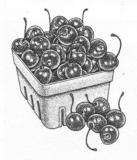
El Tecolote

Newsletter of the Santa Barbara Audubon Society, Inc. Volume 43, Issue 6 June/July 2005





Annual Membership Picnic

Saturday, July 23, 11 am - 3 pm Skofield Park, Area C

1819 Los Canoas Rd, Santa Barbara

We will gather under the oaks for our yearly potluck, sharing food, good conversation and Audubon adventures. Skofield Park offers a creek-side setting and hiking trails, ideal for nature walks and exploration.

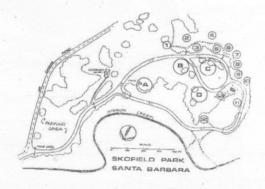
An optional pre-picnic natural history walk up Rattlesnake Trail with **David Kisner** and **Darlene Chirman** will begin at 11 am from the Skofield Park parking lot. We'll identify and talk about what we see — birds, plants, reptiles, animal signs...

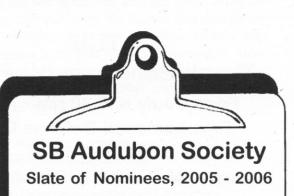
Picnic to begin at noon. Grill will be sizzling, bring a dish to share. The chapter will provide non-alcoholic beverages.

A short program will follow the picnic: First will be the election of the Board of Directors for the coming year (Slate of Nominees on right). We will then honor some special people who have contributed to **Santa Barbara Audubon** and the conservation and education we espouse. We'll also highlight some achievements of the past year.

This will be a great time to get reacquainted with old members and to meet the new ones!

Be there! The more, the merrier!





President Darlene Chirman Vice-President Lee Moldaver Secretary Susan Lentz Ginny Turner Treasurer Field Trips Chair Jack Sanford Programs Chair John O Brien Conservation Chair Julie Love Education Chair Patricia Malone Science Chair David Kisner Membership Chair Steve Ferry Newsletter Chair Open Publicity Chair Ben Shalant At Large-Outreach John Walker At Large-Outreach Julie Kummel At Large-Outreach Natasha Carr



Directions: Take Hwy 101 to Mission St and head towards the mountains. Turn left on Laguna St then right on Los Olivos St. Los Olivos St runs into Mission Canyon Rd. Continue on Mission Canyon Rd to the stop sign at Foothill Rd. Turn right on Foothill Rd and left on Mission Canyon Rd (across from Fire Station # 15). Turn right on Las Canoas Rd and proceed to Skofield Park.

Volunteer Restoration Opportunities

Audubon helps recruit volunteers for habitat restoration for Coal Oil Point Reserve and Arroyo Hondo Preserve. Come spend a morning in a beautiful bird habitat, helping 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. For Arroyo Hondo contact Land Trust Volunteer Coordinator Jane Murray, ltvolunteer@sblandtrust.org, 684-4405.

Date	Time	Place	Contact
Sun, June 5	9am-12:30pm	Arroyo Hondo Preserve, bring a lunch, hike afterwards if you like	Jane
Sat, June 25	9am-noon	Coal Oil Point Reserve, contact for site	Julie
Sun, July 3	9am-12:30pm	Arroyo Hondo Preserve, bring a lunch, hike afterwards if you like	Jane
Sat, July 16	9am-noon	Coal Oil Point Reserve, contact for site	Julie



TGIF Thank Goodness It's Friday!

Friday, July 8, 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm Environmental Defense Center 906 Garden St

(corner of Garden & Canon Perdido)

Cost: \$10 at the door

TGIF is Environmental Defense Center's summer outreach to the community. Four Fridays each summer the public is invited into their beautiful courtyard for drinks and generously donated light food. The Santa Barbara Audubon Society will be the main sponsor of the TGIF on July 8. Ten dollars gets you grazing privileges plus two drink tickets good for beer or wine if you so choose. Raffle tickets purchased at the door will put you in the pecking order for great prizes, with the proceeds going to the SBAS.

Western Bird Banders Association Meeting

The 78th annual meeting of the Western Bird Banders Association, co-hosted by Tree Swallow Nesting Projects, will be held in Camarillo from September 29 through October 2. Camarillo, located 40 miles north of Los Angeles, is in the middle of the Oxnard plain, a major migration stop-off for hundreds of species. For more information please contact:

Jan Wasserman: bandlady@treeswallows.org Walt Sakai: SAKAI_WALTER@smc.edu

Save this Date! Friday, September 16

Robert F. Kennedy, Jr. will be the keynote speaker at a dinner reception at the Lobero Theater for the annual California Organic Festival. The Festival is sponsored by the Pesticide Awareness & Alternative Coalition, a non-profit organization dedicated to educating the public on the dangers of pesticide use and the available, safe alternatives.

For more details visit: http://www.organicfestival.com/



Tree Swallow

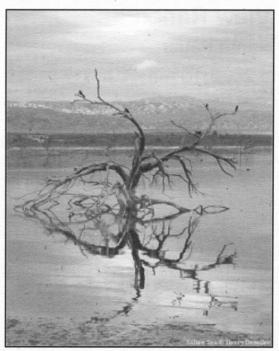
Other Trips & Events

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

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.



Salton Sea, photo by Henry Detwiler

The Salton Sea

California's "Crown Jewel of Avian Biodiversity"
Kathie Satterfield, Speaker

Wednesday, June 22

Plans are underway to reduce the size of the Salton Sea by approximately half. This reduction has many ramifications, not only for the birds using the Sea itself, but also for those using the numerous other habitats that make up the Salton Sea ecosystem. These habitats include agricultural lands – both flooded and dry fields, canals, drains riparian areas and fresh water marshes. How this reduction is accomplished and how much water is transferred out of Imperial Valley will significantly affect literally millions of birds and hundreds of bird species.

400+ Bird Species
100+ Breeding Species
124,000 Shorebirds (44+ species)
30,000 Cattle Egret in a single nesting colony
25,000+ Snow & Ross' Geese
45% of all Yuma Clapper Rails

Kathie Satterfield is a past president of the San Diego Audubon Society. She is active in conservation efforts for the San Diego Museum of Natural History,

the San Diego Zoo and many other organizations. Please join Kathie to learn more about what is at stake at the Salton Sea and how you can participate in Audubon's campaign to save and restore California's "Crown Jewel of Avian Biodiversity".



Yuma Clapper Rail



Snow Geese

Note that there is no program in July.

Hope to see everone at the July 23

Membership Picnic!

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.





Blue Grosbeak

Valley View Ranch

near Santa Paula

Saturday, June 25, 8:15 am - 1 pm

(7:30 am at car pool location)
(Note: Riders should share gas costs - \$5)

Target Birds: White-tailed Kite, Blue Grosbeak, Yellow-breasted Chat,

flycatchers, vireos, warblers

Leader: Jim Greaves

We will meet at the Andree Clark Bird Refuge off Cabrillo Blvd at 7:30 am to car pool. Riders should share gas costs (\$5). If you want to meet us at the ranch at 8:30 take Hwy 101 to Ventura and exit on Hwy 126 east. In Santa Paula take the 10th St exit. Go under the freeway then right on Harvard Blvd to 12th St and turn right at light where Harvard Blvd becomes South Mountain Rd. Go 3.7 miles past # 20089

and then turn left at the next driveway with a green gate. Follow road through the groves about ½ mile to the parking area. Jim will be waiting for us here.

Please join Jim, an environmental consultant with two decades of experience monitoring Least Bell's Vireo populations in Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties, for a morning of viewing and learning about our common and endangered breeding woodland and streamside birds. Bring water, snack and insect repellant. Dress in layers; wear long pants and walking shoes. For further details or questions contact **Jack Sanford** at 566-2191.

Trout Club

near Santa Barbara

Saturday, July 30, 8:30 am - noon or 1 pm

(8:00 am at car pool location)

Target Birds: flycatchers, thrushes, gnatcatchers, hummingbirds, sparrows,

orioles, etc.

Leader: Robert Lindsay

Take Hwy 101 to the La Cumbre Rd exit in Santa Barbara. Go north on La Cumbre Rd and turn left into the Five Points Shopping Center and park near Carl's Jr (3925 State St). We will car pool from here at 8 am. We must car pool because of limited parking. We are limited to 25 people so reservations are necessary. Please call Jack Sanford at 566-2191 to make a reservation or if you have any questions. Let Jack know if you are able to drive and provide a ride for others. The deadline for reservations is Wednesday, July 27.

Don't miss this opportunity to bird this unique area! The private Trout Club is located off Old San Marcus Rd and is normally off limits to birders.



Blue-grey Gnatcatcher

Friday Bird Walks

Join us on the first and third Fridays of each month from 8:30 am - 10:30, except otherwise noted. Please call Trip Leader Jack Sanford, 566-2191, if you have questions or are interested in leading a bird walk or field trip.

Friday, June 3: Nojoqui Falls County Park
(Note: Riders should share gas costs - \$5)

Target Birds: Yellow-billed Magpie, Acorn Woodpecker,
Purple Martin, Black Phoebe, Blue Grosbeak, Lazuli
Bunting, owls, vireos, towhees and orioles

Take 101 to the La Cumbre Rd exit in Santa Barbara. Go
north on La Cumbre Rd and turn left into the Five Points
Shopping Center and park near Carl's Jr (3925 State St). We
will car pool from here at 8:30. We will go north on 101 to the
Nojoqui Falls turnoff and proceed to the park. We will bird
the park and hike to the falls (an easy walk). This walk will
take a little longer than usual and we will return by 11:30. We
will also bird Gaviota State Park on the way back, time
permitting.

Friday, June 24: San Jose Creek open space (Note: this walk is scheduled for the fourth Friday of June)

Target Birds: songbirds, woodpeckers, hummingbirds, etc.

Take Hwy 101 to the Patterson Ave off ramp and head towards the mountains. Turn left at Parejo Drive (second street from Hwy 101). Follow Parejo Drive to the end (at Merida Drive and San Jose Creek). Turn right on Merida Drive, proceed to the end and park.

Friday, July 1: Farren Road, west of Goleta

Target Birds: hummingbirds, kingbirds, flycatchers, sparrows and Blue Grosbeaks

101 to the La Cumbre Rd exit in Santa Barbara. Go

Take 101 to the La Cumbre Rd exit in Santa Barbara. Go north on La Cumbre Rd and turn left into the Five Points Shopping Center and park near Carl's Jr (3925 State St). We will car pool from here at 8:30. Or, if you prefer, take Hwy 101 north to approximately 1 mile past the Winchester Canyon Road exit. Exit Hwy 101 (towards the mountains), turn left on Calle Real and go west for about 300 yards to Farren Rd and park there (meet at 9 am).

Friday, July 22: Tabano Hollow open space (Note: this walk is scheduled for the fourth Friday of July)
Target Birds: songbirds, woodpeckers, hummingbirds, etc.
Take Hwy 101 to the Turnpike Ave off ramp and head towards the mountains. Turn left on Cathedral Oaks Road.
Turn left on Ribera Drive, proceed to the end at Matorral Way and park.



Lone Star Ranch Field Trip Report Saturday, March 19 By Judy Hogan

Lone Star Ranch, owned by Lee and Charles Carr, includes pond, meadow, forest and is contiguous to Lake Cachuma. So a rainy, wet day with periods of blue sky and even a bright rainbow, didn't stop our small group from our mission: sighting water birds, shore birds, song birds and raptors. By the end of the morning our list included 42 species. One Osprey was particularly entertaining as it dove under water for its fish but had to "catch and release" as it was too heavy.

Thanks to our superb field leader, **Dave Compton**, for arranging this field trip and making it such a fun and bird-filled morning.



Common Yellowthroat

Hollister Ranch Field Trip Report

Saturday, May 7 By Jack Sanford

Te could not have had a more perfect day for this trip! Thirtythree birders met at the Five Points Shopping Center and traveled in 5 vehicles to the Hollister Ranch. There we met Wendy (the Hollister Ranch representative) at the main house at 9:30 in the morning. We birded the entire area around the house with our leader Guy Tingos pointing out bird after bird and his wife Betsy recording



Greater Roadrunner

the data (total for the day - 63 species). From there we traveled to a beach location where we spotted ocean and pond birds. Oscar Johnson, a 16-year-old from Ventura who has participated in several of our events and is an excellent birder and spotter, was a big asset to the trip. Between Guy and Oscar and other good spotters not many, if any, birds escaped our eyes.

It was a great birding experience and Santa Barbara Audubon wants to offer a special thanks to the Hollister Ranch Association and to Wendy for allowing us the privilege of birding the Ranch. And, as we were about to leave the Hollister Ranch main gate, someone spotted one of my favorite birds - a Greater Roadrunner in a tree just several feet from the roadway. All in all it was a very rewarding experience and a special thanks goes to Guy for his leadership.

Rancho La Vina

Field Trip Report Saturday, April 9

By Kathleen Morrissey & Debbie Patelzick



s the two "newbie's" to the Audubon birder scene, we weren't sure we were going to be intimidated by the experienced birders on our first Audubon Society birding field trip. But...after meeting the other eight members of the group organized by Jack Sanford and lead by naturalist Paul Keller, we felt most welcome and able to lend our eyes and ears to the day's experience.

Rancho La Vina was spectacular with its grape vines, walnut orchards, oak forests, a mountain-ringed meadow and year round flowing creek. Happily, the rain held-off and the wind allowed the sunshine to occasionally peek through.

We saw a variety of birds starting with a Great Egret and a pair of Western Bluebirds. After parking and introductions, we came upon the spectacular mating acrobatics of Red-tailed Hawks, along with Turkey Vultures,

and a family of California Quail. As we headed up a ranch road through oak forests, we spotted the Dark-eyed Junco, Pacific-slope Flycatcher, Spotted Towhee, Bushtit, Oak Titmouse, Wrentit, and a Sharp-shinned Hawk.

When we arrived at the meadow, we entered a horse corral and were followed around by three curious and very friendly horses. We spotted a flock of Golden-crowned Sparrows, California Towhee, and had a vigorous debate on the identification of a woodpecker (which was finally agreed to be a Nuttall's). As we left the horses we saw a Western Scrub-Jay and an Acorn Woodpecker. The finale of the hike was spotting a Yellow-billed Magpie.

We'd like to thank Paul for his birding and botanical expertise and Jack for keeping us on schedule and for his friendly, charming humor. We're looking forward to many more Audubon hikes and adventures!



Acorn Woodpecker



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!



The Ainciarts John Altamirano Amble Kids Valentina Arnold Edward C Baum Brian Beebe Robert Bernstein Kenneth J Chisholm Mary Christensen Clark Cowan Alisha Dahlstrom Robert Dimauro Carol Dougherty Vincent Durbin Mary & Bud Emrich Allyn A Fleming Deb Fleming Gilbert Fountain Richard Furneisen William D Girard Linda & Frank Hudson Ken & Kathy Hughes Cecily Johns Carrie C Kenny

Cary Keogh

Sally Kitson Hildegard Lagerquist Marge Lawrence Evan Lew Mary D Lewis David Mac Neil Sr Ms Julie Macdougal Mr & Mrs Sid Macofsky Mila Marlow Florence Michel Clare Montana Helen Nauman Dimitri Nichols Yukari Okamoto Carol Pate Shiva Prakash Roberts Children Aaron Solis Mrs E W Vernon Sally Walker June Walsh Christian Weber Ted & Barbara Withey Joan Xanthakis Albert Zdenék

Kenneth Ardry Dorothy W Boothe Daniel P & Mary Burnham Victoria Carver Angela Castro Margo Chapman Nancy A Deacon-Davis Laura Garwood Donald J George James Gunther Jack Hewett Tv Hollen Alexander D Hughes Claudia Jean Harry O Johnson Jody Kamrath Marjorie Kirschbaum Eanest R Kirshtner Molly Krill Linda Martin Janice Meaden Mike Nicassio Ron Nichols Shirley Oliphant Don Pies

Lucille Plautz Deann Sarver Victor Schaff Schwertl Family Charles Sheetz Susan Shields Helen Ivanhoe Smart Lou Smith Hanne Songuist Jean Southwick Frank Spera Peter Stettinius Donald E. Webb Jeanette Webber Mrs Patsy R Wells Anne & Robert Wernick



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

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Calendar of Events

Jun 3 Nojoqui Falls Bird	Walk
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Jun 5 Restore Arroyo Hondo Preserve

Jun 22 The Salton Sea Program

Jun 24 San Jose Creek Bird Walk

Jun 25 Restore Coal Oil Point Reserve

Jun 25 Valley View Ranch Field Trip

Jul 1 Farren Road Bird Walk

Jul 3 Restore Arroyo Hondo Preserve

Jul 8 TGIF Benefit

Jul 16 Restore Coal Oil Point Reserve

Jul 22 Tabano Hollow Bird Walk

Jul 23 Annual Membership Picnic

Jul 30 - Trout Club Field Trip

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

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



This is our 36th and last issue as editors of El Tecolote and we would like to thank all those who have contributed articles and photographs for the last six years. Please email submissions for the Aug/Sep issue to our new editor, Andy Lentz, at sbasnews@cox.net. Welcome aboard Andy!

Bill & Elaine Uomini

SBAS - July 2004/June 2005

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

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Hear Rare Rird Report	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.

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El Tecolote

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Western Tanager

or current resident