President’s Message
by Gail Richards, President

Sea and Sage Audubon Society has become very involved in two important issues that are particularly important to Orange County birders:

Tucker Wildlife Sanctuary
Sea and Sage Audubon Society was notified that Cal State Fullerton had suddenly closed the Tucker Wildlife Sanctuary on January 8. We learned that the deed to the property specifies, if CSUF divests itself of maintaining Tucker as a Wildlife Sanctuary, the property reverts back to its former owner, the San Fernando Valley Audubon Society. SFVAS was surprised by this sudden turn of events and invited representatives from Sea and Sage, Friends of Tucker Wildlife Sanctuary and Inside the Outdoors (from Orange County Department of Education) to discuss the matter on January 19. It became clear that this is a complex real estate issue and will not be resolved immediately, but SFVAS is thoroughly researching its legal rights and obligations. At this time, there are more questions than answers, Sea and Sage is working collaboratively with SFVAS and interested parties to find the best match for the new stewardship of this special place.

Bolsa Chica Ecological Reserve
In recent years there have been numerous car break-ins and thefts at the Bolsa Chica Ecological Reserve. Yet there has been no significant progress in preventing these costly and upsetting incidents. Sea and Sage became determined to find solutions to this problem. We have spent the last month collecting data through our online survey. So far, we have 25 reports of theft and vandalism to document the details of these incidences. With data in hand, leaders from Sea and Sage began working collaboratively, through weekly meetings, with California Department of Fish & Wildlife and Bolsa Chica Ecological Reserve Manager, Melissa Loebl. On January 25, we met with Huntington Beach Councilman, Dan Kalmick, who was grateful for our survey data and intent on finding solutions. In February, we will participate in a meeting with the Huntington Beach Interim Chief of Police, Julian Harvey, Councilman Kalmick, Melissa Loebl, along with representatives from Amigos de Bolsa Chica, Bolsa Chica Land Conservancy and the Bolsa Chica Land Trust. Together, we will identify concrete steps to address this problem.

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

Spring Fling - Online Presentation
Friday, March 19, 2021
Via Zoom

Sea and Sage is unable to open the doors for our traditional Annual Dinner this year, but we have a great program planned for you. The evening will include door prizes, presentation of our slate of officers, and very well-deserved Conservation Awards. The highlight of the evening will be our speaker.

“The Language of Birds”
presented by Nathan Pieplow

All around us, the birds are constantly telling us who they are and what they are doing. In this talk for any audience, Nathan Pieplow unlocks the secrets of their language. You’ll listen in on the pillow talk of a pair of Red-winged Blackbirds, and learn the secret signals that Cliff Swallows use when they have found food. You’ll learn how one bird sound can have many meanings, and how one meaning can have many sounds—and how, sometimes, the meaning isn’t in the sounds at all. This talk from the author of the Peterson Field Guide to Bird Sounds is an accessible, entertaining introduction to a fascinating topic.

Nathan Pieplow is the author of the Peterson Field Guide to Bird Sounds, published in two volumes, Eastern (2017) and Western (2019). An avid bird sound recordist and videographer, he is the author of the bird sound blog Earbirding.com, a board member of the Bird Conservancy of the Rockies, an author of the Colorado Biriding Trail, and former editor of the journal Colorado Birds. He teaches writing and rhetoric at the University of Colorado in Boulder.

Meeting room opens at 6:00 PM. Join us for some virtual games prior to the 6:30 PM Spring Fling start. Participate during the virtual games for your chance to win a prize.

Here is the link you will need to join the meeting: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87028335115
See you there (virtually).

(If this link isn’t working for you, try Mtg ID: 870 2833 5115)

Jonathan Aguayo, Programs Chair
Our next ‘4th Tuesday’ Conservation Lecture is planned for Tuesday March 23rd. Please join us!

4th Tues.’ Conservation Lecture
Tuesday, Mar. 23rd – 7:00 pm
by Zoom
Doors will open at 6:30

“California Least Terns and Western Snowy Plovers at Huntington State Beach: Stories of Conservation Success and Partnerships”
presented by Lana Nguyen, Environmental Scientist

In the mid-sixties, the Sea and Sage Board voted to help pay for a fence to protect 5 nesting pairs of California Least Tern (CLTE) at Huntington State Beach at the mouth of the Santa Ana River. That location became the first protected colony in California when the species was later listed "endangered" at the state and federal levels. Since initial protections, we now see a few hundred nesting pairs at this 12-acre natural preserve, making it one of the top five breeding colonies for the species.

The US Fish and Wildlife Service has designated the area as “Critical Habitat” for the Western Snowy Plover (WSPL). After a long hiatus, the WSPL has begun to once again nest on Huntington State Beach. 2020 proved an unusual year in many ways, including a 300% increase in plover nesting at Huntington SB as well as nesting at Bolsa Chica SB after a hiatus of more than 50 years.

Our guest this month, Lana Nguyen, Environmental Scientist for California State Parks, Orange Coast District, will share fascinating information about the life history of both the CLTE and the WSPL, important data gathered at Huntington State Beach, and how the volunteer docent program contributes to nesting success and public outreach. She'll also show photographs by volunteer monitors of mating displays, fish exchanges, baby chicks, and fledgling CLTEs gaining strength to fly south for the winter. Info on how you can volunteer is on Page 4.

Registration opens on March 1st through the homepage on our website - look under What’s New or Conservation for the ‘4th Tues’ Conservation Lecture on March 23.

2021 FERN ZIMMERMAN CONSERVATION AWARD AND LETTERS OF COMMENDATION

Each year since 1967 the Conservation Committee has presented the Conservation Award and Letters of Commendation to individuals or organizations that have made noteworthy contributions to the protection of habitats, natural resources, birds and wildlife in Orange County. At the Zoom “Spring Fling” General Meeting on Friday, March 19, it will be our honor to present:

FERN ZIMMERMAN CONSERVATION AWARD:
✶ Vic Leipzig for his long and wide-ranging role as a leader and influence in the local conservation community, including: president of Amigos de Bolsa Chica; as a Huntington Beach City Councilman working to advance the preservation of Bolsa Chica and Huntington Beach Wetlands; with Friends of Harbors Beaches and Parks; on the Audubon California State Board representing southern California Chapters; and with Sea and Sage as Director and President. Vic is a respected member and valuable leader of the Sea and Sage Conservation Committee, where his vast experience, knowledge and expertise are of great importance.

LETTER OF COMMENDATION:
✶ Peggy Chase: protecting raptors as educator and volunteer coordinator and through work to achieve new location for the Orange County Bird of Prey Center.
✶ Christine Tischer: sustained time, effort, and energy over 20 years to provide a program that has ensured a successful breeding Tree Swallow population in OC.

WHO IS FERN ZIMMERMAN?
Fern Zimmerman, a keen birdwatcher, was an early chapter leader, a true conservationist and grass roots organizer, and a constant source of optimism about our ability to effect change in our environment. She received the SAS Conservation Award in 1973. The award was renamed in her honor after her death in 1996.
Mid-winter can be the doldrums for local birding, when visiting our favorite park for the tenth time begins to lose its pizzazz. Most of the winter rarities have already been found, and early-breeding species like Song Sparrows are only now beginning to sing. Unfortunately, this can also be the time of year when beloved long-time residents decide that they too must respond to the migratory urge.

Doug Willick, co-author of The Birds of Orange County (1996), former bird-records compiler for North American Birds magazine, and the originator of this article in The Tattler back in 1988, will likely have relocated to Texas by the time this has been published. Doug has been the beating heart of Orange County birding for well over forty years, eagerly sharing his immense knowledge with a generosity of spirit and boyish charm that will never be equaled. To bird with Doug is to witness someone absorb not just the subtle details of a bird’s plumage, but the entirety of what it is that makes this other living thing unique and special. For me and a host of others, Doug’s departure marks the end of an era, and Orange County birding will never be the same without him.

On 25 Jan, an adult male Mexican Duck (recently split from Mallard) was found at Carr Park in Huntington Beach. Unlike in Mallard, Mexican Duck is a sexually monochromatic species, with separation of the sexes based primarily on bill color. Pending acceptance by the California Bird Records Committee, this would be the first of this newly-recognized species to be seen in the county. Another interesting duck that was found this month was a female Eurasian Green-winged Teal (aka “Common Teal”) that was located in the Newport Backbay on 2 Jan. Most of the county records of this subspecies (full species in most of the world), including hybrids with ‘American’ Green-winged Teal, have come from the Backbay, with this being the first female to be identified.

Flycatchers have garnered much attention in January, especially after an immature Thick-billed Kingbird, first reported on 6 Jan at Laguna Niguel Regional Park (LNRP), was refound on 28 Jan. This is only the third of this Mexican species to have been discovered in the county, and the first since 1993. The first record came from Tustin in 1982, involving a bird that returned for ten consecutive winters. Other birds of interest detected at LNRP 28-29 Jan include an adult female Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, a Palm Warbler, a Summer Tanager, a Western Flycatcher, and a Gray Flycatcher. Additional new Western Flycatchers were along Aliso Creek in Laguna Woods on 12 Jan, and in Mission Viejo through 26 Jan. New Gray Flycatchers were at Glenview Park in Huntington Beach, 8-12 Jan, and at the UC-Irvine arboretum on 6 Jan. A Hammond’s Flycatcher recorded at Mile Square Regional Park on 9-26 Jan proved from unique details of plumage to be the same bird that had been detected a half-mile away on 19-20 Nov. An immature Tropical Kingbird, present 8 Jan through the end of the month, has been frequenting Harriet Wieder Regional Park (HWRP) in Huntington Beach.

It hasn’t been a bountiful winter for rare warblers in Orange County, but another new Palm Warbler was at Edison Community Park in Huntington Beach on 12 Jan, and an immature male American Redstart was at John Baca Park in Huntington Beach on 10-18 Jan. The only notable county hawks present this winter continue to be Swainson’s and Zone-tailed Hawks, with the former being regularly seen through 24 Jan from Arbor Park in Los Alamitos, and an additional adult seen soaring over Mile Square Regional Park on 25 Jan. A bonus bird at Arbor Park was a Short-eared Owl on 15 Jan. Zone-tailed sightings have been concentrated over foothill areas, such as the one seen at Irvine Regional Park in Orange, 6-16 Jan.

A Sage Thrasher was a pleasant surprise for a lucky birder seeking coffee and donuts when it popped out of the bushes near the Dunkin Donuts drive-through in Tustin on 1-2 Feb. As donut shops are atypical wintering habitat for this species, this bird was likely an early-spring migrant. (Now if it had been a Starbucks, who knows?). A White-winged Dove was at Fairview Regional Park in Costa Mesa on 24 Jan.

While it was an exceptional fall for Clay-colored and Brewer’s Sparrows in the county, it has been a poor winter locally for rare sparrows. The primary exception is the two Bell’s Sparrows detected at HWRP in Huntington Beach on 11 Jan, which were far from appropriate chaparral/sage scrub habitat. The lone photo associated with the record shows a relatively prominent malar stripe on one bird and relatively sparse, thin streaking on the back of the other, largely eliminating the very similar Sagebrush Sparrow. Although considered sedentary, a Bell’s Sparrow appeared at San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary, 28-30 Oct 1993 (Hamilton and Willick 1996), in the aftermath of a fire that burned much of the San Joaquin Hills, and another bird was found in Baja California Sur on 23 Sept 2002 (Iliff 2003).

Lastly, a sub-adult Masked Booby continued to be seen throughout Jan on the jetty at Dana Point harbor. Another sub-adult picked up for rehabilitation at Bolsa Chica State Beach on 28 Jan could have been the bird that was present on the Newport Harbor jetties, 28 Sept-3 Nov. As ocean warming has led to the increasing appearance of formerly rare boobies to Orange County waters, it has also contributed to illness and starvation among many of these visitors. What can appear to be a boon to birders is often a consequence of ecological conditions that are disastrous for birds. Such is birding in our complex world.
OC Western Snowy Plover & California Least Tern Quarterly Survey - MARCH 14-20

If you have already attended a Snowy Plover Survey training session, join us in looking for Snowy Plovers, Least Terns, and their habitats on our local beaches, while helping to contribute to endangered species research.

This is the beginning of the Snowy Plover breeding season and it is important to see how many Snowy Plovers are using our beaches and where they are located. It is also close to the arrival time of the California Least Terns. Each beach segment takes approximately 1-2 hrs. to survey, with one or two surveyors per segment. Walk the beach of your choice and enjoy all the birds while helping threatened Western Snowy Plovers and California Least Terns.

Volunteer surveyors may choose their Orange County beach segment to survey by contacting our Volunteer Coordinator, Cheryl Egger at ocsnplsurvey@gmail.com

See our chapter webpage on the Snowy Plover Surveys. This includes maps of the beach segments & other info. http://www.seaandsageaudubon.org/Conservation/SNPLsurvey/OCSNPLsurvey.html

California Least Tern Watch

Help the endangered California Least Terns by keeping your eyes on their active nesting colony. Volunteers watch for breeding behavior, eggs, chicks, fledglings, and predators, and record observations, as well as watch for Western Snowy Plovers.

Location? The Least Tern Natural Preserve at beautiful Huntington State Beach at the Santa Ana River mouth.

Season Kick-off & Volunteer Training

April 7th, 2021 from 6 pm-8 pm
From your home via Zoom!

New and returning volunteers are encouraged to attend the Season Kick-off & Volunteer Training, featuring a slide show of the Breeding Biology of the Least Tern and Snowy Plover.

Field Orientation (mandatory for new volunteers) will be at the Least Tern Natural Preserve, Huntington State Beach, 8:00-10:00 AM on Saturday, May 8th. There will likely be additional sessions to ensure COVID precautions can be taken. Parking is free for field training. Enter at Magnolia entrance. All new volunteers will become members of the Volunteers in Parks Program for California State Parks, sign up details to follow Season Kick Off meeting. All returning and new volunteers who have completed their paperwork and are actively volunteering will receive a beach parking pass for the State Beaches in the Orange Coast District for 2021! Additional information about the program can be found on our chapter webpage: http://www.seaandsageaudubon.org/Conservation/LeastTerns/LETE.htm or email leastternshb@gmail.com.

Please RSVP by email to leastternshb@gmail.com if you are interested in volunteering.
Spring Fling – Virtual Annual Dinner
Social Get-Togethers with Zoom

Spring Fling Program & Auction
This year, in place of our usual Annual Dinner, we are going to get together (online) for a SPRING FLING! The evening will include:

OPENING – optional social activities begin at 6 PM
WELCOME - by Gail Richards at 6:30 PM
DOOR PRIZES
PRESENTATION of our slate of new officers
ANNOUNCEMENT of our Conservation Award and Letters of Commendation

The HIGHLIGHT of the evening will be our guest speaker, Nathan Pieplow, who will present his program (via Zoom) on “The Language of Birds”. He will tell us about the different ways birds communicate in behavior as well as by the sounds they make. He’s an exceptional speaker and anyone interested in birds will really enjoy his program.

Our Annual Dinners usually have a Raffle or a Silent Auction to add excitement to the event. This year, we will have a virtual Silent Auction but it will be online only because we cannot gather in person to check out auction items. Cheryl Thomas has been planning for this event all year and has gathered together a large collection of interesting items. The auction will open at 8 AM March 20 on the morning after the Spring Fling and will run for 5+ days. It will be posted on our Sea and Sage website; the link will be at the top of the home page. A sampling of items can be seen on pages 6 & 7 in this issue of the Tattler. If you are interested in buying an item, you will need to email Cheryl with the number of the item. You can pay by credit card, check or cash. Selling will be on a first come, first sold basis. Those items that have been sold will be listed on the webpage. If your computer or cell phone is out of order and you want to participate in the auction, contact Nancy Kenyon at 949-786-3160 to obtain a printed copy of the auction items.

Social Get-Togethers for March –
You are invited to join our online social get-togethers to chat with fellow birders about a wide range of topics. We’ve already hosted more than 20 get-togethers via Zoom – thank you to the many individuals who have hosted sessions and supported this project! Don’t miss out on the opportunities listed below to explore interesting subjects and have some fun. More sessions will be added in the coming weeks so check back with the website for new additions. Go to the Sea and Sage website to register for one or more sessions.

Session coordinators are Kim King & Chris Byrd. Questions?
Contact: seaandsagezoom@gmail.com

CURRENTLY AVAILABLE SESSIONS INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING –
See website for more Information & links.

• **Photography Chat!**
  *Hosted by Sandrine Biziaux-Scherson and Bruce Aird*
  Saturday, March 6, 7:00 PM

• **Birding with a Physical Handicap**
  *Hosted by Sharon Rockwell*
  Sunday, March 7, 4:00 PM

• **Most Memorable Birding Experiences**
  *Hosted by Sylvia Gallagher*
  Sunday, March 7, 7:00 PM

• **Does Reducing Trash Save You Money, or Cost You More?**
  *Hosted by Kristina Beck*
  Thursday, March 11, 6:30 PM

• **Sea and Sage Reading Group**
  *Hosted by Kim King*
  Tuesday, March 16, 1:00 PM

• **Birds and Breakfast**
  *Hosted by Devon Bradley*
  Saturday, March 27, 8:00 AM
Our Annual Dinners always have the excitement of a raffle or silent auction as part of our special event. This year, our (virtual) dinner which is called the “Spring Fling” will have an ONLINE Silent Auction which will be posted on our webpage. Buying an item will be done by email to safely accommodate our members since we cannot do any actual person to person gathering on account of the pandemic. There will be 52 different items from which to choose. To give you an idea of the type of items we will have, we have posted 18 items on these two pages. The Silent Auction will be open for sale the day after the Spring Fling (open on March 20) and will run for 5 days. Directions and an email contact will be posted on our webpage. Payment will be by credit card, check, or cash.
### Spring Fling – Silent Auction

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Picnic Shoulder Bag</td>
<td>Mala Wharf, Maui</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blackbird Bird House</td>
<td>Baby Birds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Basket</td>
<td>Whiskey Tasters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bee Basket</td>
<td>Glacier Wine &amp; Carrier</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sustainable Living</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

7
Thank you so much!

Sea and Sage depends on your financial contributions to support our conservation and education programs. Your donations help make us a strong chapter. The following is a list of Annual Direct Mail Appeal Donors whose donations were received prior to January 30, 2021.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Anonymous (43)</th>
<th>Helen Clark</th>
<th>Charles George</th>
<th>Robert House</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bruce Aird</td>
<td>Porter &amp; Dee Clary</td>
<td>Robert Gershman</td>
<td>Melvyn Howard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cynthia Allen</td>
<td>Marie Connors</td>
<td>Ernst Ghermann</td>
<td>Jeffrey Isaacs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nancy Angell</td>
<td>John &amp; Denise Corcoran</td>
<td>Valerie Glass</td>
<td>Debra Iverson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sonia Appell</td>
<td>Robin Corelli</td>
<td>Laura Goldberg</td>
<td>Kay Jaacks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tom &amp; Lynda Armbruster</td>
<td>Daniel &amp; Anahid Crecelius</td>
<td>Todd Gordinier</td>
<td>Frank Jahn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leopold Avallone</td>
<td>Teresa Cullen</td>
<td>Mitsuko &amp; Peter Gordon</td>
<td>Susan Jarratt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Betty &amp; Chuck Avey</td>
<td>Nancy Cummings</td>
<td>Kate Grabenstein</td>
<td>Steve Jelnick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomas &amp; LuAnne Baker</td>
<td>Mary Cupp</td>
<td>Barbara Grear</td>
<td>Linda Joplin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ann &amp; Alan Barbour</td>
<td>Jim Curran</td>
<td>Shirley Gregg</td>
<td>Mary Joseph</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Bartush Family</td>
<td>Judi Curtin</td>
<td>Claire Grozinger</td>
<td>Holly Joslin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hollis Batterman</td>
<td>Joan Curtis</td>
<td>Suzanne Hall</td>
<td>Colin &amp; Jacklyn Joyo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alan &amp; Janet Baumann</td>
<td>Noel Davis</td>
<td>Roberta Hall</td>
<td>Mark Judy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dawn Bean</td>
<td>Kay Davis</td>
<td>William Halladay</td>
<td>Fran Jutzi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>George Beaty</td>
<td>Linda Davis</td>
<td>Paul &amp; Kathryn Hanson</td>
<td>Daniel &amp; Betty Kanne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robert Bein</td>
<td>Maria De La Maza</td>
<td>Barbara Harley</td>
<td>Charitable Fund in memory of Daniel Kanne, by Betty Kanne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leland Bellot</td>
<td>Debra Delazzer</td>
<td>Ann Harmer</td>
<td>Mike &amp; Paula Kazeef</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cedric Berggren</td>
<td>Helen Dinkins</td>
<td>Margaret Hawk</td>
<td>Ann Kenowsky</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hans Ulrich Bernard</td>
<td>Barbara Dixon</td>
<td>Lena Hayashi</td>
<td>Nancy Kenyon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carolyn &amp; Matt Biller</td>
<td>Lynne Domash</td>
<td>Debra Hays</td>
<td>Amin Khalifa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Earl Biven</td>
<td>Chris Donahoe</td>
<td>Van Hazewinkel</td>
<td>The Kinninger Family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steve &amp; Kathy Blackmarr</td>
<td>George Dugard</td>
<td>Jim Heil</td>
<td>Jim &amp; Judy Kissinger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creed &amp; Sheryl Blevins</td>
<td>Katherine Duncan</td>
<td>Nancy Hensel</td>
<td>Paul Klahr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dejoie Blumberg</td>
<td>Deb Edson</td>
<td>Mary Herink</td>
<td>Linda Kleinman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sean Bradley</td>
<td>Leslie El-Sayad</td>
<td>Maureen Herrod</td>
<td>Patti Knight</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Penny Bryson</td>
<td>Mary Lou Engman</td>
<td>Dru Ann &amp; Randy Hickman</td>
<td>Carol Koelle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrea Burrell</td>
<td>Karen Epperley</td>
<td>Phillip Hill</td>
<td>Lane &amp; Linda Koluvek</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stanford Burrows</td>
<td>Jim &amp; Diane Ewing</td>
<td>Terry Hill</td>
<td>Karl Koski</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chris Byrd</td>
<td>Martin &amp; Janis Fee</td>
<td>David Hill</td>
<td>Ron &amp; Elaine Krasnitz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dick &amp; Pat Cabe</td>
<td>The Beverly Findlay - Kaneko Family, in honor of Laurie and John Harris</td>
<td>Francine Hintzman</td>
<td>Kyoko Krep</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Camp Family</td>
<td>Christine Fluor</td>
<td>John Hobbs</td>
<td>Diane La Rocco</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cheri Cancelliere</td>
<td>Ed &amp; Carol Freund</td>
<td>David Hochner</td>
<td>Anna Marie Lea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cynthia Case</td>
<td>Judith Fritts</td>
<td>Robert Hodgins</td>
<td>Chuck &amp; Ce Leavell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carol Chapin</td>
<td>Sylvia Gallagher</td>
<td>Robert Hogan</td>
<td>Vic Leipzig</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matthew Charles</td>
<td>Sharen Gasior</td>
<td>Marcia &amp; Robert Holcomb</td>
<td>Carol Leone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linda Chase</td>
<td>Denny Geiler</td>
<td>Carolyn Honer</td>
<td>Ann Lester</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stafford Chenery</td>
<td></td>
<td>Timothy Hopkins</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Sea and Sage depends on your financial contributions to support our conservation and education programs. Your donations help make us a strong chapter. The following is a list of Annual Direct Mail Appeal Donors whose donations were received prior to January 30, 2021.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Donor Names</th>
<th>Donor Names</th>
<th>Donor Names</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wendy &amp; Stan Levin</td>
<td>Joseph Niehus</td>
<td>Susan Schwartz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Babs Levitan</td>
<td>Carolyn Noble</td>
<td>Jon Sears</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Merri Levy</td>
<td>Brian Nofziger</td>
<td>Magdelene Seiler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amy Lindsay</td>
<td>Chris Obaditch</td>
<td>Mike &amp; Barbara Sentovich</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doug Lithgow</td>
<td>Frederick O'Brien</td>
<td>Christiane Shannon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Martha Loera</td>
<td>Dennis O'Hern</td>
<td>Karen Shaver</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hugh Logan</td>
<td>Jane Olin</td>
<td>Susan &amp; Hal Sheakley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judith Lomax</td>
<td>Ron Oliver</td>
<td>Richard Shearer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Megan Lulow</td>
<td>Keith Olwin</td>
<td>Barbara Sheldon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eva Lydick</td>
<td>Celine Osborn</td>
<td>Stephen Shin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dennis Macarthur</td>
<td>Jody Pallo</td>
<td>Frank Simon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Janet Mace</td>
<td>Carol Paquette</td>
<td>Mark Singer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tracy Maguire</td>
<td>David Peck</td>
<td>Steve &amp; Terri Skwarlo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stephanie Makarewicz</td>
<td>Yvette Pergola</td>
<td>Ken &amp; Deanna Slagle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ellen Mansour</td>
<td>Jeff Petitt</td>
<td>Phil Smith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary Martineau</td>
<td>Greg &amp; Kristine Pierson</td>
<td>Sandra Smith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samantha Masaki</td>
<td>Alexandra &amp; John Pitkin</td>
<td>Thomas Snow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joan McCauley</td>
<td>Thomas Pizzo</td>
<td>Mary Sonksen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elizabeth McClellan</td>
<td>Robert Polkinghorn</td>
<td>Kurt Speidel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sally Menzel</td>
<td>Judith Posnikoff</td>
<td>Carole Spinak</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jennifer Meyer</td>
<td>M. Rajudin</td>
<td>Bev Spring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marilyn Meyer</td>
<td>Steve &amp; Shan Ray</td>
<td>Polly Stanbridge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jay &amp; Marquita Miller</td>
<td>Claire Readey</td>
<td>Ed &amp; Joan Steiner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charles &amp; Kathryn Mitchell</td>
<td>Marna Reames</td>
<td>Bill &amp; Meredith Stern</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thelma Miyashiro</td>
<td>Les Redpath</td>
<td>Roswitha Stevens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don &amp; Toni Moccia</td>
<td>Barbara Reed</td>
<td>Charles Stevenson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virginia Moore</td>
<td>Margaret Renton</td>
<td>Jeffrey Stier</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Moreno</td>
<td>Sharon Ricciuti</td>
<td>Luanne Stoddard-Cook</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eunice Morita</td>
<td>Gail Richards</td>
<td>Diane Stovall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ken Muir</td>
<td>Carol Rogers</td>
<td>Gerry Strickland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dennis Mull</td>
<td>Jeffrey Rokos</td>
<td>Daryl Struss</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mark Muller</td>
<td>Ann Ryan</td>
<td>Margo Stuart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rosalind Munro</td>
<td>Nancy Ryder</td>
<td>Kathy Stuart</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marie &amp; Ronald Murphy</td>
<td>Waldemar Sadowinski</td>
<td>Michelle Suggs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evonne Muse</td>
<td>Kristy Santimyer Melita</td>
<td>Vikki Swanson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dagmar Muse</td>
<td>Frances Sassin</td>
<td>Maury Swoveland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan Nemmert</td>
<td>Karl &amp; Gloria Schlaepfer</td>
<td>Allene Symons</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Dagny Tennyson
Linda Thomas
Steve & Bonnie Toth
Nancy Tracy
Nancy Tschiderer & Mark Adamson
Elaine Tucker
Lydia Tyler
Thomas & Edith Van Huss
Ralph & Beryl Vogel
Pat Vranicar
Marika Walter
Michael Walton
Laura & James Wantz
Beth Waterman
Joel & Gloria Weintraub
Ann Sakai & Stephen Weller
Neil West
Suzanne White
Michael Wiechman
Elizabeth Williams
Susan Williams
Darrell Wilson
Jeanmarie Wong
Carolyn Wright
Mary Ellen Wynn
Theresa Yates
Katharine Young
Mary Frances Ypma-Wong
Greg Ysais
Kristen Zapanta
Spring at the Marsh
Trude Hurd, Project Director of Education

Ah, spring, the season of increased GROWTH at the San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary. But as you look out your window in March, you may see clouds and rain. So how can it be spring? Spring comes early with Southern California plants because rain as early as November prompts leaf growth in winter and then flowers in spring.

This pattern is reversed in the marsh’s willows, cottonwoods and sycamores. These deciduous trees drop their leaves in fall, grow flowers in winter, and grow new leaves in spring. Because the trees are wind-pollinated, flowers grow first so pollen can transfer between trees without leaves interfering. What a creative adaptation!

In March, April and May, notice Bush Sunflower as it brightens the ponds and trails with its pretty yellow flowers. Popular with visitors, Matilija Poppy has big white crinkly petals and yellow centers. This is California’s largest native flower, and you can see it at the intersection of Ponds B, D, and E. Unlike deciduous trees, the sunflower and poppy are insect-pollinated, so use caution and look for bees first before smelling flowers!

Be prepared to say good-bye to the wintering ducks, white pelicans, and songbirds like Yellow-rumped Warbler and White-crowned Sparrow. Beginning this month, they head north along the Pacific Flyway to their breeding grounds. We’ll miss them! In compensation, keep your eyes open for the first arrivals of swallows, terns, and skimmers which come to the marsh to feed and nest for the summer.

Some Tree Swallows are present in winter, but the majority return in March with the other swallow species. They are cavity-nesters, and

Sea and Sage has worked with the Irvine Ranch Water District to install and monitor 100 artificial wooden nest boxes around the marsh. Demand for these nesting boxes is high, so you can see lots of squabbling between Tree Swallows who each think a box is theirs! Get your cameras ready but maintain your respectful distance so you do not disturb their normal activities.

Speaking of nesting, the marsh can be a “noisy” place starting in March as songbirds begin to enthusiastically sing to defend territories and attract mates. This is the best time to see the elusive Spotted Towhee and Common Yellowthroat, so be ready with your camera.

The resident Osprey pair begin reinforcing their stick nest atop a tall nest platform at Pond 4. Both birds build the nest with the female doing most of the egg incubation. If you see a little white head sticking up this month, though, it’s too early for a chick. What you are seeing is just the female laying low in the deep nest with only her white head visible. She’ll incubate for a little over a month, and the chicks won’t be visible until early May when they’re old enough to stand up above the deep nest. Then wing flapping begins!

Every few years, painted lady butterflies disperse in huge numbers through Southern California as they move from Mexico’s northern deserts. The butterflies need fuel for their journey, so they’ll stop at the marsh and other areas (maybe even your yard!) to sip nectar from native plants. Will this be one of those spectacular years?

The Audubon naturalists and I invite you to safely explore the San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary to discover its interesting plants and animals.
Chapter News, Directions, 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.

### Directions

to the San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary
(5 Riparian View, Irvine)

**Our entrance is 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**

AH is closed at the present time because of Covid-19. However the restrooms, trails, and parking lots are open.

### Bloom-Hays Ecological Research Grants – now available for 2021

Pete Bloom and Loren Hays are both well known within the chapter for their passion to protect birds and open spaces. The Weir Canyon Fund (championed by Pete Bloom in the 1980s) and the Loren Hays Memorial Fund have been combined to create a funding for ecological research projects. 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. The total funding for grant awards was recently increased to $10,000. Graduate students, undergraduates, and high school students are invited to apply for research grants varying from $250 to $2,500. The 2021 Bloom Hays Grant application and instructions are posted on the Sea and Sage website under the heading of Conservation. Application packages must be received by email no later than April 9, 2021.

— Amber Heredia

### 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](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](http://tinyurl.com/zjbs5tt)

Name ________________________________

Address ________________________________________________________________

City, State, Zip ________________________________

Phone ________________________________

E-mail ________________________________

C15

11
BOARD MEMBERS

Executive Committee:
President ........................................ Gail Richards ..................... 714-267-2420
Vice President ................................. Jonathan Aguayo ............. 805-204-6986
Secretary ................................. Ann Harmer ...................... 949-631-3322
Treasurer ................................... Tom Van Huss .................... 714-417-9940
Director 2021 ............................... Bruce Aird .................... 949-458-1520
Director 2021 ....................... Vic Leipzig .......................... 714-848-5394
Director 2022 ....................... Samuel Bressler ...................... 657-378-5367
Director 2022 ....................... Star Howard ....................... 949-770-3177
Director 2023 ....................... Martin Fee ......................... 714-508-0630
Director 2023 ....................... Devon Bradley ..................... 949-287-1715
Past President ........................... Doug Lithgow .................. 714-962-4145

Committee Chairpersons:
Archives & Records ......................... Chris Byrd ......................... 714-639-0967
Audubon House ............................... Susan Sheakley .............. 949-552-5974
Audubon House Volunteers .................
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 ..................... Jonathan Aguayo ....................... 805-204-6986
Publicity ........................................
Raptor Research ................... Scott Thomas ....................... 949-293-2915
Science ......................... Amber Heredia ....................... 714-812-2430
SJWS Liaison ...................... Chris Obaditch ....................... 949-640-7234
Social Media .................. Sandrine Biziaux-Scherson ........... 949-413-0297
Starr Ranch/Envir. Liaison, Pete DeSimone .. 949-858-0309
Webmaster ............................... Nancy Kenyon .................. 949-786-3160
Webpage: http://www.seaandsageaudubon.org

JOIN US ON MARCH 19
(via Zoom)
for Nathan Pieplow’s program on
“The Language of Birds”
Meeting room opens at 6 PM
for Social Activities; program starts at 6:30.
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87028335115

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/

SCHEDULE of CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

March 2021:
* - See page 5 for information on Social Get-Togethers
02 Tues Conservation Committee Mtg. via Zoom ........6:45 pm
06 Sat * Photography Chat! .............................................. 7:00 pm
07 Sun * Birding with a Physical Handicap .............. 4:00 pm
07 Sun * Most Memorable Birding Experiences ........ 7:00 pm
09 Tues Board Meeting via Zoom ....................... 7:00 pm
11 Thurs * Does Reducing Trash Save You Money? ... 6:30 pm
16 Tues * Sea and Sage Reading Group ................... 1:00 pm
19 Fri SPRING FLING Program via Zoom ............. 6:00 pm
20 Sat Spring Fling Silent Auction ......................... 8:00 am
23 Tues 4th Tues Conservation Lecture via Zoom ...... 7:00 pm
27 Sat * Birds and Breakfast ......................... 8:00 am

April 2021:
06 Tues Conservation Committee Mtg. via Zoom ...... 6:45 pm
07 Wed Least Tern Kick-off Meeting ..................... 6:00 pm
13 Tues Board Meeting via Zoom ....................... 7:00 pm
16 Fri GENERAL MEETING via Zoom ...................... 6:30 pm
27 Tues 4th Tues Conservation Lecture via Zoom ...... 7:00 pm

May 2021:
04 Tues Conservation Committee Mtg. via Zoom ...... 6:45 pm
08 Sat Least Tern Volunteer Training .................... 8:00 am
11 Tues Board Meeting via Zoom ....................... 7:00 pm
21 Fri GENERAL MEETING via Zoom ...................... 6:30 pm
25 Tues 4th Tues Conservation Lecture via Zoom ...... 7:00 pm

AUDUBON HOUSE ............................................. 949-261-7963
Marsh Education Project Director ........ Trude Hurd ........ 949-261-7964
Education Assistant .................. Deborah Brin ........ 949-261-7964
Sales Manager (mail orders) ....... Jan Hoidge ................ store.manager@seaandsageaudubon.org
Administrative Aide ................ Rebecca Craft ........ 949-261-7963