sage activities, check the CALENDARS on our webpage:
seaandsageaudubon.org

2024 Bloom-Hays Ecological Research Grant and Zembal Wetland Research Grant:

Six 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. The objective of the Zembal Wetland Research Grant is to advance ecological research related to coastal wetland habitats of Southern California, including habitats that support shorebirds and seabirds.

Bloom-Hays Ecological Research Grant

Ella Eleopoulus - California State Polytechnic University, Pomona (MS), \$2,500. *Prevalence of Anticoagulant Rodenticides in Raptors*

Carolyn Coyle - Colorado State University (PhD), \$2,500. *Songbirds as Pollinators: Uncovering Plants of Importance for Southern California's Flower-Foraging Songbirds*

Lindsay Peria - California State Polytechnic University, San Luis Obispo (MS), \$1,250. *Avian biodiversity in a vineyard dominated landscape in California*

Joseph Di Liberto - University of California, Los Angeles (PhD), \$1,250. *Investigating Adaptive and Fitness Consequences of Behavioral Phenotypes in Urbanizing Dark-eyed Juncos*

Karagan Smith - University of California, San Diego (PhD), \$1,250. *Understanding Functional Traits Driving Drought and Herbivore Resistance in Southern California's Postfire Vegetation*

Sam London - University of California, Riverside (PhD), \$1,250. *Investigating the Seed Predation and Dispersal Activities of the Giant Kangaroo Rat.*

Zembal Wetland Research Grant

None of the applications submitted in 2024 were related to coastal wetland habitats, shorebirds, or seabirds. Therefore, no Zembal Wetland Research Grants were awarded in 2024. Funding for 2024 will be carried over to provide research grants in future years.

W. Snowy Plover & CA Least Tern OC Fall Beachwide Survey and Training

Where on OC beaches are the Western Snowy Plovers? Have all the California Least Terns left on migration? Help us find the answers.

SURVEY PERIOD, SAT. 9/14 – SUN. 9/22

We welcome SNPL surveyors who have attended one of our classroom sessions and are able to conduct the survey on an assigned section of beach **once** during the survey period. The Sept. survey runs from Saturday, Sept. 14 through Sunday, Sept. 22. Beach assignments will soon be made, so please CONTACT Brittany Poloni with your requests at ocsnplsurvey@gmail.com

To see a list of beach segments, visit our website at www.seaandsageaudubon.org. Select BIRDING in the header, then Bird Surveys, then Conservation, then Western Snowy Plover Surveys.

ONLINE TRAINING CLASS on THURS., SEPT. 5th, 6:30-8:30 PM. We welcome new volunteers who attend the training class. You must RSVP and be registered to attend the training. CONTACT Brittany Poloni at ocsnplsurvey@gmail.com if you would like to attend the training class.

QUESTIONS? Contact Brittany Poloni, Volunteer and OC Survey Coordinator at ocsnplsurvey@gmail.com or Scott Thomas, Conservation, at redtail1@cox.net



Photo by Bruce Aird

Field Trip Schedule for 2024-2025

For detailed information and registration requirements for these trips, go to our website seaandsageaudubon.org and select Birding / Field Trips. For questions regarding field trips and reservations, email fieldtrips@seaandsageaudubon.org

SEPTEMBER 2024

Sun 08 Bird Walk at the SJWS
Wed 11 Irvine Regional Park Bird Walk
Fri 13 Accessible Birding – Irvine Park
Sun 15 Carbon Canyon Bird Walk
Wed 18 UNB by pontoon boat (\$)
Thurs 19 Bolsa Chica Bird Walk
Sun 29 Monthly Bird Walk at UNB

OCTOBER 2024

Tues 08 Quail Hill Open Space Preserve Walk
Sun 13 Monthly Bird Walk at the SJWS
Wed 16 UNB by pontoon boat (\$)
Thurs 17 Dana Point Harbor Bird Walk (P)
Sat 19 Fall Pelagic Trip out of Dana Point (\$)
Sun 20 Bi-monthly Anaheim Coves Bird Walk
Sun 27 Monthly Bird Walk at UNB

NOVEMBER 2024

Sat 02 OCBPC-1:00pm \$25 donation to OCBPC
Sun 10 Monthly Bird Walk at the SJWS
Sun 17 Bi-Monthly Carbon Canyon Bird Walk
Wed 20 UNB by pontoon boat (\$)
Sun 24 Monthly Bird Walk at UNB

DECEMBER 2024

Sun 08 Monthly Bird Walk at the SJWS
Tue 10 Quail Hill Open Space Preserve Bird Walk
Sun 15 Northeastern (Inland) CBC
Wed 18 UNB by pontoon boat (\$)
Sat 21 San Juan Capistrano CBC
Sat 28 Chino Puente-Hills CBC

JANUARY 2025

Sat 04 Coastal CBC
Sun 12 Monthly Bird Walk at the SJWS
Wed 15 UNB by pontoon boat (\$)
Thurs 16 Bi-Monthly Bolsa Chica Bird Walk
Sun 19 Bi-Monthly Carbon Canyon Bird Walk
Sat 25 Winter Pelagic Trip out of Dana Point (\$)
Sa-Su 25-26 Salton Sea Weekend Trip (\$)
Sun 26 Monthly Bird Walk at UNB

FEBRUARY 2025

Sun 09 Monthly Bird Walk at the SJWS
Tues 11 Quail Hill Open Space Preserve Bird Walk
Sun 16 San Jacinto Wildlife Area Bird Walk
Sun 16 Bi-Monthly Anaheim Coves Bird Walk
Wed 19 UNB by pontoon boat (\$)
Sun 23 Monthly Bird Walk at UNB

MARCH 2025

Thurs 05 Irvine Park Bird Walk
Sun 09 Monthly Bird Walk at the SJWS
Sun 16 Bi-Monthly Carbon Canyon Bird Walk
Wed 19 UNB by pontoon boat (\$)
Thurs 20 Bi-Monthly Bolsa Chica Bird Walk
Sat 29 Caspers Wilderness Park
Sun 30 Monthly Bird Walk at UNB

APRIL 2025

Sa-Su 5-6 Eastern Sierra Weekend Trip (\$)
Tues 08 Quail Hill Open Space Preserve Bird Walk
Sun 13 Monthly Bird Walk at the SJWS
Wed 16 UNB by pontoon boat (\$)
Sun 20 Bi-Monthly Anaheim Coves Park Bird Walk
Sun 27 Monthly Bird Walk at UNB

MAY 2025

Sat 03 Spring Pelagic Trip out of Dana Point (\$)
Sun 11 Monthly Bird Walk at the SJWS
Sun 18 Bi-Monthly Carbon Canyon Bird Walk
Wed 21 UNB by pontoon boat (\$)
Thurs 22 Bi-Monthly Bolsa Chica Bird Walk
Sun 25 Monthly Bird Walk at UNB

JUNE 2025

Sun 08 Least Tern Natural Preserve
Sun 08 Monthly Bird Walk at the SJWS
Tues 10 Quail Hill Open Space Preserve Bird Walk
Sun 15 Bi-Monthly Anaheim Coves Park Bird Walk
Sun 29 Monthly Bird Walk at UNB

JULY 2025

Sun 13 Monthly Bird Walk at the SJWS
Thurs 17 Bi-Monthly Bolsa Chica Bird Walk
Sat 19 Summer Pelagic Trip out of Dana Point (\$)
Sun 20 Bi-Monthly Carbon Canyon Bird Walk
Sun 27 Monthly Bird Walk at UNB

AUGUST 2025

Sun 10 Monthly Bird Walk at the SJWS
Sun 17 Anaheim Coves Park Bird Walk
Wed 27 UNB by pontoon boat (\$)
Sun 31 Monthly Bird Walk at UNB

Field Trip Information

Our chapter website is seaandsageaudubon.org. Information on our birding field trips can be found under the heading of BIRDING – Field Trips. The trips are divided into seasons: FALL, WINTER, SPRING, SUMMER.

The trips which require reservations are marked with an **(R)**. This means there is a limit to the number of people who can go on it. Usually, when you sign up for a trip, if it is already full, then you can add your name to the waiting list and you will be contacted by email if there is a cancellation.

Some trips are marked with a **(P)** which means you will need to pay for parking when you get there.

Other trips will be marked with a **(S)** which means you will need to pay for the trip in advance.

Directions will tell you how to pay.

For additional information, contact fieldtrips@seaandsageaudubon.org.

Accessible Birding & Brunch – Irvine Park, Friday Sept. 13th

We have planned an accessible birding event on Friday, September 13th at 9:00 am at Irvine Regional Park. This event is designed for anyone who likes a slow-paced, easy walk. Attendees can either bird from our picnic tables or their own portable chairs, or join the guided walk on the paved, flat path around the lake. After birding we will enjoy a bring-your-own brunch. Irvine Park is always a popular destination as it has some of the county's oldest Coast Live Oak and California Sycamore trees which attract a wide variety of birds. There are handicapped parking spaces and handicapped restrooms near our location. There is a \$3 park entrance fee if you do not have your OC Park Annual Parking Pass with you. E-mail Sharon Rockwell at srockwell@writeme.com to register and she will return your email with specific directions for where we will meet.

September Field Trips

Sunday, Sept. 8 Monthly Bird Walk at the SJWS ®

Wednesday, Sept. 11: Irvine Regional Park Bird Walk *(P)

Friday, Sept. 13: Accessible Birding – Irvine Park *(P) ®

Sunday, Sept. 15: Bi-Monthly Carbon Canyon Bird Walk *(P)

Wednesday, Sept. 18: UNB by pontoon boat (\$20)

Thursday, Sept. 19: Bi-Monthly Bolsa Chica Bird Walk

Sunday, Sept. 29: Monthly Bird Walk at UNB

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, 14231 Clarissa Ln, Santa Ana CA 92705.

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

AH is usually open daily from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM. The restrooms, trails, and parking lots are open daily 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 Audubon Membership, 14231 Clarissa Ln, Santa Ana CA 92705. If you want to use a credit card for your membership payment, go online to: <http://www.audubon.org/membership> For questions, please contact our Membership Chair, Gail Richards, 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.

Gail Richards, 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 <https://act.audubon.org/onlineactions/DH8fxTkoC0qHjXF9fZCtRw2?chapter=C15> (Our chapter code is C15)

To renew membership: renew directly with National Audubon by direct mail or online: https://act.audubon.org/a/renew?ms=s_src-2015_AUDHP_ftr- (Renewals are \$20 per year.)

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____



C15

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Starr Ranch/Envir. Liaison.	Sandy DeSimone	949-858-0309
Webmaster... ..	Darrell Wilson.....	714-401-7852

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

STAFF

AUDUBON HOUSE	949-261-7963	
Marsh Education Project Director	Trude Hurd	949-261-7964
Education Assistant	Mindy Bergen.....	949-261-7964
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
 (\$) - Pay in advance for trip – see webpage writeup on trip

September 2024:

03	Tues	Conservation Meeting via Zoom	6:45 pm
08	Sun	Monthly Bird Walk at the SJWS ®	8:00 am
10	Tues	Board Meeting via Zoom.....	7:00 pm
11	Wed	Irvine Regional Park Bird Walk.....	8:00 am
13	Fri	Accessible Birding – Irvine Park	9:00 am
15	Sun	Bi-Monthly Carbon Canyon Bird Walk ..	8:00 am
18	Wed	UNB by pontoon boat ®	8:15 am
19	Thurs	Bi-Monthly Bolsa Chica Bird Walk	8:00 am
20	Fri	GENERAL MEETING via Zoom	7:00 pm
21	Sat	Coastal Cleanup Day.....	9:00 am
24	Tues	'4 th Tues' Conservation Lecture via Zoom ..	7:00 pm
29	Sun	Upper Newport Bay bird walk	8:00 am

October 2024:

01	Tues	Conservation Meeting via Zoom	6:45 pm
08	Tues	Quail Hill Open Space Preserve Bird Walk ..	7:00 am
08	Tues	Board Meeting via Zoom.....	7:00 pm
13	Sun	Monthly Bird Walk at the SJWS ®	8:00 am
16	Wed	UNB by pontoon boat ®	8:15 am
18	Fri	GENERAL MEETING via Zoom	7:00 pm
20	Sun	Bi-Monthly Anaheim Coves Bird Walk ..	8:00 am
22	Tues	'4 th Tues' Conservation Lecture via Zoom ..	7:00 pm
27	Sun	Upper Newport Bay bird walk	8:00 am