



THE 118TH CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

By Rebecca Coulter, Liz Muraoka, Libby Patten, and Joan Murdoch

Sometimes the story of the CBC is more compelling than the numbers. December 2017 will surely go down as one of the most unexpected, shocking, and intense periods in our CBC history. Throughout 2017, drought conditions continued to plague our region, and what has now become a year-round fire season culminated in the largest fire in California's modern history. The Thomas Fire began on December 4 and was still burning in the backcountry on count day, December 30. It was not fully contained until January 12. Throughout the month, we were distracted from usual CBC preparations by evacuating from our homes, hosting evacuees, returning home, re-evacuating, and learning that perhaps planning for a bird count does not take priority every day. Still, we did our best to stay focused and coordinate our large-scale count day with as much information as we could get about access to fire-affected areas, and what changes we'd have to make to accommodate the closures. As usual, our community of birders and organizers were nimble and creative when it came to that task.

On December 10, Hugh Ranson sent a message over the wires that, while trying out birding wearing his N-95 mask at the Bird Refuge, he had found a Le Conte's Sparrow—not only a first Santa Barbara County record but a life bird for him, and a mega-rarity in all of California. It set the birding community alight, and we hustled to share his joy at the Bird Refuge. Soon, birding—and every other outdoor pursuit—with masks was a common sight. For the CBC committee, this was just the thing we needed to focus our attention on the job at hand.

At 9:00 p.m. on the eve of the count, we received word that some of the mountain routes closed for fire activity were now open, so access would be allowed after all! The mountain team scrambled to employ Plan C, and we all went to bed with hopeful hearts for a great day of birding. The smoke had been clearing, and birders had been scouting with some success. A few of us laughed out loud when we stepped outside the next morning into the pea soup of fog that enveloped the coast...could this CBC be any more unexpected? But by midday it cleared to bright sun and decent temperatures, and the game was on.

For coordinators, the arrival of count day is both a sigh of relief and the beginning of the real work. Compiling data from 200 birders in seven sectors around our 15-mile count circle is challenging, but a testament to the commitment of our community and the pleasure of birding with a goal. We had many delights on count day, including three species new to our CBC: **Mountain Plover**, **Gray Catbird**, and **Blue Grosbeak**. Also seen was the **Broad-billed Hummingbird** at a feeder near Lake Los Carneros. **Sage Thrasher**, in only its second appearance on our count, was a surprise at Gibraltar Dam. We had record high counts of **Steller's Jay** and **Mountain Quail**, and surprise **Pine Warbler** and **Golden-crowned Kinglet** at the SB Cemetery. As expected, waterfowl were scarce. But Laguna Blanca—inexplicably full of water and consequently full of birds—revealed **Ross's Goose**, **Common Goldeneye**, and **White-faced Ibis**. Our notable misses were odd: **Greater Scaup**, **Forster's Tern**, and **Common Murre** among them. The **Le Conte's Sparrow** did not reappear after its debut on December 10. But Count Week (three days before and three days after count day) provided some of the other count day misses: **Greater Scaup**, **American White Pelican**, **Surfbird**, **Greater Roadrunner**, **Red-naped Sapsucker**, **Lark Bunting**, and **Rose-breasted Grosbeak**.

Uploading data to national Audubon is the last piece of the compiler's duties. And the New Year brought with it one last impediment to putting this CBC to bed. Despite the most serious warnings and dire predictions, no one could have imagined the devastation wrought by the final blow of the Thomas Fire: The epic rain event on January 9, and the resulting deadly mud and debris flow, forever changed parts of the Montecito landscape, and countless lives along with it. We are still coming to grips with the impact. Going forward after the recovery, it will be years of adjusting to the changes in terrain (some of it in familiar birding locations), and an opportunity to see if and how these natural forces—fire, debris, flooding, and recovery—affect birds and their distribution around our region. The CBC is a unique opportunity to take an avian snapshot of a moment in time, and then compare it across years and regions. The 118th CBC was one for the record books, and an important time to come together as a community to support each other.

You can find all the individual species totals on the Santa Barbara CBC website, casbbirdcount.org, by clicking on Latest Count Results. Our thanks go to all of you who make it possible, and especially to Santa Barbara Audubon, Bill Pollock, Glenn Kincaid, Dave Compton, and the Museum of Natural History for supporting this effort.



Photo by Chris Coulter

For those who enjoy the national rankings:

Matagorda County TX:	220
San Diego:	217
Guadalupe River Delta TX:	212
Freeport TX:	204
Santa Barbara:	203
Morro Bay:	202

4TH ANNUAL WINTER BIRD COUNT 4 KIDS SETS NEW RECORD

By Betsy Mooney

Ninety-one young birders! That's the official count for this year's annual WBC4Kids at Lake Los Carneros. The first WBC4Kids, in 2015, drew about 30 youngsters. The next year doubled that number. Last year, rain caused the number to drop a little. This year the lake shone brightly in the morning sun under a brilliant blue sky, highlighting the diversity of songbirds, raptors, and ducks. Woodpeckers, crows, herons, and egrets all graced us with their presence, for a total of 52 bird species.

After donning sky-blue WBC4Kids T-shirts, the kids were mentored at Binocular Boot Camp in the art of focusing on birds. Toy birds in nearby trees gave the kids an opportunity to practice without the birds flying away.

Attendees divided into groups, heading in different directions to find the birds on their lists. A Red-shouldered Hawk's rapid cry of *kee-aah kee-aah kee-aah* filled the air, followed by a high-gliding Red-tailed Hawk screaming *kee-eeeeee-arr!* Experienced birders led each group. SB Audubon members also brought scopes.

SBAS member and educator Ginny Nixon exclaimed, "What a terrific event!" adding, "My grandson and I really enjoyed it. I was quite impressed with the number of children that participated, and the number of knowledgeable volunteers involved. It is so nice to see children encouraged to look closely at nature and our beautiful local birds. They will become our future birders!"



IN MEMORIAM

By John O'Brien

With sorrow in our hearts, we learned that Judy Hogan lost her fight with cancer on February 4. But she never lost her spirit or love for the beauty of the natural world that surrounded her and her many friends.

What follows is a tribute to Judy, written to recognize her retirement.

Rarely does an organization find a job candidate who is not only competent, but energetic, a self-starter, detail-oriented, and tenacious in seeing tasks done properly and completely. Judy Hogan brought all these traits to SBAS/EITS when she was hired part-time in 2008 to aid EITS with administrative functions. Her roles and responsibilities grew rapidly, starting with printing and assembling hundreds of Meet-Your-Wild-Neighbor packets, and preparing and mailing multiple flyers to different organizations. Judy joined the SBAS Development Committee, where she was "volunteered" to help with our "Birds of Prey" event to raise \$250,000 to build the EITS aviary on the SBMNH campus. Simultaneously, she picked up EITS bookkeeping chores and helped support the Adopt-a-Bird



program. Judy also brought her skills to the SBAS Finance Committee. As part of the Development Committee, she helped plan, organize, and direct the five-year anniversary of the aviary's completion, and the special EITS/SBAS Donor Event to honor Jan Hamber, SBMNH's California Condor expert. Judy believed this was "the first SBAS...event that really resonated with the public, because it honored a local hero." She joined the EITS Steering Committee, recording the minutes and developing each agenda, and often hosting meetings in her home. She also helped generate many grant requests and followed up on those awarded to ensure all tasks were completed and funds received.

Asked to reflect on her many accomplishments and contributions, Judy said that she prided herself "on being able to find ways to connect ideas with the correct people who can execute those ideas."

Judy will be dearly missed by everyone who had the great fortune to have met her.

During Judy's last few days she asked that we share this statement:

Thank you to the many Audubon friends who have sent me well wishes these past several months. I will truly miss the wonderful, kind and caring Audubon family who each day have shared with me many happy moments.

Judy

MEET YOUR AUDUBON BOARD

A SERIES INTRODUCING THE DIRECTORS OF OUR CHAPTER

Jessie Altstatt grew up in the Bay Area as a 1970s latent hippie child, with a backyard full of compost piles, beehives, a huge organic garden, and a menagerie of mammals, fish, reptiles, and amphibians. She came to UC Santa Barbara in 1985 and never left, earning a BA in Aquatic Biology and an MA in Marine Ecology. She works as a researcher and scientific diver in the waters and shores of the Santa Barbara Channel and Channel Islands, emphasizing marine habitat restoration, natural history, and biodiversity. She also brings a decade of professional experience in the non-profit sector, working with community members, public agencies, and other environmental organizations and has been an active advocate for stronger environmental protections on land and sea.

Jessie's interest in birds is a more recent phenomenon and, she confesses, borders on an obsession. Still, for one who is trained to observe and record, it makes perfect sense! She loves birding because one can do it anywhere, and binoculars and camera are the only equipment needed.

She loves to instill a love for nature in people of all ages through her professional work at Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary and UC Santa Barbara, and now with Audubon.

Since joining SBAS in 2017, Jessie serves as Co-Chair of the Science and Conservation Committee. In addition to advocacy, she is developing outreach materials including Important Bird Area (IBA) signage.



SBAS: EYES IN THE SKY

NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM HONORS EYES IN THE SKY

At its annual Leadership Circle of Giving dinner on January 18, the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History presented Legacy Awards to Eyes in the Sky, along with long-time supporters Dr. Charlotte Tyler, and Judy and Jack Stapelmann. Created in 2009, the Museum's Legacy Award recognizes extraordinary contributions by community supporters, donors, and volunteers who have made the museum the exceptional and beloved institution it is today.



Eyes in the Sky has delighted museum visitors of all ages and keeps them coming back. With its focus on education about the lives of wild species and their interaction with the environment, it is a natural partner for the museum. Gabriele Drozdowski, creator and Director of Audubon's EITS program, brought Max, our Great Horned Owl. Together they thanked the museum for its ongoing support and the current honor. Several Audubon Board members and EITS volunteers shared the celebratory occasion, as seen in our photo.



WHERE DID THE BIRDS GO DURING THE FIRE?

Compiled by Richard Nordli from his and others' experiences

Birds' respiratory systems are much more efficient than those of mammals, so that they can absorb more oxygen. This allows them to fly, but it also causes them to absorb more toxins, like those in smoke. Excessive exposure to smoke can result in lethargy, inactivity, loss of appetite, and even death. Therefore, as the smoke from the Thomas Fire grew denser, it became clear that the birds had to be evacuated.

The fire is out. The EITS birds are happily back home, but where did they go? Here are their stories:

The kestrels were the first to go and were taken to Gabriele's home, where they had free rein. Kachina seemed to have an affinity for *National Geographic* magazines, as Kanati looked over her shoulder. Within two days, the smoke began invading Gabriele's space, and Teresa Fanucchi volunteered to take them to her parents' house. Here are highlights of her description of the experience:

On Sunday, December 10, my work in Montecito was put on mandatory evacuation, I was pining for some fresh air, and Gabriele, who was preparing for a possible evacuation at her home, was looking for a safe place for the kestrels.

Happy to be of use, I drove the kestrels to my parents' home in Grover Beach. I'll never forget reaching the point where the smoke above dissipated, like the end of a roll of thick reddish-brown insulation, with blue sky beyond.

The space where Kanati and Kachina stayed offered some 5-star raptor amenities: a skylight, and a big screened-in window and sliding glass door.

Setting up a space suitable to these flight-impaired birds was a new and interesting challenge, but the birds' behavior showed me what they needed.

Each day they had quality outdoor time in the sun. While sitting with them, I realized that often, prior to the fire, I had taken for granted a clear blue sky. Grateful for the opportunity to escape the smoke, this simple act of being with the kestrels enjoying the sun and fresh air was a gift.

-Teresa Fanucchi



Bernard Unterman took our Great Horned Owl, Max, to his home and then to Pacific Wildlife Care in Morro Bay. Bernard wrote:

On December 6, Gabriele and I spoke about the birds' exposure to ash. That conversation resulted in my taking Max to my house, where I already had a "Max room". After 6 days of his not being able to go outside for "tree time," I wanted Max out of town, but where? I found out about Pacific Wildlife Care in Morro Bay, called Gabriele and gave her the name and number of the director. She inquired about lodging for Max and got good news: a large aviary room that had just been remodeled with new perches was available and large enough for him to fly around. They would receive Max at no charge as an evacuee for as long as it took for the air in SB to become fit to breathe.

My wife, Heather, and I stayed in a hotel nearby for the duration. We were all breathing clean air for 11 days. The folks at Pacific Wildlife Care were amazing. I was able to visit Max, take him outside for "tree time," feed him and hoot with him daily. I gave Gabriele regular updates, and two or

(story continued on p. 4)



SBAS: EYES IN THE SKY

(continued from p. 3)

three times Max had “facetime” with Gabriele, which was amazing. On December 23, we brought Max back to Santa Barbara.

-Bernard Unterman

Laura Calderon offered to house our Barn Owl at her house on the north side of town near the airport. Here is her story:

During the Thomas Fire, I was delighted to share my house with three evacuees, one being Athena, a Barn Owl. Fortunately, I had a small area that had formerly housed two parrots, which we had turned into an indoor orchid greenhouse. Once the orchids were removed, adding a high shelf and a wooden ladder turned the area into a temporary home for Athena.

There was some adjusting by my dog, Pico, who was used to having the run of the house. Now, Athena was in charge, and she knew it. I had never heard some of the sounds she made (clacking and a super long hissing exhale) when my small chihuahua came near, but they were not sounds of fear. My husband also had to adjust, as he did not expect to find bags of mice and rats in the freezer. He could never quite bring himself to watch Athena eat.

Athena stayed over Christmas and was the center of attention at our family get-together. She seemed to enjoy the attention. She particularly liked sitting with me in the evenings while we watched TV, and when the smoke lifted she really enjoyed going outside at night. I can only imagine the creatures she was able to see. This was certainly an experience I'll never forget!

-Laura Calderon



Photo by Fernando Calderon

Tony Galvan took in (Sir) Ivan, our Red-tailed Hawk, for a second evacuation. Let's see his story:

Ivan arrived in Winchester Canyon on the third day of the fire. He is no stranger here, as we kept him during the Jesusita Fire. His perch was still in the backyard, and he had new digs in the garage, a large wire crate which gave him a bird's eye view of everything that went on in the house. He also had his own television to watch and he seemed to spend time either listening or watching the screen.

Except during sleep, he was part of all the household activities. His morning routine was to go to a perch on a table in the garage while I cleaned the crate. Then some time out in the backyard before the morning walk. A few afternoons were clear enough, with no ash and smoke, that he had an afternoon walk as well. When I placed Ivan on his perch in front of the picture window, he would look at his reflection, cock his head and then move his head again. We hated to see him leave, since he added a new activity to the house: enrichment activities for humans.

-Tony Galvan



Photo by Tony Galvan

Kisa, our Peregrine Falcon, and Puku, our Western Screech Owl, had to travel the farthest. They were driven to Los Osos, where Jeri Roberts (who works for Pacific Wildlife Care) offered to take them in and care for them. She has a lovely old barn and multiple mews. Her three resident birds (a Long-eared Owl, a Barn Owl, and a Peregrine Falcon) kept ours company. Jeri Roberts couldn't have been a more perfect host. For decades, she has studied and kept birds with science and compassion. She builds mews with ingenious perches that can be moved, removed, or swung out of the way, and trap doors that open with pulleys for remotely releasing rehabbed birds. She does it all from rescue to release. She took Kisa and Puku out every day.

Our birds have been through many changes. They moved away from the museum during construction. After getting used to their new temporary homes, they were evacuated, and then they returned to their temporary quarters. They have demonstrated remarkable resilience. And now they're safe, healthy, and happy.

SBAS: PROGRAMS

THE BREEDING BIRD STUDY OF SANTA BARBARA COUNTY A TOOL TO MONITOR OUR LOCALLY BREEDING BIRDS

Presented by Adrian O'Loghlen and Mark Holmgren

Wednesday, March 28, 2018, 7:30 p.m. (Doors open 7:00 p.m.—join us for refreshments)

Location: Farrand Hall, Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History

With more than 5,500 records of avian breeding in the Santa Barbara County Breeding Bird Study (BBS), Adrian and Mark will present a detailed description of the timing and distribution of breeding activities of the common breeding species. They will demonstrate how these records can be used for scientific and conservation purposes. The strength of the effort is greatly improved through continued data gathering over a period of years and expanding geographic coverage. Last year alone, 764 new records were submitted to the data base, and this year Adrian and Mark hope for 1000 plus! A new and easy online method for submitting a breeding record is key to achieving this target, and a demonstration of this procedure will be presented.

Adrian O'Loghlen earned his Ph.D. in Behavioral Ecology from UCSB, based on research of song dialects in Brown-headed Cowbirds. His post-doctoral research from the University of Washington, Seattle, was on the function of song variation in Song Sparrows. Mark Holmgren was curator of the Vertebrate Collections at UCSB's CCBER from 1984 to 2010. In addition to coordinating the SB BBS with Adrian, Mark also coordinates Kite Watch for SBAS. both Mark and Adrian serve on the SBAS Science and Conservation Committee.

SBAS: PROGRAMS

SB AUDUBON MOVIE NIGHT

BROKE: THE SANTA BARBARA OIL PIPELINE SPILL OF 2015

Wednesday, April 25, 2018, 7:30 p.m. (Doors open 7:00 p.m.—join us for refreshments)

Location: Farrand Hall, Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History

Please join us for a free screening of *Broke*, a documentary film about the May 19, 2015, Plains All-American Pipeline oil spill on the Gaviota Coast. The film highlights the reaction of citizens who came together in protest marches and healing ceremonies, rescued birds and marine mammals, cleaned the oil off beaches, and demanded more stringent spill prevention response. This is a one-hour environmental story with a peek back at the 1969 Santa Barbara oil spill that helped launch the environmental movement, EPA, and clean air and water laws, and a look forward to a fossil fuel free future.

Creator Gail Osherenko is an independent documentary film maker, long-time environmental activist, and SBAS member. Her other films include *Dark Side of the Loon*, *Arctic Expedition*, and *Loon Chick's First Summer*. A Q&A session will follow the screening.



UCSB'S NORTH CAMPUS OPEN SPACE PROJECT IN PROGRESS:

RESTORING THE UPPER ARMS OF DEVEREUX SLOUGH

Presented by Lisa Stratton

Wednesday, May 23, 2018, 7:30 p.m. (Doors open 7:00 p.m.—join us for refreshments)

Location: Farrand Hall, Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History

Lisa will show *From Golf Course to Wetland*, a brief film about how the restoration project evolved, and then discuss the project in action – from moving the dirt to building the bridges, planting the plants, and documenting the functions for birds and hydrology.

Lisa Stratton, spearhead for the North Campus Open Space Restoration Project, is the Director of Ecosystem Management for UCSB's Cheadle Center for Biodiversity and Ecological Restoration (CCBER), which manages 300 acres of UCSB open space. She received her Ph.D. in Botany and Conservation Biology from University of Hawaii and has worked at CCBER since 2005. She is passionate about restoration, which she integrates with education and research opportunities at UCSB.



SBAS: FIELD TRIPS

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

RANCHO SANTA BARBARA

Saturday, March 17, 2018, 8:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m. (carpool time: 7:30 a.m., no gas money)

Target Birds: Geese, Common Goldeneyes, Wood Ducks, Lewis's Woodpeckers, Clark's Grebes, American White Pelicans, other waterbirds, and passerines

Leader: Rob Lindsay

Directions: We will carpool from the corner of the upper Sears parking lot at 7:30 a.m. The Rancho Santa Barbara is located at 4001 Hwy 154. If you are not going to carpool we must all meet at the Rancho SB entrance gate at 8:00 a.m. and enter as a group. Wear walking shoes. Binoculars and spotting scopes are useful. Bring water and a snack. Enjoy ranch owners Lee and Charles Carr's hospitality at one of the best inland birding areas in the county.

RANCHO LA VINA (BETWEEN BUELLTON & LOMPOC)

Saturday, April 21, 2018, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon (carpool time: 8:00 a.m., \$8 gas money)

Target Birds: Spring migrants, songbirds, woodpeckers, etc.

Leader: Paul Keller

Directions: We will carpool at 8:00 a.m. from the corner of the upper Sears parking lot. Take Hwy 101 to Santa Rosa Rd off-ramp just before Buellton. We will park and meet at #4455 Santa Rosa Rd at 9:00 a.m.

Bring water and a snack and wear shoes that are comfortable for some leisurely walking. Binoculars and spotting scopes are useful. Enjoy ranch owner Jose Baer's generous hospitality in allowing us to bird his ranch.

NOJOQUI FALLS COUNTY PARK

Saturday, May 19, 2018, 9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon (carpool time: 8:00 a.m. - \$8 gas money)

Target Birds: Yellow-billed magpies, Purple Martins, Blue Grosbeaks, Lazuli Buntings, Barn Owls, vireos, towhees, woodpeckers, and orioles

Leader: Rob Lindsay

Directions: We will carpool at 8:00 a.m. from the corner of the upper Sears parking lot, taking Hwy 101 north to the Nojoqui Falls turnoff (the next turnoff after a large truck parking area). We will hike to the falls (an easy walk) and then bird the entire park. If you plan on meeting us there, we will park and meet at the parking area nearest the falls. Bring water and a snack or lunch.

SBAS: FRIDAY BIRD WALKS

FARREN ROAD

March 9, 2018, 8:30 a.m.-10:30 a.m.

Target Birds: Western Bluebirds, etc.

Leader: Jack Sanford

Directions: From SB area take Hwy 101 north. Take the Winchester Canyon Rd exit. At the end of the ramp go straight (Calle Real) past stop sign at bridge and continue to the end of the road. Continue until Farren Rd is on your right. We will park on the side of the road at the beginning of Farren Rd.

ELINGS PARK

March 23, 8:30 a.m.-10:30 a.m.

Target Birds: Raptors, songbirds, juncos, warblers, finches, Hutton's Vireos, California Thrashers, etc.

Leader: Jack Sanford

Directions: From Hwy 101, take the Las Positas off-ramp and head toward the ocean. Look for the Elings Park entrance sign and turn left on Jerry Harwin Pky. Proceed to the Battistone Foundation soccer parking lot in front of the park office building. We will meet there and bird the area.

ENNISBROOK NATURE TRAIL *(Due to muddy condition the location of this walk may change. Please check our website for updates)*

April 13, 2018, 8:30 a.m.-10:30 a.m.

Target Birds: Nuthatches, Common Yellowthroats, Townsend's Warblers, Spotted Towhees, etc.

Leader: TBD

Directions: Take Hwy 101 to the Sheffield Dr turnoff. Follow Sheffield Dr and turn left on San Leandro Ln (first left). Nature trail is located on right side of road past white picket fence near a pump house. We will park and meet near the entrance gate.

TUCKER'S GROVE AND KIWANIS MEADOWS

April 27, 2018, 8:30 a.m.-10:30 a.m.

Target Birds: Cooper's Hawks, towhees, American Robins, Lesser Goldfinches, etc.

Leader: TBD

Directions: Take Hwy 101 and exit Turnpike Rd off-ramp. Turn toward the mountains and cross Cathedral Oaks Rd and enter San Antonio County Park (Tucker's Grove). We will park and meet near the playground restroom area.

UCSB CAMPUS LAGOON

May 11, 2018, 8:30 a.m.-10:30 a.m.

Target Birds: Grebes, herons, dowitchers, ducks, godwits, plovers, etc.

Leader: Jack Sanford

Directions: Coming from the south on Hwy 101, take the Ward Memorial Blvd exit. Take the Goleta Beach County Park exit and park at the west end (nearest UCSB campus) of the Goleta Beach parking lot. Coming from the north on Hwy 101 take the Fairview Ave off-ramp and head toward the ocean. Follow Fairview Ave, which turns into Fowler Rd, and turn right into the Goleta Beach County Park. We will park and meet at the west end of the Goleta Beach parking lot (nearest the UCSB campus).

SAN JOSE CREEK & OPEN SPACE

May 25, 2018, 8:30 a.m.-10:30 a.m.

Leader: TBD

Target Birds: Hummingbirds, woodpeckers, songbirds, maybe even an owl, etc.

Directions: Take Hwy 101 to the Patterson Ave off-ramp and turn north toward the mountains. Turn left on Parejo Dr (second street from Hwy 101). Follow Parejo Dr to the end. Turn right on Merida Dr. We will meet and park at the end of Merida Dr.

SBAS: OTHER NEWS

AUDUBON CALIFORNIA NAMES A NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Drawn from an article in Audubon California Newsletter

The National Audubon Society has named Sarah Rose executive director of Audubon California. She will also serve as vice president of the National Audubon Society.

In her early career, Sarah Rose built a solid reputation as a campaign manager for political candidates in California and across the country. Following that, she served as executive vice president and political director of the California League of Conservation Voters, where she is credited with being a formidable legislative force. She also served as the California director of the Western Conservation Foundation.

Audubon President and CEO David Yarnold describes her as "the perfect leader for Audubon California right now," adding, "She's both a passionate defender of environment and a bold strategic thinker – someone who can help take our powerful conservation network to a new level."

GO PAPERLESS:

THERE'S MORE THAN ONE WAY TO GET EL TECOLOTE...

You can get El Tecolote in the mail OR receive an e-mail reminder that it's ready for your perusal at SantaBarbaraAudubon.org. The second option saves a tree and saves money for SBAS, and you see the newsletter early and in color. To start your paper-free El Tecolote delivery, e-mail a request to Membership@SantaBarbaraAudubon.org

SBAS: OTHER NEWS

PRESENTATION AT THE SANTA BARBARA LIBRARY

As part of James Wapotich's Wilderness Hiking Speaker Series talk,
Rebecca Coulter presents

BIRDING IN SANTA BARBARA: CONNECTING US TO THE WILDERNESS

On Thursday, March 15, at 6:30 p.m.

In the Faulkner Gallery

Learn how, by opening our eyes and ears to the birds around us, we deepen our experience in nature – and the joy of discovering how birds can link us to the wilderness, no matter where we are in the world.



Photo by Liz Muraoka

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Alan Cain
Alexandra Loos
Cath Webb
Dolores A McQuary
Jeremy Carroll
Jim Williams
Kay Regester
Kipp Callahan
N Tuomey
Sarah Prindle
Susan Howard
Tana Christie
Tina Gorelik

SUPPORT OUR LOCAL BIRDS WITH A TAX-SAVING GIFT

Contribute to local bird and habitat conservation! If you are 70 1/2 or older, you probably have Required Minimum Distributions (RMD) from your IRA retirement funds. You may donate to Audubon or other charities with direct Qualified Charitable Distributions from your IRA. These donations can count towards your RMD without paying income tax. Arrange for your IRA to contribute directly to Santa Barbara Audubon Society to qualify. For additional details, talk with your financial advisor or IRA administrator.

THANK YOU!

THANK YOU!

Audubon members for your generous monetary donations and 17,000+ hours of volunteer time!

Rebecca Coulter, Liz Muraoka, Joan Murdoch, Libby Patten, and everyone involved in organizing our successful Christmas Bird Count. A great event!

Gayle Hackamack, Marsha Macdonald, Nancy States, and Kris Mainland White – our CBC dinner team. We loved the lasagna!

Peter Grim (friend of Peggy Kearns) for lending his boat to our CBC effort.

Judy Blue and Joan Cotich for co-chairing our fourth successful Winter Bird Count 4 Kids.
Thanks also to John Kuizenga, Andy Lanes, Janice Levasheff, Karen Schroeder, Mary Thompson, Dolores Pollock, Patti Beal, and Cherie Topper, and to the many enthusiastic helpers and community supporters.

Trader Joe's for providing snacks for our young birders, the City of Goleta for the WBC4Kids T-shirts, Nothing Bundt Cakes for a sweet dessert, and Smart and Final for bottles of water.

Laura Calderon, Bernard Unterman, Gabriele Drozdowski, Chris Mersey, Teresa Fanucchi, Mary Eising, Richard Nordli, Alex Shu, Vasanti and Joel Fithian, Tony Galvan, and Danielle Peters for keeping our EITS raptors safe from noxious air during and after the Thomas Fire. These activities included housing them, transporting them, and caring for them, and scouring their temporary aviaries before their return.

Pacific Wildlife Care Center in Morro Bay for housing and caring for three of our EITS raptors during the Thomas Fire.

Debra Brinkman, local author, for sharing the proceeds of her book
(*Birds of the Central Coast, a Novel*) with SBAS.

Trent Watanabe of the *Montecito Journal* and *Santa Barbara Sentinel* for professional layout advice on this newsletter.

VISIT OUR EARTH DAY BOOTH



SATURDAY, April 21
Alameda Park
11:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

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FOR BREAKING SBAS NEWS





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EYES IN THE SKY DIRECTOR

Gabriele Drozdowski

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS OFFICERS

President	Dolores Pollock	President@SantaBarbaraAudubon.org
Vice-President	Lee Moldaver	VP@SantaBarbaraAudubon.org
Secretary	Melissa Riparetti-Stepien	Secretary@SantaBarbaraAudubon.org
Treasurer	Christopher Mersey	Treasurer@SantaBarbaraAudubon.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Programs	Teresa Fanucchi	Programs@SantaBarbaraAudubon.org
Conservation	Jessica Altstatt	Conservation@SantaBarbaraAudubon.org
	Aaron Kreisberg	
Science	Steve Senesac	Science@SantaBarbaraAudubon.org
Education	Jayne Wamsley	Education@SantaBarbaraAudubon.org
Publicity	Janice Toyo Levasheff	Publicity@SantaBarbaraAudubon.org
Governance	Kathleen Boehm	Governance@SantaBarbaraAudubon.org
Development	OPEN	Development-1@SantaBarbaraAudubon.org
At Large	OPEN	

BOARD APPOINTED POSITIONS

Eyes in the Sky	John O'Brien	EITS@SantaBarbaraAudubon.org
Field Trips	Jack Sanford	FieldTrips@SantaBarbaraAudubon.org
Membership	Julia Kosowitz	Membership@SantaBarbaraAudubon.org
Newsletter	Joyce Carasa	Newsletter@SantaBarbaraAudubon.org
	Betsy Mooney	
Webmaster	David Levasheff	Webmaster@SantaBarbaraAudubon.org
President Emerita	Darlene Chirman	

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Officers and Chairs meet the 2nd Wednesday of the month September through June.

Members are welcome to attend. Call 805-964-1468

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Join or Donate to Santa Barbara Audubon Society (SBAS)!!

Please fill out this form and mail it with your check to the address below. Make checks out to: Santa Barbara Audubon Society.

☐ Enroll me as a Chapter-Supporting Member.

I am: ☐ New ☐ Renewing

☐ \$26 Basic ☐ \$50 Sponsor ☐ \$100 Sustaining

☐ \$500 Patron ☐ \$1000 Benefactor

Support SBAS and your local birds - become a Chapter-Supporting Member!

SBAS depends greatly on its Chapter-Supporting Members. We collaborate with National Audubon Society (NAS) on issues of mutual concern, but very little of our funding comes from NAS. Your Chapter-Supporting Membership ensures we can continue our local restoration and conservation efforts and provide you with educational and enjoyable programs because all of your chapter-supporting dues stay with SBAS.

If you're not already a Chapter-Supporting Member, we urge you to join SBAS and invite your friends, neighbors, relatives to join us, too.

Santa Barbara Audubon Society, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, EIN 23-7051362. Your membership and any additional donation are tax deductible.

Thank you and welcome!

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

Phone: (____) _____

☐ This is a Gift Membership for:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

Phone: (____) _____

Mail membership form with check to:

Santa Barbara Audubon Society P.O. Box 5508, Santa Barbara, CA 93150