Tree Swallows at the Marsh
by Doug Lithgow, President

The numerous Tree Swallow nest-boxes that populate the San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary are visible on the trails, but how many people are really aware of the time and effort that is invested in making the Tree Swallow program successful?

The Tree Swallow nest-boxes were installed by the Irvine Ranch Water District, with assistance from SEA and Sage Audubon, in the late 1990s as part of a mitigation measure. Initially, these were not monitored by anyone for activity or success, but in 2000, Christine Tischer started the Tree Swallow Nest-box Program. Beginning with just eight volunteers, she oversaw the project, whereby: boxes were monitored, data was collected, and Tree Swallow nestlings were banded. When the season was over, Christine and her team assured that the vacated nest-boxes were inspected and cleaned and readied for the next season.

The original designer of the nest-boxes used at the marsh is Dick Purvis, who incorporated a modification of his Bluebird box design. Before this program started, breeding pairs of Tree Swallows had become rare in Orange County. After the first season in 2000, there were 212 fledglings from 56 total nest-boxes. Today, the program has grown to 104 nest-boxes and in 2017, there were 482 Tree Swallow fledglings. There are now 20 volunteers that help with the Tree Swallow nest-box program. These are very impressive numbers indeed. While the Tree Swallow Nest-box program has been very successful in bringing back breeding Tree Swallows to Orange County, additionally, the data collected during the breeding season is sent to the Cornell Lab of Ornithology to develop a better understanding of these birds.

The nest-boxes also offer an educational opportunity for the public during field trips. The importance of cavity nesting habitat in the form of dead trees and snags is introduced--thus the boxes provide homes to cavity nesters. Indeed, it has been reported that some Tree Swallows have made the leap, and have been observed to nest in natural cavities at the marsh.

Christine, who has been working as a biologist since 1997, has now been engaged in the Tree Swallow nest-box program for 18 years. Just how did she get involved? Well, she heard about it while in Sylvia Gallagher’s Learning California Bird Sounds class. This Tree Swallow program is a wonderful example of engaging the public in citizen science. We are all interconnected in our efforts to protect and nurture the nature around us.

GENERAL MEETING
Friday evening, June 15th - 7:30 pm

“Searching for the Gold Spot: The Wild after Wildfire”
presented by Maya Khosla

“Searching for the Gold Spot: The Wild after Wildfire,” is Maya Khosla’s film about the rapid and amazing comeback of the plants and wildlife in forests that have recently experienced a large wildfire. The story follows scientists through the Sierra Nevada, the Cascades Mountains and beyond, and shows hundreds of living, breathing reasons why our publicly owned forests need to be left to their own, natural recovery processes - which are set in motion after low, moderate, and even high intensity wildfire. In addition to the film, Maya’s presentation will include discussions of recent rare plant surveys and research that California Spotted Owls and other raptors fare well in post-fire forests.

Khosla’s screenwriting efforts include narratives for Shifting Undercurrents and Village of Dust, City of Water, and award-winning documentary films with support from Audubon Society, Patagonia, and Fund for Wild Nature and Environment. Her writings include “Web of Water: Life in Redwood Creek” (non-fiction) and “Keel Bone” (poems). Save Our Seas Foundation supported her writing about climate change and other impacts on sea turtles. Selected as the Poet Laureate of Sonoma County (2018-2019), her new collection of poems, “Unknown World on Fire,” is forthcoming from Sixteen Rivers Press.

Our program will be held in the Duck Club at the SJWS in Irvine. The doors open at 7:00 for refreshments and fellowship, and the meeting and program will begin at 7:30 pm. We hope you will join us.

— Gail Richards, Programs Chair
Conservation News
Susan Sheakley, Conservation Chair

We hope you will join us! Our next ‘4th Tuesday’ Conservation Lecture will be held on May 22nd at 7:30 PM in the Learning Center.
Our next Conservation Committee Meeting will be held on June 5th, at 6:45 PM in the Learning Center.

60th Anniversary Event
Huntington State Beach Party!
Live Music, BBQ & Bird Walks!
Saturday, June 16, 10:15 am – 3:00 pm

Join our 60th Anniversary celebration of the chapter’s history of protecting Least Terns. In ’67, the chapter allocated $700, a third of its annual budget, for a fence to carve out a piece of the historic nesting site for 5-6 breeding pairs that year. In 2005, Sea and Sage joined forces with State Parks to help establish the volunteer ambassador and monitoring program, an idea of Loren Hays.

Come to the Huntington State Beach Preserve and Talbert Marsh field trip. The area should be teeming with Least Tern nesting activity. We will see adults hunting and carrying fish, parents feeding fuzzy young, maybe even some young about to fledge?

At 10:15 June 16 assemble at the New information kiosk near the Talbert Channel for our short walk to the Talbert Marsh and brief guided tour by John Villa, HB Wetlands Conservancy. At 12:15, meet back at the information kiosk to hear from State Parks Biologist, Lana Nguyen.

After the field trip, meet for lunch at Ramadas A and B. Sea and Sage will supply BBQ hot dogs and fix-ins, chips and drinks. Bring a little something to share. Choose potluck dish by first letter of last name: A-G Appetizer, H – M Salad or Side, N –T Main Dish, U-Z - Dessert or Fruit.

If you do not have a State Parks pass, be prepared to pay the entrance fee. Drive to and park in lots near the Santa Ana River. Suggest binoculars, water, sunscreen, and maybe a folding chair for après lunch. A few scopes would be nice, too.

Questions? Contact Susan Sheakley or Scott Thomas

The Year of the Bird

2018 marks the 100th anniversary of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA), one of the most powerful and important bird-protection laws passed. In honor of this milestone, the National Audubon Society, along with National Geographic, the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and BirdLife International have joined forces with more than 150 other organizations and millions of people around the world to celebrate 2018 as the “Year of the Bird.”

Congress passed the MBTA in 1918 in response to public outcry over the mass slaughter of birds, which threatened egrets and other species with extinction! In its 100-year history, the law has saved millions, maybe billions, of commons and uncommon birds. Today, this law protects birds from 21st century threats, and has led to common sense solutions, like covering oil pits that would otherwise result in huge numbers of needless bird deaths each year.

However, birds are again at risk, as the MBTA is under attack! The Department of Interior has issued an interpretation of the law that says it will no longer enforce the MBTA in cases of incidental bird deaths, such as bird deaths resulting from a company leaving an open oil pit, effectively absolving companies of responsibility. There is also legislation pending in Congress that would change the law to provide a similar exemption.

Sea and Sage Audubon joined more than 300 Audubon chapters, and more than 500 groups in total nationwide, in a letter calling on Congress to defend and uphold the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) as we celebrate its 100th anniversary.

When you have the opportunity, ask Congress to fight for migratory birds and oppose changes to the Migratory Bird Treaty Act.

Questions? Contact Susan Sheakley or Scott Thomas
~ Summer Barbecue ~

at the San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary
Sat., July 28th - 5:00 to 10:00 p.m.

Bring the family and join us for this special occasion: dining under the stars, live music, evening walks around the marsh, and an interesting program about “The Weird and Wonderful Things That Make the Bat So Special and Why We Should All Learn to Love Them ” presented by Michelle Rivers. For more information, see our chapter webpage. Look under Special Events on the home page.

Our menu will include chicken, freshly grilled hot dogs, salad, beans, chips, watermelon, cake, lemonade, soft drinks, and coffee. A vegetarian entree will be offered for those who specifically request it on their reservation form.

Tickets for the barbecue and program are $20.00 for adults, $7.00 for children under 5; tickets for the BBQ volunteers are $15.00. Your ticket will cover your meal & beverage, evening marsh walks, and program.

Activities begin at 5:00 pm when the Used Books Sale opens. Dinner will be from 6:00 to 7:00 pm, followed by the program (as soon as it is dark). The first marsh walk will take in the sights and sounds as marsh life settles in for the evening. The night wildlife walk after the program will emphasize bats and other nocturnal animals. Participation is limited.

This event is staffed entirely by chapter volunteers. If you can help us out in any capacity, we would really appreciate it, and you will save $5 on your barbecue ticket! A signup sheet for volunteers is at Audubon House and will be at the June General Meeting; it will also be posted on our chapter webpage. For information on volunteering, contact Gail Richards at (714) 267-2420; agrich@me.com

Advance reservations for the Summer BBQ are essential so that we know how much food to buy. Those people who provide their email address or a stamped, self-addressed envelope, will receive a note from Nancy that their reservation has been received; they will also receive information about the evening’s activities. Everyone will need to pick up their ticket at the Welcome Table when they arrive. The tickets will not be mailed out ahead of time. A word of caution: don’t wait until the last minute to sign up! We expect this event to fill long before the day of the event.

**Summer Barbecue on July 28 - Will YOU Be There?**

Name ____________________________ Number in your party ______

Email Address or stamped envelope _______________________________________

Do you want a vegetarian entree? ______ If so, how many? ______

Amount enclosed _____________ ($20 per person; children under 5 are $7 each)
                                        ( $15 for Volunteers helping with the BBQ)

Make your check payable to Sea & Sage Audubon and mail it with this form to: Barbecue, c/o Nancy Kenyon, 32 Almond Tree Ln, Irvine CA 92612.
Chapter News & Announcements

For more information about Sea & Sage activities, check out our SCHEDULE of Chapter Activities on our webpage under the heading of “Main Areas.” The Schedule lists our activities in a little more detail than the Calendar: http://www.seaandsageaudubon.org/Chapter/ChapterSchedule.pdf

Audubon House Volunteers

We would like to thank the following people for helping to staff Audubon House in May and June: Sherry Bass, Chris Byrd, Fresia Escalona, Ann Harmer, Pat Hellig, Sarah Jayne, Nancy Kenyon, Seema Khargonekar, David Kramer, Lauretta Kyle, Maya Matkin, Joan McCauley, Bobbie Miller, Barbara Mitchell, Paula Monroe, Eunice Morita, Dagmar Muthamia, JoAnn Nothelfer, Roberta Ray, Barbara Reber, Susan Sheakley, Bev Spring, Beryl Vogel, Marilyn Walter and Pat Wells. 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 Barbara Mitchell at 949-646-4115.

News from Our Bookstore

New Books: How to Read Nature: Awaken Your Senses to the Outdoors You’ve Never Noticed guides you in using all five senses to read what nature has to offer plus fifteen exercises to sharpen your senses. Web Watching: A Guide to Webs and the Spiders That Make Them helps you to untangle the mystery of spider webs, Naturalist’s Notebook and Myths and Truths about Coyotes are also in stock. For children: take along nature guide packed full of checklists, activities, stickers and more. Plus new dreamcatcher pouches, pelican plush toys and mineral kits. Be sure to pick up a new Sea and Sage 60th anniversary custom designed t-shirt for the summer. Also celebrate our 60th with the bookstore’s special: 60 items on sale each month. Look for the bright pink sale tags!

Orange County Spring Count - 2018 Preliminary Results for April

The OCSC started April 1st and runs through May 31st. I have compiled the results for April:

- 368 eBird checklists have been shared with Sea and Sage.
- The checklists cover 159 locations throughout the county.
- The checklists show a total of 252 species; 60982 individual birds have been counted.

Everyone can participate in the Spring Count by using eBird and sharing your checklists with the Sea and Sage Audubon eBird account: User Name is “Sea_Sage_Aud”

—Darrell Wilson

ทั้ง(594,236),(957,588)

Chapter History – Did You Know?

National Champions of the “Big Sit”

Trude Hurd and John Schmitt were national champions of the “Big Sit” bird-watching competition two years in a row, in October 1995 and again in October 1996! In 1995 they “sat” for 3 hours in a 17-foot circle at the San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary and counted 73 species. They increased their tally in 1996, sitting 13 hours at the SJWS and counting 97 native species.

OC Snowy Plover/Least Tern Survey

If you have been to one of our classroom training sessions and are interested in helping these two listed species, please mark your calendar for the September OC Snowy Plover/Least Tern Survey! The survey window will be September 16 through 22. For more information about these surveys, see our chapter website.

— Cheryl Egger, Survey Volunteer/Outreach Coordinator OCSNPSurvey@gmail.com Tel: 714-319-3660 www.seaandsageaudubon.org

★ Our 60th Chapter Anniversary Events

SPECIAL EVENTS TO LOOK FORWARD TO ★

May 19: Meet the Fishes at the SJWS
June 16: CA Least Tern Day at Huntington State Beach - with live music, barbecue, and bird walks!
July 28: Summer Barbecue at the SJWS – we’ll have live music, bird walks, used book sale, a delicious dinner, a program about Bats, and a Night Wildlife Walk after the program.
Sept. 1: A family friendly movie outdoors at the SJWS - with popcorn! (Full information will be in the Sept. Tattler which comes out in mid August.)

Remember to Vote YES on Prop 68!

Sea and Sage, along with Audubon California and a long list of other environment groups, has endorsed Prop 68, the Parks and Water Bond on the June 5 ballot. It will fund habitat restoration at the Salton Sea, upgrade drinking water systems, and much-needed infrastructure maintenance in public parks throughout the state. We urge you to vote Yes on 68.
Our Active Exhibits Volunteers
From July 2017 to June 2018, our active Exhibits Volunteers represented our chapter at the following numerous events, under the capable leadership of Mary Joseph, Exhibits Committee Chair: Children’s Book Festival in Oct, University Hills Holiday Boutique in Dec, Ocean Awareness Day in Dana Point in March, Caspers Wilderness Park Adventure Day in April, Earth Day Celebration at Muth Interpretive Center in April, Huntington Beach Unified School District Steam Fair in April, Bugs & Butterflies at Riley Wilderness Park in June, OC Boy Scouts of America Saddleback District Road Show in June, and Santa Ana Unified School District Spark Conference in June. We’d like to thank these enthusiastic volunteers who helped staff exhibits this year: Teresa Cullen, Beverly Hargrove, Ann Harmer, Debbie Hays, Lynne Jeffries, Susan Kramer, Doug Lithgow, Eva Lydick, Marcia Marlow, Donna Medina, Riley, Jay Miller, Amy-Grace and Maggie Ratanapratum, Claire Ready, Catherine Reynolds, Cristi Saylor, and Pat Vranicar.

Hospitality at our General Meetings
We really appreciate our wonderful Hospitality Duo of Carol Freund and Peggy McGlone who set up the refreshment tables before our General Meetings with a variety of delicious food items and welcome everyone who enters the Duck Club for our meetings. Our members who come early to the meetings not only are able to enjoy the tempting refreshments, but also have the opportunity to join in the fellowship.

Doug Lithgow arrives early for each meeting, sets up the hospitality tables and carries in the supplies. Carolyn and Matt Biller assist with chair set-up and break-down. Jan Gaffney greets everyone from the welcome table, has them sign in and make themselves a name badge.

It takes many volunteers to prepare, shop, bake, deliver, set-up, and clean-up for the monthly meetings. When one volunteer can't make it, another one takes their place. The ones who regularly bring a contribution are Carol Freund who is also the main organizer and her partner Peggy McGlone who makes sure everything gets cleaned up afterwards, also bring refreshments, along with Doreen Johnson, Phyllis Anderson, Nancy Kappelmann, Bev Krassner-Bulas, and Beryl and Ralph Vogel. Georgia and Doug Johnson, Bruce, and Kathleen Moaddeli were new volunteers this year for the committee. Mike McGlone, Bettina Eastman and Maureen Myers also helped during the year. We certainly appreciate all they do for us!

Upcoming Field Trips, Birding Classes, and Chapter Events —
Those of you who like to plan ahead for field trips, Birding Skills Workshops, and other chapter events, please keep an eye on our chapter webpage. Sylvia’s upcoming birding classes are already posted, major events such as the BBQ, Pancake Breakfast, CBCs, and the Annual Dinner are also posted, but next year’s field trips will be scheduled during the summer. As the trips are scheduled, they will be added to the new field trip schedule. Any trip that is scheduled may be signed up for right away.

We Couldn’t Have Done it Without You!
I would like to thank our dedicated Field Trip Leaders who gave of their time and expertise to lead our Sea and Sage field trips this year. Field trips are a vital part of our chapter activities and the following people helped to make our field trip program a success:

Chris Obaditch — SJWS monthly bird walks, assisted by Jeff Bray, Bruce Aird & others when Chris was out of town. (Chris has been leading these monthly trips for us since Sept. 1993!)

Mark Kincheloe — UNB monthly bird walks

Jean Drum — SJWS monthly wildlife walks assisted by her team of Audubon Naturalists

Jon Dunn & Jon Feenstra with Co-leaders for our Pelagic Trips — Tom Benson, Bruce Aird, Jeff Bray, Robert McNab and Steve Morris

Vic Leipzig — Bolsa Chica alternate monthly bird walks, Eastern Sierra, and Mammoth Lakes Trip

Pete DeSimone — Owl Prowls at Starr Ranch

Linette Davenport — Irvine Reg. Park trip

Bruce Aird — Big Morongo Preserve, CBC Specialties, Salton Sea, and co-leading Eastern Sierra Trip

Kaaren Perry — Morro Bay trip

John McKeever & Gary Meredith — San Diego & vicinity

Bruce Aird & Jeff Bray – CBC Specialties

Sharon Harrow, Sally Menzel, Darrell Wilson, Mark Kincheloe and Chuck Nichols who assisted me with the monthly UNB Pontoon Boat trips.

Thanks so much for all your help!
—Nancy Kenyon, Field Trip Chair

Western Field Ornithologists Conference
This year’s conference will be in Ventura – Sept. 26-30. Details are on the WFO website at www.westernfieldornithologists.org

For more information about Sea & Sage activities, check out our SCHEDULE of Chapter Activities on our webpage under the heading of “Main Areas.” The Schedule lists our activities in a little more detail than the Calendar: http://www.seaandsageaudubon.org/Chapter/ChapterSchedule.pdf
As would be expected at this time of year, April and early May was a very busy time for interesting bird observations. Some included the continuation of known wintering birds, as well as the discovery of new birds that had undoubtedly been wintering locally. So we briefly summarize some of those to start off. A Tricolored Heron was again regularly seen at the Bolsa Chica Ecological Reserve through May 5, after doing a vanishing act for about three months, prior to Mar. 18, when presumably the same individual reappeared as if it never left. Two Common Ground-Doves were refound a few times during the last month, continuing through at least May 6. A Tropical Kingbird that had been frequenting the San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary (SJWS)/Mason Regional Park (MRP) area for several months was last reported on Apr. 11. A drab Plumbeous/Cassin’s-type vireo at Mile Square Regional Park (MSRP), May 5, was identified as a probable Plumbeous Vireo; this species was known to have been present earlier in the winter, but was thought to have disappeared. The Ovenbird wintering at MSRP continued to at least Apr. 8. A Northern Waterthrush returning for another winter at Huntington Central Park (HCP) was last reported on Apr. 15. Two American Redstarts known to be wintering in the county included a young male at MRP, through at least Apr. 19, and a female type at SJWS, through at least Apr. 23. MSRP’s wintering Pine Warbler was last reported on Apr. 5. Two of HCP’s wintering birds of note included a Chestnut-sided Warbler and a Palm Warbler, which were reported present through Apr. 21 and 22, respectively. A Green-tailed Towhee was regularly seen in Irvine (near the FDA building) through the winter, and lingered through at least May 9. Two Clay-colored Sparrows spent their winters in Orange County, with one at HCP through at least Apr. 28, and one at the Santa Ana Cemetery through at least Apr. 11. A young male type Baltimore Oriole in Serrano Park, Apr. 2-11, had undoubtedly been wintering locally.

A White-winged Scoter flying north past the Newport Pier, May 1, was apparently a northbound migrant. A subadult Yellow-crowned Night-Heron at HCP, Apr. 2-10, was a most unexpected first park record. A Common Poorwill at HCP, on Apr. 26, was a very rare spring migrant in the coastal lowlands. Single White-winged Doves at SJWS, Apr. 20, and at BCER, Apr. 22, were exceptionally spring strays along the coast of So Cal. The county has enjoyed another good showing of Calliope Hummingbird migrants, with at least a dozen individuals so far this spring; reports have come from Laguna Beach and HCP to the Santa Ana Mountains, as well as from some private residences (such as in Silverado Canyon and Rancho Santa Margarita). A Solitary Sandpiper along Santiago Creek (in Santiago Canyon), Apr. 15, and a Franklin’s Gull at Doheny State Beach, May 6, were both rare spring migrants in the county. Adding to the exceptional number of Swainson’s Hawks that OC has already has this spring (approximately 15 as of early April), as many as eight more were tallied during the remainder of April.

An apparent Dusky Flycatcher was carefully studied (and photographed) in upper Coal Canyon, May 5; this species is a rare, irregular migrant west of the Southern California mountains. Two Purple Martin observations were exceptional, with a male seen and photographed at SJWS, May 1, and a female reported from Fairview Park, May 5. Rare spring warblers so far this spring have included a Northern Parula at Laguna Niguel Regional Park (LNRPR), Apr. 29, and a Northern Waterthrush at Gilman Park, May 3-6. A warbler photographed at SJWS, Apr. 23, was most intriguing; it appears to quite possibly be a hybrid between Cape May and Yellow-rumped (although opinions so far have only been speculative).

As many as 11 or 12 Green-tailed Towhees during the last month is likely a record high count for spring migrants in OC; these include individuals at SJWS, Canyon Park, Harriett Weider Regional Park (HWRP), city of Orange, Coal Canyon, Silverado Canyon, Laguna Beach, and the Cleveland National Forest. Although Bell’s Sparrows are a resident breeder in the county, their distribution in the less easily accessible portions of the county makes their true status less well known. As many as five tallied by birders in upper Coal Canyon, Apr. 21 to May 5, were in one of the more well-known locations; however, two recorded in the uppermost portion of Silverado Canyon, May 6, were well above the elevations where this species has been typically seen. Small numbers of Yellow-headed Blackbirds were encountered at various locations from around the county this past month, including Fairview Park, SJWS, the Seal Beach Naval Weapons Station, Buena Park, and at LNRPR. Exceptional as spring migrants in the county were two oriole species this past month: a Scott’s Oriole near Riley Wilderness Park, Apr. 21, and a male Baltimore Oriole at HWRP, May 5.
**Education News**

Trude Hurd, Project Director of Education

http://www.seaandsageaudubon.org/Education/Education.html

**Come Enjoy A Summer Bat Walk**

More and more people love bats instead of fearing them. For those who want to experience bats in our very own Orange County, Sea and Sage Audubon has the evening program for you and your friends! We are offering 12 summer Bat Walks from July through September, and they are so popular that many are already full! You still have the chance to sign up for remaining events, and you can also be put on a wait list for any closed date, so don’t delay!

Register on-line with **EventBrite** by going to www.eventbrite.com/e/summer-bat-walks-registration-43573527594. Choose from these dates:

- In July: Fri. 7/6, Sat. 7/7, Fri. 7/20, Sat. 7/21
- In August: Fri. 8/10, Sat. 8/11, Fri. 8/17, Sat. 8/18
- In September: Fri. 9/7, Sat. 9/8, Fri. 9/14, Sat. 9/15

Because start times vary according to sunset, July events are 7:15-9:45 PM, August events are 6:45-9:15 PM, and September events are 6:30-9 PM.

Prices remain the same as last year, although there is a service fee charged during online registration. Program fee is $18 for adults and $10 for children ages 7-12. Because of the length of program, children under age 7 are not allowed. Due to the presence of disease-causing insects, there is a strict clothing requirement (information will be emailed.)

Summer Bat Walk is one of the most fun events in Orange County on a summer night! Located at a beautiful 300 acre freshwater wetland in Irvine, the event combines an indoor presentation by the local bat biologist and an outdoor evening walk along the ponds in search of bats. Two species of colonial bats visit the marsh in small numbers to feed on flying insects. You can watch and hear them flying right over the ponds and trails! Participants write that “it’s fun, educational, and great for all ages” and “chance to see and learn about a fascinating creature.”

Register on-line this year at EventBrite.com!

---

**Outdoor Adventures Naturalists in 2017-18**

What do these people have in common? Darrel Airhart, Lee Avalone, Rudi Berkelhamer, Sara Bethurum, Sandrine Biziaux, Jon Boss, Teresa Cullen, Linda Daily, Bettina Eastman, Amanda Gaskin, Jenny Golden, Beverly Hargrove, Debbie Hays, Babs Levitan, Doug Lithgow, Maya Matkin, Gretchen Mavrovouniotis, Michael Mavrovouniotis, Barbara Meade, Jay Miller, Sharon Nantell, Carolyn Noble, Ellen O'Leary, Claire Readey, Brenda Sabin, Barbara Sentovich, Susan Sheakley, Pat Sparks, Stephanie Tanton, Linda Thomas, Sophie Wickramasinghe, and Pat Vranicar.

They helped almost 2,400 elementary school children to understand the importance of birds and habitat through our Outdoor Adventures science discovery program at the beautiful San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary in Irvine! Joining them are four new naturalists who graduated this year: Ann Barbour, Mary Ann Gholson, Catherine Steinberg, and Mary Ellen Wynn. We thank each of you for caring about the environment enough to share your time and talents with Sea and Sage. You are appreciated!

Santa Ana teacher Linda Metzger-Campbell writes: “This activity (Outdoor Adventures) is extremely important for the kids from Lowell (Elementary School). Many never get to experience such wonderful events with such knowledgeable people.”

**Join Our Naturalist Team**

**Help Wanted:** Friendly people who care about the environment and want to make friends, have fun, and enable today’s youth to become nature advocates!

For twenty five years, Sea and Sage has been supporting science education in local elementary classrooms with our Project Director of Education, Education Assistant, and volunteer naturalists. We are always looking for enthusiastic new naturalists to join our team. Being a naturalist is easy, fun, and very worthwhile. After you graduate from training, we ask you for only two mornings a month during the school year. This may be the most important decision you make this year! Please contact Project Director Trude Hurd at seaandsage@sbcglobal.net or 949-261-7964 for details or the training schedule. Class starts September 11. Please join us!
Summer Field Trips
Nancy Kenyon, Field Trip Chair

For trip updates & additional trip information, check our chapter webpage at: http://www.seaandsageaudubon.org. Trips marked with an® require advance reservations. Questions about field trips? Contact Nancy Kenyon, Field Trip Chair, at 949-786-3160 or nancykenyon@cox.net

Monthly Wildlife Walks at the SJWS
SAT: June 2, July 7, Aug. 4, 9:00 - 10:30 am
We’ll be exploring the birds, plants and creatures of the marsh on this wildlife walk at the San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary. Meet in front of Audubon House at 9:00 am for a 1 ½ hour nature walk. (See directions to the SJWS on page 11.) Leaders: Audubon Naturalists

Monthly Bird Walks at the SJWS
SUN: June 10, July 8, Aug. 12, 8 am to 12
Join Chris Obaditch for a monthly bird walk around the ponds of the San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary in Irvine at 8:00 am. While the variety of ducks here at this time of year may be lacking, the number of Mallard ducklings will make up for it. Avocets and stilts should be nesting at the start of the summer, along with a variety of other species which summer here, and shorebirds will begin to show up in July. The walk, which is open to interested birders of all ages, will meet by the front porch of Audubon House. Children under the age of 11 must be accompanied by an adult. Directions on page 11. Leader: Chris Obaditch

UNB by Pontoon Boat Trips ®
WED: June 20, FRI: July 13 & August 24
The July 13 trip starts at 7:30; the rest all start at 8:15. Join us for the rare chance of birding the Upper Newport Bay from the deck of a large pontoon boat. Spotting birds from the water offers one a different perspective, and the birds seem to view us differently also. Trips are limited to 15 persons and there is a $10 trip fee per person payable in cash on the morning of the outing. Contact Nancy to reserve a spot on the boat. Directions will be provided to those with reservations. Usually, these boat trips are on the 3rd Wednesday of each month. Please note: This summer our July and August trips will be on Fridays because the Newport Sea Base will be using the pontoon boats for their summer program on the 3rd Wed. In Sept, we will resume our regular schedule of having our trips on the 3rd Wed. of each month at 8:15. Leader: Nancy Kenyon 949-786-3160; nancykenyon@cox.net

Bolsa Chica Ecological Reserve bird walk
THURS: July 19 - 8:00 am to 12 noon
Come prepared for a great morning of birding to check out the resident birds as well as summer nesting species. Bring binoculars, a field guide, and a scope if you have one. We will meet at the playground in Harriett Wieder Reg. Park. Directions: From PCH, turn inland on Seapoint St. Follow Seapoint 1 mile to Garfield Ave. and make a U-turn. Entrance to the playground will be on the right side in 0.25 miles. Leader: Vic Leipzig

Upper Newport Bay bird walk
SUN: June 24, July 29, Aug 26. 8:00 – 11:00
Join Mark Kincheloe for a monthly bird walk in Upper Newport Bay to check out the seasonal shorebirds, ducks, grebes, herons & egrets, etc. that frequent the bay. Bring binoculars, a field guide, and a scope if you have one. We will meet in the Big Canyon parking lot in Newport Beach. This is easily reached from Jamboree. Take San Joaquin Hills Road west toward the bay where it intersects with Back Bay Drive. Turn right on Back Bay Dr. and follow it to the Big Canyon parking lot on your left. Leader: Mark Kincheloe

Mammoth Lakes Trip ®
Sat-Sun, June 23-24. Meeting time 5:15 am
This is a fast paced trip for experienced birders. We’ll be visiting a wide variety of habitats, see some spectacular scenery, and lots of birds. The trip will involve 2 full days of birding and it will be necessary to arrive in Mammoth on Friday and leave on Monday. See write-up in the May Tattlet or the webpage for full trip information and list of target species. Reservations: Nancy Kenyon

Summer Pelagic Trip ®
SAT: July 14. Meet at 6:30 AM for 8 hr. trip
Our pelagic trips meet at the Ocean Institute in Dana Point at 6:30 AM, they are 8 hour trips which go along the coast and then out to the 14 mile bank where many of the good birds are, return to the dock at 3:00 pm, and cost $60 per person. Our trip leader for this trip is Jon Dunn who will be assisted by 5 co-leaders. Pre-payment is mandatory; information on the trips and how to sign up for them is on our chapter webpage. Also on the webpage are trip lists from previous pelagic trips which will give you a good idea of some of the birds you may see. The trips fill quickly so it’s advantageous to sign up for them in advance. Reservations: Nancy Kenyon
**Bloom-Hays Ecological Research Grant**  
Four worthy student proposals were selected for funding by the Sea and Sage Science Committee. The objective of the Bloom-Hays Ecological Research Grant is to advance ecological research, particularly research related to avian species and the natural communities upon which they depend, by providing funds or supplies to support research activities benefitting native species and habitats in Southern California. *(See our chapter webpage for full information on these projects.)*  

- **Chris Vennum,** *Colorado State University, Fort Collins (PhD)*, Territory Persistence and Reproductive Performance of Swainson's Hawks (Buteo swainsoni) Across Habitat Interfaces  
- **Amy Miles,** *University of California, Davis (Undergrad)*, Assessing Reproductive Condition of Ashy Storm Petrels on Southeast Farallon Island  
- **Dillon Travis,** *University of California, San Diego (PhD)*, Honey Bee Pollination May Increase Geitonogamy and Inbreeding Depression in Native Plants While Competing with Native Pollinators for Floral Resources  
- **Carmel Tabush,** *Cal Poly Pomona (Masters)*, Seasonal Bee Diversity and Abundance within the California Sage Scrub of the San Jose Hills and Chino Hills

**The Wild & Scenic Film Festival on Tour**  
**Sat, June 2nd at the Orange Coast Unitarian Universalist Church in Costa Mesa – 5:30 pm**  
This is one of the largest environmental film festivals in North America. We are working with local environmental groups as a way to reach our community and bring together a diverse audience. The goal is to use film to inspire activism and we hope to use the festival to increase a better understanding of the connection we share with our planet and our role as stewards to keep it healthy for the next generations.

- **ONE NIGHT – TEN SHORT FILMS**  
- Door open at 5:30 pm and program starts at 6:00. Tickets: $12 General Admission, $10 Bring a friend.  
- Reception: Enjoy wine and cheese and mingle with the filmmakers during intermission  
- Location: Orange Coast Unitarian Universalist Church 2845 Mesa Verde Drive East, Costa Mesa  
- [https://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/3393409](https://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/3393409)  
- Contact: programs@ocuuc.org. Phone: (714) 556-2882  
- For a description of the films see our chapter webpage; look under “What’s New” at bottom of page.

**Volunteer at Audubon House!**  
The chapter really needs your help and it’s a great place for you to spend 4 hours.  

We will need volunteers to help fill-in during the summer travel season. And right now, we need help with weekend shifts! Choose between the 8:00 AM to Noon and Noon to 4:00 PM shifts.

Volunteers represent the chapter, greet local, out-of-state and foreign country visitors, answer the phone, talk with people about chapter activities, birds and wildlife, check out binoculars for loan, sell merchandise, and help people enjoy their visit to the Marsh.

If interested, contact Susan Sheakley or Barbara Mitchell for more information or to reserve space in an Orientation Session. Dates for Orientation *(advance reservation required)* are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>June</th>
<th>July</th>
<th>August</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fri June 1 AM</td>
<td>Sat July 7 AM</td>
<td>Sat Aug 4 AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun June 3 AM</td>
<td>Sun July 15 AM</td>
<td>Sun Aug 12 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat June 9 AM</td>
<td>Sat July 21 PM</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun June 24 PM</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat June 30 AM</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Many people have enjoyed looking at Sylvia Gallagher's hand-embroidered birds—on quilts, pictures, and shirts—and wondered how she does it. For at least eight Saturday mornings, July 14 through Sept. 1 (maybe longer), 9:00 a.m. to noon, she will teach a workshop, sponsored by SEA AND SAGE AUDUBON, on how to do this sort of embroidery. Participants will learn how to select a bird picture, transfer it to cloth, select thread colors, and do the stitches to bring the bird to life. The stitches involved are mostly satin stitch and a version of long-and-short stitch quite different from that described in most western embroidery books. (It is used in Asian embroidery; the Chinese call it "shan tao." ) Occasionally other stitches such as French knots, outline stitch, and blanket stitch are used for accents. Individualized instruction will allow the class to accommodate all levels of embroidery skill—beginner to expert—and all will find themselves learning new techniques. You will be taught how to do any stitches you are unfamiliar with—and maybe even a better way to thread a needle. The cost for the class is $80.00 for new students, $50.00 for continuing students, who will need less assistance. Repeaters are urged to sign up again and continue to develop their skills. This class is open to men, as well as women. Come on, guys, be the fourth man to give it a try!

At the first session, beginners will learn and practice two stitches and learn how to get started on their choice of one of the class projects. Continuing students should come ready to work on and receive help with a project.

At the second session, (July 21), Sylvia will present a slide-illustrated program, which has been presented to several embroidery clubs. In this program she will take you step-by-step through the entire process of converting to stitches a painting or photograph of a bird. (This process is fully applicable to subjects other than birds.) You will also be able to see some of her finished embroidery, including one of her quilts.

The class will be limited to 15 participants and will be cancelled if fewer than eight registrations are received by June 30. Please do not sign up if you expect to miss more than two meetings. (Exceptions may be made if there is room.) If you have not seen the introductory slide lecture, you must attend the second meeting, July 21. There will be a number of additional spaces for those who just want to attend the July 21 slide lecture ($10.00).

The class location is the house just south of the Gallagher residence in Huntington Beach. Send your reservation form, a check for the fee, and a self-addressed stamped envelope (SASE) to Sylvia Gallagher, 21562 Kaneohe Ln, Huntington Beach, CA 92646. Reservations must be postmarked no earlier than June 4 (2-day penalty for early reservations). Confirmations and further information will be mailed July 2, along with a map to the meeting place.

If you have questions, email (preferred) or telephone Sylvia: sjrgallagher@yahoo.com or 714-962-8990.

__Reservation Form - Bird Embroidery Workshop 2018__

Names of all participants __________________________________________________________

Address(es) & Zip ________________________________________________________________

Phone(s) ____________________________________________________________

E-mail ________________________________________________________________

Check one:  
____ Entire series, new student ($80)
____ Entire series, continuing student ($50)
____ July 21 lecture only ($10)

SASE enclosed? ______ Check for $ ________ to SEA AND SAGE AUDUBON enclosed.
Directions and Membership

Sea and Sage Audubon Society’s mission is to protect birds, other wildlife, and their habitats through education, citizen science, research, and public policy advocacy.

Tattler Subscriptions

Non-Audubon members or members from other Audubon chapters who wish to subscribe to our chapter newsletter, may do so for $14.00 per year. Make check payable to “Sea and Sage Audubon” and mail to: Tattler Subscriptions, 32 Almond Tree Ln, Irvine CA 92612

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. It is in pdf format and will look and print exactly like the original ones. Photos will be in color. 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)

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.

Directions to Audubon House, our Chapter Meetings & the San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary

Our entrance is now from Campus Dr., not 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 the far right lane and immediately turn right onto Riparian View which will enter the San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary. The entrance road is marked by a green sign. 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: 8:00 am to 4:00 pm
949-261-7963

Your Membership Payment

Do you want to join National Audubon and Sea and Sage? Use the membership form at the bottom of this page. An Individual Membership or a Family Membership is only $20. Sea & Sage receives 100% of a chapter generated new member’s dues for the first year. Mail the form and your check - payable to National Audubon Society - to Sea and Sage Audubon, PO Box 5447, Irvine CA 92616. If you want to use a credit card for your membership payment, go online to: http://www.audubon.org/membership If you have questions, please contact Membership Chair, Jim Kissinger, at membership@seaandsageaudubon.org

Temporarily Away or Moving?

Please notify Jim Kissinger of your new address if you are temporarily, or permanently, moving from your current address; or, let him know if you do not want to continue to receive the Tattler. This will save us postage.

Jim Kissinger, Membership Chair
membership@seaandsageaudubon.org

Audubon Membership Application

We invite you to become a member of the National Audubon Society and the Sea and Sage Audubon chapter. Members receive the AUDUBON magazine as well as the WANDERING TATTLER newsletter.

NEW MEMBERSHIP is $20 for an individual or for a family. (The membership is good for one year.)

To join: Complete the form below & mail it along with your payment to: Sea and Sage Audubon, PO Box 5447, Irvine CA 92616

Make your check payable to: NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY. Please pay by check only; do not send cash.

Or, go online to: http://tinyurl.com/hyeaw67 (Our chapter code is C15)

To renew membership: renew directly with National Audubon by direct mail or online: (Renewals are $20 per year.)

http://tinyurl.com/zjbs5tt

Name ________________________________________________________________
Address ________________________________________________________________
City, State, Zip __________________________________________________________
Phone _________________________________________________________________
E-mail _________________________________________________________________

C15
BOARD MEMBERS

Executive Committee:
President........................................... Doug Lithgow .............. 714-962-4145
Vice President................................. Gail Richards ............. 714-267-2420
Secretary............................................ Sandy Smith .......... 949-706-9396
Treasurer............................................. Tom Van Huss ........ 714-417-9940
Director 2019................................. Star Howard ............ 949-770-3177
Director 2019................................. Joan McCauley .......... 949-642-1938
Director 2020................................. Ann Hamer ............. 949-631-3322
Director 2020................................. Debbie Hays .......... 714-356-6302
Director 2021................................. Jenny Golden .......... 949-916-1839
Director 2021................................. Bruce Aird ............. 949-458-1520
Past President................................. Vic Leipzig ............. 714-848-5394

Committee Chairpersons:
Archives & Records......................... Chris Byrd ............... 714-639-0967
Audubon House................................. Susan Sheakley .... 949-552-5974
Audubon House Volunteers ............... Barbara Mitchell .... 949-646-4115
Bird Information............................... Sylvia Gallagher .... 714-962-8990
Conservation................................. Susan Sheakley ....... 949-552-5974
Counsel............................................. Sean Sherlock .......
Development................................. Cheryl Thomas ........ 949-294-2275
Education................................. Carolyn Noble .......... 714-731-9091
Events................................. Mary Joseph ............ 714-848-8362
Exhibits................................. Mary Joseph ............ 714-848-8362
Field Trips................................. Nancy Kenyon .......... 949-786-3160
Finance............................................. Hal Sheakley ....... 949-552-5974
Membership................................. Jim Kissinger .......... 949-713-1148
Newsletter Editor......................... Nancy Kenyon .......... 949-786-3160
Orange County Spring Count ............ Darrell Wilson .... 949-559-4542
Partners in Flight............................. Janet & Al Baumann ...
Programs................................. Gail Richards ............ 714-267-2420
Publicity................................. Susan Kramer ............ 714-240-6678
Raptor Research......................... Scott Thomas .......... 949-293-2915
Science.............................................. Amber Heredia .... 714-812-2430
SJWS Liaison................................. Chris Obaditch ...... 949-640-7234
Social Media................................. Sandrine Bizaux-Sheron 949-413-0297
Starr Ranch/Envir. Liaison ............. Pete DeSimone .... 949-858-0309
Webmaster................................. Nancy Kenyon .......... 949-786-3160

Website: http://www.seaandsageaudubon.org

AUDUBON HOUSE................................. 949-261-7963

STAFF
Marsh Education Project Director Trude Hurd............. 949-261-7964
Education Assistant...................... Deborah Brin ........ 949-261-7964
Sales Manager................................. Debby Thyssen .... 949-261-7963
Administrative Aide....................... Rebecca Craft .... 949-261-7963

OTHER CONTACTS
Wetlands & Wildlife Care Center – for injured or sick birds and other native wild animals in need of help (corner of Newland & PCH in HB) 714-374-5587. http://www.wwccc.org/
Call Songbird Care & Education Center for injured or sick native songbirds. 714-964-0666. www.songbirdcareandeducation.org

SCHEDULE OF CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

June 2018
02 Sat Monthly Wildlife Walk at the SJWS..............9:00 am
05 Tues Conservation Committee Meeting.................. 6:45 pm
10 Sun Monthly Bird Walk at the SJWS...................... 8:00 am
12 Tues Board Meeting.................................. 7:00 pm
15 Fri GENERAL MEETING.................................. 7:30 pm
16 Sat 60th Anniversary Beach Party & Bird Walk...10:15 am
20 Wed UNB by pontoon boat ©.......................... 8:15 am
23-24 S-S Mammoth Lakes weekend trip ©............... 5:15 am
24 Sun Monthly bird walk at UNB........................... 8:00 am

July 2018
07 Sat Monthly Wildlife Walk at the SJWS..............9:00 am
08 Sun Monthly Bird Walk at the SJWS...................... 8:00 am
13 Fri UNB by pontoon boat ©.......................... 7:30 am
14 Sat Summer Pelagic Trip ©.......................... 6:30 am
19 Thurs Bolsa Chica bird walk.......................... 8:00 am
21 Sat Embroidery Class Slide-illustrated program ©... 9:00 am
28 Sat Summer Barbecue ©........................... 5:00 pm
29 Sun Monthly bird walk at UNB........................... 8:00 am

August 2018
04 Sat Monthly Wildlife Walk at the SJWS..............9:00 am
07 Tues Conservation Committee Meeting................ 6:45 pm
12 Sun Monthly Bird Walk at the SJWS...................... 8:00 am
14 Tues Board Meeting.................................. 7:00 pm
24 Fri UNB by pontoon boat ©.......................... 7:30 am
26 Sun Monthly bird walk at UNB......................... 8:00 am