By Sand, By Sea, and By Air . . .
Our Snowy Plovers
by Doug Lithgow, President

Last year, a Sea & Sage Snowy Plover survey team came across an exceptionally unusual finding: a Snowy Plover nest in a very busy area in the middle of Huntington State Beach (near Lifeguard Tower 5). California State Parks’ environmental scientist Lana Nguyen coordinated efforts to put a protective cage (an exclosure) over the nest, erected a fence around the area, and posted signs asking the public to respect the area around the nest. Despite our best efforts, the nest was abandoned by the parents—leaving behind a single egg. That precious egg was taken to the Wetlands and Wildlife Care Center where it was placed in an incubator, and to the excitement of all, it successfully hatched—and was eventually released into the wild at Bolsa Chica.

This year, at the Least Tern Nature Preserve in Huntington State Beach, a biologist working inside the preserve discovered a successful Snowy Plover nest inside of the fenced enclosure, with a single chick emerging. A small hole was made at the bottom of the preserve fence so the Snowy Plover chick could access the open beach to forage. Not long thereafter, the chick was observed cavorting with a parent, near Lifeguard Towers 4 & 5.

Amazingly, a few weeks after that nest was discovered inside the Preserve, a group of grade school children found yet another Snowy Plover nest actually on the beach in front of the Least Tern Preserve during a beach cleanup. This nest had three eggs! California State Parks once again coordinated placing an exclosure over this nest, with the same boundary fencing and public alert notices. More amazingly, three healthy chicks emerged and safely foraged along the beach for several weeks before fledging. During this time, the Huntington Beach State Preserve monitors played a key role in outreach to the public and in monitoring the Snowy Plover nest and chicks.

This year’s beach nests represent the first time in over five decades that we have had successful Snowy Plover nests at Huntington State Beach. It also showcases the success of people and wildlife sharing the shores in one of the most heavily visited beaches in Southern California. This success is a testament to the hard work and public outreach on the part of our Sea & Sage volunteers and the California State Parks staff. Exciting times indeed.

GENERAL MEETING
Friday evening, Sept. 21st - 7:30 pm

“The Family that Preys Together: Killer Whale Studies in Antarctic Waters”

presented by Robert Pitman
Southwest Fisheries Science Center
NOAA Fisheries, La Jolla, CA

Bob Pitman has worked at NOAA Fisheries, Southwest Fisheries Science Center in La Jolla, CA, for the past 40 years. During his career, he has spent years at sea, aboard research vessels, studying marine birds and mammals in all the oceans of the world. For the past 15 years, however, he has worked mainly on killer whales, starting in Alaska, but now primarily in Western Australia and Antarctica. For his talk, he will summarize what is currently known about killer whale biology worldwide and then focus in on his research in Antarctic waters, including an expedition scheduled for next Jan/Feb to search for what is very likely a new species of killer whale.

Our program will be held in the Duck Club at the San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary 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
‘4th Tuesday’ Conservation Lecture

Tuesday, Sept. 25th – 7:30 pm in the Learning Center, SJWS

“Geology Underfoot: Coastal Orange County’s Fascinating Geologic Past” presented by John Wilkerson

Did you know that Orange County has its own “devil’s post pile”? Come to our ‘4th Tues.’ program to learn about our local geology.

Did you know that Orange County has its own “devil’s post pile”? Come to our ‘4th Tues.’ program to learn about our local geology.

John Wilkerson will provide a brief introduction and share a map of southern California’s Natural Provences. His talk will focus on the coastal end of the Santa Ana River, Newport Bay, and Balboa Peninsula; OC’s elevated marine terraces and associated volcanic intrusions, the San Joaquin Hills Volcanism, and the caves of the Laguna Beach area. Q&A will follow.

Wilkerson, a past president of Sea and Sage, was a Park Ranger Naturalist at Olympic National Park for 40 summers and taught biology and southern California natural history courses at Laguna Beach High School. He currently volunteers at Crystal Cove State Park and Laguna Coast and Aliso/Wood Canyons County Parks leading geology hikes. His hobbies include surfing, kayaking, hiking and landscape photography.

Doors open at 7:00 PM for snacks and social; program begins at 7:30. Please join us.

Brown Pelican Roost Survey

Sat., Sept. 8th – 4:00 to 6:00 pm

For unknown reasons, the Brown Pelican has shown signs of declining since it was delisted a few years ago. To get a sense of the Brown Pelican population, Audubon California has created a state-wide Brown Pelican Roost Survey to take place on the evening of Sat., Sept. 8th. Scott Thomas is leading a field trip to Heisler Park in Laguna Beach to watch for roosting pelicans on Bird Rock. This outing is for new volunteers who want to learn how do the survey. Surveyors will practice counting the pelicans coming in to roost and identifying whether they are adult or immature. Photo documentation will be made.

If you are interested in participating in the Brown Pelican Roost Survey or the Heisler Park practice outing, please contact Scott Thomas at redtail1@cox.net.

Coastal and Watershed Cleanup

Saturday, Sept. 15th – 8:00 am to 1:00 pm

To participate, see Coastal Commission Website or sign up at: rightscapenow.com/events

O.C. Snowy Plover and Least Tern Survey

September 16-22, 2018

The Western Snowy Plovers are back on our beaches!!

We welcome surveyors who have already attended one of our classroom or field training sessions to participate in the September survey and are able to conduct the survey on an assigned section of beach once during the survey period.

Beach assignments are currently being made, so please CONTACT: Cheryl Egger at ocsnplsurvey@gmail.com with your requests.

TRAINING CLASS: We also welcome new volunteers who attend the training class which is scheduled for Sunday, September 9 from 10:00 to 12:00. Please arrive at 9:30. You must RSVP and be registered to attend the training. Please CONTACT Cheryl Egger at ocsnplsurvey@gmail.com if you would like to attend the training class.

INFO: For more information and a list of beach segments, please see our website at www.seaandsageaudubon.org then go to the OC Snowy Plover Survey page.

Please help us find those roosting plovers!
Over the summer, I made a trip to Sacramento to participate in Audubon California’s Advocacy Day. It was my first time at the annual event and also my first experience with lobbying for environmental legislation.

On the morning of June 20, some 41 Audubon members and 26 Audubon CA staff from across the state met at our orientation venue to hear welcoming remarks by Sarah Rose (Executive Director, Audubon CA) and a talk by Assembly member Ash Kalra, author of AB 2627. As a response to the federal rollback of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, AB 2627, which ensures migratory bird protections here in California, was our legislative priority for the day. Mike Lynes and Juan Altamirano (Public Policy, Audubon CA) then gave us their take on “Lobbying 101” and talking points for individual bills. In addition to migratory bird protections, we also advocated for environmental education in schools, preventing new oil drilling in state waters, and responding to the invasive shot hole borer issue. Our final orientation task was breaking into individual groups to review our scheduled meetings for the day and develop a lobbying strategy. My group, made up of members from San Diego, Sea and Sage, and El Dorado chapters, was scheduled to meet with seven legislators from our districts.

Wearing buttons declaring “Vote for Birds” and “Year of the Bird,” our groups then headed out to the State Capitol to meet with senators and assembly members. Because the legislature was in session, we were advised to be flexible if meeting times and places changed.

Some of our appointments ended up being with legislative aides in hallways, whereas others were in offices with the legislators themselves. Highlights of the day for my group included meetings with Senator Patricia Bates (36th District); Kip Lipper, Chief Policy Advisor on Energy and the Environment for Senate Leader Toni Atkins (39th District); and Assembly member Todd Gloria (78th District). The day ended with all the groups gathering again at a happy hour. This was a more relaxed, informal time to share the experiences we had and get to know other Audubon members and staff.

Advocacy Day was a wonderful opportunity to see firsthand how the legislative process works. Meeting my state representatives and learning how to have conversations with legislators were key takeaways. It was inspiring to join together with like-minded Audubon members to speak up for birds and their habitats.

— Heather Brashear
Conservation Committee
Although publication of the Tattler may have taken a couple month’s break over the summer, it appears that area birders weren’t taking any breaks from local birding. There have been a number of notable findings since early May (when the last Rarities article was written), so we’ll jump right in.

Orange County hosted a few summering waterfowl species that typically have withdrawn well to the north at this time of year. These included a Northern Shoveler at Huntington Central Park (HCP), June 20-July 1; an American Wigeon at Carr Park, June 24, and a Lesser Scapu at Bolsa Chica Ecological Reserve (BCER), May 7 to at least early Aug. A Northern Fulmar photographed offshore, June 15, was unexpected at this time of year in So Cal waters. An adult Little Blue Heron at the Upper Newport Bay Ecological Reserve, May 16-27, was a nice surprise. It is remarkable how fast the status of Yellow-crowned Night-Heron has been changing in So Cal; a major rarity in OC until just a few years ago, individuals (so far just immatures) continue to appear in the county. A second-year bird was at Salt Creek Beach, June 7-23, and a juvenile has been frequenting BCER since July 28. The Tricolored Heron that took up residence at BCER, after reappearing back in Mar., continued to be reported through late July.

Some interesting pelagic rarities were reported offshore, during late spring and summer; these included a Red-billed Tropicbird three miles off Newport Beach, May 31; a Masked Booby off Dana Point, May 13 and 31, and July 1; and single sightings of a Brown Booby offshore on May 18 and July 23. After we learned of the two adult Swainson’s Hawks that took up residence along the border of Seal Beach and Los Alamitos, this has indeed been the surprise of the summer so far (as speculated at the time by the RBA weekly summary posts to OC Birding). The pair was first found on June 13 (Ben Newhouse), and was still being seen into early August. While there hasn’t been any clear evidence of confirmed nesting, the behavior of the pair has at times certainly suggested the possibility. There have been no breeding records of Swainson’s Hawks in Orange County in modern times, with possibly only just one historic breeding record for the county (in the late 1800s).

“Fall migration” for many shorebird species actually begins in mid to late summer across much of North America. Examples of a few notable species that have already been found include up to two adult Solitary Sandpipers at San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary (SJWS), July 24-28, and a very unusual (for the date) adult Pectoral Sandpiper at SJWS, July 19. Although Spotted Sandpipers breed very locally in the county, potential breeding was noted in a few more locations than normal this summer (e.g., Peters Canyon Creek). A Sabine’s Gull seen on the May 19 Sea & Sage pelagic trip was a spring migrant. Small numbers of Common Terns (mostly second year birds) began to appear along the county’s coast in July (especially at BCER). Of note was a Black Tern at BCER, July 27. A Common Murre reported offshore, June 2, was unusual in So Cal waters at this time of year. A Yellow-billed Cuckoo at Yorba Regional Park, July 21-24, was an exciting discovery.

A White-winged Dove reported in Newport Beach, May 22, was a bit out of range. Six Black Swifts migrating offshore, seen during the May 19 pelagic trip, were exceptional.

A Gray Flycatcher was at HCP, May 15. A Yellow-throated Vireo at Mason Regional Park (MRP), June 26-July 8, was either a very rare spring migrant or was possibly summering locally. A female Purple Martin at HCP, May 25, was a rare (and latish) spring migrant. A Tennessee Warbler photographed at a Huntington Beach residence, June 3, and a Hooded Warbler at the Starr Ranch Audubon Sanctuary, June 18, were rare, late spring migrants in the county. A pair of Wilson’s Warblers at the SJWS, June 23-early Aug., in potentially suitable breeding habitat, was significant; although this species historically bred in the lowlands of So Cal, it now does so only very locally and rarely. Examples of rare, late spring migrants in the county included a Green-tailed Towhee at Harriett Wieder Regional Park, May 11; an adult male Rose-breasted Grosbeak in Irvine, May 24-25; a female Rose-breasted Grosbeak in Peters Canyon Regional Park, May 30-June 8; and an Indigo Bunting at MRP, May 10. A male Indigo Bunting at YRP, July 28-29, was apparently summering locally. A White-crowned Sparrow at SJWS, June 3, was exceptionally late. Three Chipping Sparrows in Orchard Hills, June 19, were at a location where they’ve summered in recent years. Above average numbers of spring migrant Yellow-headed Blackbirds included one in San Clemente, May 10; one at BCER, May 11; 17 at the Seal Beach Naval Weapons Station, May 16, with up to 28 here on May 21.
Sea and Sage Audubon Society

Birds of Southern California
An Introductory Birding Skills Workshop
presented by Sylvia Gallagher

Sea & Sage Audubon Society is again offering a ten-week workshop in bird identification for beginning birders. If you have been birding casually for a while, you should also consider enrolling. Professional biologists whose expertise is not in ornithology find this workshop helpful, too. Each session will feature about 15 common birds of a particular local habitat on the coastal side of the mountains. With the use of printed worksheets and slides from the Sea and Sage Library, Sylvia Gallagher will help you to learn to identify those birds. In the process, you’ll also be introduced to a variety of other topics, such as bird families, plumages and molts, bird topography, distribution and habitat preferences, behavior, vocalizations, the birding literature, birding ethics and etiquette, etc.

The topics to be covered in the series are:
- Birds of neighborhoods
- Birds of playing fields and parking lots
- Birds of mudflats and shallow water
- Birds of the ocean shore
- Birds of the open country
- Birds of prey
- Birds of the streamside woodland
- Birds of lakes, ponds and marshes

Each person will attend ten weekly meetings at the Gallagher home in Huntington Beach. You will choose one of these three sections to attend:
- Wed. evenings: 7:00 to 10:00 p.m., (Oct. 3 – Dec. 12, except Nov. 21)
- Thurs. mornings: 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon, (Oct. 4 - Dec. 13, except Nov. 22)
- Thurs. evenings: 7:00 to 10:00 p.m., (Oct. 4 - Dec. 13, except Nov. 22)

Four half-day field trips to Orange County locations will be scheduled and you may choose Saturdays or Mondays: Oct. 20 or 22, Nov. 3 or 5, Nov. 17 or 19, Dec. 8 or 10 — times to be announced. You need not indicate your preferences at this time.

The maximum enrollment for each section is 22. If any section does not have at least 12 people enrolled by Sept. 24, it will be cancelled. Reserve early though, because some sections may fill completely. A donation of $90.00 (or more) per person is requested, if you can afford it. Bring your money to the first session.

The required book for the workshop is the 7th edition (6th OK, but nothing earlier) of the National Geographic Field Guide to the Birds of North America by Dunn and Alderfer. Recommended, but not required, is Birds of Southern California by Garrett, Dunn, & Small. Both books are available at Audubon House, or you can buy them at the first class meeting (discount price for workshop participants, starting Sept. 1). You will also need to bring binoculars to meetings no later than the third session—preferably sooner.

Send your reservation for this workshop, postmarked no earlier than Sept. 5th, (2-day penalty for early reservations), to: Introductory Workshop, c/o Sylvia Gallagher, 21562 Kaneohe Ln, Huntington Beach CA 92646. Placement in sections will be based on postmark date. Enclose a long (4” x 9.5”) self-addressed stamped envelope (SASE). Confirmations will be mailed Sept. 25, including preliminary information and a map to the meeting place. For further information, contact Sylvia at sjrgallagher@yahoo.com or (714) 962-8990.

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<th>Enrollment Form for Introductory Birding Skills Workshop (Fall 2018)</th>
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Monthly Wildlife Walks at the SJWS
SAT: September 1st, 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: September 9th, 8:00 am - 12 noon
Join Jeff Bray for a monthly bird walk around the ponds of the San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary in Irvine at 8:00 am. While many of the ducks and shorebirds have come back from their breeding grounds up north, there are still some of the summer species around, such as the Bell’s Vireo. If you’re lucky, you may even see some of the more uncommon birds for the sanctuary which usually hide when people are around, such as the California Quail, the Greater Roadrunner, or the Virginia Rail. 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: Jeff Bray

Bolsa Chica Ecological Reserve bird walk
TUES: September 18th, 8:00 am - 12 noon
(Please note, this Sept. trip is on a Tuesday NOT the usual Thursday!) Come prepared for a great morning of birding to check out the interesting variety of birds here. 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

UNB by Pontoon Boat Trips ®
WED: September 19th, 8:15 – 11:00 am
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.

The pontoon boat 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.
Leader: Nancy Kenyon
949-786-3160; nancykenyon@cox.net

Upper Newport Bay bird walk
SUN: September 30th, 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

Fall Pelagic Trip ®
SAT: October 6th, 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 on this one. These trips fill quickly so it’s advantageous to sign up for them in advance.
Reservations: Nancy Kenyon

Plan Ahead for the Morro Bay Trip! ®
FRI-SUN: November 2-3-4. (The trip is already half full because it was posted on the webpage months ago.) Trip is led by former Sea & Sage member, Kaaren Perry, who moved up to Morro Bay where she is now active in the Morro Coast Audubon Society. The trip begins on Friday afternoon with a harbor cruise to see the area from the water. On Sat. and Sun., Kaaren will lead the group to a variety of great birding areas both along the shore and inland. See our webpage on the trip for more information and how to make reservations.
Leader: Kaaren Perry

Wandering Tattler
Field Trip Schedule for 2018-2019

CLIP OUT THIS SCHEDULE & SAVE IT. Mark the trips you want to go on. Be sure to check the current Tattler as well as the chapter webpage each month for up-to-date field trip information. This schedule is not complete; more trips will be added during the year and will be posted on our webpage Field Trip Schedule. For additional information, contact Nancy Kenyon, Field Trip Chair, at nancykenyon@cox.net or 949-786-3160. Trips which require advance reservations are marked with this symbol (R).

September 2018
Sat 01 Wildlife Walk at the SJWS
Sun 09 Bird Walk at the SJWS
Tues 18 Bolsa Chica Bird Walk
Wed 19 UNB by Pontoon Boat (R-1)
Sun 30 Bird Walk at UNB

October 2018
Sat 06 Fall Pelagic Trip out of Dana Point (R-2)
Sat 06 Wildlife Walk at the SJWS
Sun 14 Bird Walk at the SJWS
Wed 17 UNB by Pontoon Boat (R-1)
Sun 28 Bird Walk at UNB

November 2018
Fr-Su 2-4 Morro Bay Trip (R-3)
Sat 03 Wildlife Walk at the SJWS
Sun 11 Bird Walk at the SJWS
Wed 21 UNB by Pontoon Boat (R-1)
Sun 25 Bird Walk at UNB
Tues 27 Bolsa Chica Bird Walk

December 2018
Sat 01 Wildlife Walk at the SJWS
Sun 09 Bird Walk at the SJWS
Sun 16 Northeastern (Inland) CBC
Wed 19 UNB by Pontoon Boat (R-1)
Sat 22 San Juan Capistrano CBC
Sun 30 Coastal CBC

January 2019
Sat 05 CBC Specialties Trip
Sat 05 Wildlife Walk at the SJWS
Sat 12 Winter Pelagic Trip out of Dana Point (R-2)
Sun 13 Bird Walk at the SJWS
Wed 16 UNB by Pontoon Boat (R-1)
Thurs 17 Bolsa Chica Bird Walk
Sat 19 Antelope Valley Hawk-banding Trip
Sa-Su 26-27 Salton Sea Weekend Trip (R-7)
Sun 27 Bird Walk at UNB

February 2019
Sat 02 Wildlife Walk at the SJWS
Sat 02 Seal Beach NWR (R-6) - tentative
Sun 10 Bird Walk at the SJWS
Sa-Mo 16-18 Central Valley Bird Refuges (R-8)
Wed 20 UNB by Pontoon Boat (R-1)
Fr-Su 22-24 Intro Hawk ID Workshop & Field Trips (R-4)
Sun 24 Bird Walk at UNB

Some Trips require advance reservations.
(R) This symbol means advance reservations are necessary. If there is no symbol by the trip, reservations are not needed. Any trip listed here may be signed up for in advance.

Directions for making trip reservations are in the tattler, on the webpage, and on this page. If there is a trip fee, make check payable to SEA & SAGE AUDUBON & mail it to: Nancy Kenyon, 32 Almond Tree Ln, Irvine CA 92612. Be sure to indicate the name & date of the trip AND your phone number and email address so that trip info & confirmation can be sent to you. Include a self-addressed, stamped envelope ONLY if you do not have email. Pontoon boat trip fee is paid in cash on day of the trip. ... All trip participants will be required to sign a trip waiver releasing Sea & Sage from liability. A copy of the waiver is on our chapter webpage in the Field Trips section. No refunds for trip cancellations will be given less than 30 days prior to date of trip unless someone is found to fill the vacancy.

March 2019
Fr-Su 1-3 Intermed/Advanced Hawk ID Workshop & Field Trips (R-4)
Sat 02 Wildlife Walk at the SJWS
Fr-Sa 8-9 Owl Prowls at Starr Ranch (R-5)
Sun 10 Bird Walk at the SJWS
Wed 20 UNB by Pontoon Boat (R-1)
Thurs 21 Bolsa Chica Bird Walk
Fr-Sa 22-23 Owl Prowls at Starr Ranch (R-5)
Sat 31 Bird Walk at UNB

April 2019
Sat 06 Wildlife Walk at the SJWS
Sa-Su 13-14 Eastern Sierra Weekend Trip (R-7)
Sun 14 Bird Walk at the SJWS
Wed 17 UNB by Pontoon Boat (R-1)
Sat 27 Big Morongo Preserve & vicinity (R-9)
Sun 28 Bird Walk at UNB

May 2019
Sat 04 Spring Pelagic Trip out of Dana Point (R-2)
Sat 04 Wildlife Walk at the SJWS
Sun 12 Bird Walk at the SJWS
Wed 15 UNB by Pontoon Boat (R-1)
Thurs 16 Bolsa Chica Bird Walk
Sun 26 Bird Walk at UNB

June 2019
Sat 01 Wildlife Walk at the SJWS
Sun 09 Bird Walk at the SJWS
Wed 19 UNB by Pontoon Boat (R-1)
Sa-Su 22-23 Mammoth Lakes Trip (R-8)
Sun 30 Bird Walk at UNB

July 2019
Sat 06 Wildlife Walk at the SJWS
Fri tba UNB by Pontoon Boat (R-1)
Sun 14 Bird Walk at the SJWS
Thurs 18 Bolsa Chica Bird Walk
Sat 20 Bird Walk at UNB

August 2019
Sat 03 Wildlife Walk at the SJWS
Sun 11 Bird Walk at the SJWS
Fri tba UNB by Pontoon Boat (R-1)
Sun 25 Bird Walk at UNB

September 2019
Sat 28 Fall Pelagic Trip out of Dana Point (R-2)

The Following field trips require advance reservations:
R-1 — UNB by pontoon boat $10 in cash on day of trip
R-2 — Pelagic Trips $60
R-3 — Morro Bay Trip $50
R-4 — Hawk ID Workshops – tba
R-5 — Owl Prowls $25
R-6 — Seal Beach NWR – no charge
R-7 — Salton Sea Trip & Eastern Sierra Trip $35
R-8 — Mammoth Lakes & Central Valley NWR $40
R-9 — Big Morongo Preserve & vicinity $10

Check the webpage Field Trip Schedule for the latest trip listings and to find out if a particular trip still has room. Contact FT Chair, Nancy Kenyon, for trip questions or reservations at nancykenyon@cox.net or phone at 949-786-3160. Full info on the local trips that do not need reservations will be listed under “This Month’s Field Trips” on the webpage which usually covers a 3-month period.
Chapter News & Announcements

For more information about Sea & Sage activities, check out our CALENDAR of Chapter Activities on our webpage under the heading of “Main Areas.” The Calendar lists all of our field trips, meetings, special events, birding skills workshops, etc. for the year.

Audubon House Volunteers

We would like to thank the following people for helping to staff Audubon House in June, July, August, and Sept:


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.

It’s More Than Just Pancakes!

On Saturday morning, Oct. 27th, we will be hosting our Annual Pancake Breakfast at the San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary in Irvine. The Breakfast menu will include: pancakes, sausages, fresh fruit, orange juice, hot coffee and milk for the kids and will be served from 7:30 to 10:30 am. This event is more than just a pancake breakfast! Participants will also have the opportunity to browse through the intriguing selection of nature books at our famous Used Book Sale, spend some time in Audubon House checking out new items, wander out to the ponds for some bird watching or go on a guided bird walk, chat with the people from Wild Birds Unlimited about bird feeding techniques, check out the latest birding optics with Optics4Birding staff, visit our chapter exhibits inside the Duck Club and Audubon House, and get your raffle card stamped and turned in so that you can qualify for the chance to win a gift certificate at our bookstore.

Tickets for Pancake Breakfast: $10 for adults (walk-ins pay $15), $6 for children 10 and under, and free for children under 3. Advance reservations are required. Make check payable to: Sea & Sage Audubon and mail it to: Pancake Breakfast, c/o Nancy Kenyon, 32 Almond Tree Ln, Irvine CA 92612. Be sure to include your email address so Nancy can send you a confirmation note.

News from our Bookstore

New Arrivals: Brian Wheeler’s field guide, *Birds of Prey of the West*, depicts range of variation of age, sex, color and plumage along with up-to-date info on natural history and range maps; *Birds New to Science* includes stories of over 250 birds discovered since 1960; Crossley ID Guide: *Waterfowl*, with life-like scenes, shows waterfowl near and far, in various plumages and behaviors. Jane Yolen (author of *You Nest Here With Me*) has another beautifully written book, *On Gulf Beach* about the lives of gulls. 2019 wall, engagement, and page-a-day calendars (birds, nature, CA scenes, etc) are now in stock. And Great Blue Heron 60th anniversary t-shirts (light blue color) and 60th anniversary shorebird totes are still available.

Summer BBQ ~ Were you there?

Delicious food! Wonderful volunteers - we couldn’t have done it without their help! Lots of congenial friends! Great selection of used books for sale! Special bird walks and a night wildlife walk! Perfect weather! Interesting and informative program about Bats. I hope you were there to enjoy the fun! Next year’s BBQ will be on July 27. Be sure to save the date!

Audubon Assembly 2018

Chapter leaders, members, and friends are invited to join Audubon California November 2nd through 4th in Long Beach for the 2018 Audubon Assembly! The theme of the 2018 Assembly is Look Up. The weekend will be an opportunity to look outside our local programs and learn from each other.

The last Audubon Assembly, held in Yosemite in 2016, offered chapter members a chance to connect with other conservationists from all over California. One chapter leader said: “Feeling part of something larger was my first ’ah ha’ moment. I was also humbled by the education, experience, accomplishments and skills of some of the chapter leaders. Many were inspiring to be around.”

This will be an exciting opportunity for you to meet with chapter leaders, members, and partners from all over the state to enjoy birding coastal wetlands and other unique areas, explore conservation opportunities and practices, share stories with leaders from various regions, and establish peer-to-peer collaborations and partnerships. This program will offer multiple interactive presentations and breakout sessions that focus on topics from advocacy, fundraising and communications to SoCal conservation and coalition building.

Please visit the Audubon California website at http://ca.audubon.org/about/chapters/audubon-california-assembly to register, reserve lodging, and see the agenda. If you have any questions, please email the Chapter Network Team at chapternetworkca@audubon.org.
Movie Night at the Marsh!

**SEPTEMBER 1ST, 2018**

Come to the Marsh and enjoy a (free) outdoor movie experience!
Bring your own chair or a blanket.

4:30 – Bring your own picnic dinner
6:00 – Enjoy a short bird walk
7:30 – Showtime!
Cartoons first, then the movie!

**MOVIE REFRESHMENTS:**

Fresh Popcorn!
Cold drinks!
Candy!

**RSVP** is required.

nancykenyon@cox.net

Mosquitoes may be present:
wear clothing that covers your skin or apply mosquito repellent.
Education News
Trude Hurd, Project Director of Education
For more information about the Education, visit our chapter website at http://www.seaandsageaudubon.org/Education/Education.html

Improve our world, one child at a time!

Do you wonder who will protect the environment twenty years from now? Sea and Sage Audubon is helping today’s youth to become tomorrow’s environmental stewards through programs such as Outdoor Adventures, Summer Camp, and teenage Junior Naturalists. We accomplish this with our friendly and dedicated Audubon Naturalists. There are many altruistic and personal reasons for Sea and Sage members to get involved with our education programs. Listen to these two current naturalists:

• Barbara Sentovich, who has volunteered 12 years with Outdoor Adventures, says “I love being outdoors and also teaching, so this is a perfect volunteer program for those reasons and to keep active and continue contributing. The benefits are many: new friends, social activities, personally learning and growing and the deep satisfaction from seeing the delight of children learning about and appreciating the natural world. It feels like being part of an exclusive club with a noble mission.”

• Linda Daily, a 5-year volunteer with Outdoor Adventures, says “I volunteer to help expose students to interactive nature and science. The program allows me to get out into the San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary and see the changes in wildlife that occur throughout the year. Most people in Orange County do not realize the variety of birds that use this area during the different seasons. I enjoy sharing my interests with the public. Volunteering has increased my knowledge of birding and other life at the marsh. Each naturalist has unique talents and provides great support to each other.”

Have you thought about doing something worthwhile with your time? If you like nature and teaching children, then come join us and volunteer with Outdoor Adventures! A new training class begins this September. Linda Daily reminds us that “you do not have to have a teaching, science, or birding background. Thorough training is provided. Every naturalist imparts their own skills and personality into a shared experience with the students. It is different every session (tour), with interesting questions and observations.”

Volunteer Naturalist training for Outdoor Adventures begins in September

For 26 years, Sea and Sage has helped children learn basic scientific principles and personal responsibility for the environment while surrounded by the beauty of the San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary, a freshwater wetland in Irvine. Outdoor Adventures is a two-hour science discovery program that allows school children to use binoculars to observe birds around the ponds; use microscopes to view live pond samples that are an important part of the wetland food chain; and use taxidermy specimens to understand bird adaptations for catching food. Wetlands are important! This fall, we are recruiting and training new volunteers for Outdoor Adventures on Tuesday and Thursday mornings. Training includes three classes led by our Education Staff in addition to practicing with experienced naturalists throughout fall, winter and spring. Once you complete training, you can then help with two tours a month from October through June. The time commitment is not too large while the rewards are many. If you or someone you know is looking for something to do a few mornings a month during the school year that has a lasting impact on our next generation of earth’s stewards, then our Outdoor Adventures naturalist team may be the place for you! Contact Project Director Trude Hurd at seaandsage@sbcglobal.net or phone 949-261-7964.

Donations Needed for School Buses

According to naturalist Barbara Sentovich, Outdoor Adventures helps accomplish our goals by “exposing children in depth to the beautiful and fascinating natural environment from microscopic pond life to the world of birds; and by offering valuable experiences they don't get any other place. Outdoor Adventures is especially important in reaching out, providing bus transportation, to less advantaged schools and students.” If you value outdoor experiences for local underprivileged school children, please consider making a donation for a school bus. We seek donations of any size to pay for 16 bus trips that cost over $4,000 (bus cost varies with distance and time). Send your check and contact information to School Bus Fund, Sea and Sage Audubon, 5 Riparian View, Irvine, CA, 92612. Thank you for your support!
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 TATTLE 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 __________________________ (no box)
Phone ____________________________________________
E-mail ____________________________________________
BOARD MEMBERS

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Vice President .................................. Gail Richards .......... 714-267-2420
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Raptor Research .............................. Scott Thomas .......... 949-293-2915
Science ......................................... Amber Heredia .......... 714-812-2430
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Webpage: http://www.seaandsageaudubon.org

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

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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.wwccoc.org/

Call Songbird Care & Education Center for injured or sick native songbirds. 714-964-0666. www.songbirdcareandeducation.org

SCHEDULE OF CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

September 2018
01 Sat Monthly Wildlife Walk at the SJWS ................. 9:00 am
04 Tues Conservation Committee Meeting ................. 6:45 pm
05 Wed Registration for Birding Skills Workshop opens today
09 Sun Monthly Bird Walk at the SJWS ..................... 8:00 am
11 Tues Board Meeting ................................ 7:00 pm
18 Tues Bolsa Chica bird walk ............................. 8:00 am
19 Wed UNB by pontoon boat ® ............................. 8:15 am
21 Fri GENERAL MEETING ............................... 7:30 pm
25 Tues 4th Tues’ Conservation Lecture ................. 7:30 pm
30 Sun Monthly Bird Walk at UNB ......................... 8:00 am

October 2018
02 Tues Conservation Committee Meeting ................ 6:45 pm
03 Wed Birding Skills Workshop begins tonight ® ..........
06 Sat Fall Pelagic Trip out of Dana Point ® ............... 6:30 am
06 Sat Monthly Wildlife Walk at the SJWS ............... 9:00 am
09 Tues Board Meeting ................................ 7:00 pm
14 Sun Monthly Bird Walk at the SJWS ..................... 8:00 am
17 Wed UNB by pontoon boat ® ............................. 8:15 am
19 Fri GENERAL MEETING ............................... 7:30 pm
23 Tues 4th Tues’ Conservation Lecture ................. 7:30 pm
27 Sat Pancake Breakfast ® ............................... 7:30 am
28 Sun Monthly Bird Walk at UNB ......................... 8:00 am

Learn about birds – sign up for the Intro Birding Skills Workshop!