



Drawing by
Guy Coheleach

THE WRENTIT

Founded 1904

Pasadena Audubon Society
A Chapter of National Audubon Society

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*To bring the excitement of birds to our community through
birding, education and the conservation of bird habitats.*

June - August 2018

Red-whiskered Bulbul

Pycnonous jocosus, the Red-whiskered Bulbul, is native to south Asia. According to the Sibley Guide to Bird Life and Behavior, from which much of this material is drawn, bulbuls are found at elevations up to 8,200 feet in India. The species got its start in California in the Huntington Library and Gardens around 1968. Bulbuls are primarily fruit eaters and the great variety of fruiting plants in the Huntington, and in suburbia, provided good habitat for this bird. The bulbul has a melodious song and an attractive appearance, and speculation about how it got established centers on accidental or deliberate releases from cages, since it is a prized cage bird.

At one time the United States Department of Agriculture took note of the spread of bulbuls. Fearing that their fruit diet could cause them to become agricultural pests, the USDA sent agents armed with pellet guns into the Huntington to wipe them out. You can read more details about this war on bulbuls by searching the Los Angeles Times web site for the 1985 article, "Bird Wins Reprieve in Battle of the Bulbul." Eventually, as agriculture lost out to development in Los Angeles County, the eradication program was put on hold. In 1984, the highest count of bulbuls was 22 individuals. Today, there are hundreds of bulbuls at the Huntington and many hundreds more spread widely across the San Gabriel Valley and neighboring areas. There's also a large population on Oahu and a small population around Kendall, FL. Bulbuls are not migratory and their rate of spread is relatively slow.

Red-whiskered Bulbuls can be easily recognized by their prominent crest and their black and white plumage with bright red patches on the face and on the vent. Males and females have identical appearances. Breeding pairs are sometimes accompanied by a third adult. Bulbuls sing constantly, starting early in the morning, and Sibley reports that they sometimes sing on moonlit nights.



Sketch by Lily Yllescas, age 15. Additional bird sketches by Lily are featured inside.

Mark Hunter

President's Perch

Lately, I've been thinking a lot about change and how difficult it can be to handle. Kids grow up and move on. Loved ones leave us. A job ends or begins. Change, even change for the better, can be challenging.

One very positive change that Pasadena Audubon just experienced was our Birdathon. We had unprecedented success in that we ended up with nine very different teams and raised a lot of money. Now the challenge will be to replicate that success next year! The pressure's on!

One especially difficult change we now face is that our wonderful Program Manager, Kym Buzdygon, is leaving us. In fact, by the time you read this, she'll be gone to the great Northwest with her wife Ema to start their lives nearer to their family and friends. Thank you, Kym, and best of luck!

Needless to say, the news of this came as a real blow to the PAS Board. Kym has become an indispensable member of our organization, and we will struggle mightily to replace her.

But . . . we are very lucky in that we are birders and so we have an innate sense of the constant change that is our lives. Because we bird, we know that just when we think spring migration

Continued on page 9

In This Issue

Programs	2
Conservation	2
A Bird from Afar	3
Field Trips	4, 5, 7
Calendar	6
Announcements	8, 9

MONTHLY CHAPTER MEETINGS: UPCOMING PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

Annual June Dinner

Saturday, June 9, 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Come celebrate another great and birdy year with the Pasadena Audubon Society at our Annual June Dinner. The dinner features delicious catered food from Stonefire Grill, complimentary beer and wine, great conversation, a book sale, raffle prizes and a chance to meet the slate of officers who will govern the chapter in the next fiscal year.



Share your best bird photos (no more than 20) with the crowd. Bring them on a USB drive and you'll have five minutes of the undivided attention of folks who love looking at bird photos. How great is that?!

Dinner is \$25. RSVP by Sunday, June 3rd, send a check to PAS, attention June Dinner, (address below) or pay with PayPal on our website. Volunteers are welcome to bring cupcakes, brownies or birdy cookies. Questions? Contact Hospitality Chair, Liz Cordero @ (562) 923-3521.

Monthly chapter meetings are held the third Wednesday of the month at Eaton Canyon Nature Center (1750 N. Altadena Dr, Pasadena CA 91107). Refreshments and socializing begin at 7:00 pm and programs are presented from 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm. Programs for youth begin at 6:45 pm.

CONSERVATION

Cal Fire Plans Heat Up

In the February issue of The Wrennit I described the controversy over Cal Fire's massive Vegetation Treatment Plan, which would grind, burn, or poison large areas of habitat throughout the state in the name of fire suppression. This program started by removing dead or dying trees from forests and has expanded to include removal of all "fuel" in large areas. On May 10, Governor Brown pitched in with an executive order that provides \$96 million in funding for these activities and doubles the area to be affected, from 250,000 to 500,000 acres.

Although well-intentioned, these plans do little to increase fire safety, while causing widespread ecological damage. As explained by Richard Halsey of the California Chaparral Institute, wildfire damages and death are caused primarily by building flammable houses in or near flammable terrain. Clearing forests or chaparral ten or fifty miles away from communities does not provide real protection. The state's plans do almost nothing to increase buildings' resistance to fire or to promote more sensible zoning and planning. Multiple organizations in California are trying to introduce some sense into the plans and Pasadena Audubon will work with them to reduce the amount of ecological damage.

Mark Hunter

Mickey and Jon's Bird ID Quiz

Wednesday, September 19, 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm

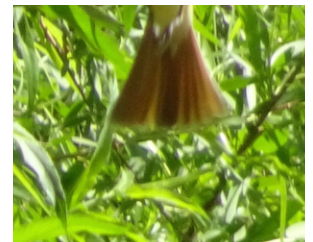
As is traditional, we will kick off our fall season of meetings with Mickey Long and Jon Fisher hosting an evening of bird identification challenges.

This year we will be including fun and games that involve an expert panel of PAS's birding glitterati. We will get into the swing of fall migration by helping sharpen your ID skills and have some laughs along the way.

Come join in the fun!



"Hey, you hear about that bird ID quiz they're doing at Pasadena Audubon??"



"Yeah, let's see how they do with this!!"

YOUNG BIRDERS

The Young Birder Club

Young people interested in birds and nature are invited to join our Young Birders Club. Parents are encouraged to attend, too.

Monthly meetings are held just before the monthly chapter meetings, September through May, at 6:45 pm on the third Wednesday of the month. Field trips are organized regularly.

To find out more, please email Susan Gilliland at gillilandsusan@gmail.com.



California Scrub Jay sketch by Young Birder Lily Yllescas

A BIRD FROM AFAR

Yellow-eyed Penguins of New Zealand

I spent the year after I graduated college traveling around Australia, New Zealand, and Thailand with my girlfriend at the time. We started in New Zealand and bought a beat up 1985 Mitsubishi sedan for about \$500 so we could drive all over the islands camping and hiking. We would work for a few weeks picking fruit at an orchard or harvesting grapes at a vineyard, take our money, and head for the trails.

While I wasn't much of a birder at the time, I was still delighted by the birds I saw in New Zealand. Since the islands have no endemic land mammals (the only native mammals are bat species), the birds have evolved very differently than in other places. The robins are cute and curious sparrow-sized birds who will follow you through the forest. The keas, a fabulous alpine parrot, are mischievous pranksters that had to be protected against when camping since they would steal your boots or dismantle your tent just for fun. The kiwis...remained stubbornly hidden, despite my best efforts.

My absolute favorite birds were the Yellow-eyed Penguins. Endemic to New Zealand, the Yellow-eyed Penguin is a tall, heavy bird with a very distinctive band of yellow feathers around the eyes, hence the name. I don't recall the exact park we saw them at, but it was somewhere on the southern coast of the South Island at a beautiful rocky outcropping where dolphins breached and sea lions sprawled. The day we visited there was an amiable ranger present to keep everyone far enough back from the nest sites. We settled on the rocks in the late afternoon sun, and we waited.

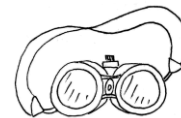
Towards sunset the penguins began to appear, and it was glorious. As each penguin returned from hunting, they would shoot out of the waves, land awkwardly on the beach and briskly waddle towards their nest site in the rocks. Their mate would leave the nest to come down to the beach for a greeting, and as the two moved towards each other, each would throw their heads back and let out a loud, enthusiastic bray. When



they finally met, the head-throwing and braying continued joyfully for a moment or two before they grew quiet and headed back to the nest. Then, the next penguin would hit the beach and the ritual would start all over again. I later learned that their Maori name, hoihoi, means "noise shouter" and refers to that very distinctive call. My girlfriend and I were so tickled by this interaction that we started to greet each other in a similar fashion.

Yellow-eyed Penguins are nationally endangered, primarily from habitat loss, nest disturbance, predation by introduced mammals (a huge problem for many endemic island species), and disease. Although nest numbers tend to fluctuate between 400 and 600 pairs, recent mass mortality events from disease and predation have dropped this number to less than 300 in recent years. A 25-year recovery plan was approved in 2000. For more information, visit the Yellow-eyed Penguin Trust's website: <https://www.yellow-eyedpenguin.org.nz/>.

*story by Kym Buzdygon
photos by Kathi Ellsworth*



If your summer plans take you afar and you encounter an amazing bird, take some pictures and tell us about it! Send your text and photos to the Editor at pas.wrentit@gmail.com.

FIELD TRIPS

Throop Peak

Saturday, June 2, 7:30 am to 1:00 pm

Join us as we explore one of the highest altitude trails in the San Gabriel Mountains during the peak time of year for montane birds. We'll hike at a leisurely pace to the summit of Throop Peak (elevation: about 9100 feet) as we search for Golden Eagle, Williamson's Sapsucker, Red-breasted Sapsucker, White-headed Woodpecker, Dusky Flycatcher, Clark's Nutcracker, Townsend's Solitaire, Red Crossbill, Cassin's Finch, Pine Siskin, and other montane species.

Meet at Dawson Saddle at mile 69.6 on the Angeles Crest Highway, about 45 miles from I-210 in La Canada. Bring plenty of water, lunch, sunscreen, bug repellent, sturdy shoes, a hat, a coat, and an Adventure Pass. The hike is about four miles round-trip; a few sections are steep, and all of it is at altitudes in excess of 7900 feet. Please carpool and plan for about 90 minutes to drive up from Pasadena.

If the Angeles Crest Highway isn't open to Dawson Saddle, then we will post an update on the PAS list-serve and will hike from Islip Saddle to Little Jimmy Spring instead.

Lance Benner

Southern Sierra Nevada

Weekend of June 23-24

Join us as we explore the southern Sierra Nevada at the Audubon Kern River Preserve, the Greenhorn Mountains, Trail of 100 Giants, Sherman Pass, and the Kern Plateau. Possible birds: Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Summer Tanager, Brown-crested Flycatcher, Pileated Woodpecker, Pacific Wren, Sooty Grouse, Northern Goshawk, Black-backed Woodpecker, Mountain Bluebird, Pacific and "interior west" White-breasted Nuthatches, Red Crossbills, owls, and more.

Limited to ten participants. Please contact the trip leader at lbenner@charter.net to reserve a spot and to obtain information on lodging and other logistics.

Lance Benner & Kathi Ellsworth

Black Swifts and Lesser Nighthawks

Saturday, July 7, late afternoon/evening

Black Swift, so enigmatic was this species that up until 2012 ornithologists still had no idea where the birds wintered. We will seek out these aerial acrobats at Claremont Wilderness Park, the only reliable spot in LA County to find this most mysterious of birds. The swifts are best looked for late in the day and so we will spend a couple of pre-dusk hours seeking them out. On our return towards Pasadena, we will make a sundown stop in Duarte to look for Lesser Nighthawks.

Please email Luke Tiller at streatham2003@aol.com to reserve a spot and to receive directions on where and when to meet.

Luke Tiller

Summertime Blue(s) Ridge

Saturday, July 28, 8:00 am to midday

Escape the heat of summer as we head to the east end of the San Gabriels. We'll explore the picturesque Blue Ridge Campground and check feeders at Grassy Hollow. Targets will



Veined Blue Butterfly © Luke Tiller

be higher elevation specialties like White-headed Woodpecker, Clark's Nutcracker, Green-tailed Towhee, Williamson's Sapsucker and Dusky Flycatcher. We will also keep our eyes open for butterflies including the rare and highly localized Veined Blue. Perhaps we'll even find a few early southbound migrant birds too.

Please email Luke Tiller at streatham2003@aol.com to reserve a spot and to receive directions on where and when to meet.

Luke Tiller

LA County Natural History Museum: Ornithology Collection

Weekday morning in July, date TDB, check our website.

Join us for a behind the scenes tour at the LA County Museum of Natural History! We will check out the gardens, tour the ornithology collection, and observe specimens being prepared.

Limit is 15 people, and you must RSVP to Lois at Lbrunet@pasadenaudubon.org. Carpooling or public transit is encouraged. Entry is free but parking is not.

Kimball Garrett

Lower L.A. River

Saturday, August 4, 8:00 am until noon

August is about the peak of shorebird migration as wintering birds return and transients pass through. Be prepared for anything, but if your shorebird ID skills are rusty, we will spend as much time as necessary on the more common species to get everyone comfortable with them.

Take the 710 (Long Beach) Fwy south to the Willow Street offramp, head east across the L.A. River, and take the first left on Golden Ave, the first left again on 26th, and follow 26th past the pump station onto DeForest Ave. Park near the river access by the bridge and meet the group along the river at 8:00. We will bird until noon and may visit the Dominguez Gap Wetlands if time permits.

Larry Allen

Field trips continued on page 7

FIELD TRIPS: REGULAR MONTHLY WALKS

Hahamongna

Walks resume first Saturday in September
7:30 am — 11:30 am

Hahamongna is a wonderful trip for birders of all ages and experience. The walk visits oak woodland and riparian habitat. A nice variety of resident and migratory species should be around.

Bring binoculars, water, walking shoes but no dogs. Enter the park at Oak Grove and Foothill Blvd. Take the first left and park by the ballfield.

Darren Dowell

L.A. County Arboretum

Second Saturday of every month
8:00 am — 10:00 am

This easy walk is for birders of all ages and experience levels. Meet on the steps leading to the entrance of the Arboretum. Admission is \$5 – free for members of the Arboretum or Audubon, and free for children under twelve.

Katy Mann



*Cassin's Vireo, Apollo Park © Dessi Sieburth.
 Taken during Dessi's Big Photo Day for Birdathon where he photographed an amazing 151 species. More on page 8.*

Eaton Canyon

Third Sunday of every month, except July and August
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 Eaton Canyon for many years. This is a wonderful walk for 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



*Black-headed Grosbeak at member, Christine Hessler's, backyard feeder.
 © Christine Hessler*

Magpie Bird Study Group

Third Tuesday of most months
9:00 am until about noon

June 19, Descanso Gardens
 No walks in July and August
 Sept. 18, Legg Lakes, meet in the Santa Anita parking lot

We bird until 11:30 and then have a sack lunch and a short meeting. All PAS members welcome!

Julia Ray, Sid Heyman



Huntington Library

Walks resume fourth Sunday in September
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.

To reserve contact Mark at
mark.hunter@pasadenaudubon.org.

Mark Hunter

CALENDAR

June 2018

2	Sat	7:30 am	Field Trip	WC	Throop Peak	Lance Benner
6	Wed	7:30 pm	Board Meeting		Eaton Canyon Nature Center	Laura Garrett
9	Sat	8:00 am	Field Trip	WC	County Arboretum	Katy Mann
9	Sat	6:00 pm	June Dinner		Eaton Canyon Nature Center	see page 2
13	Wed	5:00 pm	Birds 'n Beers	WC	Lucky Baldwin's, Pasadena	see page 9
17	Sun	8:00 am	Field Trip		Eaton Canyon	Hill Penfold
19	Tue	9:00 am	Magpie Study Group	WC	Descanso Gardens	Julia Ray, Sid Heyman
23-24	Sat/Sun		Field Trip	WC	Southern Sierra Nevada	Lance Benner & Kathi Ellsworth

Summer 2018

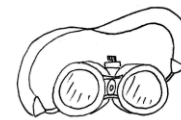
Jul 7	Sat	Evening	Field Trip	WC	Black Swifts and Lesser Nighthawks	Luke Tiller
Jul 11	Wed	5:00 pm	Birds 'n Beers		1770 E. Colorado Blvd.	See page 9
Jul 14	Sat	8:00 am	Field Trip	WC	County Arboretum	Katy Mann
Jul 17	Tue	7:00 pm	Class		Birding 101 begins, see page 7	Ron Cyger & Mark Scheel
TBD		9:30 am	Field Trip		L.A. Natural History Museum	Kimball Garrett
Jul 28	Sat	8:00 am	Field Trip	WC	Summertime Blue(s) Ridge	Luke Tiller
Aug 4	Sat	8:00 am	Field Trip	WC	Lower L.A. River	Larry Allen
Aug 8	Wed	5:00 pm	Birds 'n Beers		1770 E. Colorado Blvd.	See page 9
Aug 11	Sat	8:00 am	Field Trip	WC	County Arboretum	Katy Mann

September 2018

1	Sat	7:30 am	Field Trip	WC	Hahamongna	Darren Dowell
5	Wed	7:30 pm	Board Meeting		Eaton Canyon Nature Center	Laura Garrett
8	Sat	6:30 am	Field Trip		Piute Ponds	Mark & Janet Scheel
8	Sat	8:00 am	Field Trip	WC	County Arboretum	Katy Mann
12	Wed	5:00 pm	Birds 'n Beers		1770 E Colorado Blvd	See page 9
15	Sat	7:00 am	Pelagic Trip	WC	Dana Point Pelagic	Luke Tiller
16	Sun	8:00 am	Field Trip	WC	Eaton Canyon Nature Center	Hill Penfold
18	Tue	9:00 am	Magpie Study Group	WC	Legg Lakes	Julia Ray, Sid Heyman
19	Wed	7:30 pm	General Meeting		Eaton Canyon Nature Center	Mickey & Jon's Bird ID Quiz
22	Sat	7:00 am	Field Trip	WC	Fall Warblerama	Mark & Janet Scheel
23	Sun	8:00 am	Field Trip	WC	Huntington Library	Mark Hunter

Trip Leaders

Mark Scheel (chair).....	(626) 765-5408	scheel@tapir.caltech.edu
Larry Allen	(626) 797-1810	larryallen@earlymusicla.org
Lance Benner	(626) 791-1187	lbenner@charter.net
Ron Cyger.....	(626) 840-2566	ron@cyger.org (preferred)
Darren Dowell.....	(626) 344-4003	dowell.darren@yahoo.com
Kathi Ellsworth.....	(626) 524-0652	pandionsky@yahoo.com
Jon Feenstra.....	(626) 319-4723	feenstra@alumni.caltech.edu
Jon Fisher.....	(818) 800-2776	jonf60@hotmail.com
Frank & Susan Gilliland	(626) 441-8487	gillilandsusan@gmail.com
Sid Heyman	(626) 571-5991	
Mark Hunter	(626) 344-8428	mark.hunter@pasadenaaudubon.org
Mickey Long	(626) 285-8878	mlongbird@charter.net
Katy Mann.....	(626) 797-0307	katymann1960@gmail.com
Hill Penfold	(818) 352-4954	hpenfold@gmail.com
Julia Ray.....	(818) 314-5127	jraymusic@att.net
Ed Stonick	(626) 796-0595	edstonick@att.net
Luke Tiller.....		streatham2003@aol.com



WC Wrentit Club

The Wrentit Club is a special distinction for members who've seen 250 birds or more in L.A. County within the calendar year. The field trips designated WC are within L.A. County. Any birds seen on these trips count towards the Wrentit Club distinction. See our website for a listing of current and past members.

FIELD TRIPS CONTINUED

Piute Ponds and vicinity**Saturday, Sept. 8, 6:30 am to early afternoon**

By September, southbound migration will be in full swing. Join us at the Piute Ponds, a wetland oasis in the desert, where every year thousands of sandpipers and plovers stage on their way south. We should find over a dozen shorebird species and we will also look for desert birds such as Bell's Sparrow. After Piute Ponds, we will visit nearby Apollo Park, where we will look for migrating songbirds. Bring a spotting scope if you have one.

Note: Piute Ponds are located on Edwards Air Force Base, which has restricted entry, so space is limited. Please email Mark Scheel (see page 6) if you would like to attend. We will be meeting in the northern Antelope Valley at dawn (6:30am); the meeting place will be arranged.

*Mark and Janet Scheel***Dana Point Eight Hour Pelagic****Saturday September 15th, 7:00 am to 3:00 pm
Price \$67.00 (includes \$2 online booking and handling fee).**

We will depart from Dana Point in Orange County on the Ocean Institute's Sea Explorer and spend as much time as possible in Los Angeles County waters.

PAS will be providing expert pelagic tour leaders for this trip to help pick out interesting species. Possibilities include a variety of shearwaters, jaegers, phalaropes, alcids, gulls and terns. Last year's highlights included three species of jaeger, Sabine's Gull, Craveri's Murrelet and Black Storm Petrel. Read a full report from last year's trip on Luke Tiller's blog: <https://tinyurl.com/yag5rpnq>.

All ticket sales will be final, though we will hold a waiting list. Last year's boat sold out within 48 hours, so please book quickly. For tickets, visit our website and pay with PayPal. If you wish to pay by check, contact Lois Brunet at lbrunet@pasadenaudubon.org to reserve your spots.

Fall Warblerama**Saturday, September 22, 7:00 am to 11:30 am**

Join us as we look for warblers, flycatchers, and other passerines during fall migration. We will start at DeForest Park in Long Beach, which tends to attract migrants. We will also bird other nearby areas depending on recent reports of rarities or of large numbers of migrants.

Directions: From the southbound 710 freeway, exit south on Atlantic (same exit as the eastbound 91 freeway). Go south on Atlantic, then right (west) on 63rd street to the end, which is DeForest Ave. Go south on DeForest Ave and park in the parking lot on the west side of the street, opposite Harding St.

Janet and Mark Scheel

EDUCATION

Birding 101: Summer Session

Sponsored by Pasadena Audubon Society and Eaton Canyon Nature Center

Besides being a great cocktail party topic, birding provides enjoyment and challenge throughout life, getting you outdoors on your street or around the world. This is a great opportunity to explore the world of birding in a structured, classroom environment.

This class is designed for beginners, but all are welcome. We will cover the basics of identification (sight, sound, behavior), optics, field guides, habitats, birding ethics, and many other topics. Our goals are to help class participants become familiar with local birds and to be comfortable on birding field trips. Class size is limited so don't delay!

Classroom sessions: Tuesdays, July 17, 24, and 31, 2018 beginning at 7:00 p.m. (Classes could go as late as 9:30. . .)

Field trips: Saturdays, July 21 and 28, early morning to about noon.

Participants should plan on attending all classes and field trips. Location of the class and field trips will be sent to the class participants.

Cost: \$65 for Pasadena Audubon members, \$85 for non-members (but, will include membership in Pasadena Audubon Society). This fee will cover all three classes and two field trips. Payment is payable to "Pasadena Audubon Society" and is due at the first class session (there are scholarships available for young birders).

Leaders: Ron Cyger and Mark Scheel

Questions or to make reservations, contact Mark and Ron at Birding101@pasadenaudubon.org.



Great Horned Owl sketch by Lily Yllescas

CHAPTER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Birdathon 2018: A Smashing Success

This was a break-out year for Birdathon. Nine teams birded and raised over \$7,300 for our chapter from our wonderful community of members and supporters. These funds will be used to further our mission of bringing the excitement of birds to our community through birding, education and the conservation of bird habitats.

Hearty thanks to all those who participated by birding or supporting our teams through their pledges and enthusiasm! BRAVO to all.

Read on to learn how each team approached the challenge and how they did.

Team Verdin: Team Verdin reported a personal best of 151 species photographed!! Congratulations to Dessi Sieburth on this accomplishment, and a big thanks to his support team of Beatrix Schwarz and Frank & Susan Gilliland.

Team Audu-Bonn: Team Audu-Bonn saw a juvenile Black Oystercatcher as the sun was setting over the Redondo breakwater for their 100th species of the day. Congratulations to Dan and Calvin Bonn for an amazing result!



Calvin Bonn, age 11, caught in action

Irritable Owl Syndrome: IOS also had a record breaking year, with an absolutely incredible 217 (214 ABA) species reported! From midnight to after sunset, this intrepid team traveled from the mountains to the shore in a 21-hour adventure. Congratulations to Mark and Janet Scheel, Darren Dowell, and John Garrett.

The LadyBirders: New this year, the LadyBirders got Birdathon off to a great start on Friday with 87 species reported (72 just at Peck!) and 2 pitchers of margaritas consumed. Congratulations to Lois Brunet, Deni Sinnott, Kathy Degner, Mei Kwan, Grace Wong, Pam Dong, Karen Brumer, and Kym Buzdygon.

The Big Sit at Whittier Narrows: A long-time classic, this sedentary session resulted in a very respectable 42 species! Congratulations to Ira Blitz, Mark Hunter, and all the birders who joined them.

Lerpy Eucs of Long Beach: Another new team this year, the Lerpy Eucs made good use of their namesake to bring in 101 species for the day that included 8 different warbler species and some courting kestrels! Congratulations to Merryl Edelstein, Tracy Drake, Carol Furutani, Jeff Moore, Kim Moore, Keith Quinlivan, Becky Turley, Steve Turley.

Super Posh Extremely Exclusive Fancy Schmancy

Birdathon Team: A small but mighty group joined PAS President Laura Garrett in her garden and ended with 31 species for the morning! Congratulations to Laura Garrett, Elaine MacPherson, Cam Goldman, Taylor Paez, and Leslie Mylius

Team Tejon Ranchers: Team Tejon braved the gusting winds to finish with 52 species, including Tri-Colored Blackbirds, Golden Eagles, and Pronghorn Antelope! (Ok, antelope are not birds, but still pretty cool). Congratulations to Frank & Susan Gilliland, Katie & AJ Riggs, Kim Moore, Merryl Edlestein, Jan & Mickey Long, Kathy Linowski, Bonnie Brady, Patrick Gavit, Daniel & Grace Wu.

Team Adriana: New to Birdathon and to PAS, Adriana decided to take Birdathon on the road and birded while visiting Kansas City, MO! She finished the day with 24 species and some great pictures. Congratulations to Adriana Kleiman!

We have full trip reports from some of our teams. You can find them on our website.

Bye bye, Kym! We'll miss you!

Kym Buzdygon is leaving her role as Program Manager for our chapter as of the end of May. We will miss her fantastic energy, her creative thinking and her top-notch organizational skills. With this powerful combination of strengths and a winning personality, she helped to propel our chapter to new heights.

"Kym has done so much to move PAS forward. Her insight and knowledge of so many different subjects has helped me grow as an individual and as a PAS member. We have shared many good times together, especially at our various Outreach events, and I will miss having her by my side at future events," said Outreach Chair Kathy Degner. We wish Kym all the very best in her future endeavors!

CHAPTER ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OTHER NEWS

Thanks to Our Generous Donors

Our thanks go to these PAS members and friends for their recent donations to our chapter.

WARBLER (\$5-\$99): Janet Adams, Robert Allen, Ellen Carroll, Mary Carter, Gloria Cooper, Christina de Vanhoof, Susan Durbin, Field Elementary School, Julie & Clark Hansen, Christine Hessler, Murial Horacek, Judy Howell, Nadine Ishizu, Olga Lane, Mary Anne Lower, Katy Mann, Diana Neder, Tom Petersmeyer, Patricia & Thomas Pocock, Katie Porter, Richard Redman, Velia Rivera, Rita Rothman, Paul Scranton, Anne Shapiro, Diane Sipieter & Tracy Turner, Sylvia Stachura, Elaine Swift, Charlene Vert, Catherine & Robert Waters (in memory of Marilyn Morgan), Jean & Dorothy Weiss

ORIOLE(\$100-\$249): Frank & Susan Gilliland (in memory of Marilyn Morgan), Peter Hammersley, Brenda Kuo, Margaret Lech-Loubet (in memory of Marilyn Morgan), Tom & Becky Lynn, Joan Probst, Phil Richardson, Mark & Janet Scheel (in memory of Marilyn Morgan), Henry & Loretta Selinger

Elections

The current slate officers was re-elected at the May general meeting. Congratulations to Laura Garrett, President, Darren Dowell, Vice-President, Ira Blitz, Secretary, and Eileen Burton, Treasurer.

Birds 'n Beers

Good food and drink, and good bird talk at this casual monthly gathering led by Luke Tiller, Catherine Hamilton, and David Bell. Everyone is welcome! 5 to 8 pm, the second Wednesday of each month, at Lucky Baldwin's, 1770 E. Colorado Blvd. in Pasadena.

President's Perch, continued

has ended and we can settle into summer, the shorebirds begin their fall migration, which then leads to waterfowl migration and then passerine migration. We know that the ranges of some birds like the Great-tailed Grackle and the Allen's Hummingbird are expanding while others like the Tricolored Blackbird and Burrowing Owl are shrinking. We know that spring migration can be thrilling one year and maddeningly slow the next year. These are some reasons we start our lists over again each year: we know each year brings changes and no two days of birding are alike.

So though Kym is leaving, we'll be fine. We have an excellent Interim Program Manager in the extremely qualified Lois Brunet, and we have a crackerjack team working to find a new Program Manager. Our little bird Kym may have flown the nest, but we'll carry on as usual!

We are Pasadena Audubon, we embrace change, and we pay attention to the birds!

Laura Garrett

Dessi Sieburth Wins John Goddard Prize for Environmental Leadership

Dessi Sieburth, age 15, is a member of the Pasadena Audubon Young Birders Club and has been helping wild birds since he was 10 years old. Dessi says, "I think local and global conservation efforts are important, as many of our birds migrate, and habitat is lost globally. Without bird conservation worldwide, many bird populations will further decline and there will be no more birds to see."

The John Goddard Prize awards emerging young environmental leaders who have contributed to meaningful environmental projects.

Much to Dessi's delight he was awarded a cash prize towards a new spotting scope. Well-deserved Dessi! All of us at Pasadena Audubon Society are so proud of you!



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Pasadena Audubon Society Chapter-only Membership provides important support for our conservation, education and outreach efforts. You'll also be the first to hear about our programs and field trips, and you'll receive a one-year subscription to our newsletter, The Wrentit.

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If you'd like to provide a gift membership, please contact our membership chair, Lois Fulmer, at willo2001@earthlink.net.

We thank you for your support!

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