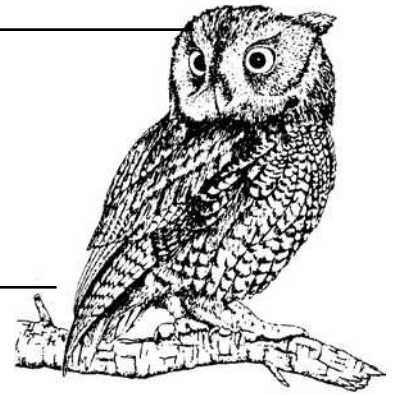


El Tecolote

Newsletter of the Santa Barbara Audubon Society, Inc.

Volume 46, Issue 1

August — September 2007



MAX Project Update by Darlene Chirman

Feather the Nest, a very successful benefit for the MAX Project, was held under the oaks at the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History on May 26. Thanks to our many sponsors, volunteers and supporters, we raised over \$25,000 for the Project. We now have about 2/3 of the \$100,000 we need to get the mews, or housing for the birds of prey, to the construction phase. At the present time our partner, the Museum, is in the process of obtaining permits for the structure. Audubon is awaiting word on applications for foundation funding. We hope that by fall funding and permits will be in place and construction can begin. Every week-end afternoon you can visit the birds of prey and their handlers at the Museum, 2-4 p.m. both days.



Jeff Chemnick, the auctioneer, reviews the conceptual plan for the mews with chapter President Darlene Chirman.

Photo by Callie Bowdish.



American Kestrel at the event.

Photo by Callie Bowdish.



Virginia Hawley starts off the auction with a generous gift.

Photo Callie Bowdish

Thanks to all the Audubon and Eyes In the Sky volunteers!!

MAX Project Sponsors and Donors

Please contribute to the MAX Project, and please support the businesses who helped make the event such a success. Thanks to the many individuals who contributed auction items or volunteered their time!

BUSINESS SPONSORS

Brothers Restaurant at Mattei's Tavern	Palace Grill
Buttonwood Farm Winery	Rancho Oso
Carina Cellars	REC Solar
Community Environmental Council	Russ' Camera and Video
Eagle Optics	Santa Barbara Bank & Trust
Environmental Defense Center	Santa Barbara Farmers Market
Lee Chiacos	Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History
Gelson's Market	Santa Barbara Olive Company
Island Packers	Scolari's
Island Seed & Feed	Tecolote Book Shop
Los Cinco Locos	Hillary Tentler, CPA
Mediterra Market & Café	Trader Joe's (De la Vina)
Our Daily Bread	VeloPro Cyclery
Paddle Sports of Santa Barbara	Vons (Turnpike)

INDIVIDUAL DONORS

Susanne Barrymore	Marsha MacDonald
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Darlene Chirman	Dee Smith
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Margo and Ted Keeney	
Julie Kummel	
Joan Lentz	
Jill Littlewood	

Successful Annual Membership Picnic—July 7, 2007



Outgoing treasurer Ginny Turner with President Dalene Chirman. Photo by Dolores Pollock

Audubon members enjoyed a potluck at the Hollister Meadow at Arroyo Hondo Preserve. Many enjoyed a docent-led walk or restoration tour before the picnic. See the back page for the new Board of Directors for 2007-08 elected at the annual meeting held after lunch.

Photo by Darlene Chirman

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. and are free to the public. Doors open at 7:00 p.m. SBAS members are encouraged to bring guests.

Costa Rica, Host to a Wealth of Wildlife

Jose Calvo

Costa Rican Naturalist Guide

Wednesday, September 26, 2007

Costa Rica's diversity of birds and wildlife is no accident. Mountains sandwiched between the Pacific and Caribbean coasts cover more than half of the land area. These diverse habitats harbor more than 800 species of birds, 200 reptiles, 160 amphibians, and a wide variety of mammals. Approximately 28% of Costa Rica (a country the size of West Virginia) has been set aside in national parks and conservancy areas to preserve this diversity. Jose Calvo's PowerPoint presentation will depict rain and cloud forests, mountains and seashore habitats and some of the more remarkable birds and wildlife such as monkeys, sloths, and iguanas that call Costa Rica home.



About the Speaker:

Jose Calvo is one of the best naturalist guides in his native country of Costa Rica. Certified by the National Institute of Learning, Jose has been guiding tour groups in Central America for the past 17 years. He is a well-rounded naturalist with major interests in ornithology, rainforest ecology, climatology and geology. Photography and photo editing are his major hobbies along with adding to his personal Costa Rica bird list of 700+ species.



SAVE THE DATE!

Join EDC for our Thank Goodness It's Friday (TGIF)

Environmental Defense Center

906 Garden Street

Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Friday August 10, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

Enjoy a fun-filled happy hour with EDC and sponsoring groups: Santa Barbara Audubon Society, Sierra Club, Trust for Public Lands and Santa Barbara Independent.

Music provided by Bruce Goldish.

Contact EDC for more information at 963-1622

Santa Barbara Audubon Field Trips

Everyone is welcome! These trips are fun for both beginning and expert bird watchers. 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. Please contact Jack Sanford (805) 566-2191 jacksanford@hotmail.com for details or questions.

Oso Flaco Lake
"Wonder of the Dunes"
Sunday, August 12, 2007
9 a.m.-11 a.m.
(6:45 a.m. car pool time)

Target Birds: Fresh water and salt water birds plus Northern Harriers and Wrens

Leader: Ken Wolf, Dunes Center Docent

Cost: \$6.00 to car pool drivers and \$5.00 entrance fee per car (unless you have a State Park Pass)

We will be joining Guadalupe Dunes Center Docent **Ken Wolf** who will lead a leisurely 2-mile walk across the Oso Flaco Lake bridge and follow the boardwalk trail to the ocean. We will learn about this rare and unique ecosystem while spotting birds and enjoying the beauty of the area.

We will meet at the 5 Points Shopping Center (Carl's Jr.) at 6:45 a.m. and at the Kmart parking lot in Goleta at 7:00 a.m. and car pool to the Oso Flaco Lake parking area. If you would like to meet us at the lake at 9 a.m., take Hwy. 101 north to Hwy. 166 (Main Street exit in Santa Maria), and head west towards the town of Guadalupe. Turn right at the Hwy. 1 intersection, and go thru the town of Guadalupe. Travel 3 miles to Oso Flaco Road and turn left. Proceed 3 miles to the parking lot. Dress in layers, and bring water and a snack.

Rancho Guadalupe Dunes
Saturday, September 15, 2007
9 a.m.-11 a.m.
(6:45 a.m. car pool time)

Target Birds: Shorebirds

Leader: Jack Sanford

Cost: \$6.00 to car pool drivers

We will enjoy a leisurely stroll at the Rancho Guadalupe Dunes Preserve. We will view both migratory and resident shorebirds along the beach and the Santa Maria River Estuary. Dress in layers and bring water and a snack.

We will meet at the 5 Points Shopping Center (Carl's Jr.) at 6:45 a.m. and at the Kmart parking lot in Goleta at 7:00 a.m. and car pool to the Rancho Guadalupe Dunes Preserve. If you would like to meet us at the dunes at 9 a.m., take Hwy. 101 north to Hwy. 166 (Main Street exit in Santa Maria) and head west towards the Guadalupe Dunes. Cross Hwy. 1 and continue on Hwy. 166 for 7 more miles to the parking lot. (Added attraction: Lunch at the Far Western Tavern in Guadalupe.)

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!

Ms. Shirley Aanerud
 Armando Aispuro
 Mr. Nathan G. Anton
 Ms. Anne Baker
 L. Barkley
 Ms. Joan Blackburn
 Mr. Robert Brandts
 Evelyn & Charles
 Cathcart
 Mr. Elliot Chasin
 The Costellos

Bettie Cox
 Ms. Debora Dole
 Karen Dorfman
 John Jeffryes
 Sally Kendall
 Ron Kronenberg &
 Wilma Seelye
 Ms. Jeanette Lang
 Mr. James Maddox
 Laura Manusziak
 Lori Kraft Meschler

Sharon & Stephen
 Metsch
 Mr. John R. Michael
 Dr. Arthur Najera
 Ms. Eleanor Nance
 Diane Noel
 Jinsil Pang
 Clare Pelton
 Ms. Patricia Phillips
 Mr. Robert Saffold
 Mr. John Schmechel

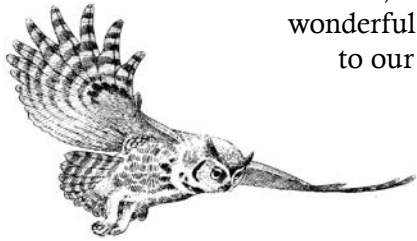
Diane Sidon
 Ms. Chantal Smith
 Mr. Ryan Patrick Stoll
 Mr. John Szegda
 Ms. Myra Taub
 Leise Thomason
 Ms. Elizabeth Wade
 Ms. Beverly Weckstrom

Bird Walk Report

San Jose Creek, May 25

by Jack Sanford

The Bird Walk on May 25 had a great turnout of 20 participants. Moreover, we saw interesting birds such as Hooded Orioles, a Western Tanager, a Black-chinned Hummingbird and what made the day really exciting, three juvenile Great Horned Owls and one adult. Thanks to Nancy Shepherd, a local resident, who informed us that we might be able to spot the owls in a certain area, and we did. It was truly a wonderful sight and a great climax to our two-hour bird walk.



What makes the bird walks so successful is the fact that we have many eyes spotting birds. Because of those many eyes, we get to see more species than if we travel

alone. Why not join in the fun and participate in our next bird walk or, for that matter, our next field trip? Birding just for the health of it!

No Child Left Inside

When the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) was passed in 2002, it had the unintended consequence of eliminating or curtailing environmental education in our schools. Schools focused their time and money on core subjects like math and language arts to the exclusion of interdisciplinary programs like environmental education, which has been proven to actually increase student performance in these other subjects. At the same time, the amount of federal funding for environmental education has dwindled.

Congress must reauthorize NCLB this year, and Audubon is joining with other environmental groups to push for including environmental education in the new curriculum standards, so schools won't be forced to choose between it and reading and math. Education has been a critical part of Audubon's conservation strategy for more than a century. In addition to increasing environmental literacy, environmental education can increase student engagement in science, improve student achievement in core subject areas, and even reduce discipline and classroom management problems. Stay tuned for an alert asking you to let Congress know how important environmental education is to America's future.

Do you eBird?

eBird is a premier online bird observation program especially developed for birders and citizens in California. Audubon California, PRBO Conservation Science, and Cornell Lab of Ornithology partnered to create California eBird, a real-time online bird observation checklist. California eBird provides a quick and easy way for birders, citizens, and scientists to enter their bird observations into a common database accessible to those working to protect and restore habitats for birds in California. eBird provides on-line birding checklists to keep track of your observations at multiple sites, accessible at any time from your home computer. Bird sightings are safely stored in Cornell Lab of Ornithology's database.

California eBird tailors the standard eBird site to California birders. If you are looking for a place to make bird observations, try selecting one of the Important Bird Areas (IBAs) in California, keeping track of your sightings, and entering your records. (For a list of IBAs go to www.ca.audubon.org/iba.) Or, choose your favorite birding site or "hot spot" using the interactive Google maps provided. Select any IBA site and learn what birds others have seen at the site, at times of year, abundances, and more. With your help, we can begin to paint a complete picture of how birds are distributed across the diverse California landscape and track what changes may occur in the future. Visit the California eBird website (www.ebird.org/California) to read timely information on birds and birding news in California, and try entering some bird data!

Audubon Assembly

Audubon California Assembly 2007

GLOBAL WARMING AND WILDLIFE

October 7, 8, and 9, 2007

Asilomar Conference Grounds, Pacific Grove
For more information or to register go to:

http://ca.audubon.org/audubon_assembly.html

Friday Bird Walks

*Join us on the second and fourth Fridays of each month at 8:30-10:30 a.m. Please call Bird Walk leader **Jack Sanford** 566-2191 or email at jacksanford@hotmail.com if you are interested in leading a future bird walk to your favorite birding location or have any questions.*

Lake Los Carneros Friday August 10

Target Birds: Water birds, songbirds

Directions: From Hwy. 101 take Los Carneros off ramp and head towards the mountains. (Stow House is on the right.) Park behind the fire station where we will meet.

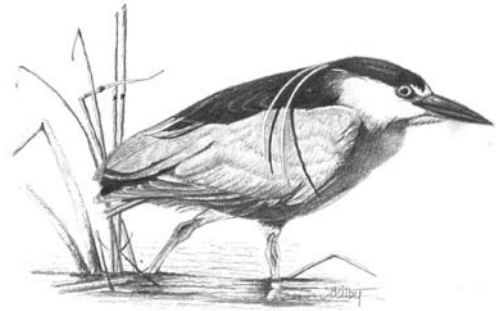
Toro Canyon Park Friday August 17 (Note: this is the 3rd Friday)

Target Birds: Songbirds, raptors

Directions: From Hwy. 101 take exit #90 (Padero Lane off ramp coming from the north and Summerland off ramp from the south). Turn towards the mountains and turn right on Via Real. Turn left on Toro Canyon Road (2nd road on your left). Proceed on Toro Canyon until you reach the park sign on your right. Turn right and follow the road to the park. Enter the park and follow the park road to the last parking lot where we will meet. We will bird the loop trail (1 mile slightly uphill) and then bird in the park.



*Tree Swallow from Fuertes Illustration Collection
Cornell University.
cidc.library.cornell.edu/Fuertes2000*



*Black-crowned Night-heron.
Artist Daniel S. Kilby*

Carpinteria Salt Marsh Nature Park Friday September 7 (Note: this is the 1st Friday)

Target Birds: Curlews, Dowitchers, Egrets, Godwits, Gulls, Herons, Killdeer, raptors

Directions: From the north on Hwy. 101 take Linden Ave. off ramp. From the south on Hwy. 101 take Casitas Pass Rd. off ramp, turn right on Carpinteria Ave., and left on Linden Ave. Follow Linden Ave towards the ocean and turn right on Sandyland Rd. Go to the end. The Nature Park is right there on Ash Ave.

Honda Valley Open Space Friday September 21 (Note: this is the 3rd Friday)

Target Birds: Woodpeckers, Towhees, Jays, Mockingbirds, raptors

Directions: From Hwy. 101 take the Carrillo Street exit. Turn toward the south (away from downtown). Turn left onto Miramonte Drive. (It is only on the left and almost at the top of the hill.) We will park on the street and meet several hundred yards into Miramonte Drive. From there we will bird a loop trail around the open space.

Field Trips/Bird Walks Do you have an idea?

We are always looking for suggestion for places to visit on our monthly field trips. If you have an idea and are not sure where or what to do next, or are interested in helping coordinate a field trip contact **Jack Sanford** (805) 566-2191.

OPPORTUNITIES

Volunteer Habitat Restoration

Audubon helps recruit volunteers for habitat restoration at the Coal Oil Point Reserve and the Arroyo Hondo Preserve. Come help to restore a creek or estuary while spending a morning in a beautiful bird habitat. Contact the Land Trust, Arroyo Hondo Preserve Volunteer Coordinator **Jane Murray** at ltvolunteer@yahoo.com or 684-4405. For Coal Oil Point Reserve, contact **Tara Longwell** for site at longwell@lifesci.ucsb.edu or 252-4903. or **Darlene Chirman** at dchirman@rain.org or 692-2008.

ARROYO HONDO

Contact: **Jane Murray**

Sunday August 5 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Sunday September 2 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

COAL OIL POINT RESERVE

Contact: **Tara Longwell**

No August Workday

Saturday September 9 9 a.m.-12 noon
Saturday September 15 9 a.m.-12 noon

Plover Project Docent Training

Training takes place at the Cliff House at Coal Oil Point Reserve, from 9 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Training dates:

August 4
September 8

Training Schedule:

Tour is 9-11 a.m.
Training is 11 a.m. -1:30 p.m.

Those interested should call **Jennifer Stroh** to register at 880-1195.

"I like to play indoors better 'cause that's where the electrical outlets are."

A Forth Grader from San Diego.
A Quote from: *The Last Child In The Woods*
By Richard Louv

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 _____

SBAS Needs Your E-mail Address

To be added to the **SBAS** e-mail list, just send an e-mail message with the subject line, "Add + your name" to sjferry@cox.net. The **SBAS** e-mail mailing list will only be used for **SBAS** business and will not be sold or shared with any other group.

National Audubon Society "Paper Free" Renewal Program

Tired of having **National Audubon Society** send multiple renewal notices that consume our precious forests? Call 800-274-4201 and sign up for NAS's "Paper Free" Renewal Program. Instead of mailing multiple renewal reminders, NAS will automatically renew your membership each year. You'll receive just one bill, approximately two months in advance of your membership expiration date. Your membership in Santa Barbara Audubon will be included in your NAS renewal. Save paper and simplify your accounting!

Jared Dawson
SBAS Membership Chair

Calendar of Events

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

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

- Aug. 4 Plover Training
- Aug. 5 Restore Arroyo Hondo
- Aug. 10 Los Carneros Bird Walk
- Aug. 10 EDC-TGIF party
- Aug. 12 Oso Flaco Field Trip
- Aug. 17 Toro Canyon Bird Walk
- Sept. 2 Restore Arroyo Hondo
- Sept. 7 Carpinteria Salt Marsh Field Trip
- Sept. 8 Plover Training
- Sept. 9 Restore Coal Oil Point Reserve
- Sept. 15 Guadalupe Dunes Field Trip
- Sept. 15 Restore Coal Oil Point Reserve
- Sept. 21 Honda Valley Bird Walk
- Sept. 27 Program: Costa Rica

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, Andy Lentz, Editor
5679 Hollister Avenue, Suite 5B
Goleta, CA 93117

or email: sbasnews@cox.net
Submissions deadline is the 10th of the month before publication.

SBAS - July 2007/June 2008

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

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

OFFICERS

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Vice-President	Lee Moldaver	964-1468	audubon@rain.org
Secretary	Susan Lentz	968-6011	salentz@cox.net
Treasurer	Dave Messick	969-4373	

BOARD MEMBERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Field Trips Chair	Jack Sanford	566-2191	jacksanford@hotmail.com
Programs Chair	John O'Brien	962-7799	mlbm@cox.net
Conservation Chair	Steve Ferry	967-5162	sjferry@cox.net
Education Chair	Patricia Malone	569-1993	pamalone@verizon.net
Science Chair	Kris Burnell*	683-4868	krisburnell@juno.com
<i>*Agreed to serve; anticipate board appointment at the August meeting</i>			
Membership Chair	Jared Dawson	687-6218	jdawson@silcom.com
Newsletter Chair	Callie Bowdish	968-2857	cjbowdish@hotmail.com
Publicity Chair	Ben Shalant	448-4447	kagawaben@cox.net
At Large-Outreach	Julie Kummel	964-9444	jkummel@rain.org
At-Large-Outreach	Dolores Pollock	681-8661	dolorespollock@earthlink.net
At Large-Outreach	Margo Kenney	963-3011	margo@margokenney.com

APPOINTED POSITIONS

Webmaster: Bobbie Offen	684-0160	bobbieo@cox.net
Eyes In The Sky: Gabriele Drozdowski	898-0347	eyes-in-the-sky@cox.net
Snowy Plover Docent Prog: Jennifer Stroh	880-1195	stroh@lifesci.ucsb.edu
Hospitality: Sylvelin Edgerton	964-1658	sylvelin@earthlink.net
Nancy Rohrer	687-7587	rohrer_n@yahoo.com
Report Rare Birds: Karen Bridgers	964-1316	k.bridgers@cox.net
Hear Rare Bird 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.**

Printed on recycled paper.



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

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