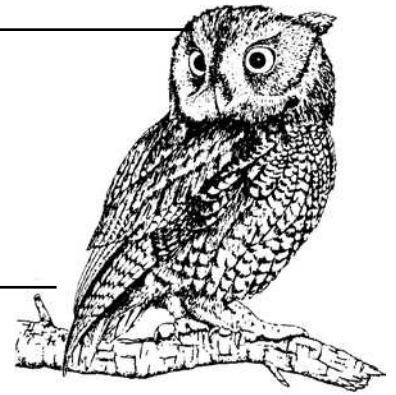


El Tecolote

Newsletter of the Santa Barbara Audubon Society, Inc.
Volume 47, Issue 4

February — March 2009



SANTA BARBARA BIRDERS TURN OUT IN RECORD NUMBERS ON CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT JANUARY 3, 2009 By Joan Easton Lentz

This Christmas Bird Count will go down in history – not with the highest number of bird species seen, but with the highest (drum-roll, please) number of BIRDERS ever participating ever on a Santa Barbara Count! A whopping 212 folks in 77 groups combed local beaches, sloughs, parks, reservoirs, and mountains to census bird populations during this annual event. Prior to this year, the highest number of participants was 182. It's a huge victory for Santa Barbara Audubon and for birding in our community! Congratulations to those who joined us this year for the first time and to all you loyal returnees.

What a great Count!

The weather was perfect, the day being cool and calm with a high overcast. The number of birders participating assured us that we would be able to search every nook and cranny of our Count Circle for all sorts of birds. A total of 209 bird species tallied was enough to win Santa Barbara first place in California (ahead of San Diego and Coastal Orange County with 205 each)! The traditionally very high Texas Counts at Mad Island Marsh and Guadalupe Ranch have long been out of reach for us in species totals, but I understand that Freeport, our old rival, got around 200 species. All in all, that puts Santa Barbara third in the nation in bird species found on a Christmas Count!

Birders found some interesting new birds, as well as some old favorites. The rarest was probably the “Eastern” Winter Wren, a species that is likely to be split off from Western Winter Wren in the near future. That would be a new bird historically for the Count. A Grace’s Warbler at Bella Vista Open Space in Goleta and a Northern Waterthrush at the Santa Barbara Zoo were good finds, too. A Gray Flycatcher returned to the Goleta Cemetery for a second year, and an American Redstart was on Atascadero Creek at the end of Ward Drive.

This was a good year for sapsuckers: both Red-naped and Yellow-bellied were on the Count. However, it was a tough year to find many tanagers and orioles, although we did get fortunate to spot a Hooded Oriole in Hope Ranch and two Summer Tanagers – one in Isla Vista and one in Montecito.

As far as numbers go, there were 46,761 birds spotted, which surprised everyone by being higher than in the two most recent Counts. Contributing to this was the unprecedented number of Brown Pelicans – a new high for the Count at well over 5,000 individuals (just go take a look at the harbor). Other species present in record high numbers were Glaucous-winged Gulls and Black Skimmers.

The bigger the CBC grows, the more organizational talents

it requires. I want to thank my Compilation Committee without whom there would be no Santa Barbara Count: **Dave Compton, Rebecca Coulter, Jared Dawson, Joan Murdoch, and Bill Pollock.** These folks gave hours and hours of their time to volunteer for Santa Barbara Audubon and help with the Count and its compilation. I also want to thank the many out-of-town visitors who helped and the dependable local birders that scout the area before the Count so we know where the stake-outs can be found.

With birder numbers soaring, we’ll be out there counting with more and more people every year. At least, that is our goal. Let’s hope we’ll be fortunate enough to protect the bird life that makes Santa Barbara so famous, too.



*Eastern Winter
Wren
Photo by
Evan Caves*



*Lower Paradise Road Birders; Fred Emerson, Andy Lentz,
Dennis Nord, Kate McCurdy, Laura Baldwin and Tim
Matthews*

Photo By Haldane Harris

Santa Barbara 2008 Christmas Bird Count Results

DUCKS, GEESE, SWANS

_____	Gr. White-fronted Goose
_____	Snow Goose
2	Ross' Goose *
2	Cackling Goose
98	Canada Goose
31	Brant
3	Wood Duck
67	Gadwall
1	Eurasian Wigeon *
149	American Wigeon
636	Mallard
1	Blue-winged Teal *
13	Cinnamon Teal
344	Northern Shoveler
7	Northern Pintail
93	Green-winged Teal
2	Canvasback
142	Redhead
58	Ring-necked Duck
4	Greater Scaup *
165	Lesser Scaup
210	Surf Scoter
144	Bufflehead
3	Common Goldeneye
24	Hooded Merganser
100	Common Merganser
24	Red-breasted Merganser
365	Ruddy Duck

QUAIL, TURKEYS

30	Wild Turkey
_____	Mountain Quail
127	California Quail

LOONS

10	Red-throated Loon
16	Pacific Loon
8	Common Loon
5	~Loon species

GREBES

103	Pied-billed Grebe
43	Horned Grebe
45	Eared Grebe
908	Western Grebe
73	Clark's Grebe
_____	~Clark's / Western Grebe

SHEARWATERS

_____	Northern Fulmar
970	Black-vented Shearwater

PELICANS

4958	Brown Pelican
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CORMORANTS

767	Brandt's Cormorant
312	Double-crested Cormorant
9	Pelagic Cormorant

HERONS

2	American Bittern *
1	Least Bittern *
55	Great Blue Heron
64	Great Egret
58	Snowy Egret
_____	Cattle Egret
7	Green Heron
111	Black-crowned Night-Heron

NEW WORLD VULTURES

128	Turkey Vulture
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HAWKS

2	Osprey *
15	White-tailed Kite
8	Northern Harrier
13	Sharp-shinned Hawk
31	Cooper's Hawk
78	Red-shouldered Hawk
148	Red-tailed Hawk
_____	Golden Eagle

FALCONS

33	American Kestrel
9	Merlin
6	Peregrine Falcon *

RAILS, GALLINULES

13	Virginia Rail
18	Sora
x	Common Moorhen
1425	American Coot

PLOVERS

116	Black-bellied Plover
293	Snowy Plover
97	Semipalmated Plover
222	Killdeer

STILTS, AVOCETS

45	Black-necked Stilt
_____	American Avocet

SANDPIPERS

18	Greater Yellowlegs
_____	Lesser Yellowlegs *
158	Willet
10	Spotted Sandpiper
33	Whimbrel
25	Long-billed Curlew
93	Marbled Godwit
_____	Ruddy Turnstone
48	Black Turnstone

606	Sanderling
11	Western Sandpiper
132	Least Sandpiper
2	Dunlin
63	Long-billed Dowitcher
7	Wilson's Snipe
_____	Red Phalarope *

JAEGERS, GULLS, TERNS

10	Pomarine Jaeger *
5	Parasitic Jaeger *
5	~Jaeger species
27	Bonaparte's Gull
1952	Heermann's Gull
219	Mew Gull
294	Ring-billed Gull
1201	California Gull
15	Herring Gull
3	Thayer's Gull *
2172	Western Gull
147	Glaucous-winged Gull
_____	Black-legged Kittiwake *
1	Caspian Tern *
162	Royal Tern
106	Forster's Tern
406	Black Skimmer

ALCIDS

20	Common Murre
_____	Cassin's Auklet
210	Rhinoceros Auklet

PIGEONS

878	Rock Pigeon
434	Band-tailed Pigeon
170	Eurasian Collared-Dove
_____	Spotted Dove *
2	White-winged Dove *
628	Mourning Dove
_____	Common Ground-Dove

CUCKOOS

2	Greater Roadrunner
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OWLS

12	Barn Owl
29	Western Screech-Owl
39	Great Horned Owl
1	Northern Pygmy-Owl
1	Burrowing Owl

SWIFTS

8	White-throated Swift
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HUMMINGBIRDS

857	Anna's Hummingbird
_____	Costa's Hummingbird *
20	Allen's Hummingbird *
26	~Selasphorus sp.

KINGFISHERS

24	Belted Kingfisher
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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: newsletter@SantaBarbaraAudubon.org
Submissions deadline is the 10th of the month before publication.

WOODPECKERS

- 747 ___ Acorn Woodpecker
- 1 ___ Red-naped Sapsucker *
- 23 ___ Red-breasted Sapsucker
- 50 ___ Nuttall's Woodpecker
- 53 ___ Downy Woodpecker
- 8 ___ Hairy Woodpecker
- 151 ___ Northern (red-shftd) Flicker
- 1 ___ ~Northern (yel.-shftd) Flicker *

TYRANT FLYCATCHERS

- 311 ___ Black Phoebe
- 56 ___ Say's Phoebe
- 2 ___ Tropical Kingbird *
- 46 ___ Cassin's Kingbird

SHRIKES

- 7 ___ Loggerhead Shrike

VIREOS

- 59 ___ Hutton's Vireo

LARKS

- ___ Horned Lark

JAYS, CROWS

- 3 ___ Steller's Jay
- 622 ___ Western Scrub-Jay
- 3 ___ Yellow-billed Magpie
- 1537 ___ American Crow
- 6 ___ Common Raven

CHICKADEES, TITMICE

- 2 ___ Mountain Chickadee
- 363 ___ Oak Titmouse

BUSHTITS

- 1328 ___ Bushtit

NUTHATCHES

- 12 ___ Red-breasted Nuthatch
- 78 ___ White-breasted Nuthatch

CREEPERS

- 3 ___ Brown Creeper

WRENS

- 4 ___ Rock Wren
- 7 ___ Canyon Wren
- 107 ___ Bewick's Wren
- 25 ___ House Wren
- 2 ___ Winter Wren
- 22 ___ Marsh Wren

KINGLETS, GNATCATCHERS

- 3 ___ Golden-crowned Kinglet
- 489 ___ Ruby-crowned Kinglet
- 56 ___ Blue-gray Gnatcatcher

THRUSHES, WRENTIT

- 109 ___ Western Bluebird
- 1 ___ Townsend's Solitaire
- 135 ___ Hermit Thrush
- 375 ___ American Robin

- 2 ___ Varied Thrush
- 213 ___ Wrentit

MOCKINGBIRDS, THRASHERS

- 184 ___ Northern Mockingbird
- 103 ___ California Thrasher

STARLINGS

- 1287 ___ European Starling

WAGTAILS, PIPITS

- 221 ___ American Pipit

WAXWINGS

- 847 ___ Cedar Waxwing

SILKY-FLYCATCHERS

- 10 ___ Phainopepla

WOOD-WARBLERS

- 303 ___ Orange-crowned Warbler
- 3 ___ Nashville Warbler *
- 1 ___ Yellow Warbler *
- 2427 ___ Yel.rumped(Audubon's)Wrblr
- 107 ___ Yel.rumped(Myrtle) Warbler
- 5 ___ Black-throated Gray Warbler
- 252 ___ Townsend's Warbler
- ___ Hermit Warbler *
- 2 ___ Palm Warbler *
- 1 ___ Black-and-white Warbler *
- 173 ___ Common Yellowthroat
- 1 ___ Wilson's Warbler

TANAGERS

- 2 ___ Summer Tanager *
- 3 ___ Western Tanager

SPARROWS, GROSBEAKS

- 178 ___ Spotted Towhee
- 543 ___ California Towhee
- 1 ___ Rufous-crowned Sparrow
- 6 ___ Chipping Sparrow
- 62 ___ Lark Sparrow
- ___ Sage Sparrow *
- 130 ___ Savannah Sparrow
- 12 ___ Fox Sparrow
- 257 ___ Song Sparrow
- 32 ___ Lincoln's Sparrow
- ___ Swamp Sparrow *
- 4 ___ White-throated Sparrow *
- 238 ___ Golden-crowned Sparrow
- 1274 ___ White-crowned Sparrow
- 656 ___ Dark-eyed (Oregon) Junco
- ___ ~Dark-eyed (Slate-col) Junco
- ___ ~Dark-eyed (Gray-hd) Junco
- ___ Rose-breasted Grosbeak *
- x ___ Black-headed Grosbeak *

BLACKBIRDS, ORIOLES

- 231 ___ Red-winged Blackbird
- ___ Tricolored Blackbird
- 357 ___ Western Meadowlark
- 464 ___ Brewer's Blackbird

- 41 ___ Great-tailed Grackle
- 66 ___ Brown-headed Cowbird
- ___ Orchard Oriole *
- 1 ___ Hooded Oriole *
- ___ Baltimore Oriole *
- 4 ___ Bullock's Oriole
- ___ Scott's Oriole *

FINCHES

- 16 ___ Purple Finch
- 2202 ___ House Finch
- 6 ___ Pine Siskin
- 506 ___ Lesser Goldfinch
- ___ Lawrence's Goldfinch
- 355 ___ American Goldfinch

OLD WORLD SPARROWS

- 220 ___ House Sparrow

UNESTABLISHED EXOTICS

- 79 ___ ~Nutmeg Mannikin

ADDITIONAL SPECIES (counted)

- 1 ___ White-winged Scoter
- 1 ___ Red-Necked Grebe
- 2 ___ Bald Eagle
- 2 ___ Ancient Murrelet
- 1 ___ Spotted Owl
- 1 ___ Yellow-bellied Sapsucker
- 1 ___ Gray Flycatcher
- 1 ___ Cassin's Vireo
- 4 ___ Tree Swallow
- 8 ___ Chestnut-backed Chickadee
- 1 ___ Tennessee Warbler
- 1 ___ Grace's Warbler
- 1 ___ Northern Waterthrush
- 1 ___ American Redstart

209 SPECIES GRAND TOTAL
46760 BIRD COUNT GRAND TOTAL

* = Rare -- requires written description
x = Seen in Count Week (3 days before and 3 days after Count Day) but not on Count Day
~ = Birds counted but species not count-able

Additional Count Week sightings
x ___ Short-eared/Long-eared Owl
x ___ Barn Swallow

A special "THANK YOU," to
Joan Lentz,
for once again organizing
and leading us in a
successful CBC!

Santa Barbara Audubon Programs

All programs will take place at Farrand Hall, Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History, Mission Canyon, Santa Barbara. Free on-site parking. All programs 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.

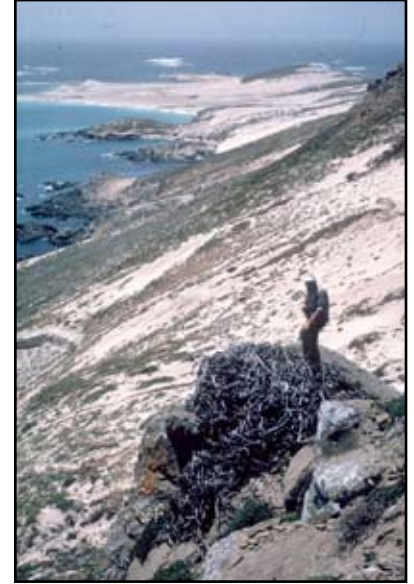
Apex Avian's Role on the Channel Island Ecosystem

Paul W. Collins

Wednesday, February 25, 2009

Paul will discuss the results of his extensive examinations of the diet of Bald Eagles and Golden Eagles on the Channel Islands based on prey remains recovered from historic nests found on the islands. This diet study examines the role that each of these apex avian predators plays in the terrestrial and near shore marine ecosystems of the Channel Islands. In particular it will examine the role that Golden Eagles and feral herbivores have played in the decline of the Island Fox on the Northern Channel Islands. Paul will also provide an update as to the steps that the land managing and resource agencies have taken to help reverse the decline of the Island Fox and to address predation of Island Foxes by Golden Eagles.

Dr. Collins is the Curator of Vertebrate Zoology at the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History.



Channel Island Fox, a Success Story!

Keri Dearborn and Pat Meyer
Friends of the Island Fox

Wednesday, March 25, 2009

As a keystone species on the California Channel Islands, the Island Fox plays an important role in the island ecosystem. Between 1994 and 2000, Island Fox populations plunged toward extinction on four of the islands. Golden Eagles and disease played the primary roles in this environmental crisis. With diminished Island Fox populations, change rippled through the other island species.

Keri Dearborn and Pat Meyer from Friends of the Island Fox will speak on the complex relationship between the Island Fox and other island species, especially birds and plants. They will highlight the current success of Island Fox conservation, including video of fox releases back into the wild, and the future of monitoring populations across the islands. How are Island Foxes and Bald Eagles monitored on the islands? The presenters will demonstrate radio telemetry tracking. They will also discuss the important conservation issues facing Island Foxes in the future and the role community members can play.



The mission of the Santa Barbara Audubon Society is to help conserve and restore the earth's natural ecosystems and improve its biological diversity, principally in the Santa Barbara area, and to connect people with birds and nature through education, science-based projects and advocacy.

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.*

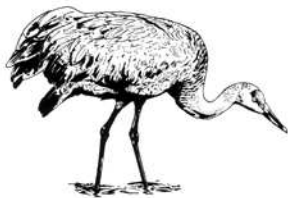
Sandhill Crane Field Trip Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 14-15

Target Birds: Sandhill Cranes, Burrowing Owls, Common Moorhens, Horned Larks, Loggerhead Shrikes, Lark Sparrows, Blue-winged Teals, Marsh Wrens, Great Horned Owls plus many other species.

Leader: Jack Sanford

Cost: free (camp ground fees \$8-\$10) (Motel 20 minutes away in Lost Hills)

This Audubon field trip will visit the Colonel Allensworth State Historic Park (CASHP), the Pixley National Wildlife Refuge (PNWR) and the Kern National Wildlife Refuge (KNWR). It will be an overnight trip with (free) primitive camping available at KNWR or paid camping at Allensworth State Park (w/bathroom and showers). If there are open spaces (there usually are this time of year), this will be our first choice. Everyone must make their own vehicle arrangements and bring the necessary camping equipment, layers of clothes, food and drink plus birding equipment.



We will meet between 1:30 and 2 p.m. on Saturday February 14 at CASHP in the campground. We will bird CASHP for Burrowing Owls, etc. for 2 to 3 hours. From there we will proceed to the PNWR to view the Sandhill Cranes as they return to the

wetlands for the night. On Sunday morning we will bird the KNWR for several hours and then begin our trip home. We will return home Sunday evening. P.S.: There is a possible side trip to the Wind Wolves Preserve on the way home.

Directions: It is approximately 225 miles to the State Historic Park on Hwy. 43. One way to get there is to take Hwy. 101 to Paso Robles. Take Hwy. 46 to Lost Hills. Cross Hwy. 5 but stay on Hwy. 46 to Hwy. 43 (18 miles). Turn left (north) on Hwy. 43 and proceed to CASHP (15 miles). Or you can take Hwy. 101 south to Hwy. 126 to Hwy. 5 to Hwy. 46 to Hwy. 43, and turn left (north) on Hwy. 43 to CASHP (15 miles).

Pt. Mugu Naval Air Station (Bonus Field Trip/Bird Walk combination) Friday, March 20

8:00 a.m. (car pool time)-1:00 p.m.

Target Birds: Waterfowl, Rails, Egrets, shorebirds, ducks, Vermillion Flycatchers, raptors, etc.

Trip Leader: Martin Ruane

Only 25 people will be allowed to enter the Naval Air Station so it is necessary to make a reservation by calling Jack Sanford at 566-2191 or emailing him at jacksanford@hotmail.com and receiving confirmation. The deadline for making a reservation is Monday, March 9. Jack must forward a list of participants to Pt. Mugu on March 10. We will car pool (\$8.00 gas money to drivers) from the S.B. City parking lot on the corner of Cabrillo and Garden at 8:00 a.m. Once you receive reservation confirmation, you can meet us at the base if you so desire.

Directions: Take Hwy. 101 to Oxnard and the Rice Ave. off ramp. Head towards the ocean. Take Hwy. 1 southeast to the Wood Rd. turnoff towards the Base, and turn left at the stop sign. Meet at the main gate parking lot. You must be a citizen of the United States. You will need a photo ID and social security number, and you must fill out a security form before we enter the base. The Base Naturalist, Martin Ruane, will guide us around the base from 9:00 a.m.-12 noon. Join us for this unique and rare opportunity. Thanks to Peggy Kearns and Jeff Hanson for making the necessary arrangements to visit the Base.

Rancho Santa Barbara (Lone Star) (East end of Lake Cachuma) Saturday, March 21, 8 a.m.-noon (7:30 a.m. at car pool location)

Target Birds: Geese, Common Goldeneyes, Wood Ducks, Lewis's Woodpeckers, Bald Eagles, Clark's Grebes, American White Pelicans and other water and song birds

Leader: Rob Lindsay

Directions: Coming from the south take Hwy. 101 to Lake Cachuma/State St. off ramp. Turn right on State St. and turn right into the Five Points Shopping Center. Coming from the north take Hwy. 101 to the State St. off ramp. Turn left onto State St. Turn right into the Five Points Shopping Center. We will meet and park near Carl's Jr restaurant. (\$6.00 gas money to drivers.) Or you can meet us at 8:00 a.m. at the gate to Rancho Santa Barbara (4001 Hwy. 154)—a pipe gate with large star on it on the right hand side of the road, if coming from S.B. We must all meet at the gate and enter the ranch as a group. Wear walking shoes. Binoculars and spotting scopes are useful. Bring water and a snack. Enjoy ranch owners **Lee Carr** and his brother **Charles Carr's** hospitality at one of the best inland winter birding areas in the county!

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, February 13

Target Birds: Waterfowl and winter songbirds

Directions: From Hwy. 101 take the Los Carneros off ramp; head towards the mountains. Turn right into the Stow House/Goleta Depot parking lot. Park behind the fire station where we will meet.

San Jose Creek Area (near Kellogg Tennis Courts) Friday, February 27

Target Birds: Songbirds, Woodpeckers, Thrashers, Thrushes, Kinglets, etc.

Directions: From Hwy. 101 take the Patterson Ave. off ramp and head towards the mountains. Turn left on Cathedral Oaks Rd. Turn left at the Kellogg Rd. stoplight. Park and meet near the tennis courts.

Elings Park Friday, March 27

Target Birds: Raptors, songbirds, Juncos, Warblers, Finches, etc.

Directions: From Hwy. 101 take the Las Positas off ramp and head towards the ocean. Look for the Elings Park entrance sign and turn left on Jerry Harwin Parkway. Proceed to the Battistone Foundation Soccer parking lot located in front of the Park office building. Park in that immediate area. We will meet there and bird the area.



*Merlin.
Artist Steven D'Amato*

Introducing our Chapter-only Membership

Your board of directors has been discussing a proposed new form of membership to the Santa Barbara Audubon Society (SBAS). Currently, local members of National Audubon Society (NAS) are automatically members of SBAS. We are not proposing to change that. We are proposing a new class of membership called “chapter-only” membership. It would replace the current ‘newsletter only’ category, which technically is not a full membership. The chapter-only membership would be a fuller and a more directed category, with all membership funds going to our local programs. For all current SBAS members, your term of subscription would remain in effect just as before. For new members, or at time of renewal, the choice can be made to sign up for a chapter-only membership or the standard National Audubon membership. All chapter-only memberships will come due on June 30th of each year. As a sign-up incentive, all new chapter-only sign-ups submitted before July 1, 2009 will have a term that ends on June 30, 2010, with re-subscriptions running annually after that.

One reason the SBAS Audubon is considering a chapter-only membership is to retain more membership funds to support our local projects. NAS currently keeps most of the renewal fee, which varies but is about \$35/year; the chapters get “dues sharing” of about \$2.50 per member. That is not enough even to provide the newsletter.

The advantages to this change are several:

- A new choice for members to intentionally select their desired support of Audubon, either chapter-only or NAS + SBAS.

- Additional support for the vital programs and advocacy that have been a proud SBAS tradition within our local community (currently NAS keeps most of your dues after the first year).
- More efficient and easier recordkeeping for our local Membership Chair by consolidating the time of renewals.
- The elimination of the “newsletter-only” membership, currently undefined by our by-laws and which is not a true membership.
- The new membership class, with a proposed flat rate of \$25 annually, will confer all of the rights of full SBAS membership, including voting rights. This rate, while greater than the NAS introductory rates, is \$10 less than their resubscription rate.
- We believe that by keeping the SBAS rate constant we would have a steadier membership base.

Please note that your local SBAS keeps its membership list private. We do not sell or share our names or addresses with any other organization or entity. With a chapter-only membership, you will no longer receive the Audubon magazine, unless you chose to sign up with NAS, but you should also no longer receive unsolicited mailings due to your name and address being sold.

While your board has the authority to make this change without a membership-wide vote, it is important to hear from you. We are looking forward to your comments, pro and con to this proposal. You may write or call the office, or email the Membership Chair at membership@santabarbaraaudubon.org.

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 or 684-4405. For Coal Oil Point Reserve, contact **Tara Longwell** at longwell@lifesci.ucsb.edu or 252-4903. or **Darlene Chirman** at dchirman@starband.net or 692-2008.*

ARROYO HONDO

Contact: **Jane Murray**

Sunday February 8 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
 Sunday March 8 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

COAL OIL POINT RESERVE

Contact: **Tara Longwell**

Saturday February 21 9 a.m.-12 noon.
 Saturday March 7 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:

February 7
 March 7

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.

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

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.

Santa Barbara Audubon Society Field Trip Report

Sand Point Road December 19, 2008 By Jeff Hanson

Jack Sanford deserves a big pat on the back for securing this delightful mini-field trip at another close-in location. Twenty-two of us gathered at the west end of the Carpinteria Salt Marsh at 8:30 a.m., on a crisp and clear coastal morning. Soon we had set out on a simple, easy walking tour down Sand Point Road to the sea and back, about 1.5 miles total.

With the negative tide, the first half hour did not yield too many birds, but the camaraderie was great. As we approached the mouth of the slough, things picked up with good numbers of shorebirds, waders, and ducks. It was a real pleasure to be up close and personal with the peeps, allowing a good discussion of ID features.

By this time, it had warmed up, and people were shedding their coats. After dwelling at the mouth for quite some time enjoying the birds, we went to the rocks and set up scopes out to sea. Several large rafts of Western Grebes, along with Pacific Loons, Cormorants, Terns, Gulls and Surf Scoters kept us busy until it was time to go.

We logged a total of 57 species for this trip. Our sincerest thanks go out to the generous homeowners of this terrific property. And as always, a tip of the hat to Jack Sanford for keeping the fire burning, and finding new places for us all to explore!



Birders had a great view of the Carpinteria Salt Marsh. Photo by Jeff Hanson



Green Heron Photo by David Levasheff

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

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Santa Barbara Audubon Society July 2008/June 2009
 (805) 964-1468, Info@SantaBarbaraAudubon.org
<http://www.SantaBarbaraAudubon.org>

OFFICERS

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Vice-President	Lee Moldaver	964-6477	VP@SantaBarbaraAudubon.org
Secretary	Susan Lentz	968-6011	Secretary@SantaBarbaraAudubon.org
Treasurer	Bobbie Offen	684-0160	Treasurer@SantaBarbaraAudubon.org

BOARD MEMBERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Field Trips Chair	Jack Sanford	566-2191	FieldTrips@SantaBarbaraAudubon.org
Programs Chair	John O'Brien	962-7799	Programs@SantaBarbaraAudubon.org
Conservation Chair	Steve Ferry	967-5162	Conservation@SantaBarbaraAudubon.org
Education Chair	Ann Steinmetz	680-2638	Education@SantaBarbaraAudubon.org
Science Chair	OPEN		
Membership Chair	Jared Dawson	687-6218	Membership@SantaBarbaraAudubon.org
Newsletter Chair	OPEN		
Publicity Chair	Adam Lewis	967-7213	Publicity@SantaBarbaraAudubon.org
At Large-Outreach	Julie Kummel	403-3203	Development-2@SantaBarbaraAudubon.org
At-Large-Outreach	Dolores Pollock	681-8661	Development-1@SantaBarbaraAudubon.org
At Large-Outreach	Margo Kenney	963-3011	Development-3@SantaBarbaraAudubon.org

APPOINTED POSITIONS

Webmaster:	Bobbie Offen	684-0160	Treasurer@SantaBarbaraAudubon.org
Eyes In The Sky:	Gabriele Drozdowski	898-0347	EITS@SantaBarbaraAudubon.org
Snowy Plover Docent	Prog: Jennifer Stroh	880-1195	Plovers@SantaBarbaraAudubon.org
Hospitality:	Sylvelin Edgerton	964-1658	Hospitality-1@SantaBarbaraAudubon.org
	Nancy Röhrer	687-7587	Hospitality-2@SantaBarbaraAudubon.org
Report Rare Birds:	Karen Bridgers	964-1316	RareBirds@SantaBarbaraAudubon.org

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.

Calendar of Events

Check our website for any changes or late additions to our Bird Walks, Field Trips or Programs:
<http://www.SantaBarbaraAudubon.org>

February

Feb. 7	Plover Training
Feb. 8	Restore Arroyo Hondo
Feb. 13	Lake Los Carneros Bird Walk
Feb, 14-15	Sand Hill Crane Field Trip
Feb. 21	Restore Coal Oil Point Reserve
Feb. 25	Program: Apex Avian's Role
Feb. 27	San Jose Creek Bird Walk

March

Mar. 7	Plover Training
Mar 7	Restore Coal Oil Point Reserve
Mar. 8	Restore Arroyo Hondo
Mar. 20	Pt. Mugu NAS Birdwalk/Field Trip
Mar. 21	Rancho Santa Barbara Field Trip
Mar. 25	Program: Channel Island Fox
Mar. 27	Elings Park Bird Walk

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