### **PAS Heroes**

#### The first of an occasional series profiling PAS Interns and Volunteers

Our Hero this issue is Kevin Salgado, Intern for the PAS Bird Science Program, where students learn about birds and the conservation of birds. Kevin, a third year Biology major at UC Riverside, joined the program in September 2019. He and other interns and volunteers had to complete three mandatory training days during which they delved into botany, learned how to identify common plants and birds and finished their training at Peck Park, where the students are taken on their field trip to participate in birding "in the wild."



Kevin Salgado, photo by Kathy Degner

### Wrentit: Describe for our readers a typical day as a BSP Intern.

I lead and help teach lessons geared to the grade level we are teaching that day. This may vary from the structure and function of bird beaks to food web dynamics. Normally, three

classes will be taught in a day. After the kids receive two lessons, we take them on a field trip to a local park to go birding. There, I help lead bird/nature walks and reinforce what the kids learned in class. In addition, we have the students interact with live owls and play games that are relevant towards science standards.

Wrentit: Tell us a little bit about your background, where you live, your interests and what drew you to apply for this internship. I grew up in Hesperia, California. Although there was not a lot to do city wise, I was surrounded by mountains and desert and was extremely close to many biomes. This gave me the opportunity to fall in love with nature. Once I started school in Riverside, I lost touch with the outdoors. Fortunately, I participated in a "study abroad" program where I camped across California for 50 days and conducted ecological research ranging from birds to fish. This experience made me want to learn more about conservation and help educate others about how we can help nature. During the summer of 2019 I saw a post on the "Birding continued on page 3"

### **President's Perch**

As I write this, the Huntington Library has announced it's closed for at least a month. We've had to cancel our general meetings for March and April, and I'm a little worried about May. Eaton Canyon Nature Center and other parks, trails, and beaches are closed, and schools, colleges, and universities have moved online. We've all been encouraged to stay home for the next few weeks; fingers crossed that the toilet paper holds out!

So what's a birder to do? Plenty!

This is an excellent opportunity to hone your birding skills. Spend some quality time with your Sibley or National Geographic guides. Study those field marks; finally learn the subtle differences between the various Empidonax flycatchers (Okay, I'm probably talking to myself here!). When he was eight years old, my son John learned field marks by copying the drawings in the Sibley guide. Yup—hundreds of them! Sounds like an especially good-for-when-you're-stuck-at-home idea to me! Or you can use xeno-canto (www.xeno-canto.org) to learn the bird songs and calls. Wouldn't it be wonderful to be able to identify the mysterious little movements in the trees by the call alone? Go for it!

This is also a wonderful time to bird your patch by joining our Caged Birder Challenge (See p 7 for details). My patch is my garden at my home in Pasadena, and today, I spent some time enjoying it. I was rewarded with the usual White-crowned Sparrows, California Towhees, Dark-eyed Juncos, Lesser Goldfinches, House Finches, California Scrub Jays, Northern Mockingbirds, Allen's and Anna's Hummingbirds, Black Phoebes, Mourning Doves, Bewick's Wrens, and a surprise—a Pacific-slope Flycatcher! I wonder what delightful birds I'll see tomorrow. I'm hoping to learn more about the habits, patterns, and behaviors of the birds I see every day. If you don't have a garden, maybe you can find a local patch and bird that. Just be careful not to share

\*\*Continued on page 10\*\*

### MONTHLY CHAPTER MEETINGS: UPCOMING PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

Please note that all of our scheduled programs and walks have been canceled through April 19th due to COVID-19. In anticiption of a return to normal, here's what we have planned. We encourage you to check the website before coming out to any Pasadena Audubon events, as circustances are constantly evolving.

## LA's Urban Raptors

### Wednesday, May 20, 7:30 pm-9:00 pm Courtney McCammon

The Griffith Park Raptor Survey was a three-year project that aimed to build our ecological understanding of the park and to encourage public stewardship of its resources. The project used volunteer citizen scientists to survey every individual raptor nest found in the area to help understand how ecological dynamics changed from year to year in the park and how human activity may be impacting wildlife there. The annual summary reports from this project represented the first comprehensive dataset of an entire raptor community in the urban core of Los Angeles. Come learn about the world of urban raptors and how they impact and are impacted



Red-tailed Hawk © Lois Brunet

upon by our dense urban environment.

Courtney McCammon is a lifelong resident of Southern California. After completing her graduate studies at Loyola Marymount University, Ms. McCammon has worked as a Wildlife Biologist and Environmental Consultant in the Greater Los Angeles area and beyond.

## Get Ready for Birdathon

#### **April 24 - 26**

Join an existing team (see pages 7 and 8 for details), form your own or pick a team to sponsor. Teams try to find as many bird species as possible. Sponsors make donations to PAS based on the number of species found by their team. The team raising the most funds is honored at the June dinner.



Lawrence's Goldfinch © Luke Tiller

Monthly chapter meetings are held the third Wednesday of the month at Eaton Canyon Nature Center (1750 N. Altadena Drive in Pasadena). 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**

## Rise of the Resistance

The current presidential administration has declared war on "regulations," especially including environmental protections. The most well-known example, for birders, is the reinterpretation of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, which just recently turned 100 years old. Financial penalties for killing birds are now limited to cases where the person or company intended to kill them. So bird deaths from oil spills and wind turbines will have no consequences.

Similarly, the administration has plans to gut the National Environmental Policy Act, which requires review of large projects like pipelines and dams. The changes would shorten the length of time that these projects could be challenged by environmental groups. The changes would also limit the ability of state governments to challenge large infrastructure projects.

What's an environmentalist to do? For my own part, I switched my end-of-year giving from an organization that teams up with public and private landowners to create more habitat protections. Instead, I donate to the Natural Resources Defense Council, which uses the courts to fight the administration's rollback of environmental protections. NRDC has a very good win/loss ratio.

Speaking of lawsuits, the California Chaparral Institute and the Endangered Habitats League have filed suit against Cal Fire's Vegetation Treatment Plan, which would devastate up to half a million acres per year, ongoing, without doing much to protect lives and property where the suburbs meet the wildlands. PAS provided financial support to both organizations. Fingers crossed that, as in the PAS lawsuit over the Big Dig in Hahamongna, this new lawsuit can force Cal Fire to do the right thing.

Coronavirus has changed how PAS does things, and one of the changed things is the PAS cleanup event at Peck Road Water Conservation Park. The March 21st gathering was canceled. Watch your email or pasadenaaudubon.org for an announcement of the rescheduled cleanup, probably in May.

The Environmental Protection Agency, citing travel restrictions, social distancing, and worker shortages from COVID-19, reduced or eliminated enforcement of environmental regulations retroactive to March 13. Environmental groups are calling this a "license to pollute." More details about the effect of this policy change will appear in the June *Wrentit*.

Mark Hunter

### A BIRD FROM AFAR

## The Birds of Stonehenge

We arrived at Stonehenge a day before the Winter solstice. Dark clouds scudding across the sky provided a dramatic backdrop to the stone circle. Given this time of year, we were expecting a large crowd of tourists, but surprisingly, birds far outnumbered the smattering of people braving the chilly wind to take in this incredible and mysterious place. Like a gatekeeper, a Rook, perched on a fence near the path, eyed me sternly and stood its ground as I approached to take a photo. Rooks (*Corvus frugilegus*), along with their Corvid relatives, the Jackdaw (*Corvus monedula*) and the Carrion Crow (*Corvus corone*), are regular residents of the Salisbury Plain, and in



Rook Stands Sentinel

#### PAS Hero Kevin Salgado, continued from page 1

California" Facebook page about the internship, and I knew that this was something I wanted to do.

Wrentit: What is your favorite thing about the program? Conservation was never emphasized during my primary education, and it is something I wish was. It is because of this that my favorite aspect of the program is that I can help children gain a greater understanding of conservation and get them excited to help our environment.

# Wrentit: What are your goals for the future? Do you want to continue working in education or community work?

Good question! I do not know. I am exploring my options right now and am keeping an open mind. However, I feel like I may be leaning more towards veterinary sciences. No matter what career choice I decide, I still want to keep doing work towards conservation.

#### Wrentit: What is your favorite bird?

My favorite bird is the Osprey. Aside from how cool they look, their diet primarily consists of fish. As a fisherman, I can relate a lot to this bird.

Jane Glicksman



Distant Jackdaw on stone

fact, were most likely standing guard over their territory atop the sarsens and the Great Trilithon for centuries.

The Rook is the most abundant of the Corvids found across Eurasia, ranging from Ireland and England in the west and eastward to Europe and western Asia. Rooks are relatively easy to spot by their white bill base, shaggy flanks and slightly spiky crest. The other difference is their diet: Rather than forage for anything they can find like Crows or Ravens, they are more particular, probing the ground for worms, larvae, seeds and edible roots. However, the Stonehenge Rooks are not above dining out of hand from some of the guides at the monument and, it has been reported, they can recognize the faces of those who feed them from more than 300 feet away!

The huge lintels of the great stone circle are tailor-made for perching and, for pairs of resident Jackdaws, the perfect location for their nests. Jackdaws are the smallest members of the Corvid family with a distinctive silvery shawl at the nape and pale gray eyes. Eight pairs of Jackdaws, which mate for life, have been sighted at Stonehenge. Spotting one within the inner circle of the monument I couldn't help but marvel at the link between past and present these birds represent – they were there when the stones were set, and they are here still.

Story and Photos by Jane Glicksman







If there's a Bird from Afar, that you saw and loved, we'd love to hear about it. Send your text and photos to the Editor at pas.wrentit@gmail.com.

### FIELD TRIPS - ALWAYS CHECK THE WEBSITE FOR THE MOST UP TO DATE INFORMATION

# Spring Migration Tour Fundraiser, L.A. Deserts and Kern County

Saturday-Sunday, April 25 - 26

PAS is excited to offer a two-day Spring migration tour that will explore the deserts and mountains of Los Angeles and Kern County. Expert guidance for the weekend will be offered by Luke Tiller and Catherine Hamilton. The tour will take place on the peak weekend for spring migration in Los Angeles: April 25 and 26. All funds raised will be designated for use in Pasadena Audubon's amazing Bird Science Program which brings the world of birds to kids in Pasadena's public schools: pasadenaaudubon.org/bscience

Plan to stay overnight in Mojave on Friday before birding Butterbredt Spring, California City, Galileo (given access is possible) and other spots Saturday before returning to Mojave for the night. On Sunday we will bird desert hotspots in LA County before working our way back through Angeles National Forest and ending our day back in Pasadena in time for dinner. Given the right temperature we might go see if we can find any interesting herps one of the first two nights.

As well as looking for migrant species, we'll also be hoping to see a bunch of regularly occurring denizens of LA and Kern Counties, so the trip should make for a fun weekend for local birders and those from outside the county/state too. Though this is a self-driven trip we will be coordinating things to help you plan to book hotels and carpool where possible.

We are limiting this tour to 14 places in order to guarantee plenty of one on one guidance from leaders. We are asking for a minimum contribution of \$150.00 for this event – all of which well help support out incredible Bird Science Program. Have fun, see some birds and do something great for the community – what could be better?

Sign-up on our website: pasadenaaudubon.org/spec

Luke Tiller

## Bob's Gap

### Sunday, April 26, 2020, 7:00 am to early afternoon

Found in the southern Mojave Desert not far from Valvermo. Bob's Gap Road goes through a steep rocky gap in the desert foothills of the north San Gabriel Mountains. This is one of the best and least disturbed areas for many of the desert elements in the San Gabriel Mountains. Spring wildflowers can be spectacular depending on rain of course. We will look for Mountain Quail, Scott's Oriole, Black-throated Sparrow, Black-chinned Sparrow, Bell's Sparrow, Verdin, Prairie Falcon, Ladder-Backed Woodpecker and many other species. Bob's Gap is historically important as a Gray Vireo breeding spot and, amazingly enough, we found one two years ago! We will check previous locations, just in case! Meet at Pearblossom Park, 121st St. East and East Ave. V-14. From there we will carpool/caravan to Bob's Gap which is south of Pearblossom Hwy, 165th Street becoming Bob's Gap Road. We will park near the Limekiln ruins on the east side dirt road. Please notify the leader at lbenner@charter.net if you plan to attend.

Lance Benner

# C'est Chouette: Owls in the San Gabriel Mountains

Saturday, May 9, 6:00 pm -- midnight

Join us as we search for owls and nightjars in the higher areas of the San Gabriel Mountains. We'll start shortly before sunset when we'll look for Northern Pygmy Owl and diurnal montane species, and then after dark we'll look for Flammulated Owl, Northern Saw-whet Owl, Western Screech Owl, Great Horned Owl, Common Poorwill, and if we have cosmic good luck, Spotted Owl.

Limited to 10 people. Please email the leader to reserve a spot: lbenner@charter.net

Lance Benner

# Washington Schoolyard Native Garden is Blooming Thanks to Generous Spring Rains







From right to left: Lupine, Humingbird Sage, Baby Blue Eyes. All photos by Wendy Panniker, amazing garden volunteer.

No Community Gardening days for now but we'll keep you updated.

### FIELD TRIPS: REGULAR MONTHLY WALKS

#### Please note:

All monthly birdwalks are canceled through April 19th.

Please check the website for the most up to date information.

## Hahamongna

# First Saturday of the month, May through June 7 am -10 am

Hahamongna is an excellent place to become familiar with Pasadena-area birds and Spring migrants. The walk visits oak woodland, riparian and open park habitat, and we'll search the hotspots within the changing landscape. Enter the park at Oak Grove and Foothill Bvd. 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 Aboretum or Audubon, and free for children under twelve.

Katy Mann



# Magpie Group

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

#### Tuesday, April 21, 2020: Hansen Dam

Meet in the parking lot near the south end of the dam. Enter from Dronefield Rd. and drive to the last parking lot near the flood control area.

# Tuesday, May. 19, 2020, 9:00 a.m.— West Fork of the San Gabriel River

Meet at the parking lot for the West fork of the San Gabriel River. It's on the left side of Highway 39, about 15 miles north of Azusa, and one half-mile north of the Rincon Fire Station and the Off-road vehicle entry area.

# Tuesday, June 16, 2020, 9:00 a.m.— Switzer's Picnic Area, Mt. Wilson, San Gabriels

Meet in the parking lot for Switzer's Picnic Area. Switzer's is located along the Angeles Crest Highway on the right about half a mile beyond the turnoff for the Angeles Forest Highway.

Debbie Chaiboonma, Ginny Heringer, Ed Stonick



California Thrasher © Taylor Paez

## **Eaton Canyon**

Third Sunday of every month 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

# **Huntington Library**

Fourth Sunday of every month, except July and August 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@pasadenaaudubon.org.

Mark Hunter

### TENTATIVE CALENDAR - PLEASE CHECK THE WEBSITE BEFORE COMING TO ANY EVENTS

### April 2020

1	All day	Home		Birding from Home	Everyone
2	All day	Home	Birding from Home Everyone		Everyone
3	All day	Home		Birding from Home	Everyone
4	All day	Home		Birding from Home	Everyone
5	All day	Home		Birding from Home	Everyone
6	All day	Honre		Birding from Home	Everyone
7	All day	Home		Birding from Home	Everyone
8	All day	Home	V 7.	Birding from Home	Everyone
9	All day	Home	1 / A	Birding from Home	Everyone
10	All day	Home		Birding from Home	Everyone
11	All day	Home	1 V A	Birding from Home	Everyone
12	All day	Home	A 7 ASS	Birding from Home	Everyone
13	All day	Home		Birding from Home	Everyone
14	All day	Home		Birding from Home	Everyone
15	All day	Home -		Birding from Home	Everyone
16	All day	Home		Birding from Home	Everyone
17	All day	Home		Birding from Home	Everyone
18	All day	Home		Birding from Home	Everyone
19	All day	Home		Birding from Home	Everyone
26, 27	Sat-Sun	Field trip		L.A. Deserts and Kern County	Luke Tiller, Catherine Hamilton
26	Sun 8:00 am	Field trip	WC	Huntington Library	Mark Hunter
26	Sun 7:30 am	Field trip	WC	Bob's Gap	Lance Benner, Kathi Elsworth

### May 2020

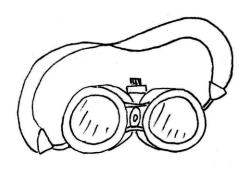
Mark Scheel (chair)

2 9 9	Sat 7:00 am Sat 9:00 pm Sat 8:00 am	Field trip Field trip	WC WC	Hahamongna Watershed Park C'est Chouette - Owls L.A. County Arboretum	Darren Dowell Lance Benner Katy Mann
13 17	Wed 5:00 pm Sun 8:00 am		WC	Lucky Baldwins Trappiste Eaton Canyon	L.Tiller, C. Hamilton, D.Bell Hill Penfold
19 20 24	Tues 9:00 am Wed 7:30 pm Sun 8:00 am	General meeting	wc	West Fork San Gabriel River Eaton Canyon Huntington Library	Ed Stonick Courtney McCammon Mark Hunter

### Trip Leader Information

(626) 765-5408 scheel@tapir.caltech.edu

Larry Allen	(626) 797-1810	larryallen@earlymusicla.org
Lance Benner	(626) 319-4369	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	7.7.7
Mark Hunter	(626) 344-8428	mark.hunter@pasadenaaudubon.org
Mickey Long	(626) 285-8878	mlongbird@gmail.com
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.

BIRDING WHILE AT HOME

# Keep Birding Under Quarantine! Introducing the Caged Birder Challenge

As this crisis has deepened and restrictions on our daily routines have become more important to slow the spread of Covid-19, I'm sure I have not been alone in struggling to adapt my birding habits to the health and safety needs of the community. With Spring approaching, I am itching to see what's passing through and breeding here in LA County and beyond. But we are all aware at this point that it is simply safer for everyone, hardcore birders included, to remain at home unless it is absolutely necessary to be out. But wait. No more field trips, bird walks, bird talk?? Yikes! What's a birder to do?

Many of us already know the answer: bird from home. Until two weeks ago, I had never kept or submitted a checklist from home. First of all, man, have I been late to the party! Secondly, what better way to make sure I'm not exposing myself and fellow bipeds to a dangerous virus while pursuing my passion?! Next, how to spread the word and make it funner... how can we do socially distant birding, together?

I pitched the idea to PAS that a somewhat more formal, ongoing home-quarantined bird count could be a cool way for people to stay engaged with the chapter while encouraging people to self-isolate during this crisis. And that's how the Caged Birder Challenge was born.

Let's continue our citizen science data collection and even add to it by creating new data-points in areas that may have been under-represented, our neighborhoods.

Let's stay engaged with our birding community even though we're missing meetings and meet-ups.

Let's think about how we can boost our home-lists by enhancing bird habitat, providing nest-boxes, birdbaths, feeding stations and nesting material in our yards, streets, and neighborhoods.

Let's see if we can get our neighbors interested in local birds by first getting them to ask, "Hey, what's that weirdo with binoculars doing over there in that yard?".

I am missing my weekly treks to LA County hotspots but I am already feeling more aware of the rhythms of my immediate surroundings as the world keeps spinning and the birds go about their activities right outside my door. Most importantly, I'm keeping my cooties to myself.

Be safe, and until I see you again out there, I hope to see you at home online!

Graham Hamby



Graham birding from home in Eagle Rock. To see Graham's checklists, join the Caged Birder Challenge. Photo by Sherra Fermino

# The Caged Birder Challenge: How To

Join eBird, if you haven't already. Sign up to create an account. It's free.

Start a New Checklist as you normally would.

Use your Home Location if you have it or create a new Personal Location. If you don't want to use your home address, you can rename the Location to something like the nearest intersection.

Submit your checklist and share it with CagedBirders@pasadenaaudubon.org.

Check out the Caged Birders public profile for a running tally of what members are seeing and where. You can navigate to that from a link in your shared checklist. Or save this link to check it out at any time: ebird.org/profile/MTYxMjM0Nw

Follow PAS on Instagram, Facebook or through Groups.io where we'll keep you up to date on our stats, rare sightings and any cool data we can come up with to delight the bird nerds out there.

At a date still to be determined (when this nightmare is over), the data will be compiled, and participants ranked based on number of species seen and number of checklists submitted. With a little luck, we'll celebrate together at the June Dinner with some birdy prizes and toasts to our fortitude as caged birders in strange times.

ALL YOU EVER WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT BIRDATHON, BUT WERE AFRAID TO ASK...

#### What exactly is Birdathon?

Birdathon is a fund-raiser where teams collect "per bird species" pledges from their friends, family or anyone who wants to sponsor them. Pledges can be as little as 5 cents a species. Of course, the sky's the limit. Then teams go birding on either April 24, 25, 26, and try to find as many bird species as possible. Sponsors then make donations to PAS based on the number of species found by the team they sponsored. [The team raising the most funds is honored at the June dinner with a hearty round of applause and a very birdy prize!] On a more serious note, we have timed this event at the end of April for maximum avian diversity: some wintering birds haven't left, some summer residents have arrived, and migrants abound.

#### How can I participate?

- Join an existing team or event; see the list to the right and start collecting pledges. Then hit the trails with your team.
- Form your own team. Register with Lois by email and she'll send you the pledge sheet. Collect pledges and make a birding plan. You might want to bird at a single park, or stay within Pasadena city limits; some travel only by foot or bicycle, some count only birds that they photograph. A team can spend as little or as much time as they want, from watching backyard feeders for an hour to embarking on a 24-hour-long manic quest on a finely-tuned precision birding route. You're the boss.

#### I don't want to bird. How can I pledge?

Pick a team, and email your "per bird species pledge" and contact information to the leader. They'll be happy to hear from you!! After the event, they'll be in touch with their results, and you can make your donation by check or on our website.

#### **Birdathon Tips**

Sponsors can be anyone: friends, family, co-workers, even your boss. In addition to supporting PAS, sponsors learn about birds and bird habitat. Sponsors who are not birders are often amazed at the number of bird species that can be found here. It's a good idea to give your sponsors an estimate of how many birds you expect to find before they pledge! After Birdathon, send a thank-you note, a species list, and a description of how the day went, including any surprises or amusing anecdotes. Birdathon is a lot of fun, supports PAS, and educates non-birders about birds and the importance of habitat. So join a team or sponsor one!

#### How does PAS use the funds?

Birdathon helps fund many of our exciting programs, including the Bird Science Program in our public elementary schools; grants and scholarships that support important research and send young birders to camps and conferences; conservation initiatives, such as our Peck cleanups, and advocacy for a more bird-friendly Pasadena.

For team registrations email lbrunet@pasadenaaudubon.org Download pledge sheets from our website.

### **Birdathon Teams as of Print Deadline**

#### **Team Socially Distant**

Needless to say, this will be a small team! Leader Darren Dowell will be in his native habitat -- socially distant -- and will be putting in a full-day effort searching the San Gabriel Valley area for as many species as possible. Pledges (contact dowell.darren@yahoo.com) will motivate us to try for over 100 species!

# Team Fancy-Schmancy, Sanitarily Sterilized, Salubriously Salutory, and Healthfully Hygienic

If allowed by the State of California and the City of Pasadena, this team will meet on the carefully cleaned patio of Laura and Gavin Solomon for coffee, tea, mimosas (to kill the virus, of course), and tasty delectables to bird the morning away. Last time we did this, we had 33 species. We may not see as many birds as some other teams, but if you calculate bird per mile —we win! We'll bird Saturday, April 25th from 8 am to noon. Limited to the first ten people who sign up due to mandatory spatial requirements between participants. Contact Laura at mypurplecow@outlook.com to sign up.

NB. If we are on statewide mandatory lockdown for the Birdathon, we can make this a Virtual experience!

#### Ladybirders

The Ladybirders will be out (crossing as many fingers as we have) Friday April 24th in an attempt to beat their 2018 record of 83 species at Peck and Legg Lake. Ladies are welcome to join. As is now a time honored tradition, margaritas will follow. Contact Lois Brunet, lbrunet@pasadenaaudubon.org, to pledge or join.

#### Team Adriana

I have no plan yet due to the current situation, but no matter where I am, I'll be camera ready to catch some bird species. Not accepting members, but will be happy to accept pledges! adrianak2001@aol.com

#### The Y2Killdeers:

A new team for 2020, the Y2Killdeers are open to folks born after a certain year, it's really up to you to decide. We will be birding for a full 24-hours, probably while taking selfies and posting it on our livejournals-- wait, I mean Instagram. Pledgers will receive a hand-drawn killdeer in appreciation. It may be the worst picture of a killdeer you've ever seen, and possibly the most expensive, but it will be one-of-a-kind. Contact Taylor Paez at tdpaez@gmail.com to pledge or join!



Killdeer by 2nd grade participant in our Bird Science Program.

Can the Y2Killdeers do better?

Sponsor them to find out!

### CHAPTER ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OTHER NEWS

## Young Birders

Young people interested in birds, birding, natural history and conservation are welcome to join the Young Birders Club. It's a great way to learn more about birds, get out birding and make new friends. Youth 6 years and up as well as their parents or guardians are welcome to attend. Meetings are held on the 3rd Wednesday of each month, September through May, at 6:45 pm at Eaton Canyon Nature Center.

Note: With the coronavirus situation, please contact Susan for changes - gillilandsusan@gmail.com Follow the young birders on our webpage: pasadenaaudubon.org/youngbirders

# Western Field Ornithologists 2020 High School Student Essay Contest

The theme of the essay contest is the impact of climate change on bird populations. The winning essay will be awarded a pair of quality binoculars.

For details, go to westernfieldornithologists.org

### Pasadena Audubon Elections

A nominating committee has been formed to solicit candidates to serve as officers for the 2020/2021 fiscal year. Because of the unusual circumstances this year, nominations by email will be accepted through the end April. You may contact Taylor Paez, tdpaez@gmail.com, nominating committee chair, with recommendations. Voting will take place at the May meeting or on that date remotely. Members will be informed by email and through our website.

The current president, Laura Solomon, and vicepresident, Darren Dowell, have agreed to stand for reelection. Jane Glicksman, the current Wrentit editor, has been nominated for Secretary.



# Thank you to our Wonderful Donors!

CALIFORNIA CONDOR (\$1000 - \$1999): Lance Benner GOLDEN EAGLE (\$500-\$999): Scarlett Hibner RAVEN (\$250-\$499): John Howell ORIOLE (\$100-\$249): Larry Allen, Norm Arnheim, Frank Burrows, Patricia Colville, Nancy McIntyre, Reilly Moss, Beth & Steve Roth, Loretta Selinger, Austin Xu WARBLER (\$5-\$99): Janet Cowell, Tilda & Terry Dewolfe, Linda Donato, Hilary & Steve Dorsey, Doug Farr, Patrick Hickey, Dan Holguin, Ann Jopling, Mary Anne Lower, Fred Nelson, Marguerite Renner, Katya Shaposhnik, Michael Sovich, Marissa Sparacino, Sylvia Stachura, Jacqueline Taylor, Brian Tomikawa, Javier & Debra Vazquez, Catherine Waters, Tana U. Wong, Lily Yllescas

## **Shade Grown Coffee - Why care?**

One of the easiest things you can do to help migratory birds is to drink certified, shade grown, organic coffee. This means the coffee plants grow under a canopy of trees that mimics natural forest habitat. The diversity of trees supports all kinds of species diversity, as well as providing carbon sequestration and natural pest control.

Studies have shown that the forest-like conditions on these plantations support many more bird species than mono-culture, sun grown coffee plantations.

Through the PAS Coffee Club, you can get Birds & Beans® Coffee, the only American coffee company selling solely shade grown, organic, Fair Trade, Smithsonian 'Bird Friendly®' certified beans. A delicious way to lend a helping hand to our beautiful Orioles, Western Tanagers, Blackheaded Grosbeaks and other migratory birds.

Go to our website for more information and to order. Or email our Coffee Club Manager, Kathy Linowski at coffeeclub@pasadenaaudubon.org. She'll fill you in on the details and can also offer advice on the best roasts. You can get the coffee whole bean or ground to your needs.

Join the Pasadena Audubon Society
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, <i>The Wrentit</i> .  Membership dues: \$25 for individuals, \$30 for families, \$15 for seniors/senior family/student.  Lifetime membership with a \$2,000 donation.  Your information is never shared.
Make checks payable to PAS, 1750 N. Altadena Dr. Pasadena CA 91107
Name
Address
Phone
Email
I want to go paperless and read <i>The Wrentit</i> online.
Or join online at pasadenaaudubon.org.
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!

#### Pasadena Audubon Society Board

Laura Solomon President Darren Dowell Vice President Ira Blitz Secretary Janet Scheel Treasurer Mark Hunter Conservation Development Open Ron Cyger Education Mark Scheel Field Trips Doug Farr Hospitality Lois Fulmer Membership Open Outreach Lûke Tiller Programs Taylor Paez Publicity Wrentit Editor mypurplecow@outlook.com dowell.darren@yahoo.com irablitz@gmail.com scheelj42@gmail.com funkshn@gmail.com

ron@cyger.org scheel@tapir.caltech.edu doug@dmfarr.com willo2001@earthlink.net

luke.tiller@gmail.com tdpaez@gmail.com jglixman@gmail.com

Lance Benner Member at Large lbenner@charter net Susan Gilliland Member at Large gillilandsusan@gmail.com Member at Large Mickey Long mlongbird@gmail.com katymann1960@gmail.com Katy Mann Member at Large Lois Brunet Program Director lbrunet@pasadenaaudubon.org

> The Wrentit is published by the Pasadena Audubon Society 1750 N. Altadena Dr., Pasadena, CA, 91107

Editor: Jane Glicksman pas.wrentit@gmail.com

Printing by Print Spot(323) 269-4218

Messages or queries for Pasadena Audubon may be left at (626) 355-9412. For change of NAS address call: (800) 274-4201.

Pasadena Audubon Society 1750 N. Altadena Drive Pasadena, CA 91107

Jane Glicksman

DATED MATERIAL

Non-profit Organization U.S. Postage **PAID** No. 1880 Pasadena, CA



### Welcome to our New Members

ALHAMBRA: John Cool, Gloria Garcia-Miranda, Kathryn Sampson; ALTADENA: Paula Bailey, Susanna Dadd, Joan Emery, Karen Gibson, Barbara Minton, Ryan Pearson, Claudia Schmitt, Susan Thorpe; ARCADIA: Charlotte Streng; DUARTE: Douglass McKinney, Carmen Piro; LA CAÑADA FLINTRIDGE: Timothy Biskup; LOS ANGELES: Tom Cassaro, Michael Lazarus; MAYWOOD: Lizbeth Pliego; MINNEAPOLIS, MN: Donna Rodel; MONROVIA: Sonia Chu, Sue Gerfen, Elvira Vazquez; MONTEREY PARK: Raymond Che; MONTROSE: Maureen Palacios; PASADENA: Eileen Benedict, Linda Brown, Steven Clark, Terry Ginsberg, Mary Graffius, A Grannell, Nicole Joerg, Thomas Lake, Mary Lim, Thomas Majich, B Mangels, Amy Marcoullier, Rose Orlandini, Sved Pervaiz, George Reich, Rosalina Sharpe, Eric Spencer, Daniel Tedford, Iliana Thach, Grayson Torgersen, Naichang Yeh; SAN GABRIEL; Jean Chen, Ted Contis, Nash Saenz; SAN MARINO; Jacqueline Liao; SIERRA MADRE: Robert De La Madrid, Tadas Sesplaukis; SOUTH PASADENA: Carla Robbins

# The Paperless Option How did you like it?

For some of you, this is your first time reading the Wrentit online. If you enjoyed the experience and like the idea of having less clutter while helping us to save on paper use and printing expenses, then sign up for regular paperless Wrentits!

Just email your name and address to paperless@pasadenaaudubon.org. You'll receive an email with a link to the newsletter when each issue comes out. And you'll have the satisfaction of knowing you're doing one more thing for our planet, our birds and our chapter.

#### President's Perch, continued from page 1

binoculars or scopes with anyone. Be sure to join the Challenge so we can see your results!

Lastly, we know that many of you have been strongly encouraged to stay home for the duration of this pandemic. As of today, we don't know how long this will last. So our editor has been hard at work to give you an especially bountiful and interesting Wrentit with many interesting articles and lovely photos. We hope you enjoy it.

We're Pasadena Audubon, and we are looking out for YOU!

Laura Solomon