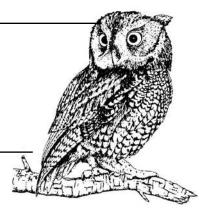
El Tecolote

Newsletter of the Santa Barbara Audubon Society, Inc. Volume 50, Issue 6 June–July 2012



ANNUAL PICNIC—June 24

ARROYO HONDO PRESERVE

Noon To 2:00 P.M.

Join us for SBAS ANNUAL MEMBERS' PICNIC & FABULOUS RAFFLE

Potluck: Bring a dish to share.

Be green: Bring your own place setting, carpool! Beverages and hot coals for BBQ will be provided.

GLENDESSARY JAM returns to provide lively traditional music!

RAFFLE drawing will be held following the BBQ and the Election of the Board (see below) for the coming year. **Raffle tickets** (\$25 or 5/\$100), along with a full description of raffle prizes, will be mailed to members. You may buy tickets in advance, at the event, or on SBAS website **PRIZES include**::

A mixed case of treasured **Cinco Locos Wine**, valued at up to \$1,000. The Winemakers retired last year, but have graciously offered us a case from their cellars!

OR

A **one-week stay at a rustic and beautiful private cabin** near Oregon's famed North Umpqua River. Enjoy birding, hiking, fly fishing, river rafting, hot springs and fabulous swimming holes. Dine nearby at the famous Steamboat Inn, where Ernest Hemingway told tall tales and fished for steelhead.

RSVP/information: call Julie (805)-403-3203

Directions to Arroyo Hondo Preserve: From SB, 30 minutes north on Hwy 101, approximately . 4 miles past Refugio State Beach. After the Refugio exit, pay attention to the blue CalTrans call boxes one mile apart on the right side. Arroyo Hondo entrance is located at call box 101-412. Make an immediate right hand turn into the driveway. Come down the driveway, cross the bridge and park near the barn.

Election of S.B. Audubon Board of Directors 2012-2013

to be held at the Annual Picnic June 24:

Here is the slate of Nominees for the chapter Board of Directors for one-year terms. The Board meets monthly on the second Wednesday evening at the Goleta Valley Community Center.

Santa Barbara Audubon Society Board of Directors Slate of Nominees

President	. Darlene Chirman	Science Chair	Andy Lanes
Vice-President	. Lee Moldaver	Membership Chair	Julia Kosowitz
Secretary	. Rachel Saputo	Newsletter Chair	Laura Domingo Bernabe
Treasurer	. Bobbie Offen	Publicity Chair	Liz Muraoka
Field Trips Chair	. Jack Sanford	Development	Dolores Pollock
Programs Chair	. Susan Vaughn	Development	Julie Kummel
Conservation Chair	. Steve Ferry	Development	Margo Kenney
Education Chair	. Maggie Sherriffs		

We will also be voting on updates to the chapter's bylaws. If you would like to read the current and proposed revised bylaws, please go to: www.santabarbaraaudubon.org/bylaws.html

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.

Update on Chapter Only Memberships

By Julia Kosowitz

Dear S.B.A.S. Members:

Our Chapter-only membership program started two years ago, and in that time the program has grown to over 100 members! Chapter-only members provide a backbone of support for our chapter, because all of the dues they pay stay local, and are put to work supporting programs, activities, education and restoration happening right here, right now. We want to extend our thanks to our current chapter-only members, not just for their dedication to the chapter, but their willingness to be "early adopters" of the chapter-only program. Some of our current chapter-only members are due to renew their memberships at the end of June, so keep your eyes peeled for your renewal reminder in the mail. Your membership expiration date is also listed near your address label on each issue of El Tecolote.

As a chapter-only member, your dues are \$25 a year, whether it is for an individual, couple, or household. National Audubon memberships are \$20 for the first year; the \$20 membership of new members recruited through the chapter comes back to the chapter. National memberships rise to \$35 for each subsequent year, and these dues are used on National issues and advocacy. Only a small portion of these dues (about \$2.50/year) is shared with the Santa Barbara chapter. Your tax deductible chapter-only membership puts your donation to work

locally: supporting habitat restoration at Lake Los Carneros and Coal Oil Point Reserve, providing education through our speaker programs and Aviary at the S.B. Natural History Museum, assisting in protection and monitoring of sensitive species like the Snowy Plover, offering bird walks and field trips within Santa Barbara county and beyond—and much, much more!

Your chapter-only membership includes our bimonthly newsletter, El Tecolote, which you can receive via regular mail or email. We will never share or sell your information with third parties, and we won't bombard you with solicitations or renewal notices. We want to put your donation to work—not use it to stuff your mailbox.

If you'd like to become a chapter-only member or renew your membership now, please fill out and return the application on page 7. If you'd like to save a stamp, or use a credit card, you can renew or join online by visiting: santabarbaraaudubon.org/sbasmembership.html

If you have any questions about the Chapter-only membership program, any questions about your membership, or would like to join our email list, please contact me: Membership Chair, Julia Kosowitz, at membership@santabarbaraaudubon. org.

Birders Wanted for Eyes in the Sky Program By Gabriele Drozdowski

Eyes in the Sky Program Director

Are you a birder who is retired or has a flexible work schedule and who loves sharing bird knowledge with people? Eyes in the Sky (E.I.T.S.) needs you at the Audubon Aviary located in the S.B. Museum of Natural History's "Back Yard". The aviary houses six non-releasable birds of prey: "Max", a Great Horned Owl; "Ivan", a Red-tailed Hawk; "Kisa", a Peregrine Falcon; "Kachina", a female American Kestrel; "Kanati", a male American Kestrel; and "Puku", a Western Screech Owl. We will be adding a Barn Owl soon.



Currently our live raptor program is "open" between 1:00 and 4:15 p.m. each day. During all other hours, the birds' viewing windows are closed for security reasons because the netting in the windows is vulnerable to mischief with knives or scissors and therefore cannot be left unattended. This leaves the birds with less light, air circulation, or visual stimulation.

For the benefit of our birds, E.I.T.S., AND Museum visitors, we want the shutters to be open between 10 a.m. and

5 p.m.—the full Museum hours. We need volunteers that are available between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m., in either one three-hour or two 1.5-hour shifts.

10 o'clock arrivals will open up the shutters and pull up a chair in front of the aviary, maybe read a book, or bring binoculars (a variety of birds hang out in the Back Yard).

11:30 arrivals take over the chair and stay until 1 p.m. when the program director arrives. The director will close the shutters again at 5 p.m.

The area is tucked away from the main campus, very quiet and

peaceful in the mornings, but during Winter, Spring and Summer vacations it gets busier, and you will get plenty of opportunity to share your bird passion and knowledge with visitors. Did I mention that it is also very beautiful there?

If you are interested in becoming an E.I.T.S. volunteer, please contact Gabriele Drozdowski at eyes-in-the-sky@cox. net or call 805-898-0347. Thank you so much.

Update on Habitat Restoration at Coal Oil Point Reserve

by Darlene Chirman

Summer 2011 marked the beginning of a new habitat restoration project at Coal Oil Point Reserve by Santa Barbara Audubon Society (S.B.A.S.). The *Cape Ivy Removal & Coastal Poppy Enhancement Project* was made possible by the Goleta Valley Land Trust, which awarded a grant of \$38,355 to S.B.A.S. Project goals included enhanced breeding and foraging habitat for ground-nesting birds such as California Quail, California Thrashers, and Mourning Doves.

The Society has reached a milestone: a 0.4 acre infestation of Cape Ivy has been removed. The fast-growing, invasive vines, native to South Africa, were smothering the native Coyote Brush and Elderberry trees and excluding most understory plants. We are far from done, as we must follow up with removal of re-sprouts that could take over the site again without this vigilance. This has been a very labor intensive process, and we have had the help of many volunteers, including Audubon's most dedicated restoration volunteers: Kathi Backus, Ben Shalant, and Jan Oetinger. Citrix Online employees helped with our first big removal last summer and again recently on April 21 when the "first pass" was accomplished. We have had the assistance of many Restoration Interns and campus groups recruited through the Coastal Services Program.

The Coastal Fund sponsors campus groups that participate in habitat restoration and beach cleanup through the Coastal Services Program, allowing groups to raise money by organizing their members as volunteers. Coastal Fund also awarded S.B.A.S. a grant of \$4,190 in March, to provide UCSB student internships and equipment such as a new brush cutter and wheelbarrow, to assist with the project.

For now we are focusing our efforts on the Coastal Poppy



Volunteers from Citrix and Kathi Backus initiate Cape Ivy removal in summer 2011.

Today we see lots of bare ground between the shrubs!

enhancement part of the project, clearing the weeds from around the poppies in an adjacent stand. These are a variety of the State Flower California Poppy, and we are seeing many seedlings emerge where the head-high mustard and thistles have been cleared.

You can visit our website at www.santabarbaraaudubon. org/restoration-copr to learn more about the project, and to see more photos. We hope you'll come out in the fall to volunteer: removing those pesky Cape ivy re-sprouts or helping plant natives where we have cleared the weeds. To volunteer or for questions, contact Darlene at President@ SantaBarbaraAudubon.org.

Local Support Helps Make Museum Conference a Success

By Lee Moldaver

The Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History recently hosted an annual conference on Habitat, Conservation, Threatened Species, which brought scientists, students, agency officials, volunteers here from the western coastal states. As a conference co-sponsor, Santa Barbara Audubon helped provide refreshments and logistical support to the attendees. That would not have been possible without the generous support of: Costco, Lazy Acres, Whole Foods Market, Our Daily Bread, and the members of the Santa Barbara Certified Farmers Market. Audubon's members and supporters have many options for shopping, so we thought you'd like to know about food purveyors who care enough about what we do to share their tangible support."



El Tecolote is a free publication published 6 times a year by the Santa Barbara Audubon Society, Inc., 5679 Hollister Ave. Ste 5B Goleta Ca 93117

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.

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.

Hummingbirds of Costa Rica

Ralph Paonessa June 27

Hummingbirds are some of the most beautiful and unusual of birds—tiny gems of iridescent beauty capable of seemingly impossible acrobatic flight and speed. They are the second largest family of birds in the New World region, and are only found in the Americas. While found in the United States, they are most abundant in the tropics. Costa Rica has a great variety with over fifty hummingbird species, and professional photographer and workshop leader Ralph Paonessa (RPPhoto.com) has spent years photographing them. His images include specialized high-speed photography to illustrate these tiny birds in flight.

Ralph Paonessa leads popular photography workshops throughout the world including Costa Rica, Ecuador, Alaska, and the Falkland Islands. His clients range from novice to expert. He has been leading photography trips since 1997, where he is in demand for his expertise, patience and enthusiasm.





A Ph.D. chemist by training, Ralph left behind research and the corporate world of IBM to pursue his love of nature and photography. His photographs (including several covers) have been published in such magazines as Outdoor Photographer, WildBird, Birder's World, Birdwatcher's Digest, Nature and Wildlife, Martha Stewart Living, and Outdoor Traveler. His work has been featured in calendars by Audubon, Barnes and Noble, Birder's World, Sierra Club, World Wildlife Fund, At-A-Glance, Pet Prints, and the Himalayan Calendar.

One of Ralph's passions is hummingbirds. *WildBird* magazine recently honored him by publishing a portfolio of some of his favorite hummingbird images. <u>Birder's World</u> included one of his photos in their selection of the very best photos from their twenty-year history, an honor accorded to only fourteen photographers.

HIs images have also appeared in numerous books, including hummingbirds on the covers of three. Eleven of his photos were awarded prizes in the Texas Valley Land Fund Photo Contest, including first prize for Hummingbirds, and are featured in the book *Focus on the Wild*.

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.

Hollister Ranch

Saturday, June 9, 2012 (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. We are limited to 25 people (five vehicles). Please email Jack Sanford (jacksanford@hotmail. com) on or before **Wednesday**, **June 6**th to reserve your place. Please let Jack know if you are willing to drive your vehicle and how many people it will hold. Jack must confirm your reservation by email.

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, and a 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.



Spotted Sandpiper Artist Steven D'Amato



Peregrine Falcon Artist Daniel S. Kilby

Trout Club, Santa Barbara Saturday July 14, 2012 (8:30-11:00 a.m.) (8:00 a.m. at car pool location)

Target Birds: Flycatchers, thrushes, gnatcatchers, hummingbirds, sparrows, orioles, etc.

Leader: Rob Lindsay

Directions: Coming from the south take Hwy. 101 to the Lake Cachuma/State St. off-ramp. Turn right on State St. and right again 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. Park near Carl's Jr. We will car pool (no gas money) from here at 8 a.m. or you can meet us at the entrance to the Trout Club off Old San Marcus Rd. Take Hwy. 101 to Hwy. 154 north from Santa Barbara. Turn left on Old San Marcos Road. (Painted Cave Road is on the right.) Go a very short distance, and park in the dirt area near the Trout Club entrance. We will bird from there.

Take advantage of this opportunity to bird the private Trout Club.

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., 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.

La Casa de Maria June 8

Target Birds: Canyon Wrens, songbirds, raptors, etc.

Directions: Take Hwy. 101 to the San Ysidro Road off ramp (#93). Head towards the mountains. Turn right on East Valley Road (at the stop light). Proceed 2/10 mile, and turn left on El Bosque Rd. Follow El Bosque into the La Casa de Maria grounds. Upon entering the grounds immediately turn to your right and park across from the Registration office. We will meet at the fountain in the central courtyard near the Registration office for a brief welcome.

Tabano Hollow Open Space
June 29 (NOTE: This is the 5th Friday)

Target Birds: Songbirds, woodpeckers, hummingbirds, etc.

Directions: Take Hwy. 101 to the Turnpike Ave. off ramp, and head towards the mountains. Turn left on Cathedral Oaks Road. Turn left on Ribera Drive (at Foothill Elementary School). Park where Ribera Drive and Matorral Way meet. (The bridge under Hwy. 101 and the Open Space sign can be seen.)



Please Note: All of the July bird walks will begin at 7:30 a.m. and end at 9:30 a.m.

Atascadero Creek

July 13 (Note earlier time: 7:30-9:30 a.m.)

Target Birds: Water birds, songbirds and raptors

Directions: From Hwy. 101 take the Patterson off ramp and head towards the ocean. Park in the dirt area near the Atascadero Creek Bridge.

Farren Road

July 27 (Note earlier time: 7:30-9:30 a.m.)

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

Directions: From S.B. area, take Hwy. 101 north to approximately 1 mile past the Winchester Canyon Road exit. Exit Hwy. 101 (towards the mountains). Turn left on Calle Real and go west for about 300 yards to Farren Rd. We will meet at the beginning of Farren Rd.

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!

Ann P. Seed Diane Scalapino
Bill & Jeanne Irvine Gerald D. Santillana
Carl L. Hopkins Helen T. Vance
Cathy Sanford* Helgi T. Goppelt
Claudia L. McDaniel Jaclyn Coleman
Diane August Lupe Dwyer

Ms. Marie Paris Mary L. Scully Patricia A. Forrest Ramond Smith Robert Schley

Rosemarie Kubecka-Romero

*Chapter Only Membership

Sam Archenbronn

Sarah Torgeson

Tomika Sollen

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. We now have a new Audubon-managed project at Coal Oil Point Reserve as well. Contact Darlene Chirman at President@ SantaBarbaraAudubon.org or 692-2008. Contact Coal Oil Point Reserve: Reserve Steward Tara Longwell at tara.longwell@lifesci.ucsb. edu or 893-5092. Contact the Land Trust for Arroyo Hondo Preserve: Volunteer Coordinator Sally Isaacson at 260-2252 or volunteer@ sblandtrust.org

ARROYO HONDO

Contact:	Sally	Isaacson

Sunday June	3	9 a.m12:30 p.m
Sunday July	8	9 a.m12:30 p.m.

COAL OIL POINT RESERVE

Saturday, 9 a.m.-noon

Date		Restoration	Contact
June	2	COPR Trails	Tara Longwell
June	2	Audubon restoration	Darlene Chirman
July	14	COPR Trails	Tara Longwell

CHANNEL ISLANDS RESTORATION

June 16 Lake Los Carnero 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

Contact: Volunteer Coordinator Dee Hamby at volunteer@cirweb.org

Please consult their website or Sarah on restoration projects including Lake Los Carneros, San Marcos Foothills, Santa Barbara Zoo, Carpinteria Creek, Anacapa Island and others. Their website is: www.cirweb.org

Work with the SBAS Birds Eyes in the Sky

Eyes in the Sky has ongoing opportunities for new volunteers to work with our birds of prey.

Volunteers must be available during daytime hours. Call Gabriele (805) 898-0347.

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.

Plover Project Docent Training

Training takes place at Coal Oil Point Reserve

Training takes place at the West Campus Conference Center at Coal Oil Point Reserve, from 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Training dates:

June			 2	
July			 21	
Trair	ning Sche	dule:		
Tour			 9-11 a.m.	
Train	ning		11 a m -1·30 n r	n

Those interested should Contact: April Price. COPR Conservation Specialist at 893-3703 or copr.conservation@lifesci.ucsb.edu

Audubon Society Membership Application

Option 1: Local Chapter-only Membership

- Membership is for a FAMILY!
- Memberships initially received between October 1st and March 31st: Renewals Due December 31.
- Memberships initially received between April 1st and September 31st: Renewals Due June 30.
- ☐ This is my choice of membership!
- Cost: \$25 Annually.

Make check payable to: Santa Barbara Audubon Society

Option 2: National and Local Membership Santa Barbara Code: C2ZC130Z

- This is my choice of membership!
- ☐ Please do NOT share my contact information.

Introductory \$20 (NAS subsequent-yearly memberships are \$35/year.)

Make check payable to: National Audubon Society

For more information on these options please go to our website at: www.SantaBarbaraAudubon.org or call (805) 964-1468

Name:			
Address:			
City:	State:	Zip:	
E-mail:			
Amount Enclosed:			

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

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OFFICERS				
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Secretary	Liz Muraoka	743-3314	Secretary@SantaBarbaraAudubon.org	
Treasurer	Bobbie Offen	220-6522	Treasurer@SantaBarbaraAudubon.org	
	BOARD MEN	IBERS & C	COMMITTEE CHAIRS	
Field Trips	Jack Sanford	566-2191	FieldTrips@SantaBarbaraAudubon.org	
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Science Advis	or			
	Don Schroeder	403-2090	ScienceAdvisor@SantaBarbaraAudubon.org	
ET Editor	Andy Lentz	968-6011	NewsLayout@SantaBarbaraAudubon.org	

Rare Birds sbcobirding http://groups.yahoo.com/group/sbcobirding

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

		April
June	2	Plover Training
June	2	Restore Coal Oil Point: Restoration
June	2	Restore Coal Oil Point: Trails
June	3	Restore Arroyo Hondo
June	8	La Casa de Maria Bird Walk
June	9	Hollister Ranch Field Trip
June	16	Restore Lake Los Carneros
June	24	Annual Meeting and Picnic
June	27	Program: Hummingbirds
June	29	Tabano Hollow Bird Walk
		July
July	8	Restore Arroyo Hondo
July	13	Atascadero Creek Bird Walk
July	14	Restore Coal Oil Point: Trails
July	14	Trout Club Field Trip



Plover Training

Farren Road Bird Walk

July

July

21