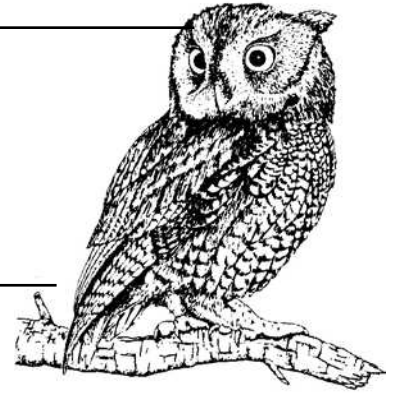


El Tecolote

Newsletter of the Santa Barbara Audubon Society, Inc.

Volume 49, Issue 3

December 2010–January 2011



2010 CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT SATURDAY, JANUARY 1, 2011 by Joan Lentz

Please come help us count the birds during Santa Barbara Audubon Society's annual Christmas Bird Count to be held **SATURDAY, JANUARY 1, 2011!** Every year, this wonderful effort on the part of over 200 local and out-of-town birders keeps Santa Barbara in the top five Christmas Counts in the United States in number of species sighted!

On the evening of Count Day, please join us at the compilation dinner at the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History in Fleischmann Auditorium. The potluck dinner begins promptly at 6:00 p.m. and the compilation countdown at 7:00 p.m. Please bring your favorite salad, main dish, or dessert to share. If your group includes out-of-towners, they may contribute drinks, bread, chips, etc. Please bring your own service.

This year's count compiler will be Joan Lentz, assisted by the wonderful CBC committee. Joan Murdoch has graciously agreed to take participants' sign-ups. **PLEASE CALL OR E-MAIL JOAN MURDOCH TO SIGN-UP. Joan is at casbbc@gmail.com or you can call her at 969-5132.**

Before the count, you can help us by scouting your neighborhood or anywhere else within the Count Circle for the following interesting or unusual birds:

Cattle Egret
Blue-winged Teal
Greater Scaup
Mountain Quail
Common Moorhen
Virginia Rail
Black-necked Stilt
Lesser Yellowlegs
Long-billed Curlew
Common Snipe
Thayer's Gull
Greater Roadrunner

any owls other than Great Horned
White-throated Swift
any non-Anna's Hummingbirds
Sapsuckers (other than Red-breasted)
Horned Lark
any swallows
Rock or Winter Wrens
Common Raven
Phainopepla
Nashville Warbler
Black-throated Gray Warbler
Yellow Warbler

Hermit Warbler
Wilson's Warbler
any tanagers
any grosbeaks
Lark Sparrow
White-throated Sparrow
Tri-colored Blackbird
any orioles
Lawrence's Goldfinch

PLUS: any montane species such as: Mountain Chickadee, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Townsend's Solitaire, Varied Thrush, Brown Creeper, Pine Siskin or Cassin's Finch

If you see any of the above or know of any other interesting birds, please let one of the following know:

Dave Compton (967-4686) davcompton@verizon.net

Joan Lentz (969-4397) joanlentz@cox.net

Patrick McNulty (967-9900)

Also, this year we have **all the Christmas Count forms available for downloading on the Audubon website, which is: <http://www.SantaBarbaraAudubon.org>** Check it out!

If you need forms mailed to you or have difficulty getting them off the computer, Joan Lentz will be glad to mail them to you. Thanks!

For other Christmas Bird Counts and information please go to page 3

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.

EITS' New Peregrine needs a Name

By Gabriele Drozdowski



EITS' New Peregrine accepts quail treats.

Photo by Gabriele Drozdowski

On Oct. 17, EITS Volunteers David Eldridge and John O'Brien picked up a female Peregrine falcon from South Bay Wildlife Rehab in Rancho Pales Verdes. She had spent five months there, recovering from a right wing injury, most likely caused by an impact with a car.

Sadly she cannot be released back into the wild, as her wing recovery halted after three months at about 90% functionality. Now, that may sound good, but for a Peregrine falcon, a 90% lopsided flight ability just isn't good enough. Peregrines, the fastest animals on earth, need 100% to perform the split-second adjustments they need to make during chases or dives that can reach up to 240 mph. (Visit <http://video.nationalgeographic.com> and search for "High-velocity Falcons" to watch.)



"Angel" being outfitted with falconry equipment.

Photo by David Eldridge

There is a small chance that, given some time, she could learn to compensate for the wing imbalance, but this type of re-training at super-high speeds is simply impossible in a rehabilitation or falconry facility. One would need a skilled falconer with an airplane, food, and lots of time on hand for several weeks to help her bridge the disability gap. On her own, she would have starved to death before being ready to compete with other Peregrines once again.

Upon her arrival, she received her temporary name "Angel" (from Los Angeles) and was outfitted with falconry equipment meant to help her overcome her fears. She was not fed and was left alone for one day, and then offered tasty quail pieces from a leather glove the next. Half way through that day she began accepting the food. A second-year bird, "Angel" has been extremely cooperative and is progressing at a rapid pace. Incremental steps and positive reinforcements have quickly built her trust and confidence.

Only three weeks after her arrival, she remains calm when volunteers come and go, when walking around the yard on the glove, visiting our other birds, or sitting out by the pond, watching goldfish and songbirds. Today she even felt safe enough to eat on the glove 6 feet away from Max, our Great horned owl – a natural enemy in the wild.

With your help, we would like to find a more unique, permanent name for her, so please put on your thinking caps and submit your ideas to eyes-in-the-sky@cox.net, along with your name, email address and phone number, or call Gabriele at 898-0347. The deadline for submissions is December 16, 2010. The winner will receive a private tour and attend a falcon

“training” session. If you have children around, please ask them for their ideas as well.

In other news, the new aviary at the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History is nearing completion (picture 4). The roof is now finished, doors and windows are installed, and electrical and plumbing are done. Next are exterior siding, window netting and interior walls. Last will be the security shutters.



*“Angel’s” first chance to look over her new home.
Photo by Carolyn Naiman*

Our expected move-in date may be during the latter part of December. Six years in the making: Hooray indeed!



*Progress continues on the aviary at the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History.
Photo by John O’Brien*

**Thank you for supporting
Santa Barbara Audubon.
We couldn’t do it without
you!**

More Local Christmas Bird Counts

Carpinteria CBC
Saturday, December 18.
Contact: Rob Denholtz, phone: 805-684-4060 or email robdenholtz@gmail.com

Cachuma CBC
Tuesday, December 28.
Contact: Mark Holmgren (805)-683-4045 or email at maholmgren@yahoo.com

La Purisima CBC
Sunday, December 19.
Contact: Alex Abela, phone: (805) 934-2873 or email at abela@lightspeed.net

Santa Maria-Guadalupe CBC
Saturday, December 26.
Contact: Alex Abela, phone: (805) 934-2873 or email at abela@lightspeed.net

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, Marlene Mills Newsletter Chair
 5679 Hollister Avenue, Suite 5B
 Goleta, CA 93117
 or email: newsletter@SantaBarbaraAudubon.org
 Submissions deadline is the 10th of the month before publication.

Restoration Project and Program Carpinteria State Beach

December 4-5 & December 11-12
9 a.m.—2 p.m.

Carpinteria Creek River Mouth
 Show up anytime.

The first day we will have a potluck and presentation in the evening. Restorers are welcome to camp overnight but must RSVP.

December 8, 6:00—8:30 the Channel Islands National Park Visitor Center, 1901 Spinnaker Drive, Ventura will present a program featuring the restoration project on Anacapa Island.

For more information or to RSVP please contact Maeghan at: maeghan@cirweb.org or call (805)272-5961

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.



Alexander Wilson: Father of American Ornithology

Linda Miller

Curator, John & Peggy Maximus Gallery
Wednesday, December 1

I am a volunteer in the cause of natural history impelled by nobler views than those of money.
-Alexander Wilson, 1809

Before Audubon, there was Wilson. Learn about the origins of ornithology in America. In Alexander Wilson's short and intensely productive life, he recorded, through drawings, prose, and poetry, his impressions of America's birds. His great work, American Ornithology, was published in nine volumes, from 1808-1814, and was a landmark work of early American natural history. He described most of the bird species found in the United States two hundred years ago with detailed field observations and charming illustration.

Marine wildlife cinematographer

Tom Campbell

Wednesday, January 26

Tom shares an engaging presentation about the life of a professional underwater nature filmmaker. A former US Marine serving in the elite Force Reconnaissance Company in Vietnam and a decorated California Highway Patrol officer, Tom brings a fascinating history to his award-winning career as a filmmaker. A pioneer in high definition, Tom is renowned not only for his business acumen in a challenging industry but also for his meticulous camera work and stunning imagery used by companies such as National Geographic, Discovery, BBC, etc. Tom often appears as a featured speaker at major film festivals worldwide.



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!

Maria Arroyo
Renee Barsa
Jamy & Bryan Berge
Norah Bierer
Eleanor Bowler
Lindsey L. Bramlett-Smith
Steven Courtney
Janine Dallow
Andra Dillard
Jane Dimez
Patty Engle

Yvonne B. Ferguson
Noah Gaines*
Margaret George-Craner
Nancy Golden
Gayle Hackamack
K. T. Hall
Rosemarie Harrison
Pam Hasler*
Anette L. Hough
Chandran Jayaraman
Jan Johnson

Tina Lerner
Laurel Luby
Mr. Richard G. Milham
Dennis Muraoka
Lee P. Neill
Sara Oberman
Georgia M. Ormsby
Barry Osborne
Danielle Peters
Paul & Margaret Prince
Sarah Ratzesberger

Nonie Reino
Carey Rogers
Andrew Royer
Christine Saunders
M. J. Schultz
Doris Taylor
Peggy Van Sicklen
August Vanderbeek

*Chapter Only Membership

Santa Barbara Audubon Field Trips

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 or jacksanford@hotmail.com for details or questions.

Lake Cachuma Eagle Boat Cruise Lake Cachuma County Park Saturday, December 11, 10 a.m.-12 noon

(9:45 check-in time at boat dock)

Target Birds: Bald Eagles, White Pelicans, Grebes, Common Loons, sea and water birds, ducks, Ospreys, Great -tailed Grackles, Peregrine Falcons, etc.

Trip Leader: Liz Mason, Park Naturalist

Cost: \$15 for the boat trip payable on the boat.
\$8 per car for entering the Lake Cachuma County Park.

Limit: 35 people. You must call or email Jack Sanford ((805) 566-2191 or jacksanford@hotmail.com) to make a reservation on or before Tuesday Dec 8th. Please give your name and phone number, and Jack will confirm.

Directions: Take Hwy. 154 to Lake Cachuma County Park. Park near the boat launching area and the Fishing and Tackle shop. To car pool, which is a good idea since there is an \$8 entrance fee, meet at the 5 Points Shopping Center near Carl's Junior at 9 a.m. Directions to Carl's Junior: 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. (\$8.00 gas money to drivers.) We should be back around 1 p.m.

Don't miss this great opportunity to get out on the lake with the Park Naturalist!

Hollister Ranch (near Gaviota) Saturday January 15, 8:00 a.m.-1 p.m. (7:00 a.m. at mandatory car pool location)

Reservations are required due to a limited number of vehicles allowed on the Ranch.

Target Birds: Songbirds, ocean and pond waterfowl, raptors and perhaps an owl or two.

Leader: Guy Tingos

Reservations are required as we are limited to 25 people (five vehicles). Please call or email Jack Sanford ((805) 566-2191 or jacksanford@hotmail.com) on or before Wednesday January 12th to reserve your place. Please let Jack know if you are willing to drive your vehicle and how many people it will hold.

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 at 7:00 a.m. (\$8.00 gas money to drivers.) We must car pool, as we are limited to 5 vehicles. Bring water, snack or lunch and wear comfortable shoes. Binoculars and spotting scopes are useful.

Don't miss out on this opportunity to bird the private and unique Hollister Ranch.

Bonus Field Trip More Mesa Saturday, Jan. 29, 8:30-10:30 a.m.

Target Birds: Songbirds and raptors

Leader: David Eldridge

Directions: Take Hwy. 101 to Patterson Ave. off ramp. Go south on Patterson Ave. towards the ocean. Cross Hollister Ave. The road turns left where there are horse stables on the left. Just past the stables there is a green gate (can be difficult to see) on the left side of the road. We will meet at the green gate. Parking is along the gate side of the road.

OR

Directions: Take Hwy. 101 to the Patterson Ave. off ramp. Go south on Patterson Ave. towards the ocean. Cross Hollister Ave. Just past the horse stables on the left, where the road turns left, there is a green gate where we will meet. Park on the gate side of the road.

Friday Bird Walks

*Join us on the second and fourth Fridays of each month at 8:30-10:30 a.m., except as otherwise noted. 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.*

Santa Barbara Harbor Friday, Dec. 10.

Target Birds: Waterfowl, Belted Kingfishers, Peregrine Falcons, gulls and shorebirds.

Directions: Coming from the north on Hwy. 101, take the Castillo St. off ramp to Cabrillo Blvd. Coming from the south on Hwy. 101 take the Cabrillo Blvd. off ramp. We will meet on the sidewalk next to the Sea Landing Sport Fishing Building (301 W. Cabrillo Blvd.) Everyone should park on Bath Street or Mason Street (where there is no time limit) or use paid, city lot parking. Cabrillo Blvd. parking is limited to 90 minutes.

Andree Clark Bird Refuge Friday, Dec. 24.

Target Birds: Waterfowl, shorebirds

Directions: From the south on Hwy. 101, take the Cabrillo Blvd. off ramp. Turn right on Los Patos Way. From the north on Hwy. 101, take the Los Patos Way off ramp. Park in or around the Bird Refuge parking lot.

Coronado Dr. and Devereux Creek Friday, Jan. 14.

Target Birds: Raptors, songbirds plus Monarch Butterflies.

Directions: From Hwy. 101 take the Glen Annie/Storke Rd. off ramp. Go south on Storke Rd. to Hollister Ave. Turn right onto Hollister Ave. and turn left onto Coronado Drive. Park at the end of the street.

Goleta Sewage Treatment Plant Friday Jan. 28.

Target Birds: Shorebirds.

Directions: Heading south on Hwy. 101, take the Fairview Ave. off-ramp and head towards the ocean. Fairview Ave. becomes Fowler St. The Treatment Plant is across the street from the Santa Barbara Airport. Heading north on Hwy. 101, take Ward Memorial Blvd. Take the last turn off before UCSB to Fowler St. (S.B. Airport). Turn right on Fowler. The Treatment Plant is on your right. Park in the parking lot and sign in at the office.

SAND POINT BIRD WALK

Bonus Bird Walk for S.B. Audubon Society Members Only

Friday January 21, 8:30-11 a.m.

Leaders: Peggy Kearns and Jeff Hanson

Target Birds: Long-billed Curlews, Great Egrets, Snowy Egrets, Ospreys, White-tailed Kites, waterfowl, Sandpipers, etc.

A Bonus Bird Walk and you don't want to miss this one. SBAS has received permission to offer a Friday Bird Walk for a limited number (20) of S.B. Audubon Society members (only) at the Sand Point private, gated community.

Enjoy this opportunity to bird the Carpinteria Salt Marsh from Sand Point Road. Unfortunately only a limited number of birders will be allowed to sign up for this bird walk. If you are interested, please contact Jack Sanford by phone ((805) 566-2191) or email (jacksanford@hotmail.com) asap and before Jan.19. Leave your name and phone number or email address, and Jack will confirm your reservation.

Directions: To get to the Sand Point Road entrance, take the Santa Claus Lane exit off Hwy. 101, and follow Santa Claus Lane to the southeast end. Parking is available in the business area just before Santa Claus Lane enters Hwy. 101 south. We will meet near the railroad tracks and proceed from there on foot.

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, 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** at longwell@lifesci.ucsb.edu or 252-4903. or **Darlene Chirman** at President@SantaBarbaraAudubon.org or 692-2008. For Lake Los Carneros contact **Julie Kummel**, 805-403-3203. Carpinteria State Beach Contact **Maeghan Owen** 805-272-5961*

ARROYO HONDO

Contact: **Jane Murray**
Sunday December 5 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Sunday January 2 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

COAL OIL POINT RESERVE

Contact: **Tara Longwell**
No Restoration Workday COPR in December due to holidays
Saturday January 22 9 a.m.-12 noon

LAKE LOS CARNEROS

Contact: **Julie Kummel**
No restoration planned for December or January.

CARPINTERIA STATE BEACH

Contact: **Maeghan Owen**
December 4 & 5 9 a.m.-2 p.m.
December 11 & 12 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

Plover Project Docent Training

Training takes place at Coal Oil Point Reserve

Training:

December 4
January 15

Training Schedule: . . 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. with lunch

Those interested should call for more information at
(805) 893 3703

Count down Potluck Dinner Help Needed January 1

We need 2-3 volunteers at 4-5:30 p.m. on the day of the Bird Count, at Fleischmann Auditorium, Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History, to help with setup

For information, or to volunteer, please call and leave your name at the Audubon office:

964-1468

Audubon Society Membership Application



Local Chapter-only Membership

This is a full membership to the Santa Barbara Audubon Society, with all funds put to work locally.

Includes:

- * a subscription to the local newsletter, *El Tecolote*
- * Member applications received between:
 - January and June will renew 6/30 of the following year.
 - July and December will renew 12/31 of the following year.

Does Not Include:

- * National magazine, *Audubon*,
 - * distribution of your name to any other organization
- The cost is \$25 annually.

This is my choice of membership!

Make check payable to:

Santa Barbara Audubon Society



National and Local Membership

Santa Barbara Code: COZC130Z

This is the traditional membership offered by the National organization. Includes:

- * membership on both the local and national levels
- * most of membership dues applied to national issues and advocacy
- * both the national magazine, *Audubon*, and the local *El Tecolote*
- * renewal notices from National organization
- * your name may be distributed to third party advertisers

The cost for this introductory membership is \$20, or \$15 for senior 62+ or student.

(NAS subsequent-year memberships are currently \$35/year.)

This is my choice of membership!

This is a Senior/Student membership.

Please do NOT share my contact information.

Make check payable to: **National Audubon Society**

Name: _____

My special interests: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Amount Enclosed: _____

E-mail: _____

Mail to: Santa Barbara Audubon Society, 5679 Hollister Ave, Suite 5B, Goleta CA 93117

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 5679 Hollister Avenue, Suite 5B
 Goleta, CA 93117

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 (805) 964-1468, Info@SantaBarbaraAudubon.org
<http://www.SantaBarbaraAudubon.org>

OFFICERS

President	Darlene Chirman	692-2008	President@SantaBarbaraAudubon.org
Vice-President	Lee Moldaver	964-1468	VP@SantaBarbaraAudubon.org
Secretary	Liz Muraoka	743-3314	Secretary@SantaBarbaraAudubon.org
Secretary	Lisa Ostendorf	683-1225	Secretary@SantaBarbaraAudubon.org
Treasurer	Bobbie Offen	220-6522	Treasurer@SantaBarbaraAudubon.org

BOARD MEMBERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Field Trips	Jack Sanford	566-2191	FieldTrips@SantaBarbaraAudubon.org
Programs	Elliot Chasin	253-2473	Programs@SantaBarbaraAudubon.org
Conservation	Steve Ferry	967-5162	Conservation@SantaBarbaraAudubon.org
Education	Ann Steinmetz	680-2638	Education@SantaBarbaraAudubon.org
Science	Niels Johnson-Lameijer	617-3513	Science@SantaBarbaraAudubon.org
Membership	Julia Kosowitz	450-5392	Membership@SantaBarbaraAudubon.org
Newsletter	Marlene Mills	964-8525	Newsletter@SantaBarbaraAudubon.org
Publicity	Adam Lewis	967-7213	Publicity@SantaBarbaraAudubon.org
Development	Julie Kummel	403-3203	Development-2@SantaBarbaraAudubon.org
Development	Dolores Pollock	681-8661	Development-1@SantaBarbaraAudubon.org
Development	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	893-3703	Plovers@SantaBarbaraAudubon.org
Hospitality:	Nancy Rohrer	687-7587	Hospitality-2@SantaBarbaraAudubon.org
Science Advisor	Don Schroeder	403-2090	ScienceAdvisor@SantaBarbaraAudubon.org

For Rare Bird information go to sbcbirding online directly or through the SBAS chapter website at [SantaBarbaraAudubon.org](http://www.SantaBarbaraAudubon.org).

Officers and Chairs meet the 2nd Wednesday of the month. Members are welcomed to attend. Call the 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>

December

Dec. 1	Program: Alexander Wilson
Dec. 4	Plover Training
Dec. 4 & 5	Restore Carp. State Beach
Dec. 5	Restore Arroyo Hondo
Dec. 10	Santa Barbara Harbor Bird Walk
Dec. 11	Cachuma Boat Cruise Field Trip
Dec. 11 & 12	Restore Carp. State Beach
Dec. 19	La Purisima CBC
Dec. 24	Bird Refuge Bird Walk
Dec. 26	Santa Maria CBC
Dec. 28	Cachuma CBC

January

Jan. 1	Santa Barbara CBC
Jan. 2	Restore Arroyo Hondo
Jan. 14	Coronado Dr. Bird Walk
Jan. 15	Plover Training
Jan. 15	Hollister Ranch Field Trip
Jan. 22	Restore Coal Oil Point Reserve
Jan. 21	Sand Point Bonus Bird Walk
Jan. 26	Program: Tom Campbell
Jan. 28	Goleta Sewage Plant Bird Walk
Jan. 29	More Mesa Bonus Field Trip

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