



THE AUDUBON BOARD-GUIDING OUR CHAPTER

by Dolores Pollock, SBAS President

Many in the Audubon community have taken a turn on the Board over the Chapter's 50+ years. Is it your turn now? The Board of Santa Barbara Audubon meets monthly and holds an annual summer retreat. Each one-year position on the Board is designated for a specific purpose, such as Education, Development, and Science. There are four officers: president, vice president, secretary and treasurer.

New to the Board are Teresa Fanucchi, EITS volunteer moving into the Programs position, and Jessica Altstatt, new co-chair of the Conservation Committee.

Leaving this year after outstanding service is Scott Cooper, who co-chaired the Conservation Committee; see his excellent article entitled "Audubon's Conservation Committee--Making Difference." Marsha Macdonald is the outgoing Development Committee chair; she brought us the highly successful Silent Auction the last two years. Peter Thompson, who held several positions on the Board and led the office cleanout this year, is leaving the Board, but he is only a phone call away if needed. Gayle Hackmack, who brought us the Birdathon, is also stepping down. Steve Wiley, Santa Barbara's former City Attorney, lays down his pen as Secretary. Aaron Kreisberg will switch from Programs (thanks for all the topics of local interest, Aaron) to co-chair of the Conservation Committee.

This leaves a few openings for the coming year, so if you are interested in joining a dedicated group of hard-working environmental enthusiasts to help guide our chapter by serving on the Board, please contact me at President@SantaBarbaraAudubon.org.

NO PROGRAM IN JUNE, JULY, AUGUST - PROGRAMS RESUME SEPTEMBER 27

SANTA BARBARA AUDUBON SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING AND GET-TOGETHER

Saturday, June 24, 2017, 3:00-5:00 p.m.

Stow Grove Park, Space #3

Join us for friends and music

ELECTION OF NEXT YEAR'S BOARD

Bring hors d'oeuvres or finger food to share

Soft drinks & water provided. BYOB.

ENJOY FOOD, DRINK, and OLD TIME MUSIC GENEROUSLY PROVIDED BY GLENDESSARY JAM



Photo by Betsy Mooney

SLATE OF NOMINEES FOR ELECTION TO SBAS BOARD

President - Dolores Pollock

Vice President - Lee Moldaver

Secretary - OPEN

Treasurer - Kathleen Boehm

Conservation - Jessica Altstatt & Aaron Kreisberg

***Development (3)** - OPEN

Education - Jayne Wamsley

Governance - OPEN

Programs - Teresa Fanucchi

Publicity - Janice Levasheff

Science - Steve Senesac

**Development (Fundraising) has three open positions: Events Planning, Annual Appeal to Membership, and Donor Development. If you are interested in filling one of the OPEN positions on the Audubon Board, please contact President@SantaBarbaraAudubon.org*

2017 JOY PARKINSON AWARD SANTA BARBARA COUNTY SCIENCE FAIR WINNER

By Steve Senesac, Santa Barbara Audubon Society Science Chair

Jordan Klanfer, an 8th-grade student at La Colina Junior High School, won the Joy Parkinson Science Fair Award this year for her research and presentation, “There’s Nothing Fishy about Climate Change: Ocean Heating’s Direct Effect on Abalone.” The event was held on March 9th and 10th in UC Santa Barbara’s Corwin Pavilion.

In her project, Jordan measured the amount of kelp eaten – an indicator of viability – by abalone over a set time interval at different controlled water temperatures. First, she measured food consumption at 15 degrees centigrade, the average local ocean water temperature. Then she tested her specimens at 22, 23, and 24 degrees. What she found was a clear reduction in food eaten (and therefore a drop in abalone viability) with increasing water temperature. Her measurements showed that food consumption dropped by nearly half at 22 degrees, and by about two-thirds at 24 degrees.

The topic for her project came out of her work as an intern at the UCSB Marine Science Institute. Jordan is interested in many subjects and will be pursuing her studies at the AAPLE Academy at San Marcos High School next year.

We wish Jordan all the best for her promising future.



Editor’s Note: Jordan gave a talk about her project at our April 26 program. At the end of the evening, SBAS board members presented her with a one-year chapter membership, given in memory of Karen Bridgers.

PACIFIC BROWN PELICAN SURVEY

by Libby Patten (Santa Barbara County Coordinator)

On May 6, scores of volunteers at coastal spots from Baja California (Mexico) to Washington state participated in the third biannual survey of the California Brown Pelican. These surveys are helping define the distribution and abundance of the Brown Pelican, which was removed from the Endangered Species list in 2009, but whose breeding success continues to be of concern.



At Santa Barbara Harbor, volunteers Barbara Ahlman, Kenna Hickman, Joan Kent and Libby Patten counted pelicans in extremely windy conditions. This year’s count (121 birds) was much higher than that of spring 2016 (31 birds). It is particularly encouraging that this year’s population showed a higher percentage (> 80%) of non-adult birds, versus only 3 of 31 last year. It is expected that most local adult birds in spring would be at the Channel Islands, where they breed.

In Santa Barbara County, the number of survey sites was reduced from four in 2016 to two this year because of low counts at two spots last year. The Santa Maria team, led by Alex Abela, was unable to reach its viewing locations this spring because of multiple road closures due to winter rain damage. This was particularly disappointing, as the Santa Maria River estuary had over 800 pelicans last fall.

The 2017 results for our county have been entered into eBird and are being combined with those from other teams up and down the West Coast for this important survey. Many thanks to all of the participants! More information on this survey can be found at: <http://ca.audubon.org/brownpelicansurvey>.

EARTH DAY FESTIVAL

On April 22, SBAS Board members staffed a booth at Santa Barbara’s 47th Earth Day celebration at Alameda Park. They told the public about Santa Barbara Audubon and the parent organization, fielded questions about birds and birding, and gave children the opportunity to examine owl pellets.



IN MEMORIAM

We were very sad to learn of Karen Bridgers' passing in April. Below is Joan Lentz's beautiful tribute to our valued friend and colleague. We thank Joan for allowing us to share this with you.

TRIBUTE TO KAREN BRIDGERS – APRIL 17, 2017

By Joan Easton Lentz



Photo by David Levasheff

Early on a fall morning in 1980 I found myself wandering around the empty Elks Club parking lot off Kellogg Avenue in Goleta. A Summer Tanager had been reported there, and I'd never seen one before.

Over in the corner by the big hedge, I saw another female birder with binoculars, who looked about my age. We introduced ourselves, then spotted the Summer Tanager perched on a wire overhead catching bees. The birder I met was Karen Bridgers, and our walk around the Elks Club parking lot started a friendship that was to last all our lives.

Before Karen Bridgers relocated to Utah, she left behind over 25 years of commitment to the birding community and to Santa Barbara Audubon Society.

Karen was, quite literally, the "voice of Santa Barbara Audubon": she recorded the weekly Rare Bird Alert on the local hotline faithfully for many years. Recall that, before the internet and cell phones, one of the only ways to learn about rare bird sightings in the

area was to phone the Audubon-sponsored Rare Bird Alert. Karen's voice would accurately and patiently tell us where to find the latest discovery. Or, if a local or out-of-town birder had seen an unusual bird, they could call Karen and she would immediately report the sighting on the hotline. What an amazing job she did, purely for the fun of spreading the bird news to all of us.

She was far more than the voice of Santa Barbara Audubon, helping out in countless other ways. During the days before the annual Christmas Bird Count, Karen would publicize the fact that we were looking for rare birds by writing about them in her newspaper column. In this way, even total strangers to the birding community would call Karen, and we were able to locate the birds for the Christmas Count.

Karen Bridgers' column about birds in the *Santa Barbara News-Press* was an invaluable contribution to the birding cause. Her timely remarks on seasonal bird species, many of which could be seen in our backyards, were spot on, and her readership was vast.

Not only did Karen know her birds, she was an excellent writer and editor. What's more, her writing was sparked by a marvelous sense of humor. She wrote many articles for various publications, both online and in print, and when they were about birds and birding, they could be very funny.

Karen once told me that the first bird she ever noticed was a European Starling, about which she called the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History to get an identification. Since then, Karen would go on to find and identify numerous species – many of them much sought-after rarities that excite birders. She also had wonderful birds at her backyard feeder in Goleta: Ruddy Ground-Dove, Brown Thrasher, and Harris's Sparrow, to name a few. At the same time, she raised two daughters, and was lucky enough to have a patient and "tolerant of birding" husband, Bud Bridgers.

On a personal note, I will miss Karen Bridgers dreadfully. She was my first real birding companion. We were "suburban housewives" together, raising kids and staying home while our husbands went to work. Back in those days, the top birders in Santa Barbara didn't include many middle-aged women.

But we never let that stop us! Every fall, year after year, would find Karen and me at Carpinteria Creek or Refugio State Beach looking for Eastern warblers that might have gone astray. Karen – with her incredible eyes – would always get her binoculars on the bird first. Then, we'd figure out together what we were seeing.

Sometimes, we'd call each other several times a day to commiserate about mistaking a bird identification or to compare notes about family life.

We were both writers, but Karen was a professional journalist. I always told her she could "write her way out of a paper bag." And she was that good that she could, and did, write about whatever project she was working on. Whether or not the subject was birds, she could edit a manuscript to make it sound perfect.

Good-bye, Karen. I was so lucky to have had all the great birding adventures with you – whether it was Texas or Arizona, or just a park around the corner from your house – you were a fabulous birder and an even better friend.

Editor's note: Photos of the Hooded Oriole bracket this article because it was the subject of Karen's first and, coincidentally, her last News-Press column.

SBAS Note: To honor Karen's legacy as an integral part of Santa Barbara Audubon's history and the local birding community, and to share her love of birds with the younger generation, we will give a chapter membership in her memory each year to our Joy Parkinson Award winner from the Santa Barbara County Science Fair. Please see our related article about Jordan Klanfel, the first recipient of the Karen Bridgers Memorial Membership.

In addition, we are pleased that the April 29th edition of the Santa Barbara News-Press has indicated Hugh Ranson will continue writing the "Bird Watch" column in honor of Karen.

Thank you, Hugh.



Photo by Betsy Mooney

PROGRESS REPORT ON WHITE-TAILED KITE RECOVERY IN THE GOLETA VALLEY

by Mark Holmgren

We are roughly halfway through kite breeding period, and things are looking up. Recall that last year we had only two breeding events—at western More Mesa and western Ellwood Mesa. In 2015, we also had only two.

This year, we know of four pairs, three of which have bred successfully. At Lake Los Carneros four fledglings have come out of the nest, and three are still under parental care. At western More Mesa, a single kite remains with one of the adults. A third pair of kites appeared out of the blue in mid-April at western Ellwood Mesa with two fledglings under their care. We had no idea kites were in that foraging area until we detected them by the calls of the begging fledglings. The two babies were visible high in a eucalyptus from the southern end of Pebble Beach Drive (see <https://flic.kr/p/TLGzt2>).

Another surprise was a kite bringing nesting material to an oak on the west side of Devereux Slough on 20 April. We will continue to monitor this from a distance. We've not had successful kite nesting on Coal Oil Point Reserve since 2001.

As all these activities are quite early in the breeding period, there is a possibility that some of these pairs might attempt second nests. Thanks to recent rains, voles and house mice (the preferred prey of kites) may increase their productivity, and that, more than any other factor, may allow Kites to complete a second brood.

We have no indication that kites are occupying other traditional foraging areas this spring. San Marcos Foothills, Glen Annie/Dos Pueblos High School, central Goleta slough, and western Goleta Slough are currently unoccupied. But these areas could host kites yet this spring.

We could use some citizen surveillance to determine whether kites are establishing territories in Winchester Canyon, western Isla Vista, eastern More Mesa, and eastern Ellwood Mesa. All reports of kites seen since the beginning of May are most welcome. For more information on kites, as well as how to report them, please go to <http://santabarbara-audubon.org/post-drought-progress-report/>.

Thanks to all kite watchers, thanks to SB Audubon Society for supporting this 30th season of kite monitoring, and Good Birding!



Photo by David Levasheff



Photo by David Levasheff

AUDUBON'S CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MAKING A DIFFERENCE

by Scott Cooper, Outgoing Co-Chair of the Conservation Committee

SBAS members show an uncommon interest in, and dedication to, the conservation of birds, wildlife, and their habitats. As the activist wing of SBAS, the Conservation Committee monitors, discusses, analyzes, and provides written and oral comments to the public, media, and governmental agencies on environmental issues, lobbying to protect birds and their habitats. As a volunteer organization, SBAS relies on its membership, which includes lawyers, business people, government officials and employees, biologists, educators, engineers, farmers, ranchers, consultants, and many others, to provide the knowledge, skills, expertise, and advice needed to address environmental issues effectively. Besides organizing and leading its own projects, the Conservation Committee networks extensively with other environmental organizations to provide support and collective responses to environmental challenges that affect our local communities and environments.

The SBAS Conservation Committee is fortunate to have members that track and are intimately involved in local conservation concerns, so this committee can inform the membership and public about problems that may diminish bird populations or their habitats. Because the Conservation Committee's financial and human resources are limited, the committee carefully reviews and selects the projects it will undertake, striving to ensure that they focus on bird protection and have dedicated, interested, and engaged volunteers who will sustainably lead efforts. Committee members collectively analyze and comment on environmental impact reports, participate in public meetings and hearings, write support letters, and participate in coalitions organized by other environmental organizations. To cultivate allies and champions, committee members meet with public officials and public organizations to gain support for SBAS efforts and, when encountering obstacles or resistance, appeal to the interests of the stakeholders involved. Following this template, SBAS has contributed to many successes over the past year dealing with the denial, delay, decommissioning, or modification of oil, industrial, and land use development projects (e.g., Phillips 66 oil train, Shelby and Kenwood Village residential developments, Venoco and Orcutt oil field expansions and onshore operations) and the protection or restoration of birds, open spaces and natural habitats (e.g., East Goleta Valley Community Plan, Goleta off-leash dog parks, Forest Service Mountain Communities Fire Management Plan, Gaviota Coast Plan, North Campus Open Space Plan, habitat restoration at Coal Oil Point, bird-safe buildings, initiatives to protect Snowy Plovers, Purple Martins, Tricolored Blackbirds). Ongoing projects deal with impacts on birds generated by vegetation clearances and tree trimming, wind farms, drones, creekside road development, airport infrastructure expansion, and the management of the Bird Refuge; with the protection of bird habitat, including chaparral, streamside vegetation, grasslands, and wetlands; and with input on the developing Coal Oil Point Reserve Nature Center.

In stepping down as Co-chair of the Conservation Committee, I would like to thank all the dedicated volunteers from SBAS in general, and the committee specifically, for their efforts to protect our birds, which provide endless hours of recreation, enjoyment, and fascination for all of us. However, we must be vigilant in safeguarding bird diversity and habitats, which are threatened by many development and management activities. Consequently, the Conservation Committee can always use more volunteers so that it can effectively address numerous environmental issues. If you would like to make a difference in protecting our bird life by initiating, leading, or participating in an effort to address a specific issue affecting bird life in our area, please contact the Co-chairs of the SBAS Conservation Committee, Jessica Altstatt or Aaron Kreisberg at Conservation@SantaBarbaraAudubon.org

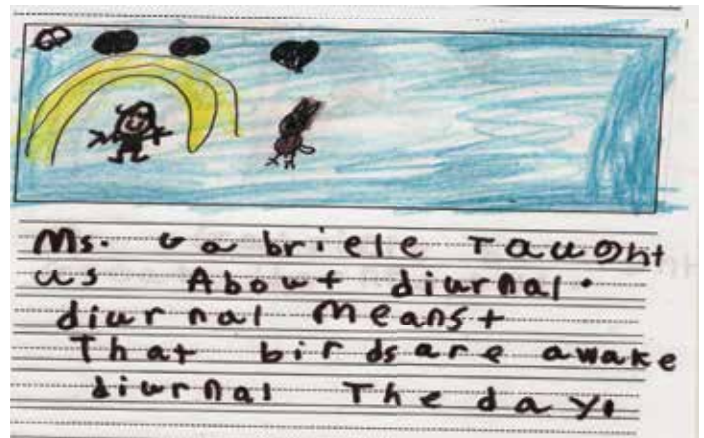
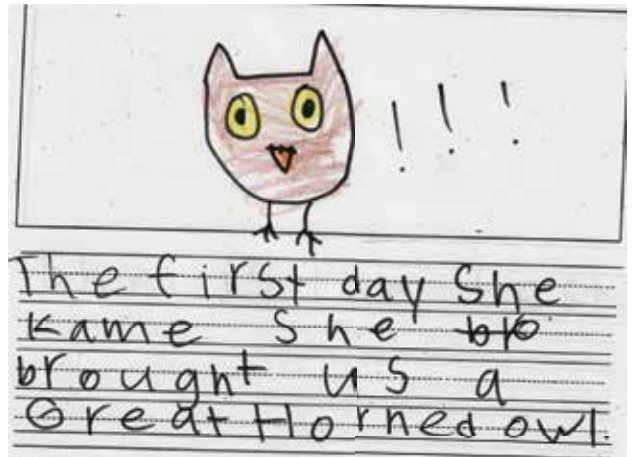


SBAS: NEWS FROM EYES IN THE SKY

MC KINLEY SCHOOL 1ST GRADERS LEARN ABOUT BIRDS

By Judy Hogan and Gabriele Drozdowski

In March and April, Gabriele and EITS volunteers visited the two 1st grade classrooms at McKinley School one day per week for five weeks to teach students about the “12 Most Common Neighborhood Birds.” An EITS raptor was present at each session and at a field trip to Lake Los Carneros. We wish to thank the Steinmetz Foundation, which funded this learning experience and the colorful handout materials, pictures and bird sound CDs, and the many volunteers who helped shepherd the boisterous students around Lake Los Carneros with loaned binoculars in hand. Each student prepared a journal and “thank you” to Gabriele. Please enjoy some of their feedback and observations!



EYES IN THE SKY VISITS MIDLAND SCHOOL!

By Janice Levasheff

At the invitation of Midland School Science teacher Gillian Kinnear Gonzalez, EITS owls Max, Athena, and Puku visited the school library on May 2nd, accompanied by Gabriele Drozdowski and dedicated EITS volunteer Mary Eising. Gabriele captivated Midland students, staff, and friends through her telling of Max's story while Mary quietly walked around with Athena, giving a “feathered greeting” to every person in the room. Throughout the presentation, Max held court from his perch on top of his carrier. Fascination with Max and admiration of Athena changed to astonished delight when Puku was brought out of her carrier and introduced to everyone.

Many thanks to Gillian for facilitating Eyes in the Sky's visit to Midland, to Gabriele for providing an educational and engaging hour with our owls in the Midland School Library, and to Mary for volunteering her time and energy on a very warm afternoon in Los Olivos.

ART SHOW

SB Audubon member Karen Schroeder is a printmaker and painter. Her series of prints, “Nature - Hanging in the Balance,” will be on display in the **Faulkner Gallery East, Library, June 1 – June 30, 2017**

Karen has generously decided to donate 20% of her sales profit to SBAS. For more information on her work, visit karenRschroeder@gmail.com



ATTENTION ALL SHUTTER-BUGS-BIRDS! ENTER OUR FIRST-EVER PHOTO CONTEST

By Jeff Hanson (photos by David Levasheff)

For many years, the Goleta Sanitary District (GSD) has allowed birders to visit its plant site, a fertile (ahem) location for bird sightings. Its only requirements are that the birders:

- Be registered with GSD
- Sign in at the office at the beginning of every visit
- Visit only during posted birding hours
- Respect marked boundaries

Not all sanitary districts offer this kind of access, so Santa Barbara Audubon Society (SBAS) wishes to acknowledge GSD's ongoing support of the birding community, promote our local Special Districts, and reward GSD for its many years of goodwill. With what? Bird photos to decorate GSD walls! How? A photo contest! General information is below, but please go to <http://santabarbaraaudubon.org/> for detailed contest requirements, terms and conditions, instructions, and application.

- Entry is FREE and open to all photo enthusiasts ages 18 and older (Note: GSD & SBAS Board of Directors, Staff, and their spouses are not eligible).
- SBAS chapter membership is not a requirement, but if you're currently not an active member, please consider joining or renewing (via mail-in application or on-line at our website).
- You must have taken your photograph at the GSD plant site during posted birding hours.
- Photos can have been taken during any season or even in a prior year.
- Four different categories will be judged: ducks, shorebirds, songbirds, large birds.
- First- and second-place winners will be selected from each category, eight winners total.
- Your prize if you win: Just fame, no fortune. GSD will print the winning photographs in 16"x20" format and display them prominently, with entrants' names, in the GSD offices.
- Submission period is June 15, 2017 to August 1, 2017.
- Winners will be notified August 15, 2017.
- Photo display opens on September 23, 2017, the date of GSD's Open House.

We are also pleased to announce that GSD has invited SBAS to have a booth at its Open House.

Please contact Jeff Hanson at jlh49@cox.net if you are interested in the fun activities we'll be doing there, and how you can help.



SBAS: FIELD TRIPS

Everyone is welcome! These trips are fun for both beginning and expert bird lovers. Trips are free unless otherwise noted. Please contact Jack Sanford, email: birdsandtennis@hotmail.com for details or questions.

HOLLISTER RANCH

Saturday, June 10, 2017, 8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. (7:00 a.m. at mandatory carpool location). Reservations are required.

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

Leader: Guy Tingos

Reservations are required because the number of vehicles allowed on the Ranch is limited. We are limited to 20 people (five vehicles). Please email Jack Sanford at birdsandtennis@hotmail.com on or before Wednesday, June 7, 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: We will carpool from the upper parking lot of the Sears Shopping Center near Sears Auto Shop at 7:00 a.m. (\$8.00 gas money to drivers). We must carpool 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.

TROUT CLUB, SANTA BARBARA

Saturday, July 8, 2017, 8:30 a.m.-11:00 a.m. (8:00 a.m. at carpool location)

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

Leader: Susanne Barrymore

Directions: We will carpool from the upper parking lot of the Sears Shopping Center near Sears Auto Shop (no gas money) at 8:00 a.m., or you can meet at the entrance to the Trout Club off Old San Marcus Road. Take Hwy 101 to Hwy 154 north from Santa Barbara and turn left on Old San Marcus Road (Painted Cave Road is on your 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.

OSO FLACO LAKE, "LAKE TO THE OCEAN"

Saturday, Aug 5, 2017, 9:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m. (7:00 a.m. at carpool location)

Target Birds: Freshwater and saltwater birds, plus Northern Harriers and wrens

Trip Leader: Jack Sanford

Cost: \$8.00 to carpool drivers + \$5 entrance fee per car or park outside the entrance.

We will take a leisurely 2-mile walk across the Oso Flaco Lake Bridge and follow the boardwalk trail to the ocean, where we will view this rare and unique ecosystem while spotting birds and enjoying the beauty of the area.

Directions: We will meet at the upper corner of the Sears parking lot near the Sears Auto Shop at 7:00 a.m. and carpool to the Oso Flaco Lake parking area. If you would like to meet us at the lake at 9:00 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 through the town of Guadalupe. Travel 3 miles to the Oso Flaco Road. Turn left on Oso Flaco Road and proceed 3 miles to the parking lot. Dress in layers and bring water and a snack. Please contact Jack Sanford at 566-2191 if you have any questions.

SBAS: FRIDAY BIRD WALKS

LA CASA DE MARIA

June 9, 2017, 8:30 a.m.-10:30 a.m.

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

Directions: Take Hwy 101 to the San Ysidro Road off-ramp (#93) and head towards the mountains. At the second stop light, turn right onto East Valley Road (Hwy 192). Proceed 0.2 mile and turn left on El Bosque Road. Follow El Bosque Road about 0.5 mile into the La Casa de Maria grounds (800 El Bosque Road). 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 23, 2017, 8:30 a.m.-10:30 a.m.

Target Birds: Songbirds, woodpeckers, hummingbirds, etc.

Directions: Take Hwy 101 to the Turnpike Avenue off-ramp and head towards the mountains. Turn left on Cathedral Oaks Road. Turn left on Ribera Drive. Park where Ribera Drive and Matorral Way meet. (Bridge under Hwy 101 and Open Space sign can be seen.)

ATASCADERO CREEK

July 14, 2017, 8:30 a.m.-10:30 a.m.

Target Birds: Waterfowl, songbirds, raptors

Directions: From Hwy 101, take the Patterson Avenue off-ramp and head towards the ocean. We will park in the dirt area near the Atascadero Creek Bridge.

SAN MARCOS FOOTHILLS PRESERVE

July 28, 2017, 8:30 a.m.-10:30 a.m.

Target Birds: Songbirds, raptors

Directions: From either direction on Hwy 101, take the State Street/Hwy 154 off-ramp. Follow the signs to get on Hwy 154. Take the Cathedral Oaks

SBAS: FRIDAY BIRD WALKS

Road exit. Turn left on Cathedral Oaks Road. Take the first right turn onto Via Chaparral. Turn right on Salvar Road. Proceed across the bridge and turn left on Via Gaitero. We will park and meet near the entrance.

LAKE LOS CARNEROS

August 11, 2017, 8:30 a.m.-10:30 a.m.

Target Birds: Waterfowl, songbirds

Directions: From Hwy 101 take the Los Carneros off-ramp. Head towards the mountains (Stow House is on the right). Turn into the driveway between the fire station and the park. We will meet in the parking lot behind the fire station.

CARPINTERIA SALT MARSH NATURE PARK

August 25, 2017, 8:30 a.m.-10:30 a.m.

Target Birds: Killdeer, curlews, ducks, teals, egrets, godwits, gulls, herons, raptors

Directions: If coming from the North on Hwy 101, take Linden Avenue off-ramp. If coming from the South on Hwy 101, take Casitas Pass Road off-ramp and turn right on Carpinteria Avenue, then turn left on Linden Avenue. Follow Linden Avenue towards the ocean and turn right on Sandyland Road. Go to the end of Sandyland Road to the Nature Park Entrance and we will meet there.

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**FOR
BREAKING
SBAS
NEWS**



Santa Barbara Audubon Society

A Chapter of the National Audubon Society

PO Box 5508
Santa Barbara, CA 93150
www.SantaBarbaraAudubon.org



Athena

Ivan

Kachina

Max

Kanati

Kisa

Puku

**Our aviary has been built. We have a safe place to live
at the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History.
What more do we need?**

YOUR SUPPORT!!!

Food, supplies, veterinary care, insurance, licenses ... basic needs add up!

Ways in which you can sustain us, now and for the future ...

Aviary Angel - \$10,000 per year

Aviary Guardian - \$7,000 per year

Aviary Champion - \$5,000 per year

**Santa Barbara Audubon Society
has been connecting people with
birds and nature since 1963. Your
sustaining donation will enable us
to continue our educational
outreach to kids of all ages!**

**Questions? Contact Cherie Topper,
Executive Director
cherie.sbas@gmail.com
(805) 964-1468**



Donations are tax deductible. Santa Barbara Audubon is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. EIN 23-7051362

THANK YOU

Peggy Kearns for encouraging friends and family to celebrate your birthday with a contribution to SB Audubon!

Darlene Chirman for donating a printer to our chapter.

Teresa Fanucchi for arranging to hold our annual Board Retreat at La Casa de Maria in July.

Karen and Don Schroeder for lending us your sunshade for Earth Day.

Ben Wolfe for creating attractive covers to keep Eyes in the Sky bird carriers clean.

Evan Asher of TechEase for donating service to fix a software problem in the Eyes in the Sky computer.

Alex Carasa for insightful suggestions and expert proofreading.

Janice Levasheff for unwavering support of this issue.

Trent Watanabe, the Santa Barbara Sentinel and the Montecito Journal for putting the edition together.

Carrie Bree for sending out our welcome notes to new members.

A FEW WORDS FROM THE EDITOR

By Joyce Carasa

When asked to consider editing *El Tecolote*, I felt flattered but hesitant. An ET article had inspired me to become a raptor handler for Eyes in the Sky, and for me that is the greatest volunteer gig imaginable, but I was retired and not looking for a new job. To decide whether to take the job, I attended a board meeting and did some reading. I learned that the Santa Barbara chapter of the Audubon Society comprises a remarkable group of talented, intelligent, and generous people who share a love of the natural environment and a desire to help others to respect and enjoy nature. As noted in Scott Cooper's article on the Conservation Committee, members actively participate in all levels of government, encouraging responsible husbandry of natural resources; they conduct research and they do hands-on habitat restoration; they work hard to help the larger community appreciate the wonder, beauty, and value of the environment. And there are other committees also hard at work. How could I not help?

Now, I look forward to working with my new colleagues to keep us all informed and involved in these important activities. To that end, I ask our readers to think about topics that should be included. Is there a particular species about which you would like to learn more? Are there natural phenomena that intrigue you? What local issues concern or inspire you? Please send your ideas to me. If you have special expertise or knowledge that you would like to share with others, please consider writing an article. All ideas are welcome.

You can send them to newsletter@SantaBarbaraAudubonSociety.org.

THANK YOU, TECOLOTE CIRCLE DONORS

Tecolote Circle donors sustain Audubon's core programs in perpetuity through their vision and donations to our endowment. They give a one-time donation of \$1000 or more to the endowment or name SBAS in their will and let us know. Many continue to donate. Endowment gifts are invested, and income generated supports our work. Our Circle is growing--consider becoming a member! Connect the community with nature... now and for generations to come.

Contact: President@SantaBarbaraAudubon.org

Valerie Bentz

Cecilia Brown

Helen Brown

Wendy Bruss

Darlene

& Savelly Chirman

Nancy & Thomas Crawford

Steve & Betty Ferry

Joel & Vasanti Fithian

Gerry Franklin

Catherine Graham

Virginia Hawley

Judy Hogan

Sally & Brent Kitson

Julie & Marc Kummel

Susan & Andy Lentz

Joan Leipnik

Janice & David Levasheff

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Logan

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Marlene Maes Mills

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