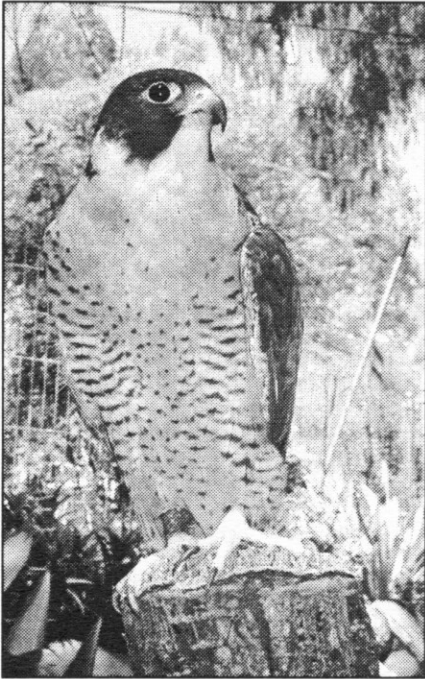
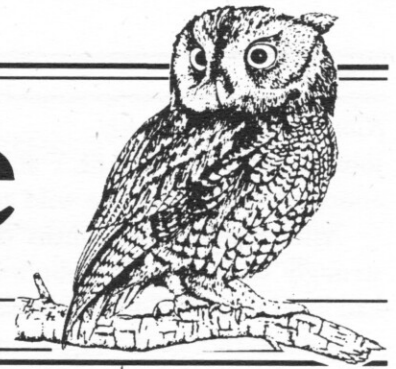


El Tecolote

Newsletter of the Santa Barbara Audubon Society, Inc.

Volume 41, Issue 1

August/September 2002



Sedona

EYES IN THE SKY Update

By Gabriele Drozdowski, Program Director

Haley Ross and Jennifer Echo

Two of EYES IN THE SKY's volunteer bird handlers are moving on to graduate school this summer. **Jennifer Echo** and **Haley Ross** participated with EYES IN THE SKY for nearly two years, putting in countless hours caring for our birds and participating in programs. Thank you Jennifer and Haley. We wish you the best in the future.

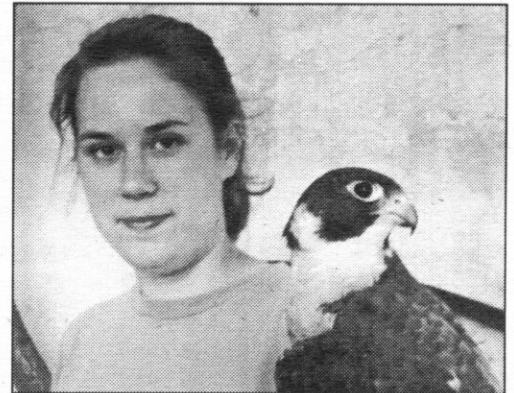
EITS Volunteer opportunities

To replace Jennifer and Haley, EYES IN THE SKY is looking for two dedicated individuals interested in working with birds of prey. Tasks include feeding, housing maintenance, and hands-on work with a Red-tailed Hawk, Red-shouldered Hawk, Great horned Owl, and Peregrine Falcon. All four can no longer survive in the wild due to conflict with human activities. Volunteers will provide outdoor time, enrichment activities and personal attention to these "species ambassadors" and can participate in community and classroom education programs featuring the birds. EYES IN THE SKY also invites assistance with grant writing, and/or desktop publishing. For more information call **Gab-**

riele at 898-0347 or email pelican7@cox.net.

Birds and Human Impacts - Structural

Over the past two weeks, amongst other rescue calls, I responded to three wildlife emergencies caused by birds flying into newly popular wind breaking plexiglass enclosures for pools and decks. Two of these three birds (all young hawks just learning to fly) died. The third one, a young Cooper's Hawk, recovered and flew back to its parents after spending several hours dazed on the back of a patio chair next to the plexiglass, coping with a mild concussion.



Jennifer and Sedona

Birds simply don't see glass or plexiglass. They may see a reflection of the sky, and often, flying at considerable speed, kill or seriously injure themselves flying into this mirage.

A first hand example is our education ambassador Sedona, a Peregrine Falcon. Peregrine Falcons—the fastest living things on earth—travel at speeds of over 200 miles per hour in pursuit of feathered prey. Sedona—in hot pursuit of a feathered lunch—crashed into a large picture window while pursuing her meal. The small bird expired instantly, and Sedona came down with a fractured left wing. Although she received expert medical care and physical therapy, her injured wing only recovered 60% of its flight ability. Sedona, named after her hometown in Arizona,



Haley and Sedona. Photos by Gabriele Drozdowski.

(Continued on page 2)

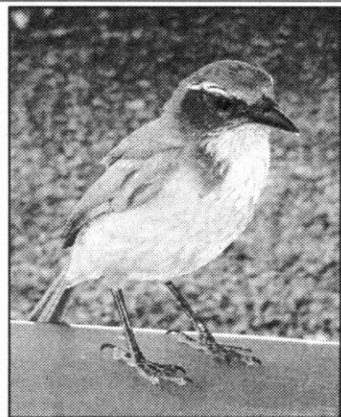
(Continued from page 1)

joined EYES IN THE SKY about 18 months ago, after veterinarians decided that she would never be able to fly well enough to survive in the wild again.

After Sedona's 9 months of medical treatments—wing-wraps and forced physical therapy—she obviously and strongly wanted to live but was scared and intimidated by any human interaction. After all, she was an adult, and had lived in the wild for at least 2 years prior to her injury. The handling and restrictions caused fear and distrust.

It took 18 months of patience, reassurance, and respect, to coax her participation in public programs. Peregrine Falcons, an "endangered species" until a few years ago, were moved up onto the "threatened species" list after successful captive breeding and reintroduction programs. Amongst the most beautiful, powerful, and globally admired wild birds, their numbers are ever so gently increasing in our state. Let us nurture them.

If you would like to find out how you can keep birds from injuring themselves flying into human structures and vehicles, please visit the website <http://www.flap.org>. You will find countless ideas on how to make your home safe and friendly for all birds.



San Marcos Foothills Coalition

produces the first education module for their website:

The Geology of the San Marcos Foothills—By Susan Bartz

From the beginning the goal of the San Marcos Foothills Coalition has been to preserve, protect and restore this biologically rich scenic treasure in its entirety for the public benefit, now and for future generations. It is home to an abundance of wildlife, richly intertwined ecological associations, and 130 bird species and ecological associations. Bird species include the White-tailed Kite, Cooper's Hawk, Burrowing Owl, Great Horned Owl, Western Screech-Owl, Grasshopper Sparrow, Rufous-crowned Sparrow and Lark Sparrow.

Check it out at: www.sanmarcosfoothills.org

Are You The One?

As the saying goes, "Many are called, but few are chosen." Your SBAS is engaged on many environmental fronts up and down the coast, but our ranks are thin and weary. We need help; help to adequately engage the many issues we need to respond to. The Conservation Committee is searching for two volunteers with the following qualifications:

1. Must be challenge-oriented.
2. Have capacity to absorb new information and respond effectively.
3. Be capable of operating independently and responsibly.
4. Love what you are doing.
5. Have limitless curiosity.

If you qualify please contact David Wass at david.wass@gte.net or 682-6962 between the hours of 7 and 9 p.m.

National Audubon Society Membership Application

(new members only)

Includes membership in National Audubon & Santa Barbara Audubon Society (C13 7XCH)
and subscriptions to Audubon magazine & El Tecolote, the SBAS newsletter

☐ \$20 Introductory Membership

☐ \$15 Senior (62+) or Student

Make check payable to:

National Audubon Society

Mail to:

Santa Barbara Audubon Society
5679 Hollister Ave., Suite 5B
Goleta, CA 93117

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State/Zip _____

Phone _____

Santa Barbara Audubon Programs

All programs, unless otherwise noted, will take place at Farrand Hall, Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History, Mission Canyon, Santa Barbara. Free on-site parking. All programs, unless otherwise noted, will begin at 7:30 p.m., doors open at 7:00 p.m., and are free to the public. SBAS members are encouraged to bring guests.

"Don't Forget to Look...Down!"

The Natural History of the Western Pacific Rattlesnake

John LaBonte, Speaker

Wednesday, August 28th, 7:00 a.m.

(note special time)

Birders hitting the rocky trails and tall grasses of the Santa Barbara back country this hot summer should find this presentation timely and enlightening. Join Herpetologist **John LaBonte** for an informative visual and narrative introduction to California's various rattlesnake species, with a focus on the life, habits and habitat of our local pit viper, the Pacific Rattlesnake. John will share his current research on the Pacific Rattlesnake and also discuss rattlesnake awareness and bite treatment.

Preceding the 7:30 p.m. presentation, at 7:00 p.m. (note special time), **Paul Collins**, Curator of Vertebrate Zoology for the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History, will have several non-venomous caged, live snakes on display.



Western Pacific Rattlesnake. Photo by John LaBonte.

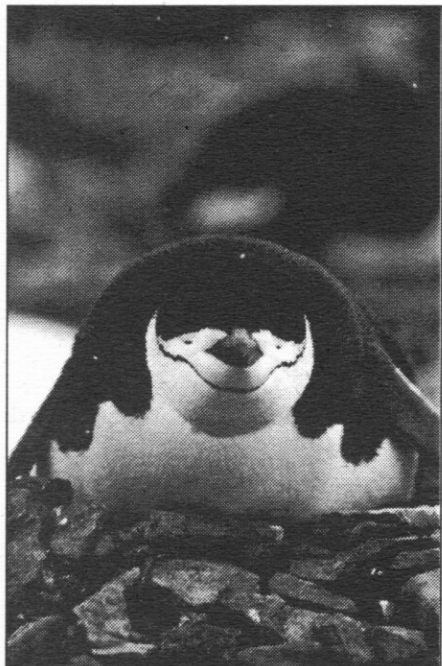
The Perfect Combination—Zoologist-Photographer

Ralph Clevenger, Speaker

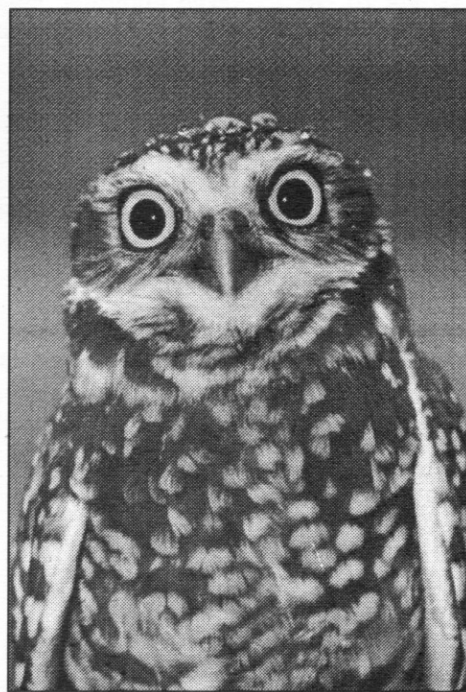
Wednesday, September 25th

This month we have an exceptional speaker who makes his living as a professional photographer and teacher (at Brooks,) has a life-long interest and a degree in zoology, and has traveled all over the world, on assignment for the Nature Conservancy, the National Park Service, the Monterey Aquarium, the National Geographic, Audubon Magazine, Sierra Club Books, the Smithsonian Institute and California State Parks!

His name is **Ralph Clevenger** (you're right, he is a local,) and he is one of the world's most respected underwater and nature photographers! We will be given two tours, actually, one of the World of Birds, and one of the World of Bird Photography. Bring your eyes, your questions and your curiosity.



Penguin. Photo by Ralph Clevenger.



*Burrowing Owl.
Photo by Ralph Clevenger.*



Santa Barbara Audubon Field Trips

Everyone is welcome! These trips are fun for both beginning and expert bird lovers. Binoculars are useful for enjoyment of birds, but if you don't have a pair please call the trip leader and we'll lend you a spare. Trips are free unless noted.



Rancho Guadalupe Dunes Preserve

Santa Maria River Mouth

west of Santa Maria

Saturday, August 31st, 7:00 a.m.

(at carpool place)

Target birds: Fall shorebirds, gulls, terns and seabirds

Dave Compton, 965-3153, davcompton@earthlink.net

Drivers may appreciate gas money.

Coal Oil Point Reserve

UCSB West Campus, Goleta

Saturday, September 21st, 5:00 p.m.

Target birds: Snowy Plover, shorebirds, Great Horned Owl

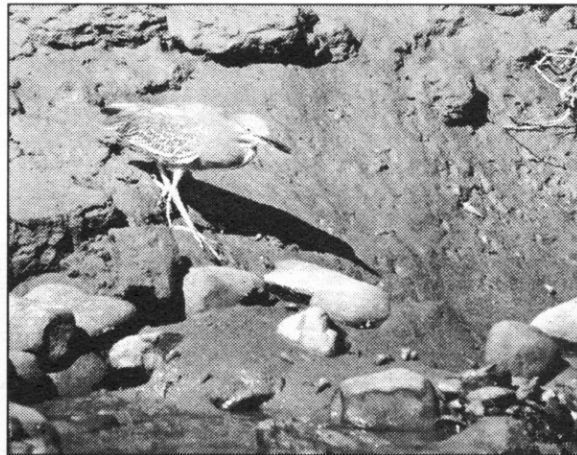
Paul Keller, 968-7804, wrentit@verizon.net

Take 101 to the Storke/Glen Annie exit in Goleta.

Proceed south on Storke Rd to the Jack-in-the-Box parking lot near the SE corner of Storke Rd and Hollister Ave. Car pool from here.

If you would like to meet us at Preserve be there at 8:30 a.m. To get to the Preserve take 101 north to Santa Maria and proceed west on 166 to the river mouth. Enter the Preserve and continue on to the beach parking lot.

Come with footwear for sand, soft mud and water. Dress in warm layers for chilly foggy breeze. Scopes useful. Back by about 1:00 p.m. so bring water and maybe a snack. **Nancy Sandburg**, from the Center for Natural Lands Management, will be our docent as we bird an area normally off limits during this, the Snowy Plover breeding season.



Green Heron, Carpinteria Salt Marsh.

Photo by Anthony Galvan III.

Take 101 to the Glen Annie/Storke exit. Proceed south on Storke Rd to its end and turn right onto Slough Rd. Go 0.1 mile and turn left on West Campus Lane. Go 0.1 mile to the Orfalea Family Children's Center and park between the Center and the horse stables.

If time permits we'll walk around the slough first going to the beach. Wear shoes for walking on trails, sand and maybe tar. If you're not up for a long walk, join us anyway and turn back whenever you have reached half your limit. Bring water if it's

warm. Scopes are useful if you don't mind carrying them for this long walk. I'll bring mine. Trip over by 7:30 p.m.

Show your appreciation for the people who cleaned this area in the morning as part of the **Coastal Clean-Up Day** by joining us for this sunset bird walk. Last year birding was so good we barely made it to the beach.

Thank You!

Let's all show our appreciation to the following leaders who made the past year's bird outings such a success: **Karen Bridgers**, **Jeff Chemnick**, **Dave Compton**, **Jim Hodgson**, **Tom Keeney**, **Rob Lindsay**, **Mark Holmgren**, **Cruz Phillips**, **Jack Sanford**, **Brad Schram**, **Guy Tingos** and **Paul Keller**. **Lee Carr** and **T. Shelley** (Lone Star Ranch), **Pat Hollenbaugh** (Naval Base Ventura County), **Bill Kohlmeier** (Ventura County Game Preserve), and **Wendie Kruthers** (Hollister Ranch Conservancy) also deserve our gratitude for their hospitality and help with arrangements. Thanks as well to all of you, especially to you first timers, for birding with us.



California Costal Clean-Up Day Volunteer Work Day for the Environment Beach Clean-Up – Coal Oil Point Saturday, September 21st, 9:00 a.m. to noon

Saturday, September 21st is Costal Clean-Up Day throughout California. On the South Coast, SBAS members, friends and volunteers pitch in each year to help clean the beaches around Coal Oil Point and Devereux Slough. We need volunteers.

Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the gate end of Devereux Dr, UCSB West Campus (at the traffic light where Storke Rd ends—Devereux Dr is the narrow lane across from the light bearing right). Parking passes provided.



Bring comfortable shoes for walking on sand. Bring sturdy gloves. Instructions, bags and prizes will be provided. Our area generally covers the beach from the middle of Isla Vista to the edge of Elwood Mesa. For speed and efficiency we work in

teams of 2 to 4 people, which make the cleanup easier and more social.

This is a chance to interact with the Snowy Plover Docent crew and see the plovers when UCSB is out and the beach is relatively quiet. Volunteers should either leave their names and number at the office, 964-1468, or come on Saturday at 9:00 a.m. Hope to see you all there!

Central Coast Birding Rally Oct 4th - 6th

Showcasing northern Santa Barbara County sites on the Central Coast Birding Trail, the fifth annual Central Coast Birding

Rally will be held the weekend of October 4 - 6. A reception to acquaint visitors to the area will be held on Friday evening. The Rally itself will run from 7 a.m. to noon on Saturday followed by a Santa Maria style bar-b-cue with awards and an auction of birding related items Saturday afternoon. A tour of trail sites will be offered on Sunday morning. The entire event is free to participants having been funded by La Purisima Audubon Society and the business community of northern Santa Barbara County.

For more information visit our web page at:

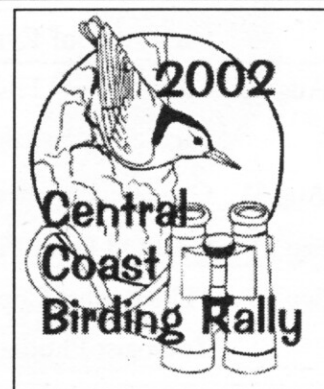
<http://lpas.westhost.com/rally>

or write:

LPAS

PO Box 2045

Lompoc, CA 93438



Volunteer Habitat Restoration Opportunities for August & September

Please come out and make a tangible contribution to wildlife habitat and water quality improvement. There are three wonderful locations to volunteer.

The Goleta Slough site is on Tecolotito Creek near Goleta Beach Park. This project is managed by SBAS. Contact Megan Snover, Volunteer Coordinator, at megansnover@hotmail.com or 451-8840, or Project Manager Darlene Chirman at dchirman@rain.org or 692-2008.

We help recruit volunteers for the Arroyo Hondo Preserve, where we are assisting in expanding the riparian corridor. The turn-off from Highway 101 is right after Call Box 101-412. After our workday in the morning, you are free to take a hike in the wonderful canyon. Call the Land Trust at 966-4520 to sign up.

We also aid the Coal Oil Point Reserve in restoration efforts to protect the Snowy Plover and Devereux Slough. Dates are not yet scheduled, but contact COPR Director Cris Sandoval at sandoval@lifesci.ucsb.edu or 893-5092 to find out. We have a great time—come help!

Date	Location	Contact
Sun, Aug 4, 9:00am-12:30pm	Call to let the Land Trust know you're planning to come—bring a lunch	Land Trust
Sat, Aug 17, 8:30am-2:30pm	Tecolotito Creek Restoration—meet Goleta Beach County Park	Megan
Sun, Sep 1, 9:00am-12:30pm	Call to let the Land Trust know you're planning to come—bring a lunch	Land Trust
Sat, Sep 14, 8:30am-2:30pm	Tecolotito Creek Restoration—meet Goleta Beach County Park	Megan

Calendar of Events

- Aug 28 "The Natural History of the Pacific Rattlesnake" Program
- Aug 31 Guadalupe Dunes Preserve Field
- Sep 21 Coal Oil Point Field Trip
- Sep 25 "The Perfect Combination—Zoologist-Photographer" Program

Volunteers Needed!

Want to lead a bird walk? You don't need to be an expert; you only need a desire to share your enthusiasm about birds. For more information please contact **Paul Keller** at 968-7804 or wrentit@verizon.net.



El Tecolote is published 6 times a year by the **Santa Barbara Audubon Society, Inc.** Members are invited to send announcements, letters, articles, photos and drawings for consideration to:

SBAS, Bill and Elaine Uomini, Editors
5679 Hollister Avenue, Suite 5B
Goleta, CA 93117

or e-mail: eltecote@cox.net

Submission deadline is the 10th of the month.

SBAS July 2001/June 2002

(805) 964-1468, audubon@rain.org

www.rain.org/~audubon/

Officers

President	Darlene Chirman	692-2008	dchirman@rain.org
Vice President	Satie Airame	965-0895	satie.airame@noaa.gov
Secretary	Ginny Turner		vturner@juno.com
Treasurer	Elizabeth Price	687-3966	earthpics@cox.net

Board Members/Chairs

Conservation	Dave Wass	682-6962	david.wass@gte.net
Education	Catherine Graham	682-1357	
Field Trips	Paul Keller	968-7804	wrentit@verizon.net
Membership Chair	Lee Moldaver	682-2120	audubon@rain.org
Newsletter	Bill & Elaine Uomini	964-9401	eltecote@cox.net
Programs	Sylvia Curtis	682-8005	sylviayc@yahoo.com
Publicity	Sheila Golburgh-Johnson	682-4618	chtodel@gss.ucsb.edu
Science	Kendy Radasky	961-9378	kradasky@aol.com
At-Large-Outreach	Christine Cowles	568-5370	ccltsbc@silcom.com
At-Large-Outreach	Victoria Woodard-Harvey	965-6355	mwright@silcom.com
At-Large-Outreach	Anna Nicholas	681-9141	ripacityfilms@earthlink.net

Appointed Positions

Eyes In The Sky	Gabriele Drozdowski	898-0347	pelican7@cox.net
Hospitality	Don & Florence Stivers	967-3690	
Membership database	Patrick McNulty	967-9900	mcnulty@gte.net
Nominating Com.	Sally Walker	569-5388	walker160@cox.net
Rare Bird Alert	Recent rare bird sightings	964-8240	
Report Rare Bird	Karen Bridgers	964-1316	kbridgers@msn.com
Webmaster	Bobbie Offen	684-0160	bobbieo@earthlink.net

Officers and Chairs meet the 2nd Wednesday of the month. Members are welcome to attend.

Call SBAS office to verify dates and times. FAX: 967-7718. Cover art by Daryl Harrison.

El Tecolote

Santa Barbara Audubon Society, Inc.
5679 Hollister Avenue, Suite 5B
Goleta, CA 93117

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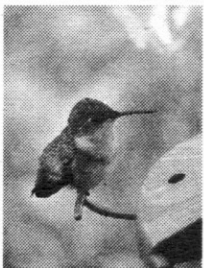


Photo by Joanie Dawson.

or current resident

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