



Drawing by
Guy Coleleach

THE WRENTIT

Founded 1904

Pasadena Audubon Society
A Chapter of National Audubon Society

Volume 60 — No. 5

To bring the excitement of birds to our community through birding, education and the conservation of bird habitats. November-January 2012-13



Looks even better in color! Check out www.pasadenaaudubon.org

Winter Gem

During fall migration, you may have started to notice more flocks of birds flying around. Many small, insect-eating birds called warblers stay here for the colder months, especially the vastly abundant Yellow-rumped Warblers. However, within an apparently homogenous flock, you may find more diversity than you expect, such as the occasional Townsend's Warbler, a resident of the western U.S.

This species winters mostly in California and parts of Mexico. According to eBird reports, it reaches our local area by September, staying in the Los Angeles Basin until May, when it migrates north to breeding grounds in the Pacific Northwest. This bird has a bright yellow face and breast that contrast with a dark crown and mask. Males especially show this distinct facial pattern, like this one, photographed by Dinuk Magamma. Although not extremely common, Townsend's Warblers are fairly easy to find in areas with a lot of trees, where they look for insects to eat. Personally speaking, Legg Lake in El Monte and Hahamongna Watershed Park in the Arroyo have been reliable spots to see them. However, any public park would probably have good habitat for these birds.

I always get a thrill from seeing a Townsend's Warbler because it is so striking and colorful. Though it likes to move around quickly, even a glimpse of this little bird is a treat. The next time you go to your local park, walk by any nearby group of trees. Maybe you will spot this seasonal gem!

John Rodgers

President's Perch

Our Chapter has always followed our mission statement "to promote *birding*, provide *education* and promote *conservation* of bird habitats". Education is the category the IRS puts us in to qualify as a "tax-deductible non-profit", so it must be our most important goal (after birding!). Our Monthly meetings and Birding 101 classes already qualify us as an educational organization, but I am happy to report that we have reinstated our Audubon Adventures Program in the Pasadena-area grade schools (grades 3 though 6).

This is a voluntary program that two teachers have accepted, so far this year. Audubon Adventures is a nation-wide program that includes a special Newspaper and Magazine filled with stories about nature and environment, plus teacher's guides and assessment material. There is no cost to the school and we have all material sent directly to the school. Audubon Adventures is produced by National Audubon, is being used in elementary schools across the nation, and is available in English or Spanish. We hope to have Audubon Adventures in at least ten classes by next year and a big crop of young birders as a result.

Good Birding!

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November Program

Taking Note of Our Birds

Wednesday, November 21, 2012

7:30 pm—9:00 pm

Kimball Garrett

Our birding does wonders for us personally, but a birder's true legacy lies in his or her contributions to our knowledge of bird biology and conservation. This talk explores ways we can all contribute, from detailed note-taking to surveys, censuses, and participation in citizen science initiatives. We'll cover submission of sightings to local databases, North American Birds, and eBird, and also discuss various approaches to note-taking and record-keeping.

Kimball Garrett is the Ornithology Collections Manager at the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County and co-author of several books about birds. He has been the co-editor for the Southern California Region for North American Birds since 2000 and is an eBird reviewer for Los Angeles County.

January Program

Least Terns Winter Where?

Wednesday, January 16, 2013

7:30 pm—9:00 pm

Tom Ryan

Since the Least Tern was first declared an endangered species, a top research priority has been discovering the location of their wintering grounds. Do they winter at sea? In South America? Southern Mexico? Since the 1980's biologists have tried to find out. In 2012 researchers placed geolocators on 42 California Least Terns. The talk will discuss the biology of the Least Tern, geocator technology, other geocator studies, and the process of capturing and tagging the terns here in Southern California.

Tom Ryan is President of Ryan Ecological Consulting and Southern California Center for Avian Studies, and is a Senior Biologist /Ornithologist for SWCA Environmental Consultants. A grant from Pasadena Audubon partially funded his Least Tern research.

February Program

The Feathery Tribe

Wednesday, February 20, 2013

7:30 pm—9:00 pm

If you consider yourself an amateur birdwatcher, you owe a debt to one of the first professional birders, Robert Ridgway (1850-1929), the Smithsonian's first curator of birds. "Ridgway was at the center of a rich circle of naturalists and scientists," says **Daniel Lewis**, The Huntington Library's Dibner Senior Curator of the History of Science, Medicine, and Technology. "But Ridgway's lively correspondences with his counterparts at the Museum of Contemporary Zoology at Harvard and the American Museum of Natural History are now either relegated to brief footnotes or not known at all."

Lewis hopes his new book, *The Feathery Tribe: Robert Ridgway and the Modern Study of Birds*, will help restore the once-famed Ridgway to his rightful place among the great American naturalists of the 19th and 20th centuries.

General meetings are held at Eaton Canyon Nature Center (address on back cover). Socializing begins at 7:00 pm and programs are presented from 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm.

The Best Response is a Swift Response

This is a story about how birds—and people—are wonderful.

Many of you are aware of the chimney in downtown Los Angeles that is used by Vaux's Swifts during their fall and

spring migration. Many folks have gathered on the roof of Joe's Auto Park on South Broadway just before sunset to watch the many thousands of swifts whirl through the air and magically descend into the impossibly narrow chimney, all while doing their best to avoid the ravens and other raptors who try to pick them off. Truly this is one of the most spectacular sights in Los Angeles, birding or otherwise.

So you can imagine the immediate distress that we felt when we learned that, on October 11th, the chimney was capped. The swifts had lost their roost! Oh no! Where will the birds go? How will they survive this cold rainy night without body heat from each other? Trust me when I say that tears were shed and sleep was lost—by many of us.

But swift action (pun intended) saved the day. The

property owner was immediately contacted, and he had no idea that his chimney had been capped. In fact, when Audubon California had contacted him last spring, he said he had no plans to close off the chimney. It had been done without his approval or even knowledge. So, the cap was removed. And just in case he had intended to close the chimney, California Department of Fish & Game had already been contacted as well. Happily, their services were not needed this time.

But were the birds all right? Had they survived their cold night away from their roost? I am happy to report that Jeff Chapman, the Director of the Audubon Center at Debs Park, and a huge Vaux's Swift fan, witnessed that on the night when their chimney was capped, these resourceful little birds had simply moved to the chimney next door. And once their regular chimney was opened up again, half roosted in that one while half roosted in the new chimney! Will we have a new roosting spot for these remarkable birds?

So the moral of the story is: Act swiftly! This means we need to move quickly and be resourceful, just like our wonderful little friends.



Laura Garrett

Trip Reports & Sightings

Santa Barbara Warblerama 9/29/2012

Why did it take us over an hour to get out of the parking lot at Lake Los Carneros in Santa Barbara County? It may have been because Janet found a Tennessee Warbler 3 feet above our car, foraging near a few Orange-crowns for comparison. Or maybe it was because Grace then found a Blackpoll Warbler in the same tree. Or perhaps it was because some people saw bright yellow feet on the Blackpoll, and some saw dark feet/legs and buffy near the vent. And some saw both. Photos confirm that there were actually two "Baypolls" there: a clear Blackpoll, plus another bird that I'm still calling Blackpoll/Bay-breasted.

And that was just the beginning of the Santa Barbara County trip. Fall migration was in full swing, and this year the coast was the place to be, both for the expected migrants and for the lost birds that really should have been elsewhere. After Los Carneros, we headed to the Coronado Sreet drip in Goleta. After finding a male Northern Parula high in nearby Eucalyptus, nine Western Tanagers together in the same tree, and a flyover Peregrine Falcon, we rested our neck muscles by watching a host of warblers fly down to the water to drink and bathe at close range below us: Hermit, Townsend's, Black-throated Gray, Orange-crowned, Yellow, Wilson's, Yellow-rumped, Common Yellowthroat. At one point six Orange-crowns were bathing within a few inches of each other.

Our lunch spot was Refugio State Beach, which had lower numbers of warblers, but instead there were flycatchers. We were surprised to find a Tropical Kingbird perched above the creek, and we had close looks at a migrant Olive-sided Flycatcher.

We also birded Los Alamos County Park, a reliable spot for Yellow-billed Magpies, one of only two bird species found nowhere in the world except California. The Magpies did not disappoint, but the local picnickers there were incredulous: "You came here just to look at Magpies? Why? They're everywhere!"

We ended the trip in Carpinteria, at a small pond that contained a previously-reported White Ibis, the 5th record of that species in California. As we watched the Ibis feeding and the White-tailed Kite hovering overhead, a Cassin's and a Western Kingbird perched on the same wire, offering a fine comparison, and a comparison with the Tropical Kingbird seen earlier. Not too shabby for a day up in Santa Barbara County.

Mark and Janet Scheel



Tropical Kingbird. Photo by Mark Scheel

Conservation

Because Migrating Birds Have Enough to Worry About

If you have ever heard a loud thump, run to your window to see what it was, and been dismayed to see an injured bird lying near a window, then this article is for you. First, I commend to you an organization called Fatal Light Awareness Program, or FLAP. This group's mission is to end deaths to birds caused when they collide into buildings, mostly windows. Based on their research, as many as 100 million to one billion birds each year are killed in North America in collisions with buildings. Located in Toronto, FLAP works to change public policy and to educate the public about how to keep birds from colliding into our windows.

I recommend a visit to their website, www.flap.org, which offers many techniques and strategies for making windows bird-safe. They also dispel some myths: owl and hawk silhouettes don't work; single window decals don't work; noise doesn't deter birds; plastic owls are just silly; magnetic fields don't work either. They do recommend several strategies and even some products. The best seems to be Acopian Bird Savers. These look like simple strings, they do not block one's view, and seem to prevent birds from crashing into windows. To learn more, visit www.birdsavers.com. Other strategies from FLAP include using many decals to cover most of the window, covering the outside of the windows with film, netting, or whitewash, or keeping blinds or curtains closed.

Birds are threatened by loss of habitat, pesticides, and climate change. Let's do what we can to make their lives a little less treacherous.

Laura Garrett

Hahamongna Sediment Update

Wow, do I need a sexier title for this article!

The LA County Department of Public Works has begun its winter work in Hahamongna Watershed Park, right near Devil's Gate Dam. The goal is to remove 5,000 cubic yards of sediment from right behind the dam; this sediment will be placed temporarily in Johnson Field (the illegal baseball field on the east side of Hahamongna). The work should be done by the end of November, but remember that it is but a warm-up to the huge project to remove all the sediment from behind the dam—up to four million cubic yards. The EIR is in process for this massive project which is scheduled to begin in the summer of 2014.

Meanwhile, for this interim measure, expect to see bulldozers down near the dam. A biologist is supposed to be present during this work to ensure that no wildlife is harmed; if you see otherwise, please let me know as soon as possible. And if you think of a sexier way to discuss sediment, please let me know that too!

Laura Garrett

Legg Lake & San Gabriel River**Field Trips****Saturday, November 3, 2012****Saturday, February 2, 2013****7:30 am — 11:30 am**

These trips will cover some consistently good lake and park birding areas. Legg Lake has lots of water and scattered trees and has produced good waterfowl numbers and varieties as well as an impressive list of migrants and wintering birds. Time permitting we'll include the Pico Rivera spreading grounds or some other river locations, based on what's around. An excellent trip for beginning and young birders.

Meet in the Santa Anita Ave. parking lot, closest to the 60 freeway. Take the Santa Anita exit and turn south from the off-ramp (going south). The lake and parking lot will be on your right.

*Ed Stonick***Big Santa Anita Canyon****Saturday, November 17, 2012****7:00 am — noon**

Join us for a fall hike into Big Santa Anita Canyon as we search for American Dipper, Pacific Wren, Canyon Wren, Rufous-crowned Sparrow, and other lower montane species. Pacific Wren was present here in November of 2010 and 2011, hinting that it may be a regular fall/winter visitor.

We're planning to hike past Sturtevant Falls as far as the Cascade Picnic area for a total of about six miles. Parking at Chantry Flats is often tight on weekends, so please carpool.

Bring sturdy shoes, plenty of water, sunscreen, some food, warm clothing, and an Adventure Pass for your car. Heavy rain cancels but drizzle does not. Expect to see some lovely fall colors and gorgeous scenery.

*Lance Benner***Field trips continue on page 6!****Eaton Canyon Monthly Walk****Sunday, November 18, 2012****Sunday, December 16, 2012****Sunday, January 20, 2013****8:00 am — 11:00 am**

Pasadena Audubon and Eaton Canyon Nature Center are cosponsoring monthly walks at Eaton Canyon. The walks are led by Hill Penfold, who has been leading them at ECNC for many years. Hill is wonderful with birders of all levels and Eaton Canyon is one of the best locations to learn the birds of the Pasadena area.

The walks are held on the third Sunday of each month. Meet at the flagpole: bring water, binoculars, hats, but no dogs.

*Hill Penfold***Hahamongna Monthly Walk****Saturday, December 1, 2012****Saturday, January 5, 2013****7:30 am — 11:30 am***(no walk in November - Legg Lake instead)*

This monthly bird walk is for birders of all ages and experience. A good variety of birds should be in residence. Bring binoculars, birding guide, water and wear walking shoes. No dogs.

Exit the north 210 at Berkshire and make a right, then a left at Oak Grove. The Hahamongna Watershed Park entrance is on the right at the next stop light. Take the first left after entering Hahagmongna, and park by the ballfield.

*Leaders vary, see calendar***North Slope, San Gabriels****Saturday, November 10, 2012****7:30 am — early afternoon**

We will explore areas on the northern slope of the San Gabriel Mountains, such as Grassy Hollow Visitor's Center, Jackson Lake, and locations in Valyermo. We will search for high-altitude species as well as wintering raptors. Ferruginous Hawk, Prairie Falcon, and Golden Eagle are possible, as are Red-breasted and Red-naped Sapsuckers. Unusual species (e.g. Lewis's Woodpecker, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Swamp Sparrow) have been found in some years. Time permitting, we may look for Mountain Plovers or longspurs in the nearby Antelope Valley.

It may be cold, especially at higher elevations, so bring warm clothes. Also, bring lunch. We will meet in the eastern lot of the Park & Ride on Ave S. in Palmdale, just east of the 14 freeway.

*Mark and Janet Scheel***Newport Back Bay by Kayak****Saturday, December 8, 2012****9:00 am — noon**

This is a beautiful, relaxing outing on the water cleverly disguised as a birding trip. We see dozens of species and often get much closer looks than land-bound birders do. Wintering ducks, sandpipers, Black Skimmers, and many other species are well represented. This trip is timed to take advantage of mild currents, ending at low tide, when shorebirds take to the mud flats in large numbers.

Both single and double kayaks are available for rent at our launch point, Newport Beach Aquatic Center. I will also have a couple of loaner kayaks available. Trip size is limited, so please contact me for reservations and more info.

*Mark Hunter***Huntington Library Monthly Walk****Sunday, November 25, 2012****Sunday, December 23, 2012****Sunday, January 27, 2013****8:00 am — 11:00 am**

A special benefit for Pasadena Audubon Society members is the chance to bird the Huntington Library grounds. Attendance is by reservation only and limited to 15 participants. Members may bring one non-member guest, space permitting. We thank our member and Huntington curator, Dan Lewis, for making these trips possible.

Contact Elaine by email (preferred), putting "Huntington" in the subject line to avoid inadvertent deletion, or by phone.

Elaine MacPherson

Calendar

Submit material for the next Wrentit by January 1



= Wrentit Club!

November 2012

| Date | Day | Time | Event | Location | Leader |
|------|-----|---------|---|------------------------------|------------------------|
| 3 | Sat | 7:30 am | Field Trip | Legg Lake | Ed Stonick |
| 7 | Wed | 7:00 pm | Board Meeting | Eaton Canyon Nature Center | Will Fulmer |
| 10 | Sat | 7:30 am | Field Trip | North Slope | Mark & Janet Scheel |
| 17 | Sat | 7:00 am | Field Trip | Big Santa Anita Canyon | Lance Benner |
| 18 | Sun | 8:00 am | Field Trip | Eaton Canyon Nature Center | Hill Penfold |
| 20 | Tue | 9:00 am | Magpie Study Group | Santa Fe Dam | Julia Ray & Sid Heyman |
| 21 | Wed | 7:00 pm | General Meeting | Eaton Canyon Nature Center | Taking Note of Birds |
| 25 | Sun | 8:00 am | Field Trip <i>(PAS members only)</i> | Huntington Library & Gardens | Elaine MacPherson |

December 2012

| | | | | | |
|----|-----|---------|---|------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1 | Sat | 7:30 am | Field Trip | Hahamongna | Mark Hunter |
| 8 | Sat | 9:00 am | Field Trip | Newport Back Bay | Mark Hunter |
| 11 | Tue | 9:00 am | Magpie Study Group | L.A. County Arboretum | Julia Ray & Sid Heyman |
| 12 | Wed | 7:30 pm | CBC Planning Meeting | Eaton Canyon Nature Center | Jon Fisher |
| 15 | Sat | All day | Field Trip | Christmas Bird Count | Jon Fisher |
| 15 | Sat | 6:00 pm | Dinner! | Annual CBC Dinner | see page 6 |
| 16 | Sun | 8:00 am | Field Trip | Eaton Canyon Nature Center | Hill Penfold |
| 23 | Sun | 8:00 am | Field Trip <i>(PAS members only)</i> | Huntington Library & Gardens | Elaine MacPherson |

January 2013

| | | | | | |
|-------|-----|---------|---|------------------------------|------------------------|
| 2 | Wed | 7:00 pm | Board Meeting | Eaton Canyon Nature Center | Will Fulmer |
| 5 | Sat | 7:30 am | Field Trip | Hahamongna | Ron Cyger |
| 15 | Tue | 9:00 am | Magpie Study Group | Peck Road Water Park | Julia Ray & Sid Heyman |
| 16 | Wed | 7:00 pm | General Meeting | Eaton Canyon Nature Center | Wintering Least Terns |
| 19 | Sat | 7:30 am | Field Trip | Bonelli Park | Gillilands & Dowell |
| 20 | Sun | 8:00 am | Field Trip | Eaton Canyon Nature Center | Hill Penfold |
| 26-27 | S-S | Weekend | Field Trip | Salton Sea | Ron Cyger |
| 27 | Sun | 8:00 am | Field Trip <i>(PAS members only)</i> | Huntington Library & Gardens | Elaine MacPherson |

* Trip Leader Information

| | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Mark Scheel (chair) | (626) 765-5408 | scheel@tapir.caltech.edu |
| Larry Allen | (323) 288-2701 | larryallen@earlymusicla.org |
| Lance Benner | (626) 791-1187 | lbenner@charter.net |
| Ron Cyger | (626) 449-3625 (before 9:00 pm) | ron@cyger.org (preferred) |
| Darren Dowell | (626) 344-4003 | dowell.darren@yahoo.com |
| Kathi Ellsworth | (626) 564-0652 | pandionsky@yahoo.com |
| Jon Feenstra | (626) 319-4723 | feenstra@alumni.caltech.edu |
| Jon Fisher | (818) 800-2776 | jonf60@hotmail.com |
| Nick & Mary Freeman | (818) 247-6172 | mnfreeman@earthlink.net |
| Frank & Susan Gilliland | (626) 441-8487 | gillilandsusan@gmail.com |
| Sid Heyman | (626) 571-5991 | sidheyman@sbcglobal.net |
| Mark Hunter | (818) 369-6627 | fishingyak@yahoo.com |
| Mickey Long | (626) 285-8878 | mlongbird@charter.net |
| Elaine MacPherson | (626) 355-9412 | birdergrrl@aol.com |
| Hill Penfold | (818) 352-4954 | hpenfold@gmail.com |
| Julia Ray | (818) 314-5127 | jraymusic@att.net |
| Ed Stonick | (626) 796-0595 | edstonick@earthlink.net |

Christmas Bird Count 2012



As another year draws to a close, what better way to wrap it up than by participating in the Pasadena Christmas Bird Count? Over the 65 years that the count has been held, we've encountered more than 280 species and almost every year proves that there are still new birds to find.

The center point of our circle is the intersection of San Gabriel Boulevard and Duarte Road. The territory covered extends seven and one half miles in every direction from that spot, thus making a circle fifteen miles in diameter. Aside from the notable man-made attractions of this area, including the Rose Parade and Rose Bowl, JPL and the Mt. Wilson Observatory, Cal Tech and many historic buildings, the San Gabriel Valley and its environs also host many species of birds.

Some of the important areas we survey include Big Santa Anita Canyon, Whittier Narrows, the San Gabriel River, part of Santa Fe Dam, Eaton Canyon, the Huntington Gardens and the L.A. County Arboretum. The circle tops out at 5,700 foot Mt. Wilson; a location that offers the possibility of higher elevation mountain birds that may have moved downslope by late fall.

It should be obvious that there's a lot of diversity in the circle, and as evidence of that we typically find well over 150 species on count day. Adding another dimension to the count are the unexpected vagrants that inevitably turn up. Some are known well in advance of the count but others are newly discovered.

Naturally each year is different. Already this fall we've seen a significant "invasion" of White-Breasted and Red-breasted Nuthatches. The Northern Parula and Tropical Kingbird that spent the last two winters at Legg Lake have returned again, but who knows what else will have transpired by mid-December. Will we have a Lewis's Woodpecker or two, or perhaps a Varied Thrush? Possibly even an Evening Grosbeak? There's only one way to find out—join us and help count the birds. Well, you could always read the count summary in the *Wrentit*, but the first way is much more fun!

Newcomers are always welcome on the Pasadena/San Gabriel Valley CBC. If you're new to birding or to Christmas Counts, this is a great opportunity to learn more about our local birds and you can team up with more experienced participants to count an area.

The 2012 Christmas Bird Count will take place on Saturday, December 15. We'll have the usual pre-count meeting at the Eaton Canyon Nature Center on Wednesday, December 12 at 7:30 pm. At the meeting there will be an overview of the count and checklists and other count materials will be available. We'll also review procedures and assign count areas. If you can't be at the meeting, you can sign up for an area to count via e-mail or phone.

As always, we will hold the traditional post-count dinner and wrap-up on count night. It's always fun to find out what was seen, what was missed, and what good birds were discovered. Check the *Wrentit* for details.

For additional information, please contact me at 818-800-2776 or at JonF60@hotmail.com.

Jon Fisher

Field Trips, continued

Bonelli Regional Park



Saturday, January 19, 2013

7:30 am — noon

This outing is a perfect way to kick off the holiday weekend. The habitat is primarily coastal sage scrub, with some chaparral, mixed woodland, riparian, park land, and a big reservoir, Puddingstone, that supports wintering waterfowl and, OK, maybe some gulls too. We'll be on the lookout for Bald Eagle and other Bonelli specialty species such as California Gnatcatcher, Greater Roadrunner, Cactus Wren, Mountain Bluebird, as well as over-wintering birds.

Carpooling is encouraged. We will assemble at the Brackett Field parking area near the northeast corner of Bonelli Park. Take the 210 east to the 57 south, to I-10 east. Exit at Fairplex Dr., heading north, then take a left at a T intersection. Follow McKinley Ave. to its western end, and then park. Entrance fee for Bonelli Park, which we will enter later in the morning, is \$10.00. A spotting scope will be helpful. Bring lunch.

Frank and Susan Gilliland, Darren Dowell

Salton Sea

Saturday-Sunday, January 26-27, 2013

The Salton Sea is one of the premier birding areas in North America, and it's right in our backyard! We will spend all day birding on Saturday, then bird through lunch on Sunday before heading back to Pasadena. The trip is limited to 12 members of Pasadena Audubon and it's perfect for anyone who wants to enjoy the wonders of the Sea (and adjacent areas, of course). Most participants come out to the sea on Friday night for an early Saturday morning start.

To reserve your space and get further information on times, accommodations, etc., please email the trip leader.

Ron Cyger

Christmas Bird Count Dinner!

Saturday, December 15, 2013

6:00 pm — 9:00 pm

Eat, drink, and brag at the busy, upbeat dinner that immediately follows the Christmas Bird Count. Be the first (well, almost the first) to learn what surprises popped up and how Pasadena Audubon performed this year. The catered dinner is always tasty, and is a bargain at \$10 per person for food and wine.

To reserve your space, send a check payable to "PAS" no later than December 12 to:

Pasadena Audubon CBC Dinner
1750 N Altadena Dr
Pasadena, CA 91107

Questions? Contact Grace Wong (contact information on page 8) or Chrystal Watson at xtiwatson@gmail.com.

PAS in the News

In the past month Pasadena Audubon has gotten a few mentions in the press and we'd like to share the articles with you in case you missed them.

The Pasadena Star-News ran an article about toxic birdseed that you should avoid in your feeders. Our very own Will Fulmer was quoted in the article: <http://bit.ly/PNyLH3>.

The following week the Pasadena Star-News ran another article about the sighting of the Bell's Vireo at Hahamongna and the campaign to protect the species' habitat. This article was featured on the front page with a photo of Laura Garrett and Mark Hunter: <http://bit.ly/TcgbYc>.

Lastly, the Pasadena Sun featured yet another article that indicated officials are abandoning the Hahamongna project that threatened bird habitat. Laura Garrett is quoted in the article: <http://bit.ly/RhcvSd>.

Deni Sinnott

Alien Invaders



The PAS monthly walk at Hahamongna Watershed Park in September found 48 bird species and this unwelcome plant species. It is a knee-high Tamarisk, an extremely invasive and harmful non-native species. There are over a hundred of these on the now-dry bottom of the seasonal pond near the main parking lot. Hahamongna has, until now, been spared from this threat. PAS members spread the word and the City of Pasadena has committed to removing these invaders.

Arlington Garden

One little gem of a birding spot in Pasadena is Arlington Garden. Located at Pasadena Avenue and Arlington Drive, these three acres of Mediterranean and California native plants attract a lively assortment of birds. Now the garden's founders, Betty and Charles McKenny, are hoping to collect some good data on the birds of Arlington Garden. Sounds like a job for PAS members! If you bird the Garden, you can either submit your list on eBird or directly to me and I'll make sure the McKennys get it. For more information about Arlington Garden, please visit www.arlingtongardeninpasadena.org.

Laura Garrett

Magpie Bird Study Group

The group meets the third Tuesday of each month. We bird 9:00 am to about 11:30 am, have a sack lunch, and have a short business meeting. *All PAS members welcome!*



Tuesday, November 20, 2012
Santa Fe Dam

Tuesday, December 11, 2012
L.A. County Arboretum

Tuesday, January 15, 2013
Peck Road Water Park

Trip leaders: Sid Heyman and Julia Ray

DONATIONS TO PAS

These PAS members and friends have recently made donations to our chapter: Margaret Fulmer, Mark Hunter, Carol Libby, Norm Vargas, Lois Tandy. Thank you!

Become a Chapter-only Member of PAS

Local chapters of the National Audubon Society, such as Pasadena Audubon, receive only a small share of NAS membership dues. In order to finance our programs and services, including publication of *The Wrentit*, PAS offers Chapter-only memberships.

When it's time to renew your National Audubon membership, we invite you to instead become a Chapter-only Member of the Pasadena Audubon Society, or make a donation to our Chapter to support our programs. Chapter-only dues are \$20 per year or \$15 for seniors and students, all of which remains with our local chapter to fund our programs. We thank you all for your support!

Chapter-only Membership Application

Name Phone
Address
City State ZIP
Email

If this is a gift, please also provide donor's information below:

Name Phone
Address
City State ZIP

Yearly dues:

- \$20 (regular) \$15 (senior, or full-time student)
- \$35 (T-shirt or Birding Guide, plus a PAS pin)
- \$_____ (donation)

Make checks payable to, and mail to:

Pasadena Audubon, 1750 N Altadena Dr, Pasadena, CA 91107

Pasadena Audubon Society Board

| | | |
|--|-----------------|----------------|
| President | Will Fulmer | (626) 798-1606 |
| Vice-President | Darren Dowell | (626) 344-4003 |
| Secretary | Kathi Ellsworth | (626) 524-0652 |
| Treasurer | Grace Wong | (626) 798-6500 |
| Members at large: Norm Arnheim (Grant Program), Bev McKenzie, Susan Gilliland, Lance Benner | | |
| Auditor | Eileen Burton | (626) 585-9076 |
| Conservation | Laura Garrett | (626) 564-1890 |
| Field Trips | Mark Scheel | (626) 765-5408 |
| Hospitality | Grace Wong | (626) 798-6500 |
| Programs | (open) | |
| Magpie Bird Study Group | Julia Ray | (818) 314-5127 |
| Magpie Bird Study Group | Sid Heyman | (626) 571-5991 |
| CBC Coordinator | Jon Fisher | (818) 544-5009 |
| Membership | Lois Fulmer | (626) 798-1606 |

| | | |
|-----------|--------------|----------------|
| Publicity | Deni Sinnott | (626) 233-4128 |
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Unintended Consequences

Yes, this is a low-quality photo. Taken on short notice with a simple point-and-shoot by someone who wasn't planning any photography, it captures an interesting situation. Brendan Crill took this shot of an Osprey overhead during a visit to the Huntington Library and Gardens. He was at the lovely Chinese Garden that the Huntington recently constructed. More specifically, he was at the large, attractive koi pond in that garden. And, although it might be a little difficult to discern from the photo, the Osprey is clutching something in its talons.



New Members

ALHAMBRA: George Ramirez Family, Cathy Thomas;
ALTADENA: Julie Hansen, John Lewis; **ARCADIA:** Suzie Bonholtzer, Oren Crothers, F. Grayson, Mary Kovacs, Milbrey Oster, Marguerite Platz; **AZUSA:** Linda Craig, Nancy Delap;
DUARTE: Ruby Bautista; **LA CAÑADA FLINTRIDGE:** Elizabeth Blackwelder; **MONROVIA:** Jennifer Fletcher, Herb & Carolyn Naus; **MONTEREY PARK:** Byron Takeshita; **PASADENA:** Palitha Abeywardena, W.R. Allen Jr., Patricia Baker, Bruce Bedudry, Timothy Breen & family, Karen Christy, Marilyn Coffman, Angela Crenshaw, Candace D'Addario, Daniel Guerrero, Denise Laing, Diana Sedenquist, Sara Shatford; **SAN GABRIEL:** Michael Grundgeiger, Carol Koch, June Lewis; **SAN MARINO:** Ing-Yih Cheng, Victoria Elliott, Elizabeth Olson; **SIERRA MADRE:** Patricia Birdsall, Harriet Lyle, Karen Marquedant, Mark O'Dell, William Patzert; **SOUTH PASADENA:** Jean Shetler