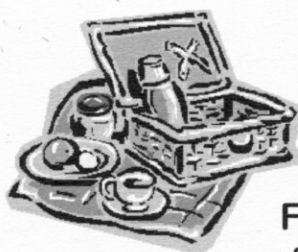


El Tecolote

Newsletter of the Santa Barbara Audubon Society, Inc.
Volume 41, Issue 6 June/July 2003



Annual Potluck and Get-together Celebrating 40 Years of Volunteers, Service, Fun, Birding and Nature Sunday, July 20, 4 pm – 7 pm

Location: Stevens Park, Santa Barbara

Directions: Stevens Park is located at 258 Canon Drive. From 101 take Las Positas north towards State Street. As you pass State Street, look immediately to your left, and turn left on Canon Drive. Follow Canon Drive for about 1/2 mile through a residential neighborhood. The park is well marked; be on the lookout for the parking lot and for Audubon and Stevens Park signs. Parking is limited, please carpool when possible.

All who have supported and have participated in **SBAS** activities are invited to a celebration potluck-picnic. These include:

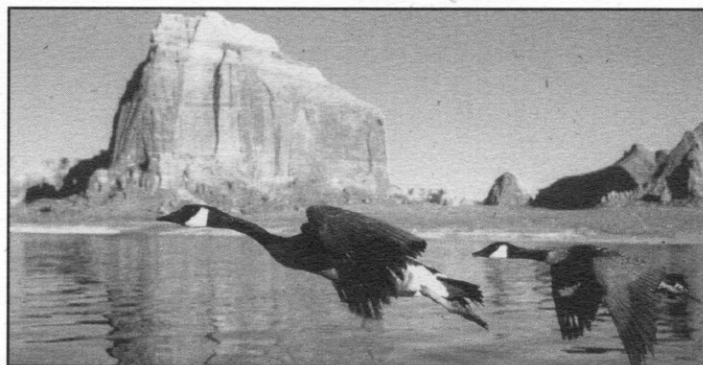
- Plover docents and all who help with the Plover Docent and Education programs
- EYES IN THE SKY & MEET YOUR WILD NEIGHBOR program teachers, students, parents, guests and volunteers
- **SBAS** restoration, conservation & preservation groups
- Devereux Wetlanders
- Seabird Migration count
- all who have participated in **SBAS** activities in any way, big or small

Please bring a dish to share (a salad, an entree, a dessert, etc). Those wishing to barbeque can use the barbeque pit maintained by the event committee. **SBAS** will furnish non-alcoholic drinks, a 40th anniversary cake, coals for the barbecue grill, utensils and plates.

This is our way of saying thank you for all your support for **SBAS** programs, field trips, conservation efforts and other events. In the last ten years there has been a surprising increase in the number of people involved in **SBAS**'s activities. Preservation, restoration and conservation of habitat along with increased awareness of birds and other

Continued on Page 2

Save This Date: June 5 “WINGED MIGRATIONS” Benefit



On Thursday, June 5, there will be a special benefit screening of the Academy Award (Best Documentary) nominated film “WINGED MIGRATIONS,” about the cycles of international bird migrations. This prize-winning 90 minute feature by **Jacques Perrin**, “the French David Attenborough,” follows scores of bird species from around the world through their annual migrating and mating rituals, and employs some of the most amazing camera angles ever produced. Following a recent screening at Sony Studios, Audubon California State Director **Jerry Secundy** echoed the entire audience when he said, “Even after 25 years of birding, I am awe-struck.”

The screening will be a benefit for **SBAS**'s science, nature, and education programs, in celebration of **SBAS**'s 40th anniversary. It will be preceded by a brief overview by a top California bird migration expert, and followed by a delightful reception and by more detailed comments, explaining southern California's role on the “international flyway” seen during the film. Tickets for this benefit screening are just \$15, including the reception and door prizes. For more details call the **SBAS** office at 964-1468.

Reservations strongly advised as seating will be limited. Please mail checks to:

Santa Barbara Audubon Society
WINGED MIGRATIONS Benefit
5679 Hollister Ave., Suite 5B
Santa Barbara, CA 93117

or leave your name, phone number, and number in your party at the **SBAS** office at 964-1468.

The EYES IN THE SKY Baby Owl Mouse Fund

By Gabriele Drozdowski



Max offers his latest orphan chick a mouse. Photo by Gabriele Drozdowski.

You may recall that each year **Max**, our Great Horned Owl, raises orphaned baby Great Horned Owl chicks that eventually get released back into the wild. A devoted dad, Max raised 11 such chicks in 2001, 19 in 2002, and this year he's up to 7.

These beautiful young creatures have a hearty appetite (they eat 3 to 5 mice each day), and this runs up a bill quickly — at 53 cents per mouse. You can help out by sponsoring a chick. \$15.00 feeds one chick for one week. If you would like to help please send your tax-deductible check to:

Santa Barbara Audubon Society
c/o EYES IN THE SKY
761 N. La Cumbre Rd.
Santa Barbara, CA 93110

Condor Watch

By Steve Ferry

On April 22 and 23 my friend **Bob Jensen** and I observed an active condor nest in the Sespe Condor Sanctuary, near Fillmore. We were working as volunteers for the US Fish and Wildlife Service. The observation blind is on a steep chaparral-covered slope across a deep canyon from the cliff where the nest cave is. It has a 60-power telescope and a radio telemetry scanner by which condors are tracked and identified.

The nest that we were watching is the only condor nest in the Sanctuary this year. When we arrived, female #111 was incubating. She came out briefly during the morning, stretched, then returned to the nest. About an hour later she came out again, but this time took off for about a ten-minute flight. The next day, #111 took off in the late morning and was replaced a few minutes later by her mate, #125. As I walked from the campsite to the observation point, about noon, another condor flew over close by and continued down the canyon. A few minutes later, yet another flew right over the blind.

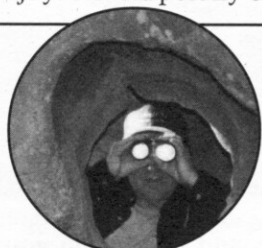
After an absence of about two hours, #111 came back to the nest. The two condors stood apart for a few minutes, then joined each other and nibbled each other's head and shoulders. #111 then went back to incubating and #125 took off. This was the end of the nest activity for the day.

When the condors are deep in the nest cave they are difficult or impossible to see. However, we know when they're there by radio telemetry. Telemetry also indicated that there were several other condors in the area. Later in the afternoon I saw two condors roosting in trees on a nearby ridge and two others soaring in the far distance.

Although the hike into the condor nest is somewhat difficult, the nest-watching experience was quite enjoyable. Hopefully by the time you read this there will be a healthy chick in the nest carrying on the condor legacy!



Nest cave from blind. Photo by Steve Ferry.



*Hope to see you all there!
Photo by Gary Seyle.*

Continued from Page 1

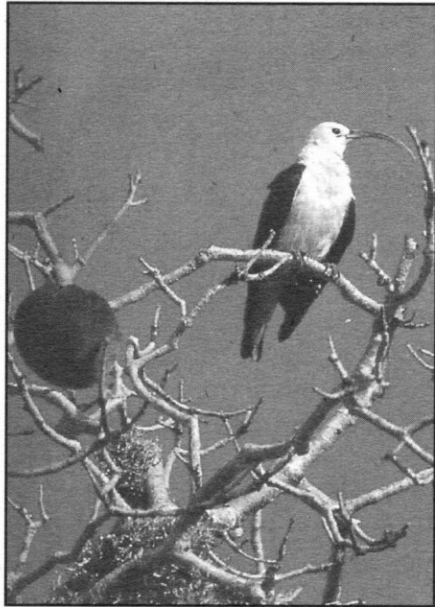
wildlife could not happen without you! Your efforts, dedication and enthusiasm have made it all possible.

We will also have a short program and a bird walk. We will conduct our annual Board of Directors election (see the slate of nominees on page 5). The bird walk, led by **Paul Keller**, will start at 6:00 in the park. We will go up the Jesusita Trail along San Roque Creek.

For further information call **Sylvia**, 453-9412; or **Dave**, 683-0705.

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 pm, doors open at 7:00 pm, and are free to the public. SBAS members are encouraged to bring guests.

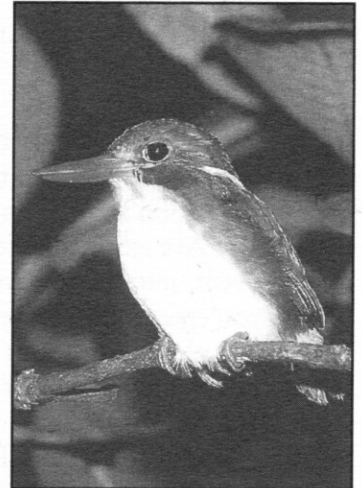


Sickle Billed Vanga

some of their adventures, visuals of some of the people, scenery, and problems of the Island of Madagascar, which is located off the south-east coast of Africa. Please join us for this great program.

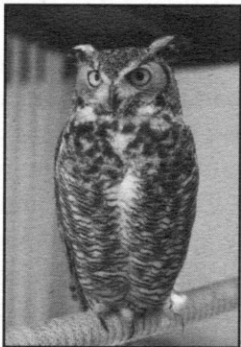
Madagascar — Vanishing Eden Julie McLeod and David Chartrand, Speakers Wednesday, June 25

Julie McLeod and David Chartrand took a memorable ecological trip to Madagascar last October. "Vanishing Eden" was the title of their two week ElderHostel trip. Some of the indigenous birds they saw included: Madagascar harrier hawk, kestrel, partidge turtle dove, blue pigeon, cuckoo, nightjar, hoopoe, lark, wagtail, magpie-robin, paradise flycatcher as well as 7 different species of vanga, ground rollers, couas — in all, 95 species. In addition to these unusual birds they saw many indigenous flora: euphorbias, baobab trees, orchids; and fauna: lemurs, sifikas, chameleons and leeches. David and Julie will share with us a few of their 1000 photographs of birds, the wildlife, as well as



Mad Pygmy Kingisher

EYES IN THE SKY in the spotlight!



Meet **Max**, the Great-horned Owl

Join the **Santa Barbara Audubon Society**
and the Environmental Defense Center for

TGIF – Thank Goodness It's Friday

Friday, August 1, 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm

906 Garden Street, Santa Barbara

Cost: \$10 at the door

(includes 2 drinks & hors d'oeuvres)

For more information call EDC at 963-1622.

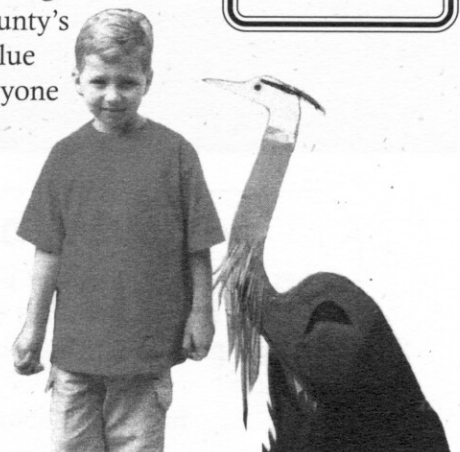
Earth Day a Success

By Catherine Graham

Both Earth Day festivities — at Stow Grove Park and at the Courthouse — were fun successful events. Both were well attended with many people stopping to chat at the **SBAS** booth.

Children participated by coloring owl hand puppets and by measuring themselves against Santa Barbara County's tallest bird — the Great Blue Heron. Thank you to everyone who helped in the **SBAS's** booth and to everyone who helped make these Earth Day events such a pleasure!

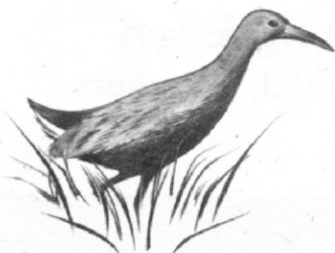
HOW TALL
R YOU?
GREAT BLUE
HERON
IS 46" TALL!
(tail to beak)





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.



Clapper Rail

Carpinteria Salt Marsh Reserve

Carpinteria

Friday, July 11, 6:30 pm

Target birds: Clapper Rail, shorebirds, waterfowl, Belding's Savannah Sparrow

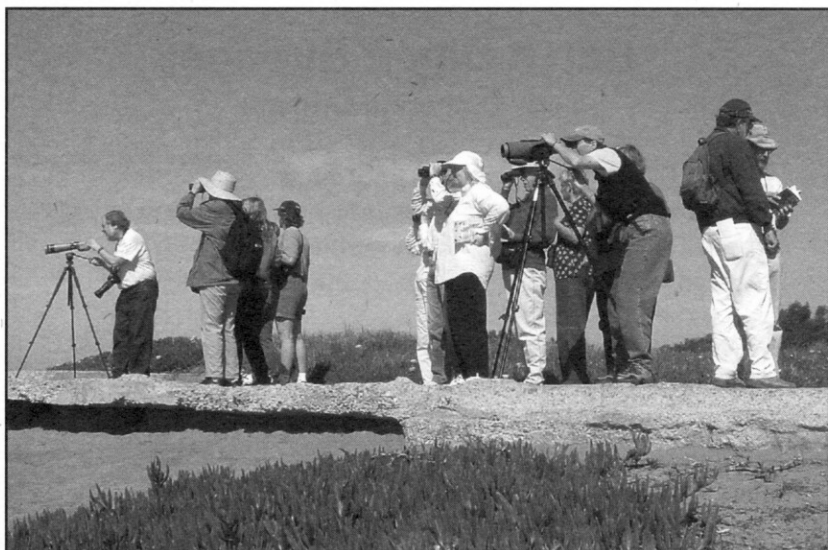
Leader: Wayne R. Ferren, Jr., 893-2506 (office)



To get to the Reserve from Ventura take the 101 north to Casitas Pass Rd. Head towards the ocean, and turn right on Carpinteria Ave. Drive west on Carpinteria Ave to Estero Way (Apple St on AAA map), turn left and drive to the gate. From Santa Barbara take 101 south to the Carpinteria Ave exit and take Carpinteria Ave to Estero Way (1st right). Walk past the gate, normally locked but open for this event, into the reserve.

As you enter the Reserve notice a small kiosk on your right. You must fill out a release form that you'll find in the kiosk. Also please enter your name in the registry. The trip ends at dusk when we hope that the incoming tide will flush the increasingly rare Clapper Rails into view. Come promptly at 6:30 with a sack dinner and relax at the picnic table or come anytime later and join us.

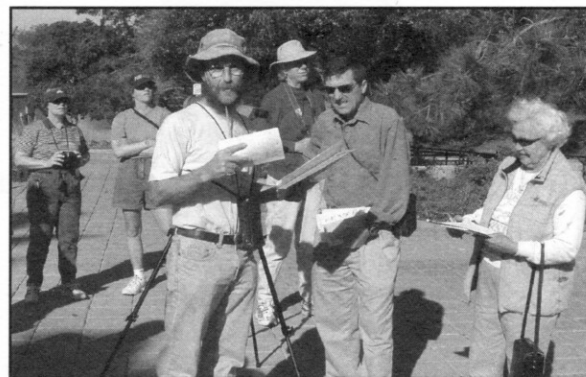
Last March at Farrand Hall Wayne, the former manager of the Reserve, showed us the diversity of California's wetlands with his talk "The Land of Life-giving Waters." Please join us for Wayne's personal account of the ecology and history of this special place.



UCSB Lagoon Field Trip Report

Notes and Photos by Roger C. Millikan

On March 22, Paul Keller led an Audubon field trip to the UCSB lagoon and Campus Point. We saw Hooded Orioles, and a Peregrine Falcon among other birds onshore. Offshore were Black Scoters, Elegant Terns, and many gulls. On the lagoon we spied Hooded Mergansers, Pied-billed Grebes, Snowy and Great Egrets, and many other birds.



New Web Site!

Other Audubon chapters offer interesting field trips and events too! Visit this site to schedule birding trips and participate in events all over California:

<http://audubon-ca.org>

Santa Barbara Audubon Society

Slate of Nominees, 2003-2004

<i>President:</i>	Darlene Chirman
<i>Vice-President:</i>	Lee Moldaver
<i>Secretary:</i>	Susan Lentz
<i>Treasurer:</i>	Ginny Turner
<i>Field Trips:</i>	Paul Keller
<i>Programs Chair:</i>	Open
<i>Conservation:</i>	Dave Wass
<i>Education:</i>	Lisa Sobczak
<i>Science:</i>	Kendy Radasky
<i>Membership Chair:</i>	Steve Ferry
<i>Newsletter:</i>	Bill & Elaine Uomini
<i>Publicity:</i>	Natasha Carr
<i>At Large-Outreach:</i>	Christine Cowles
<i>At Large-Outreach:</i>	Open
<i>At Large-Outreach:</i>	Open

Congratulations Science Fair Audubon Award Winners!

By Kendy Radasky

Between April 13 and 17, young scientists from junior high and high schools all around Santa Barbara County submitted their science projects to the Santa Barbara County Science Fair, held at the Santa Barbara County Education Office, on Cathedral Oaks Road. **SBAS** was pleased to present special awards of \$50 each to two budding ecologists, **Jonathan Voos** (Sr. Division) and **Zoe Walp** (Jr. Division) for their projects on the fire ecology of SB County and diet composition in great-horned owls (respectively). These two students' projects were complimentary to the primary concerns and goals of **SBAS**: namely protection and preservation of natural habitats through scientific investigation and education.



Way to go, Zoe and Jonathan! Keep up the great work!

June & July Volunteer Restoration Opportunities

Come help restore our wildlife habitats at the Coal Oil Point Reserve, Arroyo Hondo Preserve or Tabano Hallow. To volunteer at Coal Oil Point Reserve contact **SBAS** Restoration Volunteer Coordinator **Ken Owen** at islands@rain.org or 568-1507; or contact Project Manager **Darlene Chirman** at dchirman@rain.org or 692-2008; or check our **SBAS** website at www.rain.org/~audubon. To volunteer at the Arroyo Hondo Preserve please RSVP the Land Trust Volunteer Coordinator **Jane Murray** at ltvolunteer@yahoo.com or 684-4405. To find out more about Tabano Hollow contact **Liz Mason** of County Parks at Lmason@co.santa-barbara.ca.us or 688-4515.

Date	Time	Place	Contact
Sun, June 1	9 am-12:30	Arroyo Hondo Preserve, bring a lunch, hike afterwards if you like	Jane Murray
Sat, June 7	9 am-12:30	Coal Oil Point Reserve, north shore, meet Storke Rd & Whittier Dr	Ken Owen
Sun, July 6	9 am-12:30	Arroyo Hondo Preserve, bring a lunch, hike afterwards if you like	Jane Murray
Sat, July 19	9 am-12:30	Coal Oil Point Reserve, north shore, meet Storke Rd & Whittier Dr	Ken Owen

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:

National Audubon Society

Membership Data Center

P. O. Box 52529

Boulder, CO 80322-2529

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State/Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Calendar of Events

Jun 5 Film: "WINGED MIGRATIONS"
 Jun 25 Prog: Madagascar - Vanishing Eden
 Jul 11 Field Trip: Carpinteria Salt Marsh
 Jul 20 Annual Potluck and Get-together
 Aug 1 TGIF

Ellwood Mesa Campaign Update

By the time you read this the contributions of **SBAS** members and the chapter will have reached \$5,000, and helped attain the matching funds from the Challenge Grant of \$500,000 from the Goleta Valley Land Trust. With contributions like yours we can make the \$6 million local contribution goal by the end of June. If you haven't sent in your donation yet, please send it to:

*The Trust for Public Land —
 Ellwood Mesa Campaign*

P.O. Box 1244, Goleta, CA 93116

This is our last and best chance to preserve the Ellwood Mesa!

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 2002/June 2003

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

OFFICERS

<i>President:</i> Darlene Chirman	692-2008	dchirman@rain.org
<i>Vice-President:</i> Open		
<i>Secretary:</i> Susan Lentz	968-6011	
<i>Treasurer:</i> Ginny Turner		vtf7@juno.com

BOARD MEMBERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

<i>Field Trips:</i> Paul Keller	968-7804	wrentit@verizon.net
<i>Programs Co-Chair:</i> Sylvia Curtis	962-9554	sylviaorg@yahoo.com
<i>Programs Co-Chair:</i> Open		
<i>Conservation:</i> Dave Wass	683-0705	david.wass@cox.net
<i>Education:</i> Lisa Sobczak	683-2009	asobczak@ix.netcom.com
<i>Science:</i> Kendy Radasky	961-9378	kradasky@aol.com
<i>Membership Chair:</i> Lee Moldaver		audubon@rain.org
<i>Newsletter:</i> Bill & Elaine Uomini	964-9401	eltecote@cox.net
<i>Publicity:</i> Natasha Carr	967-1383	tahi4@cox.net
<i>At Large-Outreach:</i> Christine Cowles	957-0086	ccowles@sblandtrust.org
<i>At Large-Outreach:</i> Anna Nicholas	681-9141	ripacityfilms@earthlink.net
<i>At Large-Outreach:</i> Victoria Harvey	962-2009	mwright@silcom.com

APPOINTED POSITIONS

<i>Membership data:</i> Patrick McNulty	967-9900	mcnulty@gte.net
<i>Webmaster:</i> Bobbie Offen	684-0160	bobbieo@earthlink.net
<i>Nominating Committee:</i> Sally Walker	569-5388	walker160@cox.net
<i>Eyes In The Sky:</i> Gabriele Drozdowski	898-0347	pelican7@cox.net
<i>Snowy Plover Docent Prog:</i> Jennifer Stroh	880-1195	
<i>Hospitality:</i> Don & Florence Stivers	967-3690	
<i>Report Rare Birds:</i> Karen Bridgers	964-1316	kbridgers@msn.com
<i>Hear Rare Bird Report</i>	964-8240	

Officers and Chairs meet the 2nd Wednesday of the month. Members are welcomed 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

*Dated material, please expedite
 June 2003*

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*Where did this baby owl get this mouse?
 (Answer on Page 2)*

or current resident