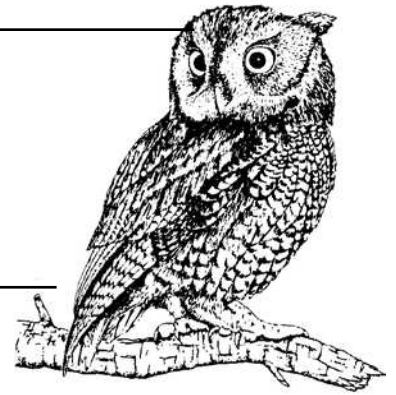


# El Tecolote

Newsletter of the Santa Barbara Audubon Society, Inc.

Volume 47, Issue 1

August—September 2008



## FEATHER THE NEST 2008



*Creekspirit Foundation's home.*

*Photo by Callie Bowdish*



*Acutinoer Jeff Chemnick  
and Board President Darlene Chirman*

*Photo by Callie Bowdish*



*Feather the Nest Co-Chairs  
Dolores Pollock and Julie Kummel.*

*Photo by John Walker*

**F**eather the Nest, Santa Barbara Audubon's second annual benefit auction, was held June 29 to support our educational programs. Guests enjoyed the beautiful setting at Creekspirit, the private garden of artist/author **Patti Jacquemain** and **David Gledhill** on Mission Creek. Peaceful accompaniment was provided by harpist **Patricia Rushton**. Special guests included **Max**, the great horned owl, and other live birds of prey. Forty-seven interesting items were sold in the Silent Auction, including two from the estate of ornithologist Barbara De Wolfe. For the second year Auctioneer **Jeff Chemnick** led spirited bidding in the live auction, which this year consisted of 14 items. The raffle of a donated case of Los Cinco Locos wine was won by SBAS member **Janet Uribe**. We thank our many generous donors, bidders, and volunteers for supporting this event which raised \$9,600.

## THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING FOR THEIR GENEROUS SUPPORT

Patti Jacquemain, David Gledhill, and  
Creekspirit Foundation  
Nancy States  
Los Cinco Locos  
Santa Barbara Bank & Trust  
Easy Lift Transportation

Rockwood Women's Club  
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Nancy Crawford  
Virginia Mayer

Janet Uribe  
Melissa Kelly  
James & Roxanne Mattinson  
H. & P. Shalant  
Jeff Stearns  
Bobbie Offen

*Continued on the next page.*

Lora Von Seydewitz  
Grace Thomas  
Francis Preston  
Barbara Fleming  
Julie & Bruce Morrow  
“Fund-the-Mews”

#### **SILENT AUCTION DONORS**

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#### **LIVE AUCTION DONORS**

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The Audubon Board of Directors

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Sam Chirman & Jack Sanford  
van drivers  
John Walker and Bright Walker  
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Gabriele Drozdowski  
Andy Lentz  
Bettie Cox  
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Laura Shelton  
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Betty Flesher  
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Elliot Chasin  
Alex Palley

#### **FINALLY**

#### **THE AUDUBON BOARD :**

Darlene Chirman, Julie Kummel,  
Dolores Pollock, Lee Moldaver, Susan  
Lentz, Bobbie Offen, Jack Sanford, John  
O'Brien, Steve Ferry, Patty Malone, Kris  
Burnell, Callie Bowdish (for the flowers),  
Margo Kenney

**PLEASE SUPPORT THE  
BUSINESSES WHO GAVE TO  
“FEATHER THE NEST”**



*EITS Volunteer Coni Edick  
with Kachina—an American Kestrel*



*Silent Auction in full swing.*



## Annual Picnic — Toro Canyon Park

By Darlene Chirman

Each summer, the Santa Barbara Audubon chapter holds an annual picnic for members and guests. This year, the picnic will take place at Toro Canyon Park, and will have occurred by the time you receive this newsletter. One event that always occurs at the picnic is the election of the Board of Directors for the coming year. See the back page of this newsletter for the proposed slate that is most likely an approved board by the time you read this!

The annual picnic is also the opportunity to thank the outgoing board members for their service to the chapter. This year, outgoing board members include:

- **Callie Bowdish**, who has served as Newsletter Chair for three years, coordinating articles with newsletter editor **Andy Lentz** and contributing outstanding photographs of birds and events.
- **Patty Malone**, who has served as Education Chair for three years, serving as liaison between the board and the EITS program, managed by **Gabriele Drozdowski**. Patty also organized the Earth Day booth, and initiated Family Bird Walks, which were very popular.
- **Kris Burnell**, who has served as Science Chair for one year, acting as liaison for the Snowy Plover Program (managed by **Jennifer Stroh**) and overseeing the Tree Swallow nest box program (monitored by **Dave Eldridge**) and the Bird Island (monitoring by **Dave Compton**). Kris also restarted the White-tailed Kite monitoring project
- **Ben Shalant**, who has served as Publicity Chair for four years, resulting in media coverage for our programs, field trips and bird walks. Ben has also assisted with habitat restoration and served as a Snowy Plover Docent while completing his degree at Antioch University.

Volunteers are the force behind our organization and we like to recognize them at the annual picnic as well. In addition to the board members, we appreciate the incredible contribution of all Audubon volunteers! Snowy plover docents, field trip leaders, Christmas Bird Count participants, restoration volunteers, EITS volunteers, special event assistants--most recently for our auction, White-tailed Kite monitors, nest box monitors, committee members for Conservation, Science and Outreach Committees.....who has been left out? Last year (the most recent data), we calculated that our chapter members provide 9100 hours of volunteer time! Kudos to everyone!!



### Mark your Calendar Environmental Defense Center's

## TGIF

**5:30-7:30 Friday, September 12**  
**\$10 admission**

Santa Barbara Audubon is a sponsor of the popular Environmental Defense Center "TGIF" that will be held on Friday, September 12. Come out for live music, drinks and hors d'oeuvres, and lively discussion with fellow advocates for the environment.

EDC assists Audubon with protection of the threatened Western Snowy Plover, Condor protection, and protection of the Devereux watershed.

### Plover News

One of our nursery plovers (with band PA:BY) is nesting in McGrath State Beach. He was born in the Summer of 2006 and hand raised in our nursery. Some of our volunteers helped feed him. This shows that hand raised birds can do well back in the wild. Congratulations to you all who work hard to protect these birds.

#### Sightings of PA:BY

6/28/2006 at COPR  
9/16/06 at Sandspit  
11/14/06 at Sandspit SB  
12/15/06 at Sandspit  
7/5/08 nesting at McGrath



*Snowy Plover  
by Peter Gaede*

Cris Sandoval  
Director, Coal Oil Point Reserve

## 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.*

### Aquatic Bird Rehabilitation

Dave Weeshoff

Wednesday, September 24, 2008

Dave Weeshoff, Docent with the International Bird Rescue Research Center in San Pedro, will present a colorful slide presentation, describing in words and photographs how orphaned, sick, injured and oiled aquatic birds (including pelicans, gulls, loons, grebes, terns, etc..) are cleaned, rehabilitated, and released back into the wild, as well as what each of us can do to mitigate



human impacts on our feathered friends. Dave's photography and entertaining style promise to bring these subjects to life.



Dave is on the Board of Directors of the International Bird Rescue Research Center and the San Fernando Audubon Society, and is a frequent guest speaker on environmental issues for Heal the Bay, an organization concerned with improving the water quality off the Southern California coast, and the Algalita Marine Research Foundation, concerned with the plague of plastic in the oceans.

## Tax-Savvy Strategy for Giving

by Darlene Chirman

adapted from the Santa Clara Audubon newsletter, *The Avocet*

Recent surveys indicate that about 50% more Americans own stock today than 20 years ago. Do you fall into this category? If so, you are probably holding securities such as stocks, bonds or mutual funds that have appreciated in value since you purchased them. Donating these directly to Santa Barbara Audubon Society (SBAS) can be a very tax-efficient way of giving.

Let's run the numbers. Suppose you bought 100 shares of ABC Corporation many years ago for \$10,000 and now it is worth \$100,000.

If you sell the stock and give the cash to SBAS, your taxable income will be reduced by \$100,000, saving you \$35,000 in federal income tax (assuming the highest tax bracket of 35%). However, you will still owe capital gains tax of \$13,500 (15% x \$90,000). Therefore, the real cost of the gift to you is its market value plus the capital gains tax minus the income tax savings:  $\$100,000 + \$13,500 - \$35,000 = \$78,000$ .

But if instead you donate the stock directly to SBAS, you avoid the capital gains tax, and still get the deduction of \$100,000 from taxable income. Your real cost of the gift would be \$65,000: the market value minus the income tax savings (\$100,000 - \$35,000). This is a savings of \$13,000! As a tax-exempt non-profit organization, SBAS doesn't have to pay capital gains, even if the stock is then sold.

Donating appreciated securities is easy to do. You can donate directly from your account to the brokerage account of SBAS. Your broker can provide you with the form you need; you fill it out and mail it.

Consult your own tax advisor or brokerage account manager for more details. You may contact Darlene Chirman at 692-2008 for more information.

## 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](mailto:jacksanford@hotmail.com) for details or questions.*

### Oso Flaco Lake "Wonder of the Dunes" Sunday August 17, 2008 9 a.m.-11:30 a.m. (6:45 a.m. car pool time)

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

**Trip Leader:** Ken Wolf, Dunes Center Docent

**Cost:** \$8.00 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 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 the Oso Flaco Road, and turn left. Proceed 3 miles to the parking lot. Dress in layers and bring water and a snack.

### Some photos from past field trips See what you are missing!



*2007 SBAS Las Cruzitas Ranch field trip.  
Photo by Dung Ha*

### Rancho Guadalupe Dunes Saturday, September 20, 2008 9 a.m.-11 a.m. (6:45 a.m. car pool time)

**Target Birds:** Shorebirds

**Trip Leader:** Jack Sanford

**Cost:** \$8.00 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 St. 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: optional lunch at the Far Western Tavern in Guadalupe.)



*Road Runner spotted on the  
Las Cruzitas field trip, left.  
Photo Dung Ha and Grebes  
seen on the 2008 Field Trip to  
Lone Star Ranch, below.  
Photo by David Levasheff*



### 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.



## 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](mailto: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 1** (Note: this is the first Friday)

**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.

### Carpinteria Salt Marsh Nature Park

**Friday August 22**

**Target Birds:** Curlews, Ducks, Teals, 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 entrance is directly ahead.



*Long-billed Curlew by Daniel S. Kilby*

### Honda Valley Open Space

**Friday September 12**

**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.

### Toro Canyon Park

**Friday September 19** (Note: this is the 3rd Friday)

**Target Birds:** Songbirds, raptors

**Directions:** From Hwy. 101 take exit #90 (Padaro 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 in the park.

## Docents needed at Arroyo Hondo Preserve



If you love nature, hiking and children, join our next docent training class. Have fun and rewarding experiences with children exploring our pristine creek and canyon. Training will be at the Preserve on Mondays from 1:00-4:00, Sept. 8 - Oct. 27. Local experts will present the natural and cultural history of the preserve through discussion and exploration.



For information contact:

**Jane Murray 684-4405 or [volunteer@sblandtrust.org](mailto:volunteer@sblandtrust.org)**

*Photos by Judy Sahm, Arroyo Hondo Docent*

## 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 [lvolunteer@yahoo.com](mailto:lvolunteer@yahoo.com) or 684-4405. For Coal Oil Point Reserve, contact Tara Longwell at [longwell@lifesci.ucsb.edu](mailto:longwell@lifesci.ucsb.edu) or 252-4903. or Darlene Chirman at [dchirman@rain.org](mailto:dchirman@rain.org) or 692-2008.*

#### ARROYO HONDO

Contact: Jane Murray

Sunday August 3	9 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Sunday September 7	9 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

#### COAL OIL POINT RESERVE

Contact: Tara Longwell

Saturday August 16	9 a.m.-12 noon
Saturday September 20	9 a.m.-12 noon



### 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 [jdawson@silcom.com](mailto:jdawson@silcom.com). The **SBAS** e-mail mailing list will only be used for **SBAS** business and will not be sold or shared with any other group.

### 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	9
September	27
October	11

#### 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.



### Join the Cornell Lab of Ornithology's Celebrate Urban Birds!

People of all ages and backgrounds can participate in **Celebrate Urban Birds** through gardening, cultural activities and citizen-science. For the citizen-science part of the project, participants watch city birds for 10 minutes, check off 15 target species of birds, and send the information through the mail or the Internet to the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. Once enough data are gathered, scientists hope to learn more about how birds survive in cities and how they use urban green spaces such as parks, rooftop gardens, and even potted plants on balconies for food, resting sites, and shelter.

For more information go to:  
<http://www.celebrateurbanbirds.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

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☐ Do Not Share My Name With Other Organizations.

## 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. 1	Lake Los Carnereos Bird Walk
Aug. 3	Restore Arroyo Hondo
Aug. 9	Plover Training
Aug. 16	Restore Coal Oil Point Reserve
Aug. 17	Oso Flaco Lake Field Trip
Aug. 22	Carpinteria Salt Marsh Bird Walk
Sept. 7	Restore Arroyo Hondo
Sept. 12	Honda Valley Bird Walk
Sept. 12	EDC—TGIF
Sept. 19	Toro Canyon Park Bird Walk
Sept. 20	Restore Coal Oil Point Reserve
Sept. 20	Guadalupe Dunes Field Trip
Sept. 24	Program: Aquatic Bird Rehabilitation
Sept. 27	Plover Training

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](mailto:sbasnews@cox.net)

Submissions deadline is the 10th of the month before publication.

## SBAS - July 2008/June 2009

(805) 964-1468, [audubon@rain.org](mailto:audubon@rain.org)

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

**(Pending Election July 26, 2008)**

### OFFICERS

President	Darlene Chirman	692-2008	<a href="mailto:dchirman@starband.net">dchirman@starband.net</a>
Vice-President	Lee Moldaver	964-6477	<a href="mailto:audubon@rain.org">audubon@rain.org</a>
Secretary	Susan Lentz	968-6011	<a href="mailto:salentz@cox.net">salentz@cox.net</a>
Treasurer	Bobbie Offen	684-0160	<a href="mailto:bobbieo@cox.net">bobbieo@cox.net</a>

### BOARD MEMBERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Field Trips Chair	Jack Sanford	566-2191	<a href="mailto:jacksanford@hotmail.com">jacksanford@hotmail.com</a>
Programs Chair	John O'Brien	962-7799	<a href="mailto:mlbm@cox.net">mlbm@cox.net</a>
Conservation Chair	Steve Ferry	967-5162	<a href="mailto:sjferry@cox.net">sjferry@cox.net</a>
Education Chair	OPEN		
Science Chair	OPEN		
Membership Chair	Jared Dawson	687-6218	<a href="mailto:jdawson@silcom.com">jdawson@silcom.com</a>
Newsletter Chair	Judy Hogan	969-0907	<a href="mailto:jkrayk@silcom">jkrayk@silcom</a>
Publicity Chair	Adam Lewis	967-7213	<a href="mailto:aj.lewis@cox.net">aj.lewis@cox.net</a>
At Large—Outreach	Julie Kummel	403-3203	<a href="mailto:jkummel@rain.org">jkummel@rain.org</a>
At-Large—Outreach	Dolores Pollock	681-8661	<a href="mailto:dolorespollock@earthlink.net">dolorespollock@earthlink.net</a>
At Large—Outreach	Margo Kenney	963-3011	<a href="mailto:margo@margokenney.com">margo@margokenney.com</a>

### APPOINTED POSITIONS

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

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El Tecolote

Santa Barbara Audubon Society, Inc.

5679 Hollister Avenue, Suite 5B

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