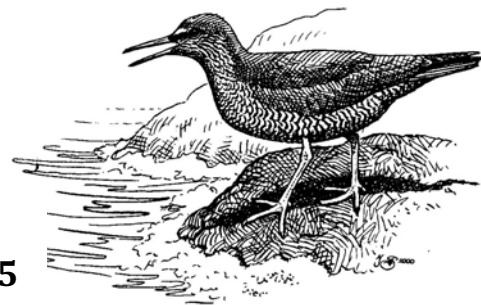


# Wandering Tattler

February 2025  
Volume 74, Number 5



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

## Celebrating Our Successes and Looking Ahead

Dear Members,

Thank you for your support as members and for your generous contributions to our Annual Appeal. Your support sustains our chapter and highlights our shared dedication to safeguarding birds and their habitats. Because of you, our dedicated staff and volunteers can continue to pursue ongoing goals.

Reflecting on 2024, I am immensely proud of what we accomplished together. The efforts of our chapter staff and volunteers—whether at events, the Audubon House, bird surveys, or committee meetings—along with the leadership of our board members, have made a lasting impact. A heartfelt thank you to all who have given their time and energy to our shared cause. If you're inspired to get involved, we warmly welcome you! Visit the "Volunteer" section of our website to explore opportunities to participate in events or bird surveys.

Looking ahead, we're excited to continue offering enriching opportunities, engaging events, and focused teachings in 2025. From bird walks, field trips, and bird counts to captivating General Meetings and 4th Tuesday Conservation Lectures, there's something for everyone. Look out for our Tattler and website for updates on signature events like our Annual Dinner, Summer BBQ, Pancake Breakfast, and Holiday Boutique. Sylvia Gallagher's popular birding classes and our exhibit tables throughout the county will remain vibrant hubs of learning and connection. We're also proud to continue providing environmental education programs such as Outdoor Adventures, Nature Day Camp, and Junior Naturalists to inspire and nurture the next generation.

For a comprehensive overview of our achievements in 2024 and a preview of our 2025 Annual Plan, stay tuned to the "About Us" section on our website in March.

Thank you once again for your continued support. Here's to another incredible year ahead!  
Warm regards,

*Jonathan Aguayo*  
President of Sea & Sage Audubon Society

## General Meeting – Online Presentation Friday, February 21<sup>st</sup> – 7:00 PM

### "Travails of a Jetty Black Oystercatcher Chick" *presented by Joel Weintraub*

Against all odds, Orange County, California produced at least three juvenile Black Oystercatchers from the 2024 season. The Black Oystercatcher is designated as Climate Endangered. This talk follows the journey of one of them from near hatching to juvenile status on the Dana Point breakwater. We will cover the history of the Dana Point jetty, the status of Black Oystercatchers, and the stresses and mortality factors on raising their young in our county. The talk will rely on videos and photos, mainly taken by the author and Dawn Garcia.

Joel Weintraub, born and raised in New York City, is an emeritus Professor of Zoology at California State University Fullerton. He was instrumental in establishing the Environmental Studies Master's Degree program there, and in 1995 was recognized by the Orange County Science Education Association with their Award for Excellence in Science Education. Joel and Bob Allen created the first Orange County Birding listserv in 2000 which they maintained for 16 years. Joel also ran the Orange County Rare Bird Alert for many years.

Joel maintains a YouTube channel at 'JDW Talks' with over a hundred videos on Orange County birds, birding optics, and Family History topics in naturalization, immigration, and the U.S. and NY censuses.

Meeting room opens at 6:30 PM; join us at 6:45 pm. for a Sea and Sage project highlight; meeting starts at the 7:00. Link to join Zoom Meeting:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84198423399>  
(If this link isn't working for you, try  
Meeting ID: 841 9842 3399)

*Melissa & Catherine, Program Co-Chairs*

# Conservation News

Susan Sheakley, Conservation Chair

**Evening Meetings Feb:** *Join us!* Cons. Com. TU Feb 4, 6:45 (S Sheakley); Coastal Issues TBA (S Thomas); Tackling Climate & Trash TH Feb 20, 7 (S Warrior); Leg. & Advocacy SU Feb 23 4:30 (V Leipzig); '4<sup>th</sup> Tues'. Lecture TU Feb 25, 7



**'4<sup>th</sup> Tues.'**

## Conservation Lecture

**Tuesday, February 25<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 pm**

**Zoom** - Doors will open at 6:30 pm

**Featuring 3 Protected Local Species**

**"California Gnatcatcher Study  
at UCI Marsh Reserve"**



***presented by Karly Moore  
Senior Consulting Biologist, Institute for  
Conservation Research and Education  
(IRCE)***

Since graduating from Humboldt State University, our guest, Karly Moore, has worked with numerous threatened and endangered species projects, and extensively with the California Gnatcatcher. Tonight, she will discuss briefly her recent project that is leading the effort to study the reproduction and dispersal of gnatcatchers at the UC Irvine San Joaquin Marsh Reserve.

**Advance registration** will be required to attend this event. Registration will be available through our website in February under "**Conservation**" and "**What's New**".

## California Least Terns and the Western Snowy Plovers at Huntington State Beach"

***presented by Lana Nguyen, Senior  
Environmental Scientist, and  
Brittany Poloni, Environmental  
Scientist***



Photo by Bill Halladay

Join State Parks Lana Nguyen and Brittany Poloni for information on two other local coastal species. We will learn how State Parks Volunteer Docent Programs contribute to nesting success and public outreach. We will also find out how we can participate in them! We hope to see you at our Feb. 25<sup>th</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday.



Photo by Andrea Carpio

# Sea & Sage Annual Dinner

Friday, March 21 at Mile Square Park Banquet Center

Our Guest Speaker - Dr. Carl Safina

Program - "Alfie and Me: What Owls Know, What Humans Believe"

Join conservationist, author, and ecologist, Carl Safina, founder of the Safina Center, as he presents his program. After rescuing, raising, and releasing an orphaned Screech Owl, author Carl Safina expected their friendship to end there. However, shortly after her release, Alfie the owl chose to maintain her close connection with Carl and his wife Patricia and returned to their yard to begin living in the nest box above Carl's studio. Having forged a close bond of trust, Alfie had lived in Carl and Patricia's world and was now bringing them into hers.

Among his many achievements, Carl is an inaugural holder of the Endowed Chair for Nature and Humanity at Stony Brook University, a Pew Fellow in Marine conservation, and a recipient of Chicago's Brookfield Zoo's Rabb Medal. He was named among the "100 Notable Conservationists of the 20th Century" by *Audubon magazine*.

The evening's program 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:** \$65 for all reservations

**Entrees:** Slow Roasted Prime Rib, Macadamia nut crusted Mahi Mahi, and Portobello Steak with Bell Pepper Coulis. (All dinners will include a salad, fresh vegetables, freshly baked rolls, coffee, iced tea, decaf, and carrot cake for dessert.)

**MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS EARLY.** Reservations will open on January 15th.

Go to the Sea and Sage Website at [seaandsageaudubon.org](http://seaandsageaudubon.org) and see "What's New" or follow this link: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/sea-and-sage-annual-dinner-2025-tickets-1147796804139>

Seating will be assigned in the order in which the reservations are received. If you wish to sit with friends, be sure they make their reservations on the same day you do. All 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 12:00 A.M. ON THURS, MARCH 13th.** For reservation questions, call Nancy Kenyon (949-892-9212; [nancykenyon@cox.net](mailto:nancykenyon@cox.net)). If you need a special order, such as no salt or seasoning or no dairy products, be sure to report that information to Nancy as well.

# Chapter News & Announcements



For more information about Sea & Sage activities, visit our chapter webpage at [seaandsageaudubon.org](http://seaandsageaudubon.org)

## Audubon House Volunteers

We would like to thank the following people for helping to staff Audubon House in January and February:



Kathy Blackmarr, Bettina Eastman, Leslie El-Sayad, Greg Figge, Elisa Guzman, John Hargrove, Ann Harmer, Mary Harward, Sarah Jayne, Mary Meister, Paula Monroe, Kelly Morgan, Steve Munzinger, Dagmar Muthamia, Barbara Reber, Jennifer Reed, Paul Saiki, Dev Sellin, Susan Sheakley, Art Strauss, Monte Taylor, 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 Paula Monroe, 480-299-9885, or Dev Sellin, 714-943-3682.

## Accessible Birding and Brunch Bolsa Chica, Thursday, Feb. 20<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM

Our Feb. "Birding and Brunch" event at Bolsa Chica Ecological Reserve in Huntington Beach will be on Thurs, Feb. 20<sup>th</sup> at 9 am. Bolsa Chica is one of the premier birding locations in southern California with a wide variety of birds. Low tide is from 9 -11, so we will have good viewing. There is no cost or parking fee for this event, but reservations are required. Contact Sharon Rockwell for more trip info and reservations. [srockwell@writeme.com](mailto:srockwell@writeme.com)

## San Jacinto Wildlife Area Bird Walk Sunday, Feb. 16 – 8:00 AM

The San Jacinto Wildlife Area consists of a series of ponds which support an abundance of waterfowl and shorebirds under the scenic backdrop of Mt. San Gorgonio and the San Bernardino Mountains. Also, nearby grasslands provide foraging habitat for eagles and a variety of overwintering raptors. We will be driving slowly amongst the ponds for a good portion of the trip and will cover some areas on foot. Due to the limited space along roads, hampering our ability to pull over safely, participation will be limited. **Check the website for full information and how to make reservations on EventBrite. Fee \$6**  
**Trip Leader – Bettina Eastman**

## Reading Group — Tues, Feb. 18 – 1 pm

Reading Group: *The Birds That Audubon Missed* by Kenn Kaufman Check our chapter webpage and look at the Reading Group calendar for the Zoom link for the mtg.

## Summer Birding Fun For Children

Enrollment for our popular Nature Day Camps opens on February 1st on Eventbrite. Four age-specific week-long camps are for ages 7-8, 9-10, 11-12, and 13-16 at the beautiful San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary in Irvine. Each camp encourages and builds on a child's interest in birds and nature. Get an informational flyer on our chapter website, in the March issue of the Wandering Tattler, or email [SeaAndSageCamp@gmail.com](mailto:SeaAndSageCamp@gmail.com).

## Sponsor a Bus for School Children

This spring, we sponsor 29 Santa Ana classes of fourth and fifth graders to come to the marsh for an Outdoor Adventures science program. The children use binoculars and microscopes (often for the first time), learn about adaptations and ecosystems, and discover ways that they can help birds and habitat. We pay for all Santa Ana buses and need to raise \$8,700 this spring. We hope that you will consider making a donation of any amount to help fund this life-changing program for tomorrow's environmental protectors. Send your check to School Bus, Sea and Sage Audubon, 5 Riparian View, Irvine, CA 92612. Thank you for your support!

## Nature Discovery Kit loan reopens

Do you know an educator, science specialist, librarian, park ranger or other person interested in sharing nature with children? They can borrow one of our Nature Discovery Kits for free for two weeks. Kit topics are Owls, Bats, Bird Nests, Wildlife Trees, Reptiles & Amphibians, and Butterflies & Moths. Each kit includes taxidermy specimens, read-aloud books, science and art projects, puppets, posters, and more. Kits are appropriate for K-3<sup>rd</sup> but can be used for older grades with some adjustments. To schedule a loan, contact Nature Discovery Kit coordinator by email [SeaAndSageKit@gmail.com](mailto:SeaAndSageKit@gmail.com).

## Avian Flu (AI) Updates

As migration season approaches, the risk of Avian Flu (AI) spread increases among wild birds. Although AI remains uncommon in raptors, waterfowl, shore birds, and songbirds, we should remain alert to the possibility of increased spread to these birds and possible transmission to humans. See this link for more info: <https://www.allaboutbirds.org/news/avian-influenza-outbreak-should-you-take-down-your-bird-feeders/>

# Chapter News & Announcements

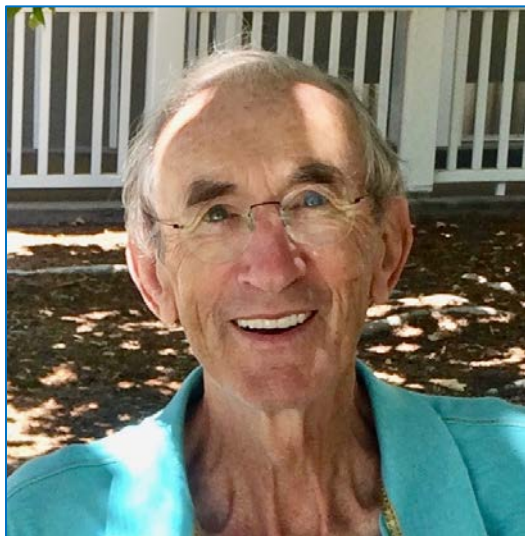


For more information about Sea & Sage activities, visit our chapter webpage at [seaandsageaudubon.org](http://seaandsageaudubon.org)

## Honoring the Life and Legacy of Chris Obaditch

It is with deep sadness that I share the news of Chris Obaditch's passing early in January. Chris was a devoted member of our community, serving as a longtime board member and chapter liaison to the San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary Board of Directors. He also held the role of Chapter President twice, from 1994 to 1996 and again from 2002 to 2004. For over 25 years, Chris led monthly bird walks at the marsh, sharing his love for wildlife and nature with so many. His decades of service to the Chapter and his passion for preserving the beauty of the marsh serve as a reminder of the difference one person can make.

While I did not have the privilege of knowing Chris as well as some of you, I will greatly miss his warm personality and deeply appreciate the history of the marsh that he so generously shared with me. If you have personal memories or stories about Chris, please feel free to share them with us. It's a meaningful way for us to celebrate his life and the profound impact he had on so many.



## Holiday Boutique & Open House

We are delighted to announce the success of our 4th Annual Holiday Boutique, held on December 8th! The Duck Club was magically transformed into a festive wonderland, adorned with beautiful decorations that created a warm and inviting atmosphere. Guests indulged in freshly baked cookies and enjoyed comforting holiday beverages, adding to the joyful spirit that filled the air.

One of the standout features of the event was our photo booth, where many guests left with a complimentary 4x6 framed photo that encapsulated the day's charm. This delightful gathering provided the perfect opportunity to reconnect with old friends, meet new faces, and find the perfect bird-themed gifts for their loved ones. With our carefully curated selection of unique merchandise, shoppers discovered ideal treasures that made heartwarming gifts for family and friends.

The success of the event was made possible thanks to our dedicated volunteers. A special shoutout goes to Deborah Brin for her invaluable support and stunning taxidermy display, Irene Wotta for her assistance in the kitchen, Cheryl Thomas for her help as cashier, and Mary Harward and Amanda Gaskin for creating a joyful experience at the photo booth. Remember, every purchase contributes to a great cause, as all proceeds from the event benefit Sea & Sage Audubon.

## Happy Valentine's Day

The origins of Valentine's Day are rooted in a charming tale about medieval birdwatchers who observed that birds begin mating in mid-February. They declared February 14 a day to celebrate this natural phenomenon—an ideal occasion to embrace and cherish love in our lives. If you're seeking the perfect gift



for that special someone this month, look no further than our Nature Store! Our delightful selection features bird-themed socks, coffee mugs, earrings, captivating books, and greeting cards. (This Valentine card is also available at our Nature Store.)

Your purchase not only brings joy to your loved ones, but also supports a great cause, as it benefits Sea & Sage and makes a difference!

*Catherine Steinberg*  
Nature Store Manager

# Marsh Education Project Annual Report 2024

*"Great experience, very personal care and a family-like sense of community."*

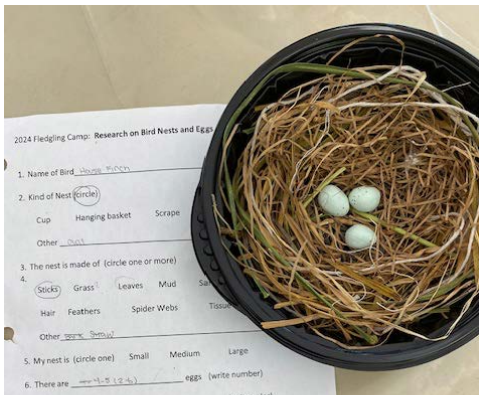
Because of your support in 2024, over 10,900 adults and children better understand the importance of birds and their habitat and how to protect them. So many people help our Marsh Education Project as they volunteer their time, donate money, enroll in our programs, spread the word and more. Thank you for caring about birds and the environment, and enabling others to experience nature at the beautiful San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary! We are especially grateful to:

- **Irvine Ranch Water District** for providing the facilities and maintenance for the past 32 years!
- 64 adult **naturalists** and 9 teens who donated their talents and time totaling over 5,300 hours.
- 39 **school bus donors** who contributed \$14,355 to bring Santa Ana school children to the marsh.
- 27 **donors** who generously gave \$54,188 to keep our paid staff and programs fully functioning.
- 1 **Anonymous Foundation** for \$50,000 to enroll Santa Ana classes in Outdoor Adventures 2024-25.



## WE SHARED SCIENCE WITH SCHOOL CHILDREN AND THEIR TEACHERS

- Outdoor Adventures – 45 Santa Ana classes + 4 other classes
  - Naturalists and New Naturalists – 30 + 6 dedicated volunteers
  - Bus Scholarships – raised \$14,355 for 42 trips (a few double classes)
  - Naturalist Manual completely rewritten– anonymous donation
- Quote: "These kinds of field trips are a great opportunity for our students to experience something they do not see at school or in a book. My students were in a lab using microscopes and looking at living microorganisms. This experience is not something they will forget about." Diamond School teacher.



## WE SHOWED CAMPERS THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF BIRDS AND THEIR HABITATS

- Total 76 children and teens enrolled in the following 4 camps:
  - Fledgling Camp for 7-8 year olds – 22 children
  - Marsh Camp for 9-10 year olds – 23 children
  - Coastal Camp for 11-12 year olds – 20 children
  - Advanced Camp – Grasslands for 13-16 year olds – 11 teens
- Quote: "Our child cares about the earth more and uses less plastic." Camp parent.
- Quote: "My daughter points out birds as we drive and tries to guess what they are." Camp parent.



## WE PROVIDED NATURE RESOURCES TO THE COMMUNITY

- Bat Walks – 7 summer night walks with 105 people
  - Junior Naturalists – 23 teens on monthly trips and stewardship
  - Nature Discovery Kits – 8 loans reached 619 people
  - Taxidermy Specimens – 26 loans and displays in Audubon House and at community events reached 8,556 people
  - Specialty Tours – 9 presentations reached 288 people
- Quote: "Throughout the group, there was general wonder and awe. As the bats dipped closer to us, participants became more excited about the encounter. By the end of the walk, we were being thanked with smiles and comments about how great the bats were. All in all, a perfect night." Bat Walk leader Ellen Mansour.

If you would like to learn how to make a donation or volunteer with the Marsh Education Project, please contact Education Project Director Trude Hurd: [SeaAndSageEducation@gmail.com](mailto:SeaAndSageEducation@gmail.com)




# Silent Auction Ideas for our Sea & Sage Dinner

~ Friday, March 21<sup>st</sup> ~

Below are some suggestions for items you might like to donate. If you have a question about a donation item or about possible suitable items, ask Cheryl Thomas, Events Chair, at [cthomas1313@cox.net](mailto:cthomas1313@cox.net) or 949-294-2275.

Gift Basket such as a Family Game Night Basket  
Fitness Watch, Bed & Breakfast experience  
Candles, Subscription to Online Classes  
Food such as chocolates, coffee, tea, beer, or wine  
Golf Lessons or Cooking Lessons or Swim Lessons  
Dog treats such as Chewy Bones, Balls, Toys  
Hot Air Balloon Ride, Meal Delivery Subscription  
Event Tickets, Membership to Zoos, Museums.  
Aquariums, Concert Series, or National Parks  
Gift Cards to a local sporting goods store  
Bed & Breakfast experience  
Beach Party Basket – towels, sunglasses, umbrella,  
snacks, wireless ear buds, audio books, etc  
Offer your service as a Dog Walker or Pet Sitter



# 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](mailto:OrangeCountyBirding+subscribe@groups.io)

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*Due to the long list of exciting rare birds found in the county this year, I have no space to write a meaningful intro. May 2025 be just as birdy! Note that individuals marked with an (\*) were first discovered on Christmas Bird Counts.*

A very cooperative **King Eider**, only the fifth ever count record was found at Seabridge Park in Huntington Beach from December 23-31; it was joined by a **Long-tailed Duck** on the 25th. A **White-winged Scoter** was off Newport Pier November 29-December 1, while an **Ancient Murrelet** was seen off Dana Point November 22, while a **Red-necked Grebe** first found off Huntington Beach Pier November 22 continued through the end of the year. November and December were not months for pelagic species, with the only notable vagrant being a **Masked booby** which was seen offshore November 11, while onshore the invasion of **Neotropic Cormorants** continues both coastally and inland, with a high count of 7 recorded at Anaheim Lake December 29th.

At least one **Zone-tailed Hawk** was seen soaring over various towns in South County throughout November and December, as this species is wont to do. More interesting was a **Short-eared Owl\*** found at Santiago Canyon landfill December 15th. It's been a good winter thus far for **Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers**, with individuals reported from Olinda Ranch Park November 17-24, Solana Park\* December 15, and Hiltcher Park December 19th. It's been a tremendously good winter for flycatchers, the most notable of which was an **Olive-sided Flycatcher\*** (Orange County's fourth winter record) along Panorama trail in Fullerton December 28-9. A continuing **Eastern Phoebe** at Quail Hill Preserve through December 21, and a new one at the Anaheim YMCA December 15 through the end of the year. Similarly, a **Tropical Kingbird** continued at Huntington Central Park through the end of the year, while a second bird was at Carr Park December 23-26. At least four empid species are known to be overwintering in the county at this time, with the most notable being a **Dusky Flycatcher** first found at Veeh Ranch Park December 14.

A **Gray Catbird** first seen at Doheny State Beach November 7 continued through the end of the year, and was the first since 2020. A **Mountain Bluebird** was at Quail Hill Preserve November 19-21, while a **Varied Thrush** first seen at Irvine Regional Park November 11 was last observed December 8. A **Lapland Longspur** was at Linda Vista Park in Mission Viejo November 2. **Swamp Sparrows** were at Bolsa Chica Ecological Reserve December 24 and Arevalos Park along the Santa Ana River December 29-31.

All three vagrant oriole species were found in the county this winter, including a **Scott's Oriole** near O'Neill Regional Park December 17, a continuing **Orchard Oriole** in Fountain Valley last seen December 6. A **Baltimore Oriole** continued at Pepperwood Park in Irvine through December 27, and a new pair at Emery Park in Fullerton December 11. A **Tricolored Blackbird** was at Carr Park December 16-29.

Several excellent eastern warblers made a short or long-term stop in the county this winter; this report will focus on the highlights. The returning **Chestnut-sided Warbler** continued at Irvine North Lake through the end of the year, while a **Black-throated Blue Warbler** at Oak Canyon Nature Center November 12 and a **Pine Warbler** at Lake Forest Veterans Park December 13 were apparently both one-day wonders. A **Black-throated Green Warbler** at Gabrielino Park in Irvine December 29 continued through the end of the year, as did a **Bay-breasted Warbler** found December 24 at Seabridge Park. A **MacGillivray's Warbler** at Edison Park in Seal Beach was one of very few winter records. At least four **Rose-breasted Grosbeaks** were found in the county throughout the winter, while a **Black-headed Grosbeak\*** was at Santiago Oaks Regional Park December 28th.



# Northeastern (Inland) CBC Report - 12/15/24

The Northeastern CBC covers the inland areas of Orange County and was divided into the following sections: Irvine Reg. Park; Irvine Lake & vicinity; Silverado Canyon; Upper & Lower Black Star Canyon; Mountain Areas – closed due to fire damage; 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	277	California Gull	41	Red-crowned Amazon	41	Lesser Goldfinch	732
Wood Duck	42	Pied-billed Grebe	42	Gray Flycatcher	2	American Goldfinch	41
Cinnamon Teal	22	Eared Grebe	8	Black Phoebe	271	Lawrence's Goldfinch	1
Northern Shoveler	108	Western Grebe	155	Say's Phoebe	79	Chipping Sparrow	38
Gadwall	126	Clark's Grebe	27	Vermilion Flycatcher	1	Lark Sparrow	11
American Wigeon	235	Double-crested Cormorant	201	Cassin's Kingbird	148	Fox Sparrow	2
Mallard	617	White-faced Ibis	79	Hutton's Vireo	11	Dark-eyed Junco (Ore.)	274
Northern Pintail	1	Black-crown. Night-Heron	42	Loggerhead Shrike	6	White-crowned Sparrow	2103
Green-winged Teal	47	Snowy Egret	38	California Scrub Jay	302	Golden-crowned Sparrow	35
Canvasback	1	Green Heron	2	American Crow	550	Savannah Sparrow	68
Redhead	1	Great Egret	28	Common Raven	493	Song Sparrow	231
Ring-necked Duck	78	Great Blue Heron	13	Mount. Chickadee	39	Vesper Sparrow	1
Lesser Scaup	10	American White-Pelican	55	Oak Titmouse	167	Lincoln's Sparrow	24
Bufflehead	26	Brown Pelican	1	Tree Swallow	49	California Towhee	398
Ruddy Duck	218	Turkey Vulture	194	N. Rough-winged Swallow	10	Green-tailed Towhee	1
California Quail	152	Osprey	6	Barn Swallow	15	Rufous-crowned Sparrow	31
Rock Pigeon	4	White-tailed Kite	4	Bushtit	1099	Spotted Towhee	168
Band-tailed Pigeon	26	Sharp-shinned Hawk	3	Wrentit	176	Western Meadowlark	198
Eur. Collared Dove	8	Cooper's Hawk	21	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	275	Bullock's Oriole	4
Mourning Dove	329	Northern Harrier	9	White-breast. Nuthatch	31	Red-winged Blackbird	1
Greater Roadrunner	2	Bald Eagle	3	Red-breast. Nuthatch	1	Brown-headed Cowbird	8
Common Poorwill	2	Red-shouldered Hawk	43	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	57	Orange-crowned Warbler	91
White-throated Swift	243	Red-tailed Hawk	185	California Gnatcatcher	15	Common Yellowthroat	136
Anna's Hummingbird	364	Barn Owl	7	Rock Wren	5	Yellow-rumped Warbler	2681
Allen's Hummingbird	184	Short-eared Owl	1	No. House Wren	41	Townsend's Warbler	7
Virginia Rail	5	Western Screech-Owl	6	Bewick's Wren	89	Western Tanager	3
Sora	3	Great Horned Owl	26	Cactus Wren	10		
Common Gallinule	4	Belted Kingfisher	9	European Starling	414		
American Coot	868	Red-naped Sapsucker	1	California Thrasher	57	<b>EXOTICS:</b>	
Black-necked Stilt	4	Red-breasted Sapsucker	3	No. Mockingbird	87	Egyptian Goose	23
Killdeer	17	Yellow-breast.Sapsucker	1	Western Bluebird	165	Domestic Duck	10
Whimbrel	7	Acorn Woodpecker	405	Hermit Thrush	60	Indian Peafowl	21
Long-billed Dowitcher	30	Downy Woodpecker	6	American Robin	51	Swinhoe's White-eye	221
Wilson's Snipe	15	Nuttall's Woodpecker	133	Cedar Waxwing	98	Scaly-breasted Munia	71
Spotted Sandpiper	8	Hairy Woodpecker	3	Phainopepla	32	Pin-tailed Whydah	70
Greater Yellowlegs	2	Northern Flicker	26	House Sparrow	22		
Least Sandpiper	81	American Kestrel	38	American Pipit	180		
Ring-billed Gull	125	Merlin	9	House Finch	1169		
American Herring Gull	2	Peregrine Falcon	2	Lesser Goldfinch	732		

# 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 December 31, 2024. (The rest of the list will be in the March Tattler.)*

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Donald Abrams	Mike Edson	Lynne Jeffries	Carol Maxwell
Ann Anderson	Arnold Eisman	Steve Jelnick	Sally Menzel
Jay Anderson	Jim & Diane Ewing	Elia Jimenez	Derek Meyer
Tom & Lynda Ambruster	Martin Fee	Holly Joslin	Janet Miles
Marilyn Armentrout	Judith Frant	Colin & Jacklyn Joyo	Jay & Marquita Miller
Betty & Chuck Avey	Sharon Gasior	Susan Juby	Charles & Kathryn Mitchell
Ann & Alan Barbour	Amanda Gaskin	Fran Jutzi	Aeyoung Mook
Alan & Janet Baumann	Mary Ann & Jeff Lefkoff	Alice Kakimoto	Virginia Moore
Susan Berg	Valerie Glass	Jame Kendall	Steve Morris
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# 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](mailto: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](mailto:membership@seaandsageaudubon.org).

## Temporarily Away or Moving?

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

Gail Richards, Membership Chair  
[membership@seaandsageaudubon.org](mailto: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](https://act.audubon.org/a/renew?ms=s_src-2015_AUDHP_ftr) (Renewals are \$20 per year.)

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C15

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## STAFF

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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

### February 2025:

04	Tues	Conservation Com. Mtg via Zoom.....	6:45 pm
09	Sun	Monthly Bird Walk at the SJWS ® .....	8:00 am
11	Tues	Quail Hill Open Space Preserve ® .....	7:00 am
11	Tues	Board Meeting .....	7:00 pm
14-17	Fri – Mon	Great Backyard Bird Count.....	
16	Sun	San Jacinto Wildlife Area Bird Walk ® ..	8:00 am
16	Sun	Anaheim Coves Bi-Monthly Bird Walk ..	8:00 am
19	Wed	UNB by pontoon boat ® .....	8:15 am
20	Thurs	Accessible Birding at Bolsa Chica ® .....	9:00 am
21	Fri	GENERAL MEETING via Zoom .....	7:00 pm
23	Sun	Upper Newport Bay Monthly Bird Walk.....	8:00 am
25	Tues	'4 <sup>th</sup> Tues' Conservation Lecture via Zoom...	7:00 pm

### March 2025:

04	Tues	Conservation Com. Mtg via Zoom.....	6:45 pm
05	Wed	Irvine Regional Park Bird Walk .....	7:30 am
09	Sun	Monthly Bird Walk at the SJWS ® .....	8:00 am
11	Tues	Board Meeting .....	7:00 pm
16	Sun	Carbon Canyon Reg. Park Bird Walk ...	8:00 am
19	Wed	UNB by pontoon boat ® .....	8:15 am
20	Thurs	Bolsa Chica Ecological Reserve Bird Walk....	8:00 am
21	Fri	ANNUAL DINNER ®.....	6:00 pm
29	Sat	Caspers Wilderness Park Bird Walk.....	8:00 am
25	Tues	'4 <sup>th</sup> Tues' Conservation Lecture via Zoom...	7:00 pm
30	Sun	Upper Newport Bay Monthly Bird Walk.....	8:00 am