

# El Tecolote

Santa Barbara Audubon Society  
Summer 2025



**Annual Membership Meeting and  
Celebration: June 14.** Details inside





## From the desk of Katherine Emery, Executive Director

Through our Education and Conservation/Science Committees, Santa Barbara Audubon Society (SBAS) is actively working on several initiatives. This update provides an overview of selected current projects, goals, and opportunities for member engagement.

Dear Prospective and Lifelong SBAS Members,

On a recent bird walk at Lake Los Carneros in Goleta, I asked SBAS members what connects them to our chapter and mission, and heard this:

- *Getting outside in nature is a nice distraction from politics, and it's a great way to learn about birds.*
- *SBAS is the premier environmental organization in the region and it's an honor to be part of it.*
- *The field trips and bird walks are truly exceptional.*
- *I am very concerned about the decline in birds, and I like feeling I'm doing something about it.*

Which leads us to two questions: Why is birding in Santa Barbara County unique? And how do we get more involved?

**Extraordinary natural resources.** Santa Barbara County's rich ecological diversity and geography welcome birds and birders alike. Our beaches, wetlands, streams, rivers, lakes, chaparral, grasslands, oak woodlands, and mountain and riparian forests provide habitat for an abundant variety and number of bird species. Additionally, Goleta is in the Pacific Flyway, one of four major North American migration routes for birds. In spring and fall,

birding is especially good along this north-south migratory bird route. I am grateful to live here.

**Birding is fun.** Summer can provide time to recharge, try new hobbies, and plan for the upcoming year; along those lines, we welcome prospective members and novice birders to join SBAS now in preparation for upcoming events this fall. If you're already a dedicated chapter member, thank you! I invite you to reach out to me, share your ideas, and/or volunteer in key positions. Current leadership and committee openings include Conservation/Science, Event Planning, Development, and Membership.

Working together as a community, SBAS protects area birdlife and habitat and connects people with birds through education, conservation, and science.

Thank you, amazing members, for your time, talents and support. Best wishes and happy summer.

Katherine Emery, PhD  
Executive Director, Santa Barbara Audubon Society



Katherine Emery, Mark Holmgren, and Rachel Bailey from Audubon California on an April bird walk at Lake Los Carneros. Rachel was on a tour of California chapters.  
*Photo by Dolores Pollock*



SBAS Board and Conservation/Science committee members gathered to visit Rancho Tajiguas Preserve, a property recently acquired by the Gaviota Coast Conservancy. *Photo by Roman Baratiak*

## SANTA BARBARA AUDUBON SOCIETY

805-964-1468

[SantaBarbaraAudubon.org](http://SantaBarbaraAudubon.org)

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Katherine Emery

### EYES IN THE SKY DIRECTOR

Hannah Atkinson

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS OFFICERS

**President** Janice Levasheff

**Vice-President** Briana Sapp

**Secretary** Kathleen Boehm

**Treasurer** Christopher Mersey

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

#### COMMITTEE CHAIRS

**Communications** Christy Zwicke

**Conservation/Science** Jessie Altstatt

**Development** OPEN

**Education** Page Hiller-Adams and

Jessica Prichard

**Field Trips** Karl Weis

**Membership** Elaine Mah Best

**Programs** Roman Baratiak

**At Large** Sam Franz, Ron Hirst

### BOARD-APPOINTED POSITIONS

**Field Trips Coordinator** Dane St. George

**Newsletter** Colette Becker, Dennis Power

**Webmaster** David Levasheff

The Board meets the second Wednesday of

the month September through June.

Members are welcome to attend.

Santa Barbara County Birding:

[sbcobirding.groups.io/g/main](http://sbcobirding.groups.io/g/main)

# El Tecolote

The magazine of the Santa Barbara Audubon Society

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**On the cover:** Lawrence's Goldfinch.

*Photo by Eunice Schroeder*



## Note from the Editor

I turn the page of my final issue as editor with much gratitude to the *El Tecolote* team, SBAS, and the local birders who so generously share time, knowledge, and friendship to forge connections among people and the great small wonders of the outdoors. Thank you for protecting birds and habitats, and for trusting me to help share your stories.

To Dennis Power, the contributing writers and photographers, and the donor who had the vision for color – thank you. I can't wait to see what's next for ET. Read on. . .

—Colette Becker

### MEMBERSHIP



## Help Birds Soar!

### Join, Renew Your Membership, and/or Donate to Santa Barbara Audubon Society

Please donate online, scan the QR code, or mail this form with your check to **SBAS** (address below)

I'll be a Chapter-Supporting Member! ☐ New ☐ Renewing

☐ \$26 Feathered Friends ☐ \$50 Plover Protector ☐ \$100 Songbird Stewards

☐ \$500 Heron Heroes ☐ \$1,000 Great Horned Owl Guardians

### DONATION



Chapter memberships are separate from National Audubon memberships. 100% of your chapter dues stay local and keep SBAS strong and sustainable, so we can protect birds and their habitat now and into the future.

Name

Street Address

City, State, Zip Code

Email

**Mail membership form or donation with check to:**

**SBAS, P.O. Box 6737, Santa Barbara, CA 93160**

**Or join or donate at: [SantaBarbaraAudubon.org/join-sbas](http://SantaBarbaraAudubon.org/join-sbas)**

()  Phone

Visit our website to receive your newsletter electronically and/or to gift a membership to someone. SBAS does not share personal information with other organizations. Santa Barbara Audubon Society, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, EIN 23-7051362.



# Board News

SBAS is pleased to announce **Lynn Scarlett** has volunteered to be the next editor of *El Tecolote*. Readers may recognize Lynn from past ET articles, bird photography, field reports from local birding locations, or from her distinguished career in public service and conservation leadership.

Lynn retired in 2021 as Global Chief External Affairs Officer for The Nature Conservancy and is former Deputy Secretary/Chief Operating Officer of the U.S. Department of the Interior, and former chair of the Science Advisory Board of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. Among the many boards on which she currently serves, Lynn is on the advisory board of the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and the Santa Barbara Foundation. She is a UCSB alumna and an avid birder, hiker, and writer.

As an active member of SBAS, Lynn was a featured speaker in the 2023 program season and was pivotal in engaging National Audubon's CEO, Dr. Elizabeth Gray, as a speaker this season. Welcome, Lynn!



Lynn Scarlett at Hopper Mountain National Wildlife Refuge releasing a condor into the wild.

After six and a half years as our Eyes in the Sky Director, **Hannah Atkinson** is winging her way to upstate New York to begin a new, exciting chapter in her life.

The EITS Director position requires a special skillset. Soon after bidding a fond farewell to the original director, Gabriele Drozdowski, SBAS appointed an interim director, Chris Mersey, a current board member and longtime former EITS volunteer. Chris recalls the good fortune of Hannah's arrival on the scene:

*As interim director, my first priority was the health and safety of our birds. I soon realized the second was to find a permanent director who could take our flagship program to a higher level. Where were we going to find someone who could care for our disabled raptors and help them thrive?*

*Someone who could constantly upgrade their environment and regime? Organize, train, and oversee up to 50 volunteers? Increase our school outreach to 15-20 programs a year? Welcome up to 20,000 EITS visitors at the SB Museum of Natural History? Handle all the administrative aspects, such as ordering raptor food, coordinating veterinary care, and licensing with three federal and state agencies? We found just that person when Hannah arrived in January 2019. I can't emphasize enough her professionalism, her care and empathy, her skills and talents, and, not least, her dedication. Many, many thanks to Hannah!*

Our incoming EITS director, Mary Zolkoski, will be introduced in the next *El Tecolote*.



Briana Sapp with EITS Ambassador Athena, a Barn Owl.

As SBAS Vice President, **Briana Sapp** brought strong administrative and communication skills and strengthened the connection we have with the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History. She designed the membership renewal and annual appeal letters that graced our mailboxes over the past few years and shared her love of nature and birds through community outreach.

Says Briana:

*After eight wonderful years of volunteering with Santa Barbara Audubon, including four and a half years as Vice President on the board, I've made the bittersweet decision to step down. This wasn't easy – as many of you know, SBAS holds a very special place in my heart – but I believe it's time to make space for someone new to share their time and*



*talents with this incredible organization. Since moving to San Francisco in February 2024, I've done my best to stay connected and contribute from afar. But with the new demands on my time, I've realized I can no longer give this role the attention it deserves.*

*From my earliest days volunteering with Eyes in the Sky and learning from our remarkable birds, to forming friendships I know will last a lifetime, my experience with SBAS has been deeply meaningful. I'm so grateful for the memories, the community, and the shared passion for protecting wild-life and wild places.*

*Now living in the Presidio, I'm lucky to have a national park quite literally outside my door – and the birding here is some of the best around. If you ever find yourself in the Bay Area, I'd love to show you some of my favorite local spots. Please don't be a stranger – you can reach me anytime at [bjsapp@gmail.com](mailto:bjsapp@gmail.com). Wishing you all clear skies and happy birding!*

**Elaine Mah Best** joined the board last year as our Membership Chair. She is Vice President of Community Relations at the Santa Barbara Zoo, and we feel fortunate she put her strategic thinking, knowledge of the community, and keen business skills to work for Santa Barbara Audubon.

Says Elaine:

*It was a pleasure to serve on the SBAS board. I am grateful for the incredible work that this organization does each and every day to connect people with birds through educational programming and to protect critical bird habitats for local and migrant birds. I am also incredibly grateful to the loyal members and donors and for their passion and enthusiasm, without which SBAS could not soar.*

## Annual Membership Meeting and Celebration

by Janice Levasheff

**Saturday, June 14, 2025, 3:00-5:00 p.m.  
Stow Grove Park, Area 3**

**F**lock to our Annual Membership Meeting on June 14 from 3:00-5:00 p.m. at Stow Grove Park! This popular event gives the SBAS chapter a chance to hear the latest news, visit with members, and select your board for the coming year. This year we will be honoring Jan Hamber (see page 6).

Please bring your own beverage, plates and cutlery to minimize the use of single-use disposable items, and bring finger food to share. Invite a friend or new birder!

### **Slate of Nominees for Election to the SBAS Board:**

President: Janice Levasheff

Vice President: OPEN

Secretary: Kathleen Boehm

Treasurer: Chris Mersey

Communications: Christy Zwicke

Conservation/Science: Jessie Altstatt

Development: OPEN

Education: Jessica Prichard and Page Hiller-Adams

Field Trips: Karl Weis

Membership: OPEN

Programs: Roman Baratiak

At-Large: Sam Franz and Ron Hirst



*Photo by Betsy Mooney*

We are grateful to SBAS board members for their outstanding service to our chapter.

If you or someone you know is interested in helping out, please contact President Janice Levasheff [janice@SantaBarbaraAudubon.org](mailto:janice@SantaBarbaraAudubon.org) or use the Contact Us button at the bottom left corner of our website's home page, [SantaBarbaraAudubon.org](http://SantaBarbaraAudubon.org). SBAS is for the birds, but it runs on people power!

# Honoring Jan Hamber

by Janice Levasheff

At our June 14 annual meeting we plan to honor Jan Hamber for all she has done for birds and conservation. Jan had a role in starting our chapter and was an integral member of the team that captured the last wild California Condor in an effort to save the species. Find more on that in a National Audubon Society magazine article published in fall 2020 ([www.audubon.org/magazine/bird-lives-because-she-never-quit](http://www.audubon.org/magazine/bird-lives-because-she-never-quit)). Jan managed the California Condor Archives at the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History and is a champion and role model for women in science. We hope you can come to Stow Grove the afternoon of June 14 and help us honor Jan. (See page 5 for meeting details.)



Biologist Jan Hamber in her office at the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History where she maintains the Condor Archive, a treasure trove of historical documents. *Photo by Owen Duncan courtesy of Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History*

## Give Birds A Chance

Schedule your tree-trimming for months that end in -BER (September-December), when most birds aren't likely to be nesting.

Visit the SBAS website for resources and, while you're there, explore interactive data on the Santa Barbara County Breeding Bird Study.



Anna's Hummingbird. *Photo by David Blue*



# Lights Out: Guided by the Moon and Stars

by Jessie Altstatt, Conservation/Science Chair

In April 2025, the County of Santa Barbara and the cities of Carpinteria and Goleta all issued proclamations recognizing International Dark Sky Week. Although there is a coalition of groups heralding the importance of dark nights for astronomy and human heritage, SBAS became involved in advocating for the dark several years ago because there is growing evidence that artificial light at night hurts the behavior and health of all species – especially birds.



Jessie Altstatt and Janice Levasheff with Goleta Mayor Paula Perotte.  
*Photo courtesy of City of Goleta*

Why is a dark sky so important? Every plant and animal on this planet (with the exception of those deep within caves and the deep sea) evolved under night skies lit only by the moon and stars. There is increasing evidence that birds, mammals, and insects find their way by the motion and position of celestial bodies, much like ancient seagoers navigated the world's oceans. Research in the late 1960s found that Indigo Buntings use Polaris (the North Star) to guide their nighttime flight. Harbor seals also orient to Polaris, and dung beetles use the light of the Milky Way to direct their foraging. New studies indicate that human sleep rhythms can be disturbed by even a small LED within the bedroom.

Modern cultures have had artificial nighttime light for just a little more than 200 years – but what a change! The result of outdoor lights around our buildings and streets

is a dramatic increase in what is termed “skyglow,” when the atmosphere is lit up affecting an area far greater than the throw pattern of the individual lamps (think Las Vegas). The New World Atlas of Artificial Sky Brightness published in *Science Advances* in 2016 revealed that nearly half the U.S. land mass experienced light-polluted nights through skyglow, and more than 99 percent of U.S. and European populations live with light pollution at night. Those numbers are most certainly higher now.

In Santa Barbara, we live beneath what is called the Pacific Flyway, a route used by birds migrating from their wintering grounds in Mexico, Central, and South America to their summer nesting grounds far to the north. Year in and year out, long before the invention of gas and electric lamps, birds have followed the same routes that provide safe resting and foraging locations along the way. For many species, the bulk of migration flight occurs at night. For a bird using the natural light of celestial bodies, the combination of urbanization and artificially lit cities and neighborhoods can cause confusion, disorientation, or, worse, death from collision with building glass. According to a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 2017 report, nearly 600 million birds are believed to be killed in the U.S. each year from collisions with buildings (second only to losses from domestic cats, a staggering 2.4 billion birds).

What can we do to fix this? We can support our local municipal codes that govern the use of outdoor lighting, including restricting “light trespass” and skyglow. We can use lower lumen bulbs, directional and/or shielded fixtures, and timers. And we can rethink how much light is really needed for a particular use. Is lighting up the night really necessary, or can we turn off the switch? This is one action that people have direct control over, that can make a measurable difference to birds, nocturnal animals, and our own health and heritage.



Western Kingbirds are just one of the many species that migrate through Santa Barbara County. This kingbird chose an ideal resting spot at North Campus Open Space.

*Photo by Chang Huan*





Great Blue Heron at NCOS. Photo by Jeremiah Bender

## Education in Action

### Conservation Research at UCSB: A Joint Effort to Conserve North Campus Open Space

by Jessica Prichard, Education Co-Chair

**A**nn Steinmetz and Steven Senesac have provided philanthropic support for work done by undergraduates at the UCSB Cheadle Center for Biodiversity & Ecological Restoration for the past few years. Santa Barbara Audubon has co-funded these research projects that examine the Devereux Slough and North Campus Open Space. The projects document algae, aquatic vegetation, and aquatic invertebrate monitoring, with an interest in the effects on birds that rely on these spaces as crucial food sources and habitat. Kylie Malone spoke at the board meeting on May 15 to document the status of her project from this past year.

Student projects:

- Delaney O'Donnell, Sophia Cabral, and Emma Cardoso: *Analysis of Algae and Aquatic Vegetation Abundance at the Devereux Slough.*
- Emma Sayre, Nick Lui: *Relationships between Algae, Macroinvertebrates, and Water Quality in the North Campus Open Space.*
- Kylie Malone, Valeria Estrada-Ramirez: *Aquatic Invertebrate Assessment at the North Campus Open Space.*



Steve Senesac leads a group of students to a sampling site.



# Community Outreach Soars at Earth Day

by Jessica Prichard, with Page Hiller-Adams, Education Co-Chairs

The SBAS booth was a popular stop for many Earth Day visitors on Saturday, April 26, 2025, from before the official opening at 11:00 a.m. until closing at 7:00 p.m. Even with four volunteers on some shifts, we were often kept busy with community members eager to learn more about birds and birding opportunities in the area.

Information on our education and conservation programs was easily shared as many of our visitors exchanged personal bird stories with our volunteers, who sometimes stayed in the booth well beyond their shift's end. We were thankful to have some new additions to the table, a taxidermied Western Screech-Owl and family

of California Quails, as well as David Levasheff's beautiful bird photos. The crowd and lively conversations at the booth likely attracted even more visitors. Our bird matching activity was a big hit for all ages, and many children aced the 14 IDs. A hearty thanks to our Board and to EITS for fully staffing shifts throughout the busy day, and high fives to Janice and Page who arrived before 7:00 a.m. for booth setup and to Karl Weis, Bonnie Ray, and Pat Woodruff, who also showed up at 7:00 a.m. in the rain to help. As a result of this outreach effort, we are looking forward to seeing some new faces at bird walks, public programs, and the upcoming membership celebration in June.



SBAS Earth Day event table. Photo by Roman Baratiak





Sandhill Cranes arriving. Photo by Jeff Hanson

# Notes from the Pixley National Wildlife Refuge Field Trip

## February 15-16, 2025

by Jeff Hanson

Our annual visit to the San Joaquin Valley was once again successful this year, although not without its challenges. We were surprised to learn that the campground at Allensworth State Historic Park was closed for renovation. Camping is one of the attractions of this field trip and we lost five participants because of it. Another challenge was stormy weather predicted for the weekend. Luckily, the small storm came a bit early, and our weekend turned out to be quite nice.

Tulare Lake, the big hit of last year's trip, was no more. As it has done for millennia, it disappeared due to evaporation. We would have to do something different this year. Thankfully, Joan Parker of Tulare Audubon again agreed

to scout with us on Friday. Her deep knowledge of the area was invaluable. We were able to put together a very good tour thanks to Joan.

At noon on Saturday, 12 guests plus Mark Holmgren, Peggy Kearns, and myself set out for the adventure. After briefly birding Allensworth SHP, we drove to the Road 64 Pond, which was very productive. We had 28 species of ducks and shorebirds. We spent the next several hours scanning farm fields and canals, with the highlights being a group of White Pelicans, 3 White-tailed Kites, countless Loggerhead Shrikes and Northern Harriers, and about 120 curlews foraging on a farm field.



We arrived at Pixley National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) a bit earlier than usual because we knew from scouting that many birds were there. We geared up and set out on the mile walk alongside numerous ponds. The cranes were foraging in a farm field near us, and their murmur reminded us of what was to come. Many hundreds of geese, ducks, shorebirds, gulls and waders were in the ponds. We got to the viewing platform on time for the show. Cranes that had foraged nearby were already in the ponds. The ibis always fly in first, many hundreds of them. It was dusk when the first vociferous group of cranes came in. For the next 40 minutes, the spectacle continued. Many groups arrived with a beautiful sunset behind them. We totaled more than 3,500 cranes, certainly a record for this field trip.

We began our Sunday birding at 9:00 a.m. at Kern NWR. It was a beautiful day and a nice three-hour drive, picking up 50 species of ducks, shorebirds, waders, and songbirds, with a few surprises as well.

We had a terrific group of guests, and a great time was had by all! Again, a big thanks to Mark Holmgren for his expertise, documentation, and being an all-around great guy.



*Birders in the San Joaquin Valley. Photo by Tia Kordell*



*Sandhill Cranes. Photo by Tia Kordell*



# 2024-25 Season Highlights

## Bird Walks and Field Trips

by Karl Weis, Field Trips Coordinator

The 2024-25 trip season was another successful one for Santa Barbara Audubon. We had 17 Friday walks and 15 special Saturday trips, for a total of 32 trips altogether, with an average of 20-25 participants. Highlights included Friday walks at Lake Los Carneros, the Carpinteria Salt Marsh, the Andree Clark Bird Refuge, and North Campus

Open Space. Saturday trips visited, among others, Hollister Ranch, Lake Cachuma, Point Mugu Naval Station, and overnights to the Salton Sea and Central California for Sandhill Cranes. Watch for details coming soon about an exciting 2025-26 season!



Friday Bird Walk participants enjoy spring migration at Goleta Beach. Photo by Dolores Pollock

### REMINDER

Our regular bird walks, field trips, and programs are on hiatus June through August and will resume in September; however, please watch our website and e-newsletters for updates.



# Programs

by Roman Baratiak, Programs Chair

It was an exciting 2024-25 season for public lectures presented by the Santa Barbara Audubon Society. Thanks to our wonderful and long-standing partnership with the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History, we've been able to host our events at beautiful Fleischmann Auditorium. This venue offers an improved experience for attendees, and the larger seating capacity enables us to invite high-profile speakers. We also instituted a \$5 charge for some lectures, making tickets available in advance for those patrons who are more comfortable knowing they have a guaranteed seat at the event. Any remaining tickets are available at the door the night of the event.

Among many wonderful talks this past season, a highlight was Dr. Elizabeth Gray, Chief Executive Officer of the National Audubon Society, closing our season with her program "The Power of Birds." This was the first time our chapter has hosted the CEO of the National Audubon Society. Many thanks to SBAS chapter member Lynn Scarlett for making this event possible.

Other presenters included Seattle-based photographer and author Paul Bannick with a beautifully illustrated program on North American Owls; writer, illustrator

and field guide editor Kenn Kaufman speaking on his latest book, *The Birds That Audubon Missed*; and author Sophie Osborn who shared her personal experiences reintroducing endangered Peregrine Falcons, Hawaiian Crows, and California Condors to the wild.

Our series included two engaging talks about bird evolution: the first by anthropologist and UCSB professor emeritus Dr. Steven Gaulin on the evolution of avian ornamentation, and the second by Huntington Library curator Dr. Daniel Lewis on birds, extinction, and evolution in Hawai'i. We also hosted an illustrated presentation by Ed Harper on the spectacular birds of East Africa and, closer to home, Dennis and Jess Beebe shared a fun-filled and fact-based lecture about Turkey Vultures, nature's efficient clean-up crew.

Thanks to our generous hotel sponsor, The Simpson House Inn, for providing accommodations for many of our guests. We are also grateful to Kerry Methner at *VOICE* magazine for publishing the "Bird of the Month" series for the second year, to Rebecca Coulter for selecting and writing about the featured birds, and to Sue Cook and David Levasheff for the accompanying photographs.



The promise of owl facts and photos draws a crowd to Fleischmann Auditorium for Paul Bannick's program. Photo by Roman Baratiak

# Tecolote Circle

**T**ecolote Circle connects the community with birds and nature . . . now and for generations to come. Through their vision and generous donations to our endowment, Tecolote Circle members sustain the core programs of SBAS in perpetuity. Tecolote Circle members have made a gift of \$1,000 or more to the endowment or advised us that they have named SBAS in their will. Endowment gifts are invested, and income generated is available to support the ongoing work of SBAS.

**Please consider becoming a Tecolote Circle member by contacting Janice Levasheff, SBAS President, via the contact form on our website, or send a note to P.O. Box 6737, Santa Barbara, CA 93160. Thank you to our Tecolote Circle members listed here (as of May 1, 2025).**

## Tecolote Circle Members

Kathi Backus\*  
Susy & Carroll\* Barrymore  
Valerie Bentz  
Helen Brown\*  
Cecilia Brown  
Wendy Bruss  
Joyce & Alex Carasa  
Darlene & Sam\* Chirman  
Nancy & Tom Crawford  
Betty & Steve Ferry  
Vasanti & Joel Fithian  
Gerald Franklin\*  
Lori Gaskin  
Catherine Graham\*  
Virginia Hawley\*  
Ron & Lexi Hirst  
Judy Hogan\*

Sally & Brent Kitson  
Julie & Marc Kummel  
Joan Leipnik\*  
Susan & Andy Lentz  
Janice & David Levasheff  
Mary Ellen\* & Robert Logan  
Roxane & James\* Mattinson  
Brian McNally  
Marla Mercer & Rick Herzog  
Sharon Metsch  
Marlene Maes Mills  
Nancy Nielsen  
Jan Oetinger  
Bobbie Offen  
Gail Osherenko &  
Oran Young

Lee Ann Palmer (gift of  
Lisa Belluzzi &  
Richard Steinberg)  
Dolores & Bill Pollock  
Arlene & Bill Radasky  
Gage Ricard &  
George Azelickis  
Melissa Riparetti-Stepien  
J. Anne Roediger  
Cathy Rose  
Cathy & Jack Sanford  
Susan Shields  
Estate of Tomi & Bob Sollen\*  
Nancy States  
Ann Steinmetz &  
Steve Senesac

Karen & David Telleen-Lawton  
Mary D. Thompson  
Marge & Don Thornton  
Cherie Topper  
Lila Trachtenberg &  
George\* Handler  
Virginia Turner-Scholl  
Sally Walker  
Lawrence Wallin &  
Kathy Scroggs  
Paula & Richard\* Whited  
Estate of Norman Yiskis\*

\*deceased



Green Heron at Lake Los Carneros. Photo by Kevin Scott



# SBAS Thanks

**The friends of Judy Blue**, who honor her every year by donating to SBAS on her birthday.

**Santa Barbara Independent** and chapter member **Hugh Ranson** for continuing the monthly (and popular!) Santa Barbara Birding column.

**VOICE Magazine** and **Kerry Methner**, for running the Bird of the Month series, to **Rebecca Coulter** for writing it, and to all the photographers whose photos we've used.

**Eyes in the Sky volunteers** who lovingly care for Max our Great-horned Owl, Ace our Peregrine Falcon, and Kiki and Mouse, our American Kestrels, every day of the year.

**Coni Edick**, a longtime Eyes in the Sky volunteer who makes presentations about SBAS, helps at events, and makes name tags for the board and volunteers. Coni also stepped up to provide extra help at the aviary when needed.

**Roman Baratiak, Kathleen Boehm, Coni Edick, James Rounds, Mike Gerenser, Page Hiller-Adams, Wendy Kanter, Chris Mersey, Jessica Prichard, Christy Zwicke**, and **Dane St. George** for staffing our Earth Day booth. Special thanks to **Karl Weis, Bonnie Ray**, and **Pat Woodruff** for braving early morning hours and the rain to set up the booth, and to **David Levasheff** and **Dane** for taking down the booth with **Page** and **Janice**. Thanks to **Page** for taking the lead on this event.

**Bonnie Ray, Pat Woodruff, Karen Dorfman, Page Hiller-Adams**, and **Jessica Prichard**, helpers for Bird Month at the Santa Barbara Botanic Garden. A huge note of appreciation to **Wendy Kanter** for coordinating this event with SBBG.

**Jose Tierrablanca**, who has volunteered to be a student representative on our board.

Our **Conservation/Science Committee** members, who continue with their relentless and professional advocacy for birds.

**Marc Chytilo** for his legal support of our Conservation/Science Committee.

**Ana Citrin** and **Jessie Altstatt**, for arranging a bird walk for Conservation/Science Committee and board members at Rancho Tajiguas on the Gaviota Coast.

**Christy Zwicke**, who works hard on publicizing our events, generating e-newsletters, and standardizing our communications.

**Dolores Pollock**, for assisting with *El Tecolote* articles and being at our bird walks.

The **anonymous donor** who has been supporting the cost to print ET in color this year.

**Colette Becker**, who has been our ET editor for three years. With **Dennis Power** she has transformed ET into the beautiful publication you see today, and we are extremely grateful!

**Lynn Scarlett**, for taking on the role of ET editor and to **Dennis Power** for continuing to volunteer as our ET layout designer.

**Jamie Chavez** for his dedication in keeping the sbcobirding website informative, up to date, and beautiful, and for moderating the sbcobirding list-serve.

**David Levasheff**, who continues to manage our website.

**Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History** for its continuing partnership and co-presenting our programs and other events.

**Santa Barbara Botanic Garden** for collaborating with us on Bird Month.

**The Simpson House Inn** for sponsoring accommodations for our program speakers.

**Our members, grantors, donors, staff**, and **volunteers** who contribute to our success. We couldn't do this without you!



El Tecolote  
Santa Barbara Audubon Society, Inc.  
PO Box 6737  
Santa Barbara, CA 93160

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*Nashville Warbler Photo by Steve Colwell*