

El Tecolote

Newsletter of the Santa Barbara Audubon Society, Inc.
Volume 43, Issue 2 October/November 2004



Waldorf Students + Birds + Habitat Restoration = Self Esteem and Responsible Citizens

By Mary Thieme, Gardening and Field Studies Teacher

This last school year, sixth grade students from the Waldorf School of Santa Barbara were lucky enough to participate in the riparian restoration work currently underway on the SB Museum of Natural History grounds. **Darlene Chirman** is the restoration biologist for the project and sponsored our participation. Darlene and her

volunteers devoted considerable personal time to the class, teaching us about native plants, and guiding and supervising specially scheduled planting opportunities. We rounded out our field studies year with ecology lessons focusing on the water cycle and healthy watersheds, plant and animal communities, native plants and biological diversity.

Through **SBAS's** education committee, **Catherine Graham** loaned binoculars to each of our students so that we could study our local birds. Our birding expeditions, and subsequent drawing and nature writing was a favorite activity among the students. Many, many thanks to Darlene and her volunteers, Catherine, and **SBAS** for supporting the education of young students in this very



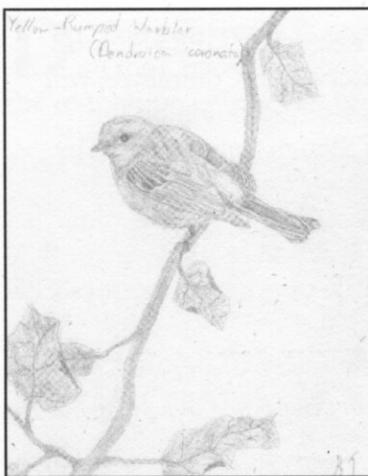
Townsend's Warbler by Roman Laszlo

important way. In facilitating their access to this work, you have made it possible for them to make a real contribution to our community. Young students need to know that they can make a difference, that their thoughts and actions count, and that they are valued as community members. You showed them! They feel honored to have participated and very proud of their efforts.

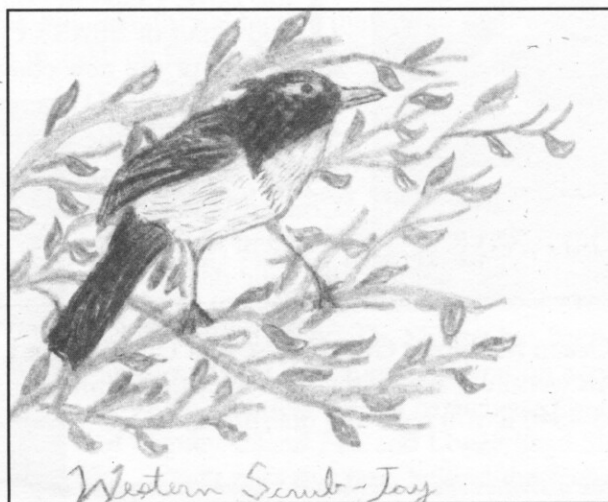
Note: All of these wonderful drawings were done by students in Grade 6!



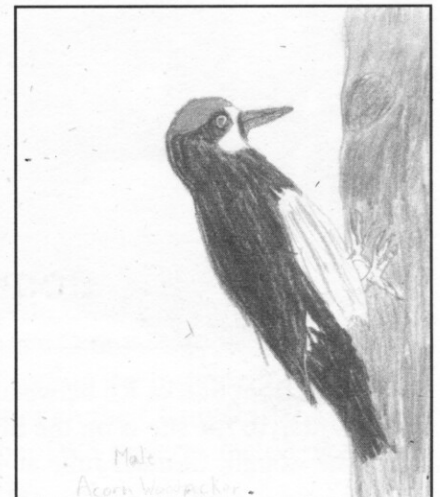
Oak Titmouse by Alyssa Monroe



Yellow-rumped Warbler
by Roman Laszlo



Western Scrub Jay by Quinn Dawson



Male Acorn Woodpecker
by Quinn Dawson

Coming November 6 & 7 A Benefit for Coal Oil Point Reserve!

On Saturday & Sunday, November 6 & 7, from 11:00 am to 5:00 pm, SCAPE (Southern California Artists Painting for the Environment) and Friends of Coal Oil Point will host an Art Exhibit and Sale in the La Arcada Court/Library Arts Plaza to benefit the Coal Oil Point Reserve Program. The show will feature paintings reflecting the natural beauty of our coastal landscape with special focus on Devereux Lagoon and its environs. There also will be music and refreshments.

Under the direction of Dr. **Cristina Sandoval** and Reserve Steward **Julie Love** (our **SBAS** Conservation Chair) the award-winning Reserve Program has restored and protected this important coastal habitat, and brought about the impressive recovery of a once-declining Snowy Plover population. **SBAS** volunteers have played an important role in both restoration projects and through the Snowy Plover Docent program. The Reserve and its successes were featured in a recent article in Audubon Magazine.

In May 2004, SCAPE helped **SBAS** raise over \$5,000 with a similar art sale. This is your chance to help support the important work being done at Coal Oil Point Reserve, and to support SCAPE, an organization of artists dedicated to raising money for environmental causes.

Hope to see you all there!



heads west from Storke Rd between Ocean Meadows Golf Course and UCSB Family housing. The gate will be open. A map to the site is on the **SBAS** website. Park on the right after the summer crossing where Devereux Creek enters the slough. Contact Julie at 453-4840 if you have any questions.

For a complete schedule of Creek Week activities check the website, www.countyofsb.org/project_cleanwater, or contact **Darcy Aston** of SB County Water Agency, 568-3546.

Please join us for
a perfect fall afternoon in a magical private garden

WILDLIFE IN THE GARDEN

a benefit for
THE SB WILDLIFE CARE NETWORK
CAMPAIGN TO BUILD A PERMANENT
WILDLIFE CARE CENTER

Saturday, October 9

2:00 pm to 5:00 pm

Creekspring, 1000 Mission Canyon Road *

Wine and wildlife

Wildlife art by **Patti Jacquemain**

Snacks and entertainment

Exciting raffle prizes!

\$30 advance sales - tickets held at the door

\$40 day of event

RSVP with checks by October 5

SB Wildlife Care Network Capital Campaign

PO Box 6594, Santa Barbara, CA 93160

* No parking at event

Complimentary shuttle bus service from Rockwood
SB Woman's Club, 670 Mission Canyon Road

Creek Week (and a half)

October 2 - 10

Tour of Coal Oil Point Restoration Site

Tuesday, October 5, 4:00 pm - 5:30 pm

Julie Love, Coal Oil Point Reserve (COPR) Steward and Chair of **SBAS**'s Conservation Committee, will lead a tour of the now-completed restoration on the northern margin of Devereux Slough (implemented by **SBAS**) and of the newly-started restoration area at the eastern end of the slough. The Community Environmental Council Watershed Restoration Program, the grant recipient for this phase of COPR restoration, is sponsoring the tour.

The meeting place will be on Venoco Road, which

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.



Tree Swallow Nest & Banding Project

Jan Wasserman, Speaker

Wednesday, October 27

Jan Wasserman, a birder since 1986, started monitoring 20 Tree Swallow nest boxes in Ventura County in 1991. She was trying to create new homes for displaced birds and, in this process, helped fledge 50 baby Tree Swallows. The project has now been running for 14 years and has expanded from Ventura to Orange, Los Angeles and

San Luis Obispo Counties. In 2001 the project reached a high of over 1,000 fledged Tree Swallows! The current count for 2004 now stands at over 750. The project has uncovered new insight into the nesting behavior of Tree Swallows, as well as documenting nest site fidelity and the re-colonization of historic breeding areas.

Ideally **SBAS** would like to expand this wonderful project to our area and help Tree Swallows to nest on the south coast. Please join us for an enlightening and uplifting evening learning about this very successful project!



Eagle Reintroduction on the Channel Islands

Dr. Peter Sharpe, Speaker

Wednesday, December 8

(note special date)

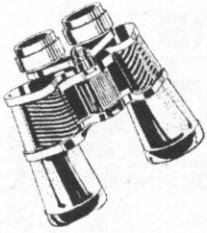
Dr. Peter Sharpe will present a program on the history and current status of Bald Eagles on the Channel Islands. He will also discuss factors that led to their decimation, and the restoration efforts that began in 1980 on Santa Catalina Island and in 2002 on Santa

Cruz Island. The program will include both slides and a video of the restoration efforts.

Dr. Sharpe received his Bachelor's Degree in Ecology/Ethology from the University of Illinois. He continued his education studying Ruffed Grouse ecology and completed his Master's Degree in Zoology at Southern Illinois University. Dr. Sharpe attended Colorado State University for his Ph.D., studying the behavioral ecology of Townsend's Ground Squirrels in southwestern Idaho. Dr. Sharpe has been directing the Institute for Wildlife Studies (IWS) Bald Eagle restoration activities on the Channel Islands since 1997. In addition, he has participated in other IWS projects, including studies of Osprey, Island Fox and Loggerhead Shrike.

Don't miss this rare, behind-the-scenes story of Bald Eagles on the Channel Islands. Come join us for this informative and enjoyable program.





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.

Friday Bird Walks To Continue!

By popular demand the walks will continue on the first and third Fridays of each month from 8:30 am to 10:30 am. Please contact Field Trip Chair **Jack Sanford**, 566-2191, jacksanford@hotmail.com, if you are interested in leading a future trip or if you have any questions.

Friday, Oct 1, Carpinteria Salt Marsh Nature Park

Trip leader: Mary Thompson, 965-9995, marydee@earthlink.net

From SB take 101 south to Linden. Go south on Linden to the end and turn right on Sandyland. Go to the end of Sandyland and park.

Friday, Oct 15, Rocky Nook Park

Trip Leader: Jack Sanford

From 101 take Mission northeast (towards the mountains) to Laguna. Turn left on Laguna and right on Los Olivos. Los Olivos runs into Mission Canyon. Rocky Nook Park is on the right as you head towards the mountains.

Friday, Nov 5, Stevens Park

Trip Leader: Jack Sanford

From 101 take Las Positas north (towards mountains). Follow Las Positas until it becomes San Roque. Continue on San Roque, turn left on Calle Fresno and right on Cannon Drive. Stevens Park is on the right.

Friday, Nov 19, Winchester Canyon

Trip Leader: Jack Sanford

From SB take 101 north to the Winchester Canyon exit and turn north (right) on Winchester Canyon Rd. Continue on Winchester Canyon Rd across Cathedral Oaks. Turn right on Winchester Dr, left on Rio Vista Dr. and park near the open space area.



Devereux Slough

UCSB West Campus, Goleta

Saturday October 16, 8 am - 10:30 am

Target Birds: shorebirds including Snowy Plovers, water birds, wintering songbirds

Trip Leader: Robert Lindsay, 684-5373, capnbob@sbceo.org

Take 101 to the Glen Annie/Storke exit. Proceed south on Storke to the end and then left on El Colegio. Turn right on Camino Corto and right on Del Playa. Park at the end of Del Playa.

We will walk around the slough so wear shoes for walking on trails, sand and maybe tar. Bring water and dress in layers for fog, wind and sun. Scopes are useful if you don't mind carrying them.

For those new to our area please come and see why **Rob** has become such a popular leader as we explore one of his favorite birding places.

Las Cruzitas Ranch

near Santa Ynez

Saturday, November 13, 8:15 am - 2 pm

(at carpool place, drivers may appreciate gas money)

Target birds: Goldfinches, Buntings, Rufous-crowned Sparrow, Phainopepla, Yellow-billed Magpie, Prairie Falcon, Nuthatches, Hummingbirds and maybe a Golden Eagle

Trip leader: Cruz Phillips, 688-8233, cruzitas@aol.com

Car pooling is recommended as parking is limited. We will meet at Five Points Shopping Center (3925 State St, Carl's Jr) at 8:15 am. To meet us at the ranch take Hwy 154 to Armour Ranch Rd which is 3.3 miles west of Bradbury Dam (Lake Cachuma). Go north on Armour Ranch 1.4 miles and turn right on Happy Canyon. At 2.4 miles turn right on Alisos. At 0.7 miles the pavement ends at a cattle guard. Continue 2.6 miles straight past 2 more cattle guards to the barn and ranch.

We will arrive around 9:15 am and bird near the ranch house for about 2 hours, where there are a large numbers of feeders. Then we will take an easy walk around the general area. Bring water, a snack and even lunch if you would like. We will return to Five Points at around 2 pm.

Contact **Jack Sanford**, 566-2191, jacksanford@hotmail.com for any questions.

Youth Enrichment Adventures Summer Science Camp

By Julie Love, Conservation Chair

Have you ever heard a kid scream "Come and get your mulch!!!" at the top of their lungs because they were having so much fun planting? Have you ever met a kid that was so eager to learn native plants so they could eat something from nature? Well, these were just some of the typical things that went on this summer when **Darlene Chirman** and I lead the Habitat Restoration component of the Youth Enrichment Adventures science camp. The summer camp was designed by the UCSB Gevirtz Research Center and aims to teach 7th and 8th kids in Santa Barbara the importance of stewardship, leadership and environmentalism.

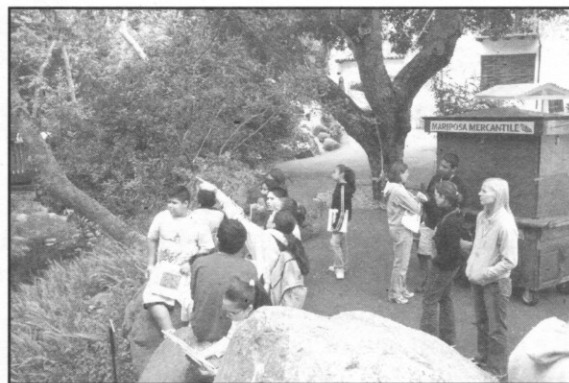
The 7th graders spent a week at the SB Museum of Natural History and UCSB's Coal Oil Point Reserve, while the 8th graders spent a week at SB Land Trust's Arroyo Hondo Preserve. We had a lot of fun while both groups spent their time learning and identifying native and non-native plants by taking hikes and observing what they came across on their travels. The kids got a chance to re-enforce their newfound knowledge by planting some native plants and enhancing



Photos by Darlene Chirman

those same areas by removing non-native species. The 8th graders applied these skills by designing Habitat Restoration Plans that will later on be proposed to the Land Trust. They also got a chance to show off what they learned during camp by leading 5th graders on a Restoration Tour around Arroyo Hondo. The 7th graders helped to design a better parking lot at the Museum of Natural History by combining what they knew about restoration and water quality.

The camp was a success! With tons of hands on experience the kids really learned a lot about habitat restoration and environmental issues. By the end of the camp they were able to use this experience to create plans that will not only help out the natural areas they visited, but also the Santa Barbara environment as a whole. Thanks to the Gevirtz Research Center for helping us to inspire more environmental leaders!



Eyes in the Sky Update

By Mary Thompson, Education Chair

SBAS and the SB Museum of Natural History are pleased to announce an exciting new joint project. A new mews to permanently house the disabled birds of prey currently maintained by SBAS's Eyes in the Sky (EITS) program will be built at the museum. This project will provide public access to the birds during museum operating hours. Interpretative displays and workshops and lectures are also planned. The EITS volunteer program will continue to feed and care for the birds – raptors and owls who have been rescued but who cannot be returned to the wild.

Many of Santa Barbara's primary school children have met Max and some of our other birds when they participated in Meet Your Wild Neighbor– a five-week educational program that teaches children about nature by focusing on the local birds that they encounter routinely in their lives. Other children and adults have met our birds at Earth Day or at one of EITS's community presentations. Now they can continue that relationship whenever they visit the museum. Additionally, having our birds on permanent display will provide an opportunity to increase public awareness about the birds that live here, draw attention to conservation issues and reflect SBAS's presence in our community.

While planning and construction are underway, EITS continues to need your support to house, feed and handle the 7 birds we permanently care for, the baby owls that Max raises each year and the injured raptors and owls that we rehabilitate on an ongoing basis. Donations for EITS are always appreciated. Please make your check payable to **Santa Barbara Audubon Society** and indicate that it is for Eyes in the Sky. For more information about our programs including our volunteer program, contact **Gabrielle Drozdowski** at 898-0347.

Membership News

By Steve Ferry, Membership Chair

We Need Your E-mail Address

SBAS has e-mail addresses for many members. However, many long-term members joined before e-mail existed, so we do not have their addresses. We would like to modernize our contacts with our members by communicating via e-mail. We'd like to inform you of upcoming field trips, programs, volunteer opportunities and action alerts for issues of local interest. Please send an e-mail message to sjferry@cox.net with your name and indicate which kind of alerts you'd like to receive:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Field trips | Volunteer opportunities: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Programs | <input type="checkbox"/> Eyes in the Sky |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Action alerts | <input type="checkbox"/> Restoration |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Special events | <input type="checkbox"/> Snowy Plover Docent |
| <input type="checkbox"/> All of the above | <input type="checkbox"/> Special Events |
| | (e.g. Earth Day booth) |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Science Projects |
| | (e.g. White Tail Kite) |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> All Volunteer |

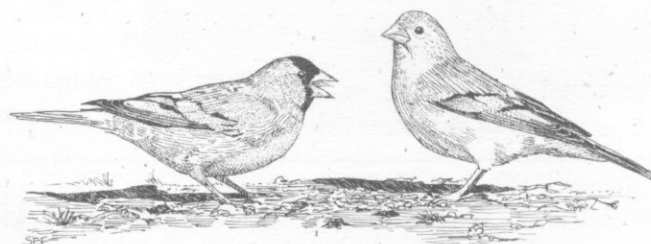
The **SBAS** e-mail list will only be used for **SBAS** business and will not be sold or shared with any other group.

We are also considering distributing **El Tecolote** via e-mail for those members who would prefer or posting the ET on our website. Doing so would reduce our mailing expenses. Please indicate in your e-mail how you would prefer to receive **El Tecolote**: e-mail, web site, or paper mail. Thank you.

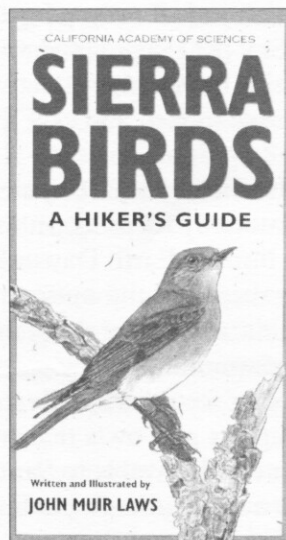
Welcome!

SBAS extends a warm welcome to our newest members. We look forward to seeing you at our programs and field trips. Thanks for joining!

J. Baird	Gayle Higby
Susan Belloni	Jennifer Howarth
Emilio Casanueva	Katherine Hunter
Kuang-Hui Chen	Audrey King
Joan Churchill	Margaret King
Sydney Cortright	David Lodge
Richard Costello	Lawrence Mason
Dan Dagget	Ladeen Miller
Robert Eichholz	James V. Nash
Christine Fernandez	Jeff Phillips
John Feters	Paul & Susan Poirier
Joachim Fischer	Shirley Roderick
Katheryne A Gaspar	Edward Schlesinger
Stephanie Glatt	Joan Schweigert
Ehrene Groff	John Shellabarger
Lois Hamilton	Glenn Stuart
Virginia Hawley	Norma Stuck



Lawrence's Goldfinches by Shawneen E. Finnegan



Sierra Birds: A Hiker's Guide

A book review by Bill Uomini

To a birder there is no such thing as too many bird books. This 64 page gem of a field guide can be appreciated by both beginning and experienced birders. Comprehensive, geographically specific, simply organized and lightweight *Sierra Birds: A Hiker's Guide* is a convenient size for hikers and backpackers.

More than 200 species are represented, arranged for easy identification by bird color and size, making it easily accessible to both children and beginning birders. The drawings are large and clear with color tabs for easy reference.

The author, **John Muir Laws** is a naturalist, artist and educator with the California Academy of Sciences in San Francisco. He has taught classes on ecology, biology and illustration. You can order this book for your next trip to the Sierras directly from the publisher at <http://heydaybooks.com>.

Volunteer Restoration Opportunities

Audubon helps recruit volunteers for habitat restoration for Coal Oil Point Reserve and Arroyo Hondo Preserve. Come help restore our local natural areas. To volunteer at Coal Oil Point contact **Julie Love**, jlove@lifesci.ucsb.edu, 453-4840, or **Darlene Chirman**, dchirman@rain.org, 692-2008. To volunteer at Arroyo Hondo contact Land Trust Volunteer Coordinator **Jane Murray**, ltvolunteer@yahoo.com, 684-4405.

Date	Time	Place	Contact
Sun, Oct 3	9am-12:30pm	Arroyo Hondo Preserve, bring a lunch, hike afterwards if you like	Jane
Sat, Oct 16	9am-noon	Coal Oil Point Reserve, contact for site	Julie
Sun, Nov 7	9am-12:30pm	Arroyo Hondo Preserve, bring a lunch, hike afterwards if you like	Jane
Sat, Nov 20	9am-noon	Coal Oil Point Reserve, contact for site	Darlene

Central Coast Birding Rally

October 8 - 10

Yes, it's that time again! This friendly competition is designed to showcase the many great birding sites in the Lompoc, Santa Ynez and Santa Maria areas and to have fun, bird and socialize. For more information, call **Dean Wineman** at 925-0304 or visit the La Purisima Audubon website:

<http://lpas.westhost.com>

Other Trips & Events

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>

State Audubon Assembly

November 17 - 18

Audubon California will be hosting an Audubon Assembly at the Radisson Hotel in Stockton on November 17 and 18. The Assembly is a statewide meeting open to all members and is a chance for Audubon activists, chapter leaders and staff to assemble, discuss and decide our legislative priorities for the coming year. Come and participate in the process that will help determine our policy agenda and the ways that we can work together to achieve it.

The conference theme this year is "**Building Constituencies for Bird Conservation**" and will feature a fantastic array of workshops and programs. There will also be a special trip to the Woodbridge Crane Reserve near Lodi to watch for the crane fly-in at dusk. Swans, ducks, geese, hawks, herons owls and other wildlife are often seen on these tours. For full details about the Assembly contact **Jill Shirley** at 530-795-0550 or jshirley@audubon.org. Or visit the website at www.audubon-ca.org.

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 _____

E-mail _____

Calendar of Events

- Oct 1 Bird Walk: Carpinteria Marsh
- Oct 2-9 Creek Week
- Oct 8-10 Central Coast Bird Rally
- Oct 9 Wildlife in the Garden
- Oct 15 Bird Walk: Rocky Nook Park
- Oct 16 Field Trip: Devereux Slough
- Oct 27 Program: Tree Swallow Project
- Nov 5 Bird Walk: Stevens Park
- Nov 6-7 Coal Oil Point SCAPE Benefit
- Nov 13 Field Trip: Las Cruzitas Ranch
- Nov 17-18 State Audubon Assembly
- Nov 19 Bird Walk: Winchester Canyon
- Dec 8 Program: Eagle Reintroduction



Check our website for any changes or late additions to our Bird Walks, Field Trips or Programs:

<http://www.rain.org/~audubon/>

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 2004/June 2005

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

<http://www.rain.org/~audubon/>

OFFICERS

<i>President:</i> Darlene Chirman	692-2008	dchirman@rain.org
<i>Vice-President:</i> Lee Moldaver	964-6477	audubon@rain.org
<i>Secretary:</i> Susan Lentz	968-6011	salentz@cox.net
<i>Treasurer:</i> Ginny Turner	964-6384	vtuner10@cox.net

BOARD MEMBERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

<i>Field Trips:</i> Jack Sanford	566-2191	jacksanford@hotmail.com
<i>Programs:</i> John O'Brien & Marsha MacDonald	962-7799	mlbm@cox.net
<i>Conservation:</i> Julie Love	453-4840	jlove@lifesci.ucsb.edu
<i>Education:</i> Mary Thompson	965-9995	marydee2@earthlink.net
<i>Science:</i> David Kisner	252-5036	d_kisner@cox.net
<i>Membership:</i> Steve Ferry	967-5162	sjferry@cox.net
<i>Newsletter:</i> Bill & Elaine Uomini	964-9401	eltecote@cox.net
<i>Publicity:</i> Ben Shalant	448-4447	kagawaben@hotmail.com
<i>At Large-Outreach:</i> Julie Kummel	964-9444	jkummel@rain.org
<i>At Large-Outreach:</i> John Walker	562-9911	johnskyw@hotmail.com
<i>At Large-Outreach:</i> Natasha Carr	967-1383	tahi4@cox.net

APPOINTED POSITIONS

<i>Webmaster:</i> Bobbie Offen	684-0160	bobbieo@cox.net
<i>Eyes In The Sky:</i> Gabriele Drozdowski	898-0347	pelican7@cox.net
<i>Snowy Plover Docent Prog:</i> Jennifer Stroh	961-9378	fivefive@hotmail.com
<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

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In This Issue... Our Future - Kids and the Environment!