Our Christmas Bird Counts

The annual Christmas Bird Counts are conducted between December 14th and January 5th. This annual bird count event encompasses the U.S. and Canada, as well as Central & South America, the Pacific Islands, West Indies and Bermuda. The data collected help scientists learn more about the status and distribution of our birds. For many of us, this is one of birding highlights of the year. It also can be competitive between different count circles. Of course, the weather has a lot to do with our success in finding the birds we know are out there. Here in Orange County, we usually have pretty good weather, unlike the east coast that often gets blanketed with snow or fierce storms during the count period.

Here in Orange County, we have three count circles which cover three different areas within the county:
- Sat, Dec. 18th - San Juan Capistrano CBC
- Sun, Dec. 19th - Northeastern (Inland) CBC
- Sun, Jan. 2nd - Coastal CBC

After the count, we turn in our data to our CBC coord./compiler who in turn sends all the data to National Audubon. NAS publishes an annual report which is sent out in magazine form to all of us who participated. The report makes really interesting reading!

For those of you who are interested in what birds have been found on our three counts here in Orange County, we have that information posted on our chapter webpage. We used to post it in the Tattler but in recent years, there has not been enough room, so now we only publish the species totals for each of the counts in the Tattler and cover each section of each count on a spreadsheet on the webpage. So if you want to find out what birds were seen at Bolsa Chica, or Laguna Niguel Reg. Park, or the west side of Upper Newport Bay, or some other area in 2009 or even in 2003, it’s there on the webpage site at: http://www.seaandsageaudubon.org/BirdCounts/birdcountsCBC.htm

We do hope you will join in the fun and take part in one or more of our Christmas Bird Counts this year. See pages 6-7 for full information.

General Meeting

Friday evening, Jan. 21st - 7:30 PM

“The Marvelous Tejon Ranch Conservancy”

presented by Tom Maloney, Executive Director

A place where the Sierra Nevada, Mojave Desert, Central Valley oak woodlands, and coastal chaparral all butt up against each other - that is the Tejon Ranch Conservancy. Five top environmental organizations, including the Audubon Society, combined to protect 90 percent of the Tejon Ranch, the largest contiguous private property in California. The Conservancy began immediately to fulfill its mission to preserve, enhance and restore the native biodiversity and ecosystem values of the Tejon Ranch and Tehachapi Range for the benefit of California's future generations.

The Conservancy’s executive director, Tom Maloney, will come to Sea and Sage to show and tell the amazing story of this land of oaks, condors, wild pigs, horned lizards, elk, pronghorn sheep, mountain lions, San Joaquin kit foxes, and marvelous plant diversity. Tom’s talk will focus on the ecological significance of the Tejon Ranch and all that the Conservancy is doing to plan for the stewardship of the 240,000 acres on the Ranch.

Tom Maloney spent 8 years with the Nature Conservancy, working with the coastal region from Santa Barbara to the Oregon border, especially the Carrizo Plain. His job with the Tejon Ranch Conservancy is to work with private landowners, public agencies, scientists, and the public to solve complex natural resources issues.

If you are a birdwatcher, ecologist, desert rat, herpetologist, or plant lover, you will want to hear about the glorious place that is the Tejon Ranch Conservancy. We hope you will join us for this nature adventure at the Duck Club in the San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary in Irvine. The doors open at 7 pm and the meeting will begin at 7:30. Directions to the meeting are on page 11.

Remember to keep this issue of the newsletter until the end of January!
Conservation News

Our Conservation Committee meetings are held on the 1st Tuesday evening of each month at 6:30 pm in the Audubon Office (Blue House). Our next 4th Tuesday Conservation Lecture will be held on January 25th at 7:30 pm. We hope you will join us!

Eagle Research in Sweden

In October, Pete Bloom and two of his experienced raptor banders, Scott Thomas and Jeff Kidd, traveled to Sweden to band Golden Eagles in a remote, heavily forested area. The purpose of the project, which was funded by the wind farm industry, was to monitor the movement of eagles around and near the wind turbine sites. A Swedish biologist, Jonas Gastafson, and a team of eagle watchers and scientists were also there working on the project. The data collected will be analyzed by the University of Sweden.

While Scott was there, he sent back many photos and reports to document his experiences. The pictures are in color and I am not limited for space on the webpage, so I have posted his reports and photos there. You can find the link to it on our home page. I hope you will enjoy reading about Scott’s experiences as much as I did — from the warmth & comfort of my home in Southern California.

—N. Kenyon

4th Tuesday Conservation Lecture
January 25th - 7:30 pm

The subject of our Conservation Lecture on Jan. 25th will be the “3rd Annual Orange County Cactus Wren Survey Project”. Partners from The Nature Conservancy, Audubon’s Starr Ranch, and Sea & Sage Audubon invite you to participate in the 3rd consecutive year of Coastal Cactus Wren surveys in Orange County. We welcome returning and new participants. We’ll kick off this year’s surveys with a lecture by an ornithologist in January. More information on this conservation lecture will be posted on our Sea & Sage webpage in early January. Volunteers will be asked to perform eight surveys from April through June in Caspers Park, Starr Ranch or possibly, O’Neill Park. If you’re interested in volunteering for the 2011 surveys or want more information, please contact Sandy DeSimone at sdesimone@audubon.org or 949-858-0309.

Native Gardening Workshop
How to Select, Plant & Care for California Natives in Your Garden
Sun., Jan. 16 & 23, and Sat., Jan. 29, 2011; 9:00 am to 12 noon

The diversity, abundance and beauty of California’s flora provide an exciting opportunity for incorporating native plants into residential gardens. Because many California natives are adapted to our dry southern California climate and require less water than lawn and many non-native plants, they can contribute substantial benefits to our environment. Natives planted in even small gardens can provide resting places and food sources for resident and migrating birds, butterflies and other insect pollinators.

This workshop gives you information on selecting appropriate native plants for the spaces in your garden. You will learn how and when to plant natives, as well as how to care for and prune them. Discussion includes design tips and how to integrate natives into a mixed garden. Soil and watering requirements that enable these plants to thrive are also discussed.

Each morning we will meet at a residential garden, a botanic garden (additional entrance fee) or a nursery where you can see natives growing. The workshop takes place on three consecutive weekends for 9 hours of instruction at locations in Santa Ana, Claremont and San Juan Capistrano. A donation of $30 or more per person is requested if you can afford it. Enrollment is limited. Reserve your place now.

To reserve a place, send your $30 check payable to Sea and Sage Audubon and a self-addressed stamped envelope (SASE) to Diane Bonanno, 4611 Santa Fe St., Yorba Linda, CA 92886. Please include your e-mail address. Confirmations as well as directions to meeting locations and other material will be mailed to you on Jan. 5. No reservations will be taken by phone. If you have questions, you may call Diane at 714-572-9911.

Co-leaders: Diane Bonanno & Pat Overby,
Landscape Designers Specializing in California Natives

Monthly Bird Surveys at Bolsa Chica
2nd Friday of each month

Monthly bird counts are scheduled to begin at Bolsa Chica Ecological Preserve on the 2nd Friday of each month. The counts are being organized by Kati Patonai of the Bolsa Chica Conservancy. Experienced as well as novice birders are welcome to join the group; those with less experience will be paired off with those who have more experience. Contact Kati if you are interested: Kati Patonai, Program Coordinator; 714-846-1114 or kati@bolsachica.org
Orange County Rarities
by Doug Willick

As would be expected in October, the past month was a busy one in the county, in terms of birder activity and the discovery of unusual birds. Therefore, due to time and space limitations this time around, this month’s column will try to cover the more noteworthy rarities in an abbreviated format. A few of the recent rarities, however, are worth highlighting up front. An adult Broad-winged Hawk was a nice surprise, albeit brief-lived, along the county’s upper Santa Ana River (in north Orange), Oct. 3 (Doug Willick). This was approximately the county’s tenth record, with all but two falling within the fall migrant pattern for this species in California; two one-day December records possibly involved late fall migrants. A relatively cooperative Painted Redstart at Laguna Niguel Regional Park, Oct. 27-31 (Robert McNab), was enjoyed by many birders over its five-day stay. This was at least the 14th record for Orange County, these split evenly between fall migrants and wintering individuals. Although Magnolia Warbler is a rare but fairly regular wanderer to California, three in the same location (LNRP), Oct. 17-20 (RM), may be unprecedented for anywhere in the state. LNRP was certainly the hotspot for rare warblers in the county during mid to late Oct. (as detailed below). The following abbreviated summary is provided in taxonomic order.


Observers: Bruce Aird (BA); Dave Bell (DB); Dick & Pat Cabe (DC, PC); David Campbell (DC); Brian Daniels (BD); Irene Horiuchi (IH); Robert McNab (RM); Steve Morris (SM); Jim Pike (JP); Dick Purvis (DP); Steve Sosensky (SS), Valerie Wheeler (VW); Doug Willick (DW). Many observers (m.ob.).

Locations: Bolsa Chica (BC); Carbon Canyon Regional Park (CCRP); Harriett Wieder Regional Park (HWRP); Huntington Central Park (HCP); Laguna Niguel Regional Park (LNRP); San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary (SJWS); Seal Beach Naval Weapons Station (SBNWS); Upper Newport Bay (UNB).
Audubon House Volunteers

We would like to thank the following people for helping to staff Audubon House in November and December: Sonya Appell, Pat & Dick Cabe, Deana Collins, Carolyn Cooper, Tom Drouet, Fresia Escalona, Judy Fritts, Lynne Hayes, Pat Heilig, Sarah Jayne, Steve Jelnick, Lois Jones, Nancy Kenyon, Joan McCauley, Bobbie Miller, Eunice Morita, Betty Purdy, Roberta Ray, Barbara Reber, John Shaddy, Susan Sheakley, Bev Spring, Betty Swift, Beryl Vogel, Vic Westling.

Audubon House is open daily from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm. Our Volunteers greet visitors, answer the phone, sell merchandise, answer questions about birds, check out binoculars, etc. If you are interested in helping at Audubon House, please call Judy Fritts at 949-551-4513.

Holiday Shopping at our Bookstore

Our bookstore inside Audubon House is open daily from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm. It is also open 45 minutes before our monthly General Meetings, so be sure to stop by and pay us a visit. What a great place to shop for all your holiday gifts, 2011 calendars, and Christmas cards! FOR THE BIRDER: field guides, checklists, CDs, CDRoms, DVDs, binocular straps, lens cleaning cloths, birding bags, bird calls, short & long sleeved t-shirts, sweatshirts, caps, bandanas. FOR THE NATURE ENTHUSIAST: bird and other nature related items include books, bookmarks, stockings, tote bags, shade grown coffee, mugs, note cards, journals, mouse pads, window decals, thermometers, jewelry and more. FOR CHILDREN: books, plush toys, puzzles, games, magnifiers, playing cards and more. There will be Storewide sales throughout December. Best of all, when you shop at Sea and Sage your purchases help support our chapter.

Bookstore Catalog

A catalog listing all the books and other items for sale at our Audubon House Bookstore will be available at our Nov. 19th General Meeting, at Audubon House, on our chapter webpage. We hope you will make use of this catalog when planning your holiday shopping.

Kimball Garrett will be the featured speaker at our March 18th Annual Dinner this year.

Kimball will present his program, “But it Doesn’t Look Like the Picture in the Field Guide!” Full information on this special event will be in the February Tattler & on the chapter webpage. Be sure to mark this date on your calendar! We hope to see you there!

Our Pancake Breakfast

A one-day rain storm was predicted for the morning of our Pancake Breakfast and it arrived, on schedule, with heavy rain of cloudburst-like proportions while we were setting up between 6:00 and 7:00 that morning, but we were prepared. Jay Miller, who had signed up for the 1st shift parking duty, came prepared with a flashlight and a large umbrella. Steve Jelnick, Mary Joseph, and others were bustling around under their umbrellas, cheerfully helping us unload our cars & get set up. Though the threatening clouds stuck around for a while, the rain completely stopped by 7:15 and we were able to proceed with the morning’s activities. 191 people had made advance reservations to attend and we were all ready for them by the 7:30 starting time. Though a few people opted to stay home where it was dry, others filled their places and we had a great turnout of 181 people in spite of the wet weather! Due to the careful planning of BBQ Coordinators Mary Joseph & Gretchen McCausland, AND OUR WONDERFUL, VERY HELPFUL, VOLUNTEERS, the event ran like clockwork. The pancakes were delicious, Jan Gaffney & her team did a rousing business at the book sales tables in the Duck Club, many people visited the Education & Chapter Ambassadors tables also inside the Duck Club, and the staff from Wild Birds Unlimited and Optics4Birding on the Duck Club on back porch also had many visitors. Since the rain had stopped, we were able to run the 3 scheduled bird walks and scope stations. Barbara Sentovich & Emma Lyall were the happy winners of the raffle. It was an great way to spend a morning with such congenial members & friends, but we couldn’t have done it without the help of our wonderful volunteers: Sara Bethurum, Deborah Brin, Phil & Marilyn Brobst, Marie Connors, Carol Counter, Hunter Craft, Pete DeSimone, Barbara Dixon, Frank Feller, Diana Flynn, Carol Freund, Judy Fritts, Holly & Peter Fuhrer, Jan Gaffney, Sylvia Gallagher, Debbie & Bob Gley, Susan Hankey, Bev Hargrove, Joe & Mary Ann Hazelett, Andrea Hendrixson, Steve Herrick, Trude Hurd, Sarah Jayne, Steve Jelnick, Mary Joseph, Steve Kaye, Nancy Kenyon, Fred Koehler, Chuck & Ce Leavell, Vic Leipzig, Merri Levy, Joan McCauley, Gretchen McCausland, Sally Menzel, Bobbie Miller, Jay & Marquita Miller, Shiz Morita, Carolyn Noble, Chris Obaditch, Linda Oberholtzer, Joan Olafson, Amber Oneal, Pamela Phillips, Margaret Renton, Bob Scrimger, Mike & Barbara Sentovich, John Shaddy, Susan Sheakley, Caleb Speakman, Robin & Jean Suan, Pat Vranicar, Donelda Warhurst, Kelsey Wilson, Jeremy Zuniga. Our next big events are the Christmas Bird Counts & the Annual Dinner.

N.Kenyon
Many reservation trips fill up quickly, so don’t wait until the last minute to sign up for them!

Trips marked with ® require advance reservations.  Questions about field trips?  Contact Field Trips Chair, Nancy Kenyon, at 949-786-3160 or nancykenyon@cox.net. Many reservation trips fill up quickly, so don’t wait until the last minute to sign up for them!

For trip updates & additional trip information, check our webpage at: www.seaandsageaudubon.org/FieldTrips/fieldtripscurrent.htm

Dec. & Jan. Field Trips

Bolsa Chica Ecological Reserve
Friday - Jan. 7th - 8:00 am
Bolsa Chica is one of the best wetland areas in Southern California to watch grebes, loons, pelicans, shorebirds of all sizes, gulls and terns, waterfowl, egrets and herons, foraging raptors, etc. We will meet in the parking lot of the Bolsa Chica Ecological Reserve at 8:00 am. Bring: binoculars and a scope if you have one. Dress in layers. It can be cold and breezy there in the morning but the birding is well worth it! Directions: Meet in the Bolsa Chica Ecological Reserve parking lot on the inland side of Pacific Coast Highway at the only signal between Seapoint Ave and Warner in Huntington Beach.
Pat & Dick Cabe, Leaders

CBC Specialties Trip
Saturday - Jan. 8th - 8:00 am
The purpose of this trip is to search for some of the more unusual birds seen on this year’s CBCs. We will meet either in the parking lot by Audubon House or the Slater Street Parking lot at Huntington Central Park. Be sure to bring an Orange County map with you. The length of the trip depends on the weather and the number of birds to be seen. Trip meeting location will be decided by Jan. 6. To verify meeting place, call Audubon House (949-261-7963), FT Chair Nancy Kenyon (949-786-3160); or check: www.seaandsageaudubon.org

Antelope Valley Hawk Banding Trip
Sunday, Jan. 16th — 7:00 am
In the fall and winter months, migratory raptors flood into the Antelope Valley Upper and desert regions. Red-tailed Hawks are a sure bet with many others such as Prairie Falcons, Rough-legged and Ferruginous Hawks, American Kestrels, Northern Harriers, and even Golden Eagles. Unlike most birding trips, this one offers close-up views of the raptors because Scott is going to be banding those he catches. (Photos from past hawk-banding trips are on the webpage.) Directions: We will meet at Ave. A and Hwy.14 in the Antelope Valley. From Orange County, take

San Elijo Lagoon
Sunday - Dec. 12th - 8:00 am
San Elijo Lagoon is located in San Diego county near Solano Beach and is one of the last remaining tidal lagoons unspoiled by development in southern California. The lagoon itself is large and has a variety of vegetation around it. There are 2 trails we may use to explore the area: one goes down to the shore of the lagoon to give us an up close view of the shorebirds and waterfowl; the other skirts the side of the lagoon, providing opportunities to search for gnatcatchers, raptors, flycatchers, and other species. Directions: Drive south on the San Diego Fwy. past Carlsbad to Solano Beach; exit on Lomas Santa Fe. Drive west less than a mile to Rios Ave, and turn right. Go all the way to the end of the street & park along the side. We will meet at the end of the street. Bring binocs & a scope if you have one. Trip will end at 12 noon. Leader: Steve Brad 760-633-1639

Batiquitos Lagoon Trip
Sunday - Jan. 9th - 8:00 am
Batiquitos Lagoon is located on the coast of northern San Diego county, just north of Encinitas. The lagoon is bordered by the ocean on the west, steep hills on the south, gentle slopes to the north, and San Marcos Creek on the eastern end. There is a small nature center and an excellent trail system at the lagoon. 165+ species have been reported there. Our field trip will be led by Steve Brad, a former Sea & Sage member who now lives in the area and birds Batiquitos frequently. Directions: From Orange County, drive south on the I-5 to Carlsbad and exit on Poinsettia Lane. Drive east and turn right (south) on Batiquitos Drive (the 2nd stoplight past the freeway). Drive down the hill toward the lagoon and then right on Gabbiano Lane. Drive to the end and park; we will meet there. Steve says it is a great place to bird by ear. Leader: Steve Brad 760-633-1639

Monthly Bird Walk at Santiago Oaks
1st Sunday - Dec. 5th & Jan. 2nd - 7:30 am
Join Linette Lina for a monthly bird walk at Santiago Oaks Regional Park at 7:30 am. The mix of oak, riparian and coastal sage scrub habitats make Santiago Oaks one of the best places in Orange County to watch for songbird migrants. Directions: Take the 55 freeway to Katella Ave in Orange. Exit and drive east on Katella 3.2 miles to Winches Dr. Turn left on Winches Dr. and follow the signs to the park. Be prepared to pay the $5 entrance fee if you don’t have a county parks pass. Bring binoculars. Meet in the upper end of the parking lot. (This park closes if there has been recent rain in the area.)
Leader: Linette Lina

Monthly Bird Walk at the SJWS
2nd Sunday - Dec. 12th & Jan. 9th - 8:00 am
Join Chris Obaditch for a monthly bird walk around the ponds of the San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary in Irvine at 8 am. All the winter birds have returned, so there will be many more birds to see this month. (See directions on page 11.) The walk, which is open to interested birders of all ages, will meet by the front door of Audubon House. Children under the age of 11 must be accompanied by an adult.
Leader: Chris Obaditch

Upper Newport Bay on pontoon boat ®
3rd Wed - Jan. 19th & Feb. 16th - 8:15 am
Join us for the rare chance of birding the Upper Newport Bay from the deck of a pontoon boat. Spotting birds from the water offers one a different perspective and the birds seem to view us differently also. Trip duration is about 3 hours. These 2 trips will be in a larger capacity boat belonging to the Newport Seabase; passenger limit is 15 persons and there is a $10 trip fee. Directions to the boat dock will be provided to those with reservations.
Nancy Kenyon, 949-786-3160; nancykenyon@cox.net

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We hope you will join us this year on one or more of our Christmas Bird Counts. Maps of the count areas, email addresses of the Area Leaders, & data from past counts are on our website.

Hawk-banding trip (continued)
the #5 Fwy. north to #14 (Antelope Valley Fwy.); exit on #14 and drive north approximately 45 miles (through Lancaster) until you reach Avenue A. Turn left on Avenue A and park. Morning temperatures can be bone-chilling! Dress in layers; bring lunch, a map, and a full tank of gas. Don’t forget your binoculars, scopes, and cameras. We will be out until at least 2:00, rain or shine. In case of inclement weather, call Nancy Kenyon (949-786-3160) the day before the trip, or check the webpage.
Leader: Scott Thomas

Winter Pelagic Trip out of Dana Point®
Saturday, Jan. 22nd — 7:30 am to 2:00 pm
Join us for a 6 hour pelagic trip along the coast or out to the Fourteen Mile Bank, depending on where the most interesting birds are. Possible species for this trip include: shearwaters, storm-petrels, fulmars, and jaegers, as well as loons, grebes, ducks, terns, gulls, a variety of shorebirds, and possibly some whales and dolphins. Our trip will be led by Jerry Tolman. We will be using the 70 ft. Sea Explorer, a research vessel belonging to the Ocean Institute of Dana Point. Advance reservations are necessary. Trip fee is $50 per person, (payable to Sea & Sage Audubon). Mail to: Pelagic trip, c/o Nancy Kenyon, 32 Almond Tree Ln, Irvine CA 92612. Include your phone number & your e-mail address, or a self-addressed legal size envelope for trip confirmation and additional trip info. See webpage for full information on this trip. Leader: Jerry Tolman

Upcoming Field Trips in February:
See webpage for trip info or call Nancy Kenyon.

Thurs, Feb. 03 — Laurel Canyon Natural History Walk with Dick Newell
Sat, Feb. 12 — San Jacinto Wildlife Area with John McKeever
Mon, Feb. 14 — Seabch NWR with Kirk Gilligan
Wed, Feb. 16 — Barbara’s Lake with Paul Klahr
Sat-Sun, Feb. 19-20 — Salton Sea weekend trip with Vic Leipzig
Thurs, Feb. 24 — Starr Ranch Natural History Walk with Dick Newell
Sat, Feb. 26 — Owl Prowl at Starr Ranch with Pete DeSimone

Sat, Dec. 18: San Juan Capistrano CBC

| 01 | Laguna Niguel Regional Park | Robert McNab |
| 02 | San Clemente | Sachi Fukuman |
| 2a | San Clemente hillside area | Kim Lopina |
| 03 | Starr Ranch Sanctuary & Caspers Park | Lisa Baril |
| 3a | Owling at Starr Ranch | Dan Lockshaw |
| 04 | Upper San Juan Creek & vicinity | Jeff Blackburn |
| 05 | Saddleback College & vicinity | to be announced |
| 06 | Aliso-Wood Canyons & Ziggurat-Cosco Area | Gary Meredith |
| 07 | Donna O’Neill Land Conservancy & Rancho Mission Viejo | to be announced |
| 08 | Dana Point: Doheny State Beach, Dana Point Harbor, Dana Point Headlands, Salt Creek Beach, local parks, golf course. | Joel Weintraub |
| 09 | Pelagic Areas along the coast | to be announced |

2010 Christmas Bird Count Sign-up Form
Use this form if you are new to the Christmas Bird Count. All returning birders will be contacted by their Area Leaders.
San Juan Capistrano (South County) CBC (Sat, Dec. 18)

Name_________________________________________ Phone_________________________
Address, City, St & Zip ____________________________________________________________
E-mail Address______________________________________________________________

Please classify your birding ability: (This will help us assign you to the proper section.)
[ ] NOVICE    [ ] AVERAGE   [ ] PRETTY GOOD   [ ] EXPERT

NOTE: The results of the CBC will be published in the NAS publication, The 111th Christmas Bird Count. In order to cover the expense of compiling & editing all the data, each CBC participant will be asked to pay $5. Please bring $5 in cash with you to the count. MAIL THIS FORM TO: Lisa Baril, 100 Bell Canyon Rd, Trabuco Canyon CA 92679 or contact Lisa by e-mail at: lisabaril@hotmail.com or by phone at (949) 858-0309.
### 2010 Christmas Bird Count Sign-up Form

*Use this form if you are new to the Christmas Bird Count. All returning birders will be contacted by their Area Leaders.

<table>
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<tr>
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<th>Coastal CBC</th>
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</table>
| 01 Irvine Regional Park  
Jan Gaffney (562-439-5631) and  
Nancy Kenyon (949-786-3160)  
02 Irvine Lake & vicinity  
Nancy Kenyon (949-786-3160)  
03 Silverado Canyon  
Steve Alter (714-669-9482)  
4a4b Upper & Lower Black Star Canyon  
Al & Janet Baumann (949-859-5081)  
4c Mountain Areas  
Brian Leatherman (714-779-7077)  
05 Modjeska & Harding Canyons  
Bruce Aird (949-568-1520)  
6/7 O’Neill Regional Park & Plano Trabuco  
Jerry Tolman (714-539-8040)  
8a8b Lion Country & Areas south of the 405  
Bettina Eastman (714-963-3751)  
9/10 Mission Viejo, Lake Forest, El Toro & foothills  
Dick Purvis (714-776-8878)  
11/12 El Toro Marine Base & foothill areas  
Lucy Lee (949-581-4349) & Tom Benson  
13 Rattlesnake & Siphon Reservoirs  
Sophie Chiang (949-584-8975)  
14/15 Peters Canyon Reg. Park & Lemon Heights  
Linda Oberholtzer (562-699-9738) and  
Brad Dawson (562-438-8898)  
| 02 Westminster Mem. Park, Corner Seal Beach NWR  
*Vic Leipzig* (714-848-5395)  
03 HB Pier, Beach Areas north to edge of Sunset Beach,  
HCP, Wintersberg Channel, Seapoint  
*Pat & Dick Cabe* (714-960-1683)  
04 Bolsa Chica  
*Terry Hill* (714-756-0165)  
05 Mile Square Park  
*Irene Horiuchi* (714-847-1880)  
06 SA River Mouth, 19th St. Willows, Canyon Park  
SA Golf Course.  
*Jim Pike* (714-968-7977)  
07 Older Areas within Santa Ana  
*Carol Getz* (949-559-5219)  
8/9 Centennial Reg. Park, former MCAS Blimp Base  
*Dick Purvis* (714-776-8878)  
10/11 Upper Newport Bay - West Side  
*Bettina Eastman* (714-963-3751)  
12 Upper Newport Bay - East Side  
*Marian Alter* (714-669-9482)  
13 UCI. San Joaquin Marsh, SJWS  
*Jan Gaffney* (562-439-5631) and  
*Nancy Kenyon* (949-786-3160)  
14 Mason Reg. Park, UCI Foothills, Corona del Mar  
*Doug Willick* (714-288-9972)  
15 Newport Harbor & Beaches  
*Gary Meredith* (949-218-7575)  
16 Pelagic Areas along the coast  
*Jerry Tolman* (714-539-8040) |

### 2010 Christmas Bird Count

We hope you will join us this year on one or more of our Christmas Bird Counts. Maps of the count areas, email addresses of the Area Leaders, & data from past counts are on our website.

**Sunday, Dec. 19: Northeastern CBC**

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<td>Upper &amp; Lower Black Star Canyon</td>
<td>Al &amp; Janet Baumann</td>
<td>(949-859-5081)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mountain Areas</td>
<td>Brian Leatherman</td>
<td>(714-779-7077)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Modjeska &amp; Harding Canyons</td>
<td>Bruce Aird</td>
<td>(949-568-1520)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O’Neill Regional Park &amp; Plano Trabuco</td>
<td>Jerry Tolman</td>
<td>(714-539-8040)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lion Country &amp; Areas south of the 405</td>
<td>Bettina Eastman</td>
<td>(714-963-3751)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mission Viejo, Lake Forest, El Toro &amp; foothills</td>
<td>Dick Purvis</td>
<td>(714-776-8878)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>El Toro Marine Base &amp; foothill areas</td>
<td>Lucy Lee &amp; Tom Benson</td>
<td>(949-581-4349) &amp; (949-584-8975)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rattlesnake &amp; Siphon Reservoirs</td>
<td>Sophie Chiang</td>
<td>(949-584-8975)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Saturday, Jan. 2: Coastal CBC**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Leader</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Westminster Mem. Park, Corner Seal Beach NWR</td>
<td><em>Vic Leipzig</em></td>
<td>(714-848-5395)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| HB Pier, Beach Areas north to edge of Sunset Beach,  
HCP, Wintersberg Channel, Seaoint | *Pat & Dick Cabe* | (714-960-1683) |
| Bolsa Chica | *Terry Hill* | (714-756-0165) |
| Mile Square Park | *Irene Horiuchi* | (714-847-1880) |
| SA River Mouth, 19th St. Willows, Canyon Park  
SA Golf Course. | *Jim Pike* | (714-968-7977) |
| Older Areas within Santa Ana | *Carol Getz* | (949-559-5219) |
| Centennial Reg. Park, former MCAS Blimp Base | *Dick Purvis* | (714-776-8878) |
| Upper Newport Bay - West Side | *Bettina Eastman* | (714-963-3751) |
| Upper Newport Bay - East Side | *Marian Alter* | (714-669-9482) |
| UCI. San Joaquin Marsh, SJWS | Jan Gaffney & Nancy Kenyon | (562-439-5631) & (949-786-3160) |
| Mason Reg. Park, UCI Foothills, Corona del Mar | *Doug Willick* | (714-288-9972) |
| Newport Harbor & Beaches | *Gary Meredith* | (949-218-7575) |
| Pelagic Areas along the coast | *Jerry Tolman* | (714-539-8040) |

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**NOTE:** The results of the CBC will be published in the NAS publication, *The 111th Christmas Bird Count*. In order to cover the expense of compiling & editing all the data, each CBC participant will be asked to pay $5. Please bring $5 in cash with you to the count. MAIL THIS FORM TO: Steve Alter, 18001 Bigelow Park, Tustin CA 92680

or contact Steve by e-mail at: scaler1@pacbell.net or by phone at (714) 669-9482.
Starting the week of Jan. 3-6, 2011, Sylvia Gallagher will present a workshop on THE WESTERN MOUNTAINS AND THEIR BIRDS. The BIRDS will be presented using her usual approach, with worksheets one week and practice slides the following week. You should know the common birds of the coastal zone of Southern California before enrolling. If you have completed Sylvia’s ten-week introductory workshop series, you should be well prepared for this series. We’ll cover about 100 new species of birds in a wide variety of families--woodpeckers, finches, wrens, nuthatches, grouse, etc. We’ll do some groups in a rather general way, covering a few of the most useful field marks and omitting the less common plumages. For advanced birders, we’ll do several families in detail, including the western warblers, vireos, thrushes, Empidonax flycatchers, Accipiters, and a few others. But even with families that we do in detail, for the benefit of less experienced birders the discussion will start with a review of the relevant portions of the introductory workshop.

The WESTERN MOUNTAINS portion of the workshop will be every bit as important as the BIRDS part, since many people are unfamiliar with the various mountain ranges and their altitudinal zones, and birds favor certain zones for a variety of reasons. There will be extensive slide lectures with worksheets on all the western mountain ranges, starting with the closest ones and then moving to the Great Basin mountains, Rockies, Cascades and the northern Coast ranges. Since the various altitudinal zones are characterized by certain dominant plants, especially pines, firs, spruces and the like, you’ll really learn to identify conifers in this workshop. Other indicator plants will also be discussed. Rounding out this portion will be material on the meteorology/climatology and geology of the west. This natural history material is vital for a full understanding of the birds of the mountains.

Because there is so much material to cover, the workshop will last until sometime in May. It will be modular, though, so as long as you are able to attend the first several sessions, which lay the foundation, it should be all right to miss a few meetings and then return and not be lost. For example, if you miss the Great Basin mountains, you can still learn about the Coast ranges; or if you miss the vireos, you won’t need that material to understand the sparrows.

A number of field trips will be organized and led by various workshop participants. If you have a favorite place in the mountains, we hope you'll volunteer to lead a trip there. You don't have to be an expert on the birds--just know your way around the place.

This workshop will be entirely visual, but it will be followed up starting in March, 2012, with a totally revised version of LEARNING MOUNTAIN BIRD SOUNDS. That workshop will have as a prerequisite, LEARNING CALIFORNIA BIRD SOUNDS. This introductory workshop will be presented again starting in Jan., 2012--before the mountain sounds one.

Every topic in both the natural history and the birds sections of the workshop will be liberally illustrated with slides from the Sea and Sage Library of Nature Slides, most of which were taken by Jim or Sylvia Gallagher. It's been ten years since this workshop was last presented--and it remains the most popular one Sylvia has ever done. If you did it ten years ago, you'll be amazed at the new material in it--as well as the old material you've forgotten. We hope you'll be able to do it this time, for it won't be offered again very soon.

You will need to own at least one good bird field guide and one good tree guide. In addition, other books are strongly recommended and will be referenced frequently in the worksheets. All are available at the Audubon House bookstore in a special section for this workshop. There will also be one copy of each book in the Fern Zimmerman Library at Audubon House for you to read there, but not check out. A complete list is available on the Sea and Sage website—or pick up a copy at Audubon House.

Guides to Birds: National Geographic (3rd ed. or later, 5th ed. best); Kaufman (any ed.); Sibley (2000).


Natural History: See website for list.

Five sections will be offered starting on the dates indicated below and meeting every week, including holidays, until we complete the material sometime in May.

Monday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings: 7:00 - 10:00 p.m., starting Jan. 3, 5, and 6
Tuesday mornings: 8:30 - 11:30 a.m., starting Jan. 4
Thursday mornings: 9:00 a.m. - noon, starting Jan. 6

The maximum enrollment for each section is 23. If any section does not have at least 12 people enrolled by Dec. 24, it will be cancelled. Reserve early, though, for some sections will probably fill quickly. A donation of $200.00 is requested, if you can afford it, payable at the first meeting: installment plan OK. Send your reservation for the workshop, postmarked no earlier than Dec. 6 (2-day penalty for early reservations) to Sylvia Gallagher, 21562 Kaneohe Lane, Huntington Beach, CA 92646. Enclose a LONG (4" x 9") self-addressed stamped envelope (SASE). Confirmations will be mailed Dec. 27, including preliminary information and a map to the meeting place, the Gallagher home in Huntington Beach. For further information call or e-mail Sylvia: 714-962-8990, sjrgallagher@yahoo.com

Enrollment Form - The Western Mountains And Their Birds - Winter/Spring, 2011

Names of all participants _______________________________________________________

Address(es)____________________________________________________City______ ZIP____ Phone(s)__________________________

E-mail ____________________________________________________________ SASE enclosed? ______

Check (preferred) or rank your choice of section. Indicate as many as possible to ensure placement.

Mon. p.m. _______ Tues. a.m. _______ Wed. p.m. _______ Thurs. a.m. _______ Thurs. p.m. _______
Comprehensive workshops on raptor identification will be presented during two weekends in 2011. The instructor for the course will be Bill Clark, coauthor of *Hawks*, the raptor field guide in the Peterson series, and the *Photographic Guide to North American Raptors*.

Although the pace and emphasis will vary with the experience of the participants, both workshops will first cover the basic field marks for the identification of California raptors. Then, a more thorough coverage of the field ID of accipiters, eagles, and buteos will be presented. Also discussed will be molt and its use in field ID, terminology, albinism and other unusual plumages. The field ID of vagrants to be expected in California will be covered, as well as how to document their sightings.

An **INTRODUCTORY WORKSHOP** will be presented the weekend of Jan. 28-30. The workshop will start with about two hours of classroom instruction on Friday evening, starting at 7:15. It will meet all day Saturday and Sunday with a break for lunch. On each of those days some of the time will be spent in the classroom and the rest in the field visiting a variety of raptor locations. Details will be announced at the Friday evening session.

The **ADVANCED WORKSHOP** will take place the weekend of Feb. 4-6 and have the same time schedule as the introductory one. It is designed for people who have had some experience observing hawks. The basic field marks will be covered, but more quickly, allowing time for several advanced topics.

Transportation will be in private vehicles; carpools will be arranged. You will be required to sign a liability release form in order to participate in the field trips. Each vehicle must have an FRS radio (short-range radio for communication between vehicles). Bring yours, if you have one; loaners will be available.

The required text for the workshop will be the second edition of *Hawks* by Clark and Wheeler (Houghton Mifflin Co., 2001). Copies will be available for purchase at the workshop.

Bill Clark has over 30 years of experience working with birds of prey and has published on a variety of raptor subjects, including many papers on raptor identification.

Classes will be held at the home of Sylvia and Jim Gallagher in Huntington Beach. A map to the meeting place will be enclosed with workshop confirmation.

The cost of the workshop is $150.00 for each weekend—to be enclosed with your registration.

Enrollment each weekend will be limited to 25 participants and may be cancelled if there is insufficient registration by mid-January. Don't wait until the last minute to register; your workshop may have been cancelled because you forgot to register! Confirmations and further information will be mailed out on Jan. 18, 2011.

Mail your enrollment form, check for the workshop fee, and a long, self-addressed stamped envelope (SASE) to Raptor Workshop, c/o Sylvia Gallagher, 21562 Kaneohe Ln., Huntington Beach CA 92646. Your form should be postmarked no sooner than Dec. 13, 2010 (two-day penalty for early reservations). If you have questions, call Sylvia at 714-962-8990 or email her at sjrgallagher@yahoo.com.

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**Enrollment Form - Raptor Weekends with Bill Clark - Winter 2011**

Names of all participants ____________________________________________

Address(es)_____________________________________________________

City__________________________ ZIP______________ Phone(s)_________

E-mail________________________ SASE enclosed?________

Check your choice(s) of weekends. (Some people attend both.)

____ Introductory (Fri. evening - Sun, January 28-30) — $150 per person

____ Advanced (Fri. evening - Sun, February 4-6) — $150 per person

Workshop fees enclosed?____ (Make check payable to: Sea & Sage Audubon)

SASE enclosed?____ Do you plan to buy the required book (see above) at the workshop? ________
Save These (2011) Camp Dates!

- Fledgling Camp - June 27-July 1 (Monday-Friday)
- Marsh Camp I - June 27-July 1 (Monday-Friday)
- Coastal Bird Camp - July 5-8 (Tuesday-Friday)
- Marsh Camp II - July 11-15 (Monday-Friday)
- Advanced Camp I - July 18-22 (Monday-Friday)
- Advanced Camp II - July 25-30 (Monday-Saturday)

For more information or to register, pick up a camp flyer at Audubon House on January 10th or visit our chapter webpage at www.seaandsageaudubon.org or call Grace McElhiney at 714-969-9617 or Bev Spring at 714-505-9980. Camp registration will open January 10th.

Community Service

Sea and Sage is proud of our eleven Junior Naturalists and seven accompanying adults, who spent 3 hours on a very hot day in September, pulling out non-native plants from along PCH at Warner Avenue in Huntington Beach.

Seasons of Nature -
Sunday, Jan. 16th

The two-hour walk begins at 9:00 a.m.
All ages are welcome and it's free.

Do birds come to the marsh in the winter?
Use binoculars, microscopes, and magnifiers to find out!

Discover a haven of nature in Irvine.
Enjoy an easy walk around the beautiful ponds. Our friendly naturalists will share the secrets of the marsh. Be amazed by the variety of birds, insects and plants.

See directions to the San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary on page 11.

FeederWatching Time is Just Around the Corner

The 2010-11 season of Project FeederWatch begins November 13, though you can sign up at any time. FeederWatchers keep track of their birds through the winter and report their tallies each week. This helps scientists track changes in winter bird populations from year to year. To learn more and to sign up, visit www.feederwatch.org . New participants receive a kit with a handbook, a bird-identification poster, calendar, and instruction booklet. There is a $15 fee ($12 for Cornell Lab members) to help cover the cost of materials.

School Bus Scholarship Fund

A special "thank you" to those donors who already have contributed to the School Bus Scholarship Fund. This will enable more Orange County school children to visit our marsh for one of our school tours. Additional funds are still needed.

Each year, we provide 50 scholarships to elementary school classes so students can experience an outdoor science program at the San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary. Over 40 fourth and fifth grade classes from Santa Ana Unified School District participate in our Outdoor Adventures science program, while 10 or more fourth grade classes from Tustin and other school districts participate in our Art Meets Science program. Funding for these scholarships is generously provided by an anonymous foundation and the Joan Irvine Smith and Athalie R. Clarke Foundation. Their funds help pay for our Project Director of Education’s salary and administrative costs, printing “Birds of San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary”, duplication of “My Nature Journal”, microscope and art supplies, teacher field trip preparation kits, student worksheets, class subscriptions to National Audubon Society’s Audubon Adventures nature newspapers for children, and more. Each year, over 1,600 students have a deeper understanding and appreciation for all life on Earth which they would not have experienced without our program and these donors.

Schools face many challenges and each year more teachers report that bus funding is harder to obtain for field trips. Fortunately, we have been able to direct these teachers to two local sources of bus funds, and they have continued to participate in our programs. This year, however, dates selected by Lincoln Elementary School from Santa Ana for Outdoor Adventures did not meet the deadline for these sources. The teachers promised to do some fundraising at the school, and our Marsh Education Project promised to raise the rest of the bus money.

This is where you, our membership can help. We are looking to raise approximately $1,200 to pay for buses for three trip dates for Lincoln School. We are looking for small donations in addition to larger ones. If you value outdoor experiences for local underprivileged school children, please think about a donation for a bus. Make checks payable to Sea and Sage Audubon, and mail to: School Bus Scholarship Fund, Sea and Sage Audubon Society, 5 Riparian View, Irvine, CA, 92612. Thank you for your support!

Trude Hurd, Project Director of Education
Directions and Membership
Directions to Audubon House, Chapter Meetings, and the San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary, Audubon Membership Form, Tattler subscriptions, and Remember Us in Your Will or Trust

Go Paperless!
Sign up to receive your newsletter via email — get your issues faster, help save natural resources, reduce waste, and help our chapter save money! You can read it online or print out the pages you need to refer to more frequently. They’re in pdf format and will look and print exactly like the original ones. Send an e-mail to <nancykenyon@cox.net> to start your paper-free Tattler delivery today! (offer good only for chapter members in good standing)

Tattler Subscriptions
Non-Audubon members or members from other Audubon chapters who wish to subscribe to our chapter newsletter, may do so for $12.50 per year for regular mailing or an additional $5 for 1st class mailing. Make check payable to “Sea & Sage Audubon” and mail to: Tattler Subscriptions, 32 Almond Tree Ln, Irvine CA 92612.

Directions
Directions to Audubon House, our Chapter Meetings & the San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary
NEW ROUTE
Entrance from Campus Drive, not from Michelson
From the San Diego Fwy (405): Exit on Jamboree, south toward Newport Beach. At the 1st signal, Michelson, turn left. Continue on Michelson (past the old entrance to the SJWS) to the 5th signal which is Harvard and turn right. Drive to University & turn right. Drive to Campus Drive & turn right. Stay in far right lane and immediately turn right onto Riparian View which will enter the San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary. There doesn't seem to a sign there identifying the road, but it's pretty obvious. If you miss the turn and reach Carlson, turn right and go around the block again to Harvard. The sanctuary is open every day from dawn until dusk.

Audubon House
Open daily from 8 am to 4 pm 949-261-7963
Stop by Audubon House for a trail map. Browse through our bookstore and gift shop. Look at our taxidermy birds and check out our library. Take a look at the bird board checklist on the Audubon House front porch to find out what exciting birds have been spotted recently. Our friendly Audubon House volunteers are there to help you and to answer your questions.

Remember Us in Your Will or Trust
Please remember to include “Sea and Sage Audubon Society” by name (tax ID#23-7003681) in your will or trust.

Audubon Membership Application
Membership: we invite you to become a member of the National Audubon Society and the Sea & Sage Audubon chapter. To join: Please pay by check only; do not send cash. Make your check payable to: NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY, complete this form, and mail it along with your payment to: Sea & Sage Audubon, PO Box 5447, Irvine CA 92616.

National Audubon Society Membership: Check one [ ]
[ ] NEW MEMBERSHIP: $20 - Individual or Family members   [ ] RENEWAL: $35 - Regular Membership
[ ] NEW MEMBERSHIP: $15 - Senior (62+ yrs) or Student       [ ] RENEWAL: $15 - Senior or Student

Members receive: AUDUBON magazine as well as the WANDERING TATTLER newsletter.

Name
Address
City, State, Zip
Phone
E-mail

Chapter Code C9ZC150Z
**Sea and Sage Audubon Society**

**Chapter Mission Statement:** Sea and Sage Audubon is a leader in creating an understanding of nature in Orange County, through conservation, research and environmental education programs for children and adults. This is accomplished with classes, field activities, publications and volunteer opportunities.

**BOARD MEMBERS**

**Executive Committee:**
- President: Jay Miller, 949-707-1287
- Vice President: Scott Thomas, 949-293-2915
- Secretary: Cheryl Egger, 714-842-9232
- Treasurer: Hal Sheakley, 949-552-5974
- Director 2011: Susan Munson, 949-497-3906
- Director 2011: Joel Weintraub, 714-731-9091
- Director 2012: Carolyn Noble, 714-731-9091
- Director 2012: Steve Jelnick, 714-925-9128
- Director 2013: Amber Oneal, 714-812-2430
- Director 2013: Star Howard, 949-770-3177

**Committee Chairpersons:**
- Audubon House: Susan Sheakley, 949-552-5974
- Audubon House Volunteers: Judy Fritts, 949-551-4513
- Birdathon:
- Bird Information: Sylvia Gallagher, 714-962-8990
- Christmas Bird Counts: Steve Alter, 714-669-9482
- Conservation:
- Counsel: Rick Derevan, 714-427-7016
- Development: Cheryl Thomas, 949-294-2275
- Education: Carolyn Noble, 714-731-9091
- Exhibits: Mary Joseph, 714-848-8362
- Field Trips: Nancy Kenyon, 949-786-3160
- Finance: Hal Sheakley, 949-552-5974
- Membership: Phil Brobst, 949-261-7963
- Newsletter Editor: Nancy Kenyon, 949-786-3160
- Partners in Flight: Janet Baumann, 949-859-5081
- Programs: Pat & Dick Cabe, 949-960-1683
- Publicity: Sam Berry, 949-646-4488
- Publishing: Chris Obaditch, 949-640-7234
- Sales Manager: Debby Thyssen, 949-261-7963
- Marsh Education Project Director: Trude Hurd, 949-261-7964
- Marsh Ed. Project Director's Assistant: Deborah Brin, 949-261-7964
- Administrative Aide: Rebecca Craft, 949-261-7963
- Audubon House: 949-261-7963

**CALENDAR OF CHAPTER ACTIVITIES**

**December 2010**
- 05 Sun Santiago Oaks Monthly Bird Walk.............7:30 am
- 07 Tues Conservation Committee Meeting.............6:30 pm
- 12 Sun SJWS Monthly Bird Walk......................8:00 am
- 12 Sun San Elipio Lagoon field trip.................8:00 am
- 14 Tues Board Meeting...................................7:30 pm
- 15 Wed Upper Newport Bay by small boat..............8:15 am
- 17 Fri NO GENERAL MEETING in December..............
- 18 Sat San Juan Capistrano CBC....................
- 19 Sun Northeastern (Inland) CBC.................

**January 2011**
- 02 Sun Coastal CBC....................................7:30 am
- 02 Sun Santiago Oaks Monthly Bird Walk.............7:30 am
- 04 Tues Conservation Committee Meeting.............6:30 pm
- 07 Fri Bolsa Chica field trip.......................8:00 am
- 08 Sat CBC Specialties field trip..................8:00 am
- 09 Sun SJWS Monthly Bird Walk......................8:00 am
- 09 Sun Batiquitos Lagoon field trip...............8:00 am
- 11 Tues Board Meeting..................................7:30 pm
- 16 Sun Antelope Valley Hawk-Banding Trip..........7:30 am
- 19 Wed Upper Newport Bay by small boat..............8:15 am
- 21 Fri GENERAL MEETING................................7:30 pm
- 22 Sat Winter Pelagic Trip..........................7:30 am
- 28-30 F-S Hawk ID Class (Introductory level).....7:15 pm

**February 2011**
- 03 Thurs Laurel Canyon Natural History Walk........8:30 am
- 04-6 F-S Hawk ID Class (Advanced level)...........7:15 pm
- 12 Sat San Jacinto Wildlife Area field trip........8:00 am
- 14 Mon Seal Beach NWR field trip..................7:30 am
- 16 Wed Barbara’s Lake field trip...................8:00 am
- 19-20 S-S Salton Sea weekend field trip............9:00 am