



Drawing by  
Guy Coheleach

# THE WRENTIT

Founded 1904

Pasadena Audubon Society  
A Chapter of National Audubon Society

Volume 52 – No. 4

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

September-October 2004

## September Program

### Raptors

September 15, 2004  
**Jon Fisher and Mickey Long**

Birds of prey are one of the most fascinating groups of birds and we are indeed fortunate that Southern California is rich in raptors. In fact, Los Angeles County boasts 22 species, including rarities. Differences between adults and juveniles, various geographic races, male and female and mixing of residents and migrants make many birds of prey an extra challenge.

Jon and Mickey will bring some order and clarity to the task of identifying this diverse group of winged hunters. See if you know all the differences between Cooper's and Sharp-shinned Hawks, the best time of year to find a Golden Eagle over the San Gabriel foothills, or join in a chorus of Red-tailed vs. Red-shouldered Hawk calls.

General Meetings held at:

**Eaton Canyon Nature Center  
1750 N. Altadena Drive, Pasadena**

7:00 pm Social  
7:30 pm Program

## October Program

### An Alaskan Birding Adventure

October 20, 2004  
**Roy Poucher**

Tonight's presentation is on six of the most popular birding bio-regions visited by Roy Poucher in May - June 1998, as a part of his ABA Big Year. Places to be described:  
1) Homer, Kenai Peninsula  
2) Anchorage  
3) Gambell, St. Lawrence Island  
4) Nome  
5) St. Paul, Pribilof Islands  
6) Inland Denali Highway Areas.

The average Audubonner can design his own economical Alaskan birding adventure, just as Roy did for this trip. Therefore, besides presenting slides of birds seen in Alaska, there will be a lot of information on the "how" and "what" the overall experience of Alaska birding is like: the different modes of transportation required, the lodging available, the weather, the various landscapes and plant life, and the numerous different cultural frameworks within which one birds there.

Roy Poucher has been a Sea and Sage Audubon trip leader and field trip assistant in their introductory birding classes for 12 years.

## November Program

### The Deserts of North America

November 17, 2004  
**Sylvia Ranney Gallagher**

For many people the word DESERT produces an image of desolate, barren sand – or glorious carpets of spring wildflowers among towering green saguaros. Both images are correct, but they are far from the whole picture. At this month's General Meeting, Sylvia Gallagher will take you on a slide tour of the deserts of North America. She will address such questions as: Why are the deserts located where they are? How many deserts are there, and how do they differ from one another? What are some of the birds typical of each desert, and how are they adapted to life in their severe environments? Her talk will be illustrated with slides from the Sea and Sage Audubon Library of Nature Slides.

Sylvia received her Ph.D. in Chemistry and has taught at John Muir High School here in Pasadena, Chaffey College and Cal Poly, Pomona. She is a past Vice-President of Sea and Sage Audubon and is currently their Bird Information chair.

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## President's Perch

Our Centennial Celebration was a celebration to remember! There were many presenters including Glenn Olson, the new Director of Audubon California. The food was wonderful and the Silent Auction was successful. If you missed the party, don't worry; our bicentennial is only 99 years away!

The summer was great with a very successful adventure for the Five-striped Sparrow in Arizona. This fall will be shore birds and deserts with trips to Puite Ponds, the L.A. River and the Mojave Desert.

Our monthly walks are changing also.

Our regular Hahamongna walk will be September through April, except for November and January. During those two months, Ed Stonick will lead walks at Peck Pit. And we are on the verge of adding a walk at the Huntington Gardens! This walk will be limited to PAS members only (is your membership up-to-date?) and to signups. More information to follow.

Hope to see you on a walk or at a meeting soon!

## Conservation

### West Nile Virus

*Editor's Note: As this article is being prepared, in mid-August, the West Nile Virus continues to increase in Southern California. We're all aware of the dangers of West Nile and of the things we can do to help ourselves, but this document from the National Audubon Society warrants reading. (Edited for space constraints – WEB address at end contains full text).*



#### The Basics

**V**iruses aren't technically "alive" because they can't make copies of themselves, but they have genetic information that is encoded in the same way as that of living things. The genetic message of an animal virus directs the cells of the "host" it infects to make copies of the virus, which then leave those cells and go on to invade others within the same animal. Most animal viruses have small "host ranges" - they can only infect a single, or a small number of similar, species.

West Nile virus has an unusually large host range; it is primarily an avian virus, but it can also infect some mammals and reptiles. Mosquito bites are the most common route of transmission.

Not all mosquito species are "competent vectors" – some can't reproduce the virus inside of them and some can't successfully pass it along. Several of the important vector species in North America breed in wet, calm areas containing decaying animal or plant material; there doesn't have to be much water and the water doesn't have to be around for very long – in warm weather, 5-6 days to produce adult mosquitoes from eggs. Many mosquitoes don't travel far from where they hatched; those in your yard probably hatched nearby.

#### What You Can Do

Be realistic. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) report that less than 1% of people bitten by infected mosquitoes develop West Nile meningitis or encephalitis and four out of five infected people don't even know they were exposed. But for the one out of five that develops the fever, it can be an unpleasant experience. One of the best ways to decrease your chances of being bitten is to decrease the number of mosquitoes in your neighborhood. Decrease mosquito breeding opportunities. Look around and eliminate sources of mosquito breeding habitat:

- Get rid of unwanted containers and

drill drainage holes in the bottoms of things that collect water.

- Empty water from flowerpots, barrels, swimming pool and boat covers, etc., and change the water in birdbaths and pet dishes, at least every 3-4 days.
- Clean roof gutters regularly, keep swimming pools clean and chlorinated, and turn over wheelbarrows and plastic wading pools when not in use.
- Aerate ornamental pools or stock them with mosquito-eating fish. For areas on your property from which standing water cannot easily be eliminated consider using the larvicide known as "BTI," which is a bacterium that specifically targets the digestive tracts of larval mosquitoes and keeps them from developing into adults. Talk with neighbors about following these same practices.

Try to stay inside at peak mosquito biting times (dawn, dusk, and at night). When outside at these times, wear light-colored long-sleeved shirts and long pants. Use mosquito netting over baby carriers.

Make sure your windows and screen doors are "bug tight," and replace your outdoor bulbs with yellow "bug lights" to decrease mosquito presence.

Use a repellent if you will be outside when mosquitoes are active (or during the day in areas with weeds, tall grass, or bushes—where mosquitoes rest), **especially if you are over 50, and also especially if WNV transmission is occurring in your neighborhood (as evidenced by the finding of dead birds).**

The most effective products contain the chemical known as DEET. READ AND CAREFULLY FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS ON PRODUCT LABELS. Other repellents [made from the "essential oils" of plants] have been shown to be less effective than those containing DEET. Personal ultrasonic wavelength emitters and wristbands have not proved effective. Mosquito traps may actually increase the density of mosquitoes in your yard, and backyard bug "zappers" don't kill many female mosquitoes but do kill billions of non-target, beneficial insects each year in the US.

Protect your pets. Try to keep pets indoors when mosquitoes are active. House cats should be kept inside at all times, for many reasons, including the fact that they may help spread WNV. Get horses vaccinated.

Help your local birds. Keep your feeders filled and clean; there is no evidence that providing birds with feeding opportunities contributes to the spread of WNV.

Deal with potentially infected animals carefully as it is not yet known if people can become infected through handling,

eating, or getting bitten by infected birds or mammals, so take extra precautions. Use gloves when picking up a dead bird or mammal, or grab the animal with a plastic bag and then invert it to the inside of the bag. If local authorities don't want the animal, double-bag it in plastic and put it in the trash.

National Audubon Society  
WWW.AUDUBON.ORG/BIRD/WNV.

### BIRDATHON Results

**W**hat a banner year for BIRDATHON. At the Centennial Dinner Ana Garcia was delighted to present the first prize gift certificate to **John Garrett** for collecting a whopping \$2,345.60.

**Ron Cyger** came in second with \$619.50. Many other participants and donors made up the balance.

THANK YOU all for this most amazing amount of money!

**Our total: \$3,949.10**

### Magpie Bird Study Group



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

**Tuesday, September 21, 2004**  
**San Dimas Nature Center**  
Meet at the Nature Center

**Tuesday, October 19, 2004**  
**Debs Park**

Meet at the Audubon Nature Center.

**Tuesday, November 16, 2004**  
**Peck Road Park**

To get there, drive down Myrtle in Monrovia, which becomes Peck Road (about 2 miles). There is a traffic light at Clark Ave. and the park entrance is the first right after the light.

*Sid Heyman (626) 571-5991  
Madeline West (626) 574-0429*

### PAS on the WEB

#### Website

HTTP://WWW.PASADENAAUDUBON.ORG

#### ListServe

HTTP://GROUPS.YAHOO.COM/GROUP/  
PASADENAAUDUBON/



photo by Donald G. Rogers

## Centennial Dinner

**O**n Saturday night, June 19, Pasadena Audubon Society held a dinner to celebrate its Centennial Year. And what a dinner it was! The weather was beautiful, the food terrific, and the program just long enough. Almost eighty members and guests arrived ready for a special evening and they had one!

Early in the afternoon, most of the Board gathered at Eaton Canyon Nature Center to help Hospitality Chair Laura Garrett set tables, decorate, and arrange the Silent Auction items. The wonderful people from Eaton Canyon Nature Center made sure we had whatever was needed to make everything just right and it was. Many thanks ECNC!

By evening, the tables held beautiful candle and ivy centerpieces, fairy lights twinkled on the patio and live guitar music played as we gathered to enjoy drinks and snacks while sizing up the auction items. During dinner – Matt

Denny's Ale House provided more delicious barbequed tri-tip, chicken and fixin's than we could eat – traffic to and from the auction area increased in proportion to the amount of time left to bid. Two really hot items were the birding trips. Then at 8:00 pm the auction was closed and the "Did I get it or not?" speculation became a prime table topic. A champagne toast and a cake bearing our Centennial logo was the finishing touch to dinner.

Ana Garcia proved to be a delightful lady with a sense of humor as she told us a bit about herself and made introductions. Don Rogers got the program off to a good start with a recap of PAS' first 100 years. The pictures and excerpts from old newspapers were humorous as well as informative. Dan Lewis gave us an overview of birds 100 years ago and now. And Glenn Olson, Audubon California's new Executive Director, spoke briefly about the future

of Audubon California and then presented certificates of appreciation to the past PAS Presidents in attendance — Mickey Long, Judy Johnson, Larry Johnson, Bob Neuwirth and Karen Rogers

Toward the end of the evening, while numbers were being drawn for door prizes, names of successful auction bidders were also announced. Excited voices could be heard saying, "I got the sculpture" or "I got the dinner" or "I got the book" or "I got the painting" and on and on and on. And then it was time to go home.

THANKS... to Laura Garrett and everyone else who worked hard to make this evening happen; to all who donated auction items; to everyone who bid on the items, to everyone who came for dinner; to PAS for evolving over these first 100 years into our wonderful organization.

## Silent Auction

**T**he auction would never have happened if it wasn't for the Pasadena Audubon Society Board of Directors. They not only donated auction items themselves, but took the time and effort to solicit items from businesses and individuals. Many thanks to Norm Arnhem, Eileen Burton, Ron Cyger, Jon Feenstra, Lois Fulmer, Will Fulmer, Laura Garrett, Michael Graesser, Mark Hunter, Priya Kumar, Dan Lewis, Jean O'Hagan and Don Rogers. This year we raised a total of \$1,720.00 from the Silent Auction to support PAS programs.

The following local businesses contributed generously to our fund-raising efforts. We hope you'll reciprocate by patronizing them and letting them know you appreciate their support of PAS.

**Amadeus Salon  
Audubon California  
Armstrong's Nurseries  
Brookside Golf Course  
Barkley on the Green  
The Huntington Library  
Café Santorini  
La Plata Cigar Company**

**Jacob Maarse Florist  
Matt Denny's Ale House Restaurant  
1 Cent CD  
Peet's Coffee  
The Stuffed Sandwich  
Catherine Waters Landscaping  
Trader Joe's  
Yahaira's Cafe**

## Mt. Pinos

**June 26, 2004**

We had a great trip to the Mt. Pinos area. We arrived at Frazier Park only to find that the county park we meet at was being used as a fire staging area. While waiting for everyone, a Red-shouldered Hawk serenaded us, and made a brief appearance. The usual birds for a suburban park were present, even with lots of firefighters around. Many immature American Coots swimming beneath Violet-green and Northern Rough-winged Swallows. Al finally found a Yellow Warbler that we had difficulty identifying by song.

On the road from Frazier Park we found our third swallow, a Cliff. At the turnoff up to Mt. Pinos we had both Purple and Cassin's Finches, Western Wood-Pewee and Olive-sided Flycatcher. Chipping Sparrow and Pygmy Nuthatches seemed to be everywhere.

Up on Mt. Pinos we hiked up to the Condor lookout. We didn't find a condor,

## We've Got the Bird Right Here

Ladbrokes, the grand British bookmaker, takes any and all action from bettors around the world. But a 6,000-mile race involving 18 young albatrosses has to be one of a kind. The birds took off more than two months ago from Australia, heading for South Africa. Tagged with satellite transponders, several competitors perished early: yes, including one named The Ancient Mariner. When Aphrodite's signal disappeared, the field seemed to narrow to Xanadu, Ocean Spirit, Demi and The Ecologist. (There was no Seabiscuit.)

Tens of thousands of dollars had been bet when Ladbrokes teamed up with the Conservation Foundation to raise money for research and preservation programs for the young Tasmanian shy albatrosses. Committed punters, of course, will bet on anything that moves. But the glorious, wave-hugging flight of the albatross is truly special.

And this contest, called the Big Bird Race, is a worthy new way to attract public attention to the dangers albatrosses must overcome in their migration. Modern long-line fishing boats present a bigger threat than any natural predator along the journey, killing hundreds of thousands of

## Field Trip Reports



PAS with local wildlife on Mt. Pinos

but did have Brown Creepers, Fox Sparrows, Green-tailed Towhees and White-breasted Nuthatches. An American Kestral flew over. Priya found a female Calliope Hummingbird, our only one that day. For our last bird, Mark heard a quiet call. We tracked down a Dusky Flycatcher, our 48th species for the day.

*Larry Johnson  
Ron Cyger*

## Arizona/Five-striped Sparrow

**July 31/August 1, 2004**

On Saturday, July 31, nine Auduboners met guide/friend Andree Tarby in Nogales, Arizona for a very intense day of birding. We left our hotel at 6:00 am and didn't return until 11:00 pm. In between, we saw over 60 species of birds including the hope-for Five-striped Sparrow, and drove the tortuous road into California Gulch not once, but twice. Besides the sparrow, California Gulch produced Varied, Lazuli and Indigo Bunting, Bronzed Cowbird, Blue Grosbeak and Summer Tanager – a very colorful place! Less brightly-colored, but just as exciting, were a Gray Hawk and Common Black-Hawk passing each other in flight. In other areas we heard, but didn't see, singing Cassin's Sparrows and a Gray Hawk being "ridden" by a Cassin's Kingbird. The only bird we hoped for but missed was the Buff-collared Nightjar, which has apparently left the area. Great thanks go to Andree Tarby, who helped plan the trip, scouted the area, and got us there and back safely.

*Judy Bass*

## Mark Your Calendar

### Audubon California Assembly November 17-18, 2004

Audubon California will host an Audubon Assembly at the Radisson Hotel in Stockton. The Assembly is a statewide meeting open to all members to discuss conservation challenges in California and adopt a common set of priorities for meeting them. It is an opportunity for Audubon members to gather and learn more about the birds, wildlife and habitat of California and what Audubon is doing to protect them. The Assembly will include a range of practical workshops, interesting speakers, and some great field trips.

For more information contact Jill Shirley at (530) 795-0550 or [JSHIRLEY@AUDUBON.ORG](mailto:JSHIRLEY@AUDUBON.ORG).

seabirds each year.

Over the weekend, Aphrodite's signal suddenly came alive again. There she loomed, beeping down the backstretch. Much to the surprise of race officials, Aphrodite had flown far ahead of the field, having mastered the perils of the vast Southern Ocean.

The signal also indicated that she had paused to fish off the South African coast, nonchalant as a grazing filly, a mere day

or two from the finish line. Still, victory appeared safely in hand.

But wait: under a technicality, the bird's two-week silence meant disqualification. C'mon, no one accused Aphrodite of taking steroids or a taxi, right? The real-world word from Ladbrokes is that it will proudly pay off on Aphrodite once she beeps across the line.

*Published: July 2, 2004 (NY Times)*

## Field Trips

### **Hahamonga Monthly Walk**

**Saturday, September 4, 2004**

**8:00 am – noon**

This is monthly bird walk is for birders of all ages and experience. A good variety of resident and wintering species should be in residence.

Exit the northbound 210 Freeway at Berkshire and make a right, then a left at the light. The park entrance is on the right at the next stop light. Take the first left after entering Hahamonga Watershed Park and park by the ballfield.

Ron Cyger RON@CYGER.ORG (preferred)  
(626) 449-3625 (before 9:00 pm)

### **Huntington Beach Central**

### **Park & Bolsa Chica**

**Saturday, September 11, 2004**

**7:30 am – noon**

This trip offers a chance to see a wide variety of land and water birds, from migrant warblers and flycatchers, to exotics (no, not that kind) and residents such as mannikins, herons, egrets, terns, plovers and sandpipers. Mid-September is a great time to be in the field and we'll split our time between Central Park and Bolsa Chica.

Take the 405 Freeway south to Goldenwest and exit here, heading south. At Slater, make a left and then a quick right into the parking area on the north side of Central Park. We'll meet there.

Ron Cyger—RON@CYGER.ORG (preferred)  
or (626) 449-3625 (before 9:00 pm)

### **Eaton Canyon**

### **Monthly Walk**

**Sunday, September 19, 2004**

**8:00 am – noon**

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 (818) 352-4954  
HPENFOLD@BIGFOOT.COM

### **Ventura County**

**Saturday, September 25, 2004**

**7:00 am – ?**

We're going to start off by scoping for seabirds then head into coastal Ventura County and bird through some of the excellent migrant traps. We'll hit Sycamore Canyon, the sod farms, and a few other places that will give us a good

day of birding. Bring a scope and meet in the beach parking lot of Leo Carrillo State Beach (parking fee) at 7 am.

Jon Feenstra  
(626) 792-4346  
FEENSTRA@ITS.CALTECH.EDU

### **Hahamonga Monthly Walk**

**Saturday, October 2, 2004**

**8:00 am – noon**

*See September 4, 2004 for details.*

### **Galileo Hills**

**Saturday, October 9, 2004**

**8:00 am – 4 pm**

This location is a migrant magnet and vagrant vortex. Songbirds, flycatchers, etc.

Take Hwy 14 about 4 miles past Mojave, then turn right on California City Blvd. Drive through town about a mile past the shops, turn left on Randsburg-Mojave Rd. just past the Golf Course, and veer right on 20 Mule Team Rd. Turn left at the Galileo Hills sign before the hill, take your first paved right, your first right again, into the Silver Saddle Country Club, followed by two paved lefts into the lot. Park by the first pond. About 2 hrs driving time from L.A. Bring lunch, sun block.

Sign up (**12 max.**) at (818) 247-6172  
OR MNFREEMAN@EARTHLINK.NET.

Nick Freeman

### **Eaton Canyon Monthly Walk**

**Sunday, October 17, 2004**

**8:00 am – noon**

*See September 19, 2004 for details.*

### **East Mojave National Preserve**

**Saturday-Sunday, Oct. 23-24**

**8:00 am Saturday to mid-aft. Sunday**

The East Mojave desert encompasses a wide range of habitats with a surprising diversity of birds. We will be looking for resident (thrashers, Pinyon Jay, inland subspecies) and wintering species (raptors, Mountain Bluebird) in habitats ranging from desert scrub and desert oases to Joshua tree and Pinyon-Juniper woodlands.

Take I-210 east to I-15, thence north to Baker (about a 2-1/2 to 3-hour drive). Meet at the "world's largest thermometer" next to the Bun Boy restaurant. If you are late, look for us at the sewer ponds, off Kelbaker Rd. immediately south of the freeway. We will be remote from civilization most of the time, and will camp Saturday night somewhere in the Mid Hills. Recommend filling with fuel at Baker. Bring camping gear, water, and food for two lunches, one breakfast, and one dinner.

Larry Allen (323) 221-2022 or  
LARRYALLEN@EARLYMUSICLA.ORG  
Ed Stonick (626)796-0595 or  
STONICKS@EARTHLINK.NET

### **Peck Pit**

**Saturday, November 6, 2004**

**8:00 am – noon**

This field trip is in lieu of the regular Hahamonga Monthly Walk. Contact leader for meeting location..

Ed Stonick (626)796-0595 or  
STONICKS@EARTHLINK.NET

### **North Slope of the San Gabriels**

**Saturday, November 13, 2004**

**7:45 am – noon**

On this trip we're going to visit some infrequently birded locations along the northern slope of the San Gabriel Mountains. In winter, the North Slope is excellent for finding birds that retreat from higher elevations. Additionally, this area collects birds that wander in from the north and rarely occur in the LA basin. On last year's trip we saw a Yellow-bellied Sapsucker and many Lewis's Woodpeckers. If we have time we'll head out into the Antelope Valley to look for wintering raptors and longspurs.

Meet at the Park & Ride on Ave S in Palmdale. Dress warm.

Jon Feenstra

(626) 792-4346

FEENSTRA@ITS.CALTECH.EDU

### **Prado Regional Park**

**Saturday, November 20, 2004**

**8:00 am – noon**

Wintering waterfowl, marsh birds, and gulls will be the main focus of attention (last year Little Gull and Black-legged Kittiwake were reported from this site). However, the mature trees at the park also support woodland birds. Suggestions for additional afternoon birding will be entertained by the leader.

Take Route 71 south past Chino to the Euclid Ave. exit, turn east on Euclid and the park entrance will be on your right. There is a per-car entry fee; you may wish to carpool.

Larry Allen

(323) 221-2022

LARRYALLEN@EARLYMUSICLA.ORG

### **Eaton Canyon Monthly Walk**

**Sunday, November 21, 2004**

**8:00 am – noon**

*See September 19, 2004 for details.*



Horned Lark

## Calendar

*Submit material for the next Wrentit by October 2nd*

### **September 2004**

Date	Day	Time	Event	Location	Leader *
4	Sat	8:00 am	Field Trip	Hahamongna Watershed Park	Ron Cyger
9	Th	7:30 pm	Board Meeting	Pasadena Presbyterian Church 585 E. Colorado (at Madison)	
11	Sat	7:30 am	Field Trip	Hunting Beach/Bolsa Chica	Ron Cyger
15	Wed	7:00 pm	General Meeting	Eaton Canyon Nature Center	Program: Raptors
19	Sun	8:00 am	Field Trip	Eaton Canyon Nature Center	Hill Penfold
21	Tu	9:00 am	Magpie Group	San Dimas Nature Center	Sid Heyman Madeline West
25	Sat	7:00 am	Field Trip	Ventura County	Jon Feenstra

### **October 2004**

2	Sat	8:00 am	Field Trip	Hahamongna Watershed Park	Ron Cyger
7	Th	7:30 pm	Board Meeting	Pasadena Presbyterian Church 585 E. Colorado (at Madison)	
9	Sat	8:00 am	Field Trip	Galileo Hills	Nick Freeman
10	Sun	2-4 pm	Baking for Birds	711 S. Mentor, Pasadena	The Garrett's
17	Sun	8:00 am	Field Trip	Eaton Canyon Nature Center	Hill Penfold
19	Tu	9:00 am	Magpie Group	Debs Park	Sid Heyman Madeline West
20	Wed	7:00 pm	General Meeting	Eaton Canyon Nature Center	Program: Alaska
23/24	S/S	8:00 am	Field Trip	East Mojave National Preserve	Larry Allen Ed Stonick
23/24	S/S	All Day	Optics Field Day	San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary	Sea & Sage Audubon

### **November 2004**

4	Th	7:30 pm	Board Meeting	Pasadena Presbyterian Church 585 E. Colorado (at Madison)	
6	Sat	8:00 am	Field Trip	Peck Pit	Ed Stonick
13	Sat	7:45 am	Field Trip	North Slope of San Gabriels	Jon Feenstra
16	Tu	9:00 am	Magpie Group	Peck Road Park	Sid Heyman Madeline West
17	Wed	7:00 pm	General Meeting	Eaton Canyon Nature Center	Program: Deserts
20	Sat	8:00 am	Field Trip	Prado Regional Park	Larry Allen
21	Sun	8:00 am	Field Trip	Eaton Canyon Nature Center	Hill Penfold

### **\*Trip Leader Information**

**John Feenstra (Chair)**

Larry Allen                    (626) 792-4346  
 Ron Cyger                    (323) 221-2022  
 Josh Engel                   (626) 449-3625 (*before 9 pm*)  
 Nick Freeman                (909) 990-9203  
 Sid Heyman                  (818) 247-6172  
 Hill Penfold                (626) 571-5991  
 Ed Stonick                  (626) 352-4954  
 Madeline West               (626) 796-0595

**FEENSTRA@ITS.CALTECH.EDU**

LARRYALLEN@EARLYMUSICLA.ORG

 RON@CYGER.ORG (*preferred*)

JENGEL5230@YAHOO.COM

MNFREEMAN@EARTHLINK.NET

HPENFOLD@BIGFOOT.COM

STONICKS@EARTHLINK.NET

MADEBILL@EARTHLINK.NET

## New Members

PAS is pleased to welcome the following new members. We hope you will get involved in our many activities.

**Alhambra:** Dolores Armendariz, Pat Ellico, Barry Furvseth, Elvy Gustafsson, Sonia Menjivar, L.E. Moeller, Amanda Perez, Jack Sera, Masaru Sonoda; **Altadena:** Laura Bluff, Serena Burris, Cecil Cash, Wilda Coker, Ethel Engstrom, Anna Graves, Barbara Hallman, Marie Kelley, Wendy Price, Richard Rayburn, Jean Roberts, Gertrude Schuckert, Svend Sondergard, Constance Storey, L. Ustinov, Ian White, Dabney Zorthian; **Arcadia:** Sylvia Bartlett, Adrienne Biggi, Ralph Bocchetti, Kenneth Bone, Shaun Chen, Richard Curtis, Carl DeHaven, Nikhil Jain, Mary Kellogg, Ying Lu, June Sangwand, Marilynn Seif, Sonya Sidler, Joe & Joan Sintov, Mrs. Frank Sollet, Thomas Taquino, Kathryn Ward, Hazel Williams, Vivian Williams; **Azusa:** Mark Blackshaw, Edith Cavallaro, Elizabeth Esqueda, R.A. James, Ruth Mitchell, Marjorie Moss, Madelyn Payne; **Duarte:** the Buchanans, Barbara Miller, Ed

Nielsen, Wesley Wilkerson; **El Monte:** Ralph Shankland; **La Cañada:** Carol Brown, Kirk Dawson, Lisbeth Morris, Lorewe Samoska, Dan Voge, Anne Wallace, Ben Williams, Mary Williams; **Monrovia:** Shirley Kissel, Bonnie Loveland, Laurel O'Reilly, S. Sims, the Wulfensmiths; **Monterey Park:** Val Carlin, Harry Fong, Gabriel Gonzalez, George Hendry, Vernon Kahle, Roy Oshita, Joseph Rubin; **Montrose:** Thomas Petersmeyer; **Pasadena:** William Averill, Richard Beland, Sandy Bradley, A. Brady, Clark Buswell, Gerald Chapman, Kenneth Chawkins, Susan Clarke, Cynthia Crass, James Creed, Alton Cullen, Nancy Dunham, M.V. Faithorn, Mary Hearn, R.G. Hemann, Pamela Herma, Gilbert Herrera, Susan Hopkins, Claralyn Howard, Pauline Hwang, Elaine Iasparro, Ralph Kavanagh, Kenneth Kemp, George Kinney, Garo Kourjian, E. Kristensen, Roger Krost, A. Livieson, J. Marshall, Marilyn Maxwell, Jacquelyn McCoy & James Lare, Elizabeth McFee, Sally Mosher, Alice Mueller, Taka Nomura, Hilda Parks, Thomas Parrington, Philipson Inc., Elizabeth Pomeroy, Izzy Puluers, Sagar Raksit, William Ramseyer,

Michael Rivera, S.S. Rubsamen, Ann Scheid, Mary Ellen Schubel, Bill Seguine, Katherine Shiban, A.S. Solomon, Anne Stewart, Ted Tang, Stanford Taylor, Sharon Vaughan, Maria Venegas, Helen Williams, Roger Williams, Lucas Zarebinski, Michael Zinzun; **Rosemead:** Melody Avila, Jean DeCocker, Karl Hjelm, Sheila Liwicki, Marianne McDonald, Jo Mitchell, Neil Motter, Evelyn Paul, Tina Wood; **San Gabriel:** Heide Carney, Sandi Cox, R.M. Hernandez, Emily Munro, George Yee; **San Marino:** Eric Buickians, Emmett Tompkins; **Sierra Madre:** Leopold Borodovsky, Genevieve Collins, Jill Emery, Nan Kaeser, Virginia Kathol, Margaret Koch, Luise Mejia, Robert Proctor, Jan Scalise, Nina Smith, Martha Sprigs, Esther Stroh, Patty Van Zant; **South Pasadena:** Jan Adams, Rachel Alexander, Jane Ettinger, Eleanor Fairchild, Don Golden, Nancy Gower, Mrs. L.G. Gustafson, Robert Knowles, Ada Lu, Scott Markowitz, Janet Muff, Scott Parker, Glenna Peters, John Sinclair, Denise Sinnott, Stan Thompson; **Temple City:** Betty Hines, Deborah Snell, L. Vennard; **Van Nuys:** Judy Howell.

## So Cal Birding Optics Field Days

October 23-24, 2004

Sea & Sage Audubon is sponsoring the Optics Field Days. They will be held at the San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary in Irvine, CA. They will offer birders the opportunity to try out and use new birding optics in a field-type setting. The event is open to the public and everyone is

welcome to attend. A full schedule of activities planned, including 14 excellent fee workshops taught by leaders in birding and optics. Representatives of major optical manufacturers will be on hand to show their equipment and answer your questions.

A pancake breakfast will be held Saturday morning along with the sale of used natural history books, and morning

bird walks are scheduled to view the abundant bird life at the ponds in the sanctuary. Full information on this event can be found on the Sea & Sage Audubon website at [www.SEAANDSAGEAUDUBON.ORG](http://www.SEAANDSAGEAUDUBON.ORG).

For questions, contact Nancy Kenyon at (949) 786-3160, [KENYON@EXO.COM](mailto:KENYON@EXO.COM), or Cat Waters at (562) 869-6718, [ROBCATWATERS@EARTHLINK.NET](mailto:ROBCATWATERS@EARTHLINK.NET).

## Become A Chapter Member of Pasadena Audubon Society

Recent policy changes by the National Audubon Society have severely reduced and will soon eliminate the share of NAS membership dues returned to local chapters. The chapters have been encouraged to offer Chapter Only memberships.

Please fill out the application below. A PAS membership of \$35 or more, entitles you to a Pasadena Audubon Society tee shirt and pin. You can pick them up at any of our general meetings!

Pasadena Audubon Society is a 501 (c) (3) corporation, which entitles you to deduct your contributions on your federal and state tax returns.

Ron Cyger

### Membership Application

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_  
 State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

#### Donor's address for gift membership:

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

#### Yearly Membership for Individual or Family

PAS Chapter Only      [ ] \$20    [ ] \$35\*    [ ] Other \_\_\_\_\_

\* Plus Chapter Pin and Tee Shirt (not Centennial shirt)

[ ] \$15 Senior/Full-time Student

NAS C06      [ ] \$35

Make checks payable and mail to:

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

## Kid's Corner

*Editor: John and his family were successful bidders at the Silent Auction in June for a personal birding trip to be led by Jon Feenstra. This is the first section of John's article about their adventure.*

## Our Trip with Jon Feenstra

**A**t the Centennial Dinner Silent Auction, my family bid on and won a personal birding trip with Jon Feenstra. The only problem was a simple one, deciding where and when to go. Of course, being only 10, I just left that to the adults, although I did blurt out, "Let's go to the Salton Sea!" every now and then. Finally we all agreed that we would go to the local mountains on July 10<sup>th</sup>.

Our first planned stop was Buckhorn Campground, but when Jon learned that the Black-chinned Sparrow wasn't on my lifelist, he showed us some places by the side of the road where they're often

abundant. But, as Jon explained, it was probably too late in the year for them, as they are most likely to be seen in May. Although we neither heard nor saw any Black-chinned Sparrows, we did see some interesting birds, including a Bewick's Wren, a family of Black-headed Grosbeaks, and best of all, a juvenile Bell's Sage Sparrow.

We continued on to Buckhorn, and driving down the long driveway there, we thought we had a Dusky Flycatcher, but it very well could have been a Western Wood-Pewee. Almost as soon as we got out of the car, we heard lots of Thick-billed Fox Sparrows and MacGillivray's Warblers singing, and I don't think I'll ever forget their calls. Walking around a little produced a couple of Orange-crowned Warblers and one female MacGillivray's Warbler, a few Thick-billed Fox Sparrows, a Green-tailed Towhee, and many juvenile Dark-eyed

Juncos, Pygmy Nuthatches (or Pygnuts, as Jon calls them), Mountain Chickadees, and Western Bluebirds. Soon, we found a female Cassin's Finch feeding on the ground, several Western Wood-Pewees, some more Thick-billed Fox Sparrows, and, as we expected, we bumped into the P.A.S. field trip group led by Ed Stonick.

Although all these birds we saw at Buckhorn were great, the best bird we had was a Clark's Nutcracker, eating some seeds from a pinecone. There were two odd things about this individual Clark's Nutcracker. First, it was the only one we found at Buckhorn, and second, Buckhorn is a low elevation for these birds. Then, after enjoying both an adult and a juvenile Red-breasted Sapsucker, we went to Cortelyou Springs. We didn't see any birds at the springs, but Jon said you could find interesting birds there like Townsend's Solitaires, which would have been a lifebird for me.

## Baking for Birds!

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Roots & Shoots Lemonade/Bake Sale

Help the California Condor, California Gnatcatcher, Whooping Crane

Sunday, October 10, 2004

2:00 – 4:00 pm

The Garretts

711 S. Mentor Avenue, Pasadena

(near intersection of Lake and California)

Every cookie, brownie, cupcake or glass of lemonade helps these endangered birds.

Proceeds go directly to the Nature Conservancy, Peregrine Fund  
and Operation Migration

For more information:

Laura Garrett: (626) 564-1890 or PURPLECOW@JPS.NET

## Personal Ad

**Wanted: m/f b** (birder) any age, who loves birding, bird education and/or the environment for meaningful relationship on the PAS board. Contact Ron at RON@CYGER.ORG or before 9 p.m. (626) 449-3625. no picture req'd.

## Pasadena Audubon Society Board

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## Pasadena Audubon Society

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