



Drawing by
Guy Coheleach

THE WRENTIT

Founded 1904

Pasadena Audubon Society
A Chapter of National Audubon Society

Volume 54 – No. 3

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

May-June 2006

May Program

Jewels of Ecuador

Wednesday, May 17, 2006

Special joint meeting with LA Audubon
at Audubon Center at Debs Park. See
box below.

No bigger than the state of Colorado,
Ecuador's altitudinal habitats range
from the Pacific coast up the western slope
to the highest Andes, down the eastern
slope to the Amazon rainforest, and from
Northern humid forest to dry scrub in the
south. Its position on the equator means
there aren't the traditional cool and hot
seasons but wet and dry instead. All this
helps to generate an astounding list of
1,537 species seen in a country with just
12 endemic species.

Herb Clarke, Ron Cyger, Gary George
and Bill Principe share photos and videos
from their recent trips of some of the
"Jewels of Ecuador".

Special Notice!!

In May, PAS will hold a combined
meeting with Los Angeles Audubon
Society at Audubon Center at Debs
Park, 4700 North Griffin Avenue, Los
Angeles, CA 90031. (323) 221-2255

7:00 pm Social
7:30 pm Meeting

June Program



Annual Dinner

Sunday, June 25, 2006

6:00 – 9:00 pm

Eaton Canyon Nature
Center

Dinner Catered by
Los Tacos

Live Entertainment
Election Results

See Page 3 for Details

September Program

Shorebirds – ID Workshop

Wednesday, September 20, 2006

Mickey Long and Jon Fisher

The image of shorebirds conjures up
many thoughts and emotions for
birders. They are beautiful and extremely
varied. They are superb fliers and under-
take long distance migrations, thus
vagranacy is common in this group. They
range from some of the easiest birds to
identify to some of the most difficult.
Fortunately, most species aren't hard to
master with a little effort. Mickey and Jon
will highlight the species that regularly
occur in our area, as well as the
"expected" rarities. As usual, we'll cover
aspects of natural history and distribution,
as well as identification.

Wednesday's presentation will be
followed by a field trip on Saturday,
September 23 for some "hands on" in-
field experience. Details for the field trip
will be available at the meeting.

General Meetings held at:

Eaton Canyon Nature Center
1750 N. Altadena Drive, Pasadena

7:00 pm Social
7:30 pm Program

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President's Perch

Our newsletter, *The Wrentit*, is the voice
of PAS. It brings to the members all
the birding news, conservation reports and
coming events – these dedicated volunteers
put it all together. I want to thank the
following people:

Beverly McKenzie (Editor) and Mark
Hunter (Asst. Editor). They gather the
news, decide what to use, correct the
spelling, organize it into a newsletter
format and produce *The Wrentit*, in draft
form. Bev has been a faithful editor for
seven years and has made improvements to
both layout and content, making it easier to
read. Mark joined Bev last September as
an Assistant Editor.

Donald G. Rogers (Desktop Pub-
lisher). Working with the editor, converts
the text and pictures into the final print
format. Don represents PAS on Salton
Sea and Hahamongna issues, and his
wife, Karen, is a past President of PAS.

Alex Strong (Mailing). Alex is a
former editor of *The Wrentit* and continues
to offer his services by getting our news-
letter into the mail. He picks up *The
Wrentit* from the printer, puts on the
mailing labels and delivers to Pasadena's
bulk mailing depot for delivery to your home.

We're grateful to these dedicated
volunteers for making our newsletter
such a fine publication. Give them your
thanks the next time you see them.

Will

Conservation

Hahamongna Annex Planning Underway

The City of Pasadena has begun the planning process for the new Hahamongna Annex, land that was previously owned by Metropolitan Water District. The first community meeting was held April 6 at the Jackie Robinson Center; a follow-up meeting will be held on May 4, at the Salvation Army Fellowship Hall, 960 East Walnut, Pasadena from 6:30-8:30 pm; a third meeting is at Fire Camp 2 between JPL and Hahamongna Park on May 18. An all-day Charrette (*creative, intense work session involving selected specialists*) will be on Saturday, May 20. The public is invited to hear a presentation on the Charrette's

recommendations from 4:30-6:30 pm following the Charrette in Fire Camp 2, 4810 N. Oak Grove Dr., La Cañada Flintridge.

The Hahamongna Annex was purchased with the stipulation that future uses of this property must support open space and recreation. The city is committed to developing a plan to provide a vision for the future of this property that will be integrated into the existing Hahamongna Master Plan adopted September 29, 2003.

This new area is used by Rose Bowl Riders, Tom Sawyer Camps, and includes the structures that were occupied by the US Forest Service. Attend one of these community meetings and advocate for nature and educational uses, such as a nature center, classrooms and facilities for groups interested in the natural world. Many PAS members bird the basin and would add immeasurably to the planning process. If we don't help protect the habitat of Hahamongna, there won't be good birding.

If you would like to be included on the mailing list and receive email updates about the Hahamongna Annex planning, please contact:

Rosa Laveaga
Arroyo Seco Project Supervisor
Department of Public Works –
Parks and Natural Resources Division
(626) 744-3883

RLAVEAGA@CITYOFPASADENA.NET

America's 10 Most Endangered Birds

The Audubon Society recently issued a report listing the ten most endangered birds in America. They are: Ivory-billed Woodpecker, California Condor, Whooping Crane, Gunnison Sage Grouse, Kirtland's Warbler, Piping Plover, Florida Scrub Jay, Ashy Storm Petrel, Golden-cheeked Warbler, Kittlitz's Murrelet, and ten island birds of Hawaii. And the gravest danger facing these birds, along with development pressures, invasive species and global warming, is the United States Congress as they continue to consider action that will weaken the Endangered Species Act.



California Condor

Seal Beach National Wildlife Refuge

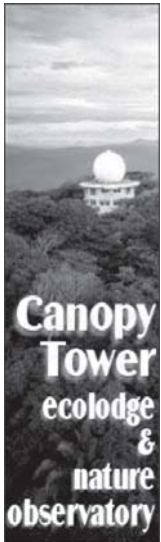
This refuge resides entirely within the Seal Beach Naval Weapons Station, a vast open space in the middle of some of the priciest real estate in California. I grew up in a housing development a few miles north of the base, and I've passed it hundreds of times in cars and on bicycles, but March 4th was the first time I'd been inside. The Sea and Sage chapter of Audubon sponsored a rare birding outing in the refuge, and we covered several miles inside the base, riding in vans provided by the military and by the refuge.

After some thorough checks by the MPs at the base entrance, our first stop was the Nature Center. It overlooks a huge salt marsh, and we were there at low tide to see shorebirds on the mud flats. Nearby were trees used as nesting sites by **Great Blue Herons**. Soon we moved just a short distance to where thousands of birds foraged in some roadside tidal ponds. They were not shy at all. It was the usual cast of **Willet, Whimbrel, Western Sandpiper, Least Sandpiper, Great Egret, Snowy Egret**, and so forth, but there were also **Black-bellied Plovers**, a **Red Knot, Avocets** coming into breeding plumage, lots of **Belding's Savannah Sparrows**, and a pair of **Peregrine Falcons**. Raptors were with us throughout the morning. There are eight Peregrines at the refuge, according to trip leader Tim Anderson. We also sighted many **Ospreys**, a **White-tailed Kite**, many **Red-tailed Hawks** (including a dark morph female that was born here), a **Northern Harrier**, and a lone **Turkey Vulture**.

We birded slowly down the roads to "NASA Island," a huge circular area that is completely enclosed in elaborate fencing to keep out predators. Inside is a wide stretch of beach sand used by Least Terns for nesting. NASA Island used to be a testing ground for the Saturn 5 rocket engines that were built nearby and used in the Apollo space program. When that program ended, the ground was highly contaminated, and the soil was later excavated and replaced with sand. During breeding season volunteers baby-sit the site in four-hour shifts, ready with noisemakers to discourage raids by Common Ravens, Loggerhead Shrikes, and other avian predators. (No use against the Peregrines, though – they strike and depart before you even know they are around.) From our vantage point we could see some **Brant** in the far distance, and some **American Wigeon** and **Lesser Scaup** in a closer tidal creek. You could

(see Seal Beach, page 3)

Pasadena Audubon Sponsors 1st International Birding Trip



Canopy Tower October 14 - 21, 2006

On this trip we will spend a week at the famed Canopy Tower in Panama. Only an hour outside of Panama City, the former radar station has been converted into a Birding Hotel. It's called the Canopy Tower because your bedroom window looks out on the forest canopy!

We will use the tower as our base for the week and have twelve guided trips by their bilingual guides. This will also be the height of fall migration with thousands of hawks passing overhead.

The rooms are double occupancy and on the third floor of the tower. The dining room is on the fourth, and of course there is always the roof! But getting out and finding antshrikes, puffbirds, tinamous, leaf-tossers, woodcreepers, manakins, tanagers, kites, hawks, and many other species is what makes birding Panama so exciting!

For information on the Canopy Tower go to: WWW.CANOPYTOWER.COM.

For information on the trip, itinerary, prices, etc., contact RON@CYGER.ORG.

"Indescribably wonderful for birding"
– Dan Lewis

Seal Beach *(continued)*

see for miles in all directions, and it was so quiet that you could hear the engines of boats a mile away in Huntington Harbor. It was a strange but pleasant feeling there and in the several other deserted sites we visited. During the trip we saw many other ducks and grebes, including **Bufflehead, Ruddy Duck, Cinnamon Teal, Eared Grebes, Western Grebes, Pie-billed Grebes, and Northern Pintails** – and one **Canada Goose**.

There's lots and lots of marsh in the refuge, but scant songbird habitat. After another stop where we saw half a dozen **Great Blue Heron** building nests on an abandoned tower and several species of swallows. We visited a willow thicket next to a field where we saw many **American Pipit** adorning a fence, **Say's Phoebe, House Finch, Bushtit, Yellow-rumped Warbler**, and an unusual **Northern Flicker** that Tim said appeared to be a hybrid of Red-shafted and Yellow-shafted.

Other interesting birds seen but not previously mentioned were **Dunlin, Long-billed Curlew, Black-crowned Night Heron, Double-crested Cormorant, White-throated Swift, and Meadowlark**, plus several other more common species. In addition to protecting Least Tern, Peregrine Falcon, and Belding's Savannah Sparrow, the refuge also shelters a small but healthy population of Light-footed Clapper Rail. The place is birdy!

A tour like ours was unusual because of the large area covered. Check the schedules of the El Dorado or Sea and Sage chapters of Audubon to see when another such tour is offered. A shorter walking tour is offered on the last Saturday of each month from the nature center to a wooden observation deck, perhaps half a mile away, past excellent marsh habitat. Note that you must have advance reservations and the Navy requires you to bring photo ID and proof of insurance for your vehicle. Also, consider volunteering your time at NASA Island (April through July), during the bird counts, or at other times. There is always a need. Contact the refuge at (562) 598-1024 or on the Web at SANDIEGOREFUGES.FWS.GOV.

Mark Hunter



Peregrine Falcon



2005 Dinner

photo by Donald G. Rogers

Pasadena Audubon Society's Annual Dinner

Sunday, June 25th, 2006

6:00 – 9:00 pm

Eaton Canyon Nature Center

The evening will include announcement of next year's officers and Birdathon winners, live music, fun surprises and much socializing. Come see your birding friends without big floppy hats and binoculars!

A plentiful buffet provided by Los Tacos will include:

- Mini Taquitos & Quesadillas
- Veggie Platter
- Salad
- Taco & Salad Bar
- Coffee or Tea
- Dessert
- No-host Beverages

Tickets

\$25.00 for adults; \$12.50 for kids

For reservations, specify the number of each and mail your check by June 20th to:

**Pasadena Audubon Society
1750 Altadena Drive
Pasadena, CA 91107**

For questions, contact

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

PAS on the WEB

Website

[HTTP://WWW.PASADENAAUDUBON.ORG](http://www.pasadenaaudubon.org)

ListServe

[HTTP://GROUPS.YAHOO.COM/GROUP/PASADENAAUDUBON/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/pasadenaaudubon/)

Birding: The Basics and Beyond

A Fall 2006 Birding Event

The Pasadena Audubon Society and Eaton Canyon Nature Center Associates are proudly sponsoring a fall 2006 birding event, **Birding: The Basics and Beyond**. Workshops are appropriate for mature teens and adults and will include: 1) an introduction to birding that is suitable for those who are new to the joys of birding, and 2) the identification of tricky species and 3) bird behavior. Both 2) and 3) are suitable for those who would like to further develop their birding skills.

Workshops will be held on

Saturday, September 30, and will be followed by bird walks on Sunday, October 1, 2006. The workshops will be held at the Eaton Canyon Nature Center. Cost will be \$8.00 per workshop (maximum 2 workshops) and include a Sunday morning bird walk with experienced birders. Lunch (on Saturday) can be ordered through us or you are welcome to bring your own bag lunch. We will plan to eat lunch together in the outdoor classroom, weather permitting, with bird-related entertainment (fashion show and/or game) provided. A raffle will be held

after the workshops end at 4:30 pm on Saturday.

More information on **Birding: The Basics and Beyond** will be provided in the September issue of *The Wrentit* and on the Pasadena Audubon Society and Eaton Canyon Nature Center websites, [HTTP://WWW.PASADENAAUDUBON.ORG/](http://www.pasadenaaudubon.org/) [HTTP://WWW.ECNCA.ORG/](http://www.ecnca.org/).

Registration information will be available on-line at the Pasadena Audubon Society's website.

Please join us for the fun and excitement of birding!

Tentative Schedule of Events

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2006 9:00 AM – 12 NOON	SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2006 1:30 – 4:30 PM	SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2006 8:00 AM – 11:00 AM
BASICS OF BIRDING The goal is to help new birders get started with bird identification, bird habits and habitat, and selecting and using the right equipment.	BASICS OF BIRDING The goal is to help new birders get started with bird identification, bird habits and habitat, and selecting and using the right equipment.	BIRD WALK(S) Join a group of experienced birders who will share their knowledge with you. Field work with experienced birders is a great way to learn.
TRICKY SPECIES This workshop is for birders who find themselves a bit challenged by certain species and would like to further develop their identification skills	BIRDING BEHAVIOR This workshop is suitable for new birders, as well as those with birding experience who want to know more about bird behavior, including: courting, mating, nesting, territory, food sources and migration.	

Field Trip Reports

San Gabriel Mountains Owling

Saturday, March 18, 2006

We identified five species on the April 8th PAS owling trip, rescheduled due to bad weather from the original date of March 18th. In chronological order, we found **Northern Pygmy Owl, Great Horned Owl, Western Screech Owl, Spotted Owl, and Northern Saw-whet Owl.**

We had great looks at a Great Horned Owl and Western Screech Owl. We heard the others but didn't see them. We were pleasantly surprised to hear the Spotted Owl call briefly from the canyon down to the east of Red Box Gap.

The sky was also wonderfully clear at elevations above 5000 feet, so we did a quick tour of the constellations and had nice looks at Saturn and Jupiter through a 65 mm spotting scope.

Lance Benner

San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary

Saturday, February 18, 2006

We had a great and productive day on this trip to Orange County. At San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary we saw **Semipalmated Plovers** on the shore of the river, and stilts, avocets, a cooperative

Forster's Tern, and a variety of ducks on the ponds. After about 15 minutes of rain, Janet found a **Sora** that stayed visible for some great looks. A **Virginia Rail** called loudly nearby but wouldn't come out of the reeds. Between the ponds we found **Blue-gray Gnatcatchers**, tons of **Tree Swallows**, a lone **American White Pelican**, and many ducks, including **Redhead, Bufflehead, and Lesser Scaup.** **Marsh Wrens** were singing but hidden until I finally got one in my scope. Two **Common Moorhen** perched awkwardly on a branch, and a **Raven** acrobatically chased a **Red-tailed Hawk.**

At the overlook at the top of Upper Newport bay, two **Osprey** flew over, and we found four species of grebe, three species of teal, and hundreds of **Marbled Godwits, Willets, Black-necked Stilts, and American Avocets**, and a few **Long-billed Curlews.** A **Hutton's Vireo** was heard. Down along the shore of the bay we had great close looks at **Northern Pintails**, all three teal, and **American Wigeon**, as a male **Northern Harrier** flew by. We ended with about a hundred **Black Skimmers** sitting on a sandbar, and a male **Eurasian Wigeon** swimming nearby. As we drove home, a perched **White-tailed Kite** was the 81st species of the day.

Mark Scheel

FYI:

Saturday, May 6, 2006
BIRDATHON

Get a sponsor

(or make a donation)

**Turn in pledge forms or money
to PAS by June 1, 2006**

Audubon California's
Starr Ranch

May 19-21, 2006

Bird Research Camp

June 3-4, 2006

Wildlife Research Camp

Sea and Sage Audubon of
Orange County and South
Coast Audubon are announcing
their merger, to take place
later this summer.



Field Trips

Hahamongna Monthly Walk

Saturday, September 2, 2006

8:00 am – noon

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

Exit the 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 Hahamongna Watershed Park and park by the ballfield.

Will and Lois Fulmer

Eaton Canyon Monthly Walk

Sunday, May 21, 2006

Sunday, June 18, 2006

Sunday, July 16, 2006

Sunday, August 20, 2006

Sunday, September 17, 2006

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

Huntington Library

Birdwalks (*PAS Members only*)

Sunday, May 28, 2006

Sunday, June 25, 2006

8:00 am – 11:00 am

Sunday, July 23, 2006

Sunday, August 27, 2006

Sunday, September 24, 2006

7:00 am – 11:00 am

Thanks to the persistent efforts of several members, and especially Huntington curator Dan Lewis, we offer walks on the fourth Sunday of the month. Attendance is by reservation only and is limited to 15 PAS members. There will be chances to see some of the “back country” areas.

Contact Elaine MacPherson by email (preferred) or phone. Please put Huntington in your subject line so you don’t get deleted! Reservations will be taken only for the month you call or write. No advance reservations. Elaine and Dan will co-lead and other leaders may also participate.

Elaine MacPherson & Dan Lewis

Butterbredt Springs & Galileo Hills

Sunday, May 14, 2006

6:00 am – 4ish

These are incredible Spring migrant traps for songbirds, flycatchers and other migrants. We will study Empidonax flycatchers in depth, and may have opportunity to see lizards and dragonflies.

Meet at the Jawbone Canyon ranger station lot by Hwy 14, and we will carpool up to Butterbredt Springs. (OR meet at Galileo Hills in the main lot at 9:00 am). Allow 2 hrs. driving time from LA, or stay at the Mojave Motel 6 or elsewhere. Must be a PAS member for this event! 12 max.

Contact Nick to reserve (818) 247-6172 until 11:00 pm or

MNFREEMAN@EARTHLINK.NET, and specify your meeting preference for confirmation and directions. Those showing up without confirmation cannot be accommodated! Bring lunch, sun block, bird & lizard books.

Nick & Mary Freeman

Owling in the San Gabriels

Saturday, May 20, 2006

6:00 pm – midnight

The May trip is scheduled to maximize our chances of finding Flammulated Owl, which arrives on territory at elevations exceeding about 6000 feet beginning in late April. We’ll meet before sunset to search for Northern Pygmy Owl and diurnal montane species and then drive to Islip Saddle (elevation: 6700 feet) after dark to search for owls. All six owl species are possible, but finding three or four species at this time of year is much more likely. Common Poorwill and several mammal species are also possible. Limited to fifteen people per trip.

Reservations are required; please email or telephone Lance to reserve spot. Attendees from last trip are OK, but priority for this trip will be given to people who did not sign up for the March trip. Instructions regarding carpooling, where to meet, what to expect, and other logistics are dependent on the weather and road conditions and will be provided by Lance a few days before the trip.

Lance Benner

Mt. Piños and Environs

Saturday, June 3, 2006

7:30 am – early afternoon

Mt. Piños is one of the best places in Southern California to enjoy a wide variety of montane birds. Several species of warblers, thrushes, raptors, woodpeckers, flycatchers and finches are usually abundant and easy to find. Williamson’s Sapsucker, Calliope Hummingbirds and Hermit Warblers are target species. We will visit Irish Meadows and several other areas where the birding is usually reliable.

Take the Golden State Freeway (#5) north to the Frasier Park turnoff and continue west for about 5 miles to the small city park on your left. We will meet at the park at 7:30 am. Bring lunch and water.

Larry Johnson/Ron Cyger

Buckhorn Campground, San Gabriel Mountains

Saturday, June 17, 2006

8:00 am – noon

At an elevation of 6,300 feet, Buckhorn Campground is a beautiful and comfortable retreat from the hot, smoggy valleys below. There is a small shaded stream, tall evergreens of several varieties, and some open dry slopes. This is an excellent mixture for montane species, including several species of woodpeckers, nuthatches, and flycatchers, Cassin’s and Purple Finches, Green-tailed Towhees, Fox Sparrows, and MacGillivray’s Warblers. Occasionally other mountain birds, such as Brown Creepers and Pine Siskins may be found.

From Interstate 210, go north (right) on Angeles Crest Highway, State Route 2, about 34 miles. The campground entrance is about one mile past Cloudburst Summit, at mile marker 58.3. Proceed through the campground, following signs for the Burkhart Trail. A Forest Adventure Pass is required to park in the trailhead lot, where we’ll meet. Allow about 1 hour and 15 minutes for the drive from Pasadena.

Ed Stonick

Throop Peak

Saturday, July 1, 2006

8:00 am – noon

Throop Peak is one of the highest mountains in the San Gabriels at a towering 9,138 feet. Not for the faint-hearted, the hike to the top is a 4-1/2 mile round trip. The views are spectacular. The hike is very strenuous. From Interstate 210, go north (right) on Angeles Crest Highway, State Route 2, about 49 miles to Dawson Saddle, at mile marker 69.5. Park in the clearing on the north side of the road. A Forest Adventure Pass is required. Allow about 1 hour and 30 minutes for the drive from Pasadena.

From Interstate 210, go north (right) on Angeles Crest Highway, State Route 2, about 49 miles to Dawson Saddle, at mile marker 69.5. Park in the clearing on the north side of the road. A Forest Adventure Pass is required. Allow about 1 hour and 30 minutes for the drive from Pasadena.

PLEASE NOTE: At this time, the Angeles Crest Highway remains closed at Islip Saddle, and it was not opened last summer. Please check with the Forest Service or trip leader in late June to make sure the area is available.

Ed Stonick

(see Field Trips, page 7)

NEWS FLASH!
This trip is cancelled
due to road closure.
Check Web for possible
alternative trip or
contact trip leader.

Calendar

Submit material for the next Wrentit by August 1st

May 2006

Date	Day	Time	Event	Location	Leader *
6	Sat	ALL DAY	Field Trip	BIRDATHON	<i>See Website or last Wrentit issue</i>
10	Wed	7:30 pm	Board Meeting	Pasadena Presbyterian Church	585 E. Colorado Bl. (at Madison)
14	Sun	6:00 am	Field Trip	Butterbredt Springs/Gallieo Hills	Nick and Mary Freeman
16	Tu	9:00 am	Magpie Group	Lower Arroyo	Sid Heyman & Madeline West
17	Wed	7:00 pm	General Meeting	Audubon Center at Debs Park	Program: Jewels of Ecuador
20	Sat	6:00 pm	Field Trip	Owling in the San Gabriels	Lance Benner
21	Sun	8:00 am	Field Trip	Eaton Canyon Nature Center	Hill Penfold
28	Sun	8:00 am	Field Trip	Huntington Library Gardens	Elaine MacPherson & Dan Lewis

(PAS Members Only)

June 2006

3	Sat	7:30 am	Field Trip	Mt. Pinos & Environs	Ron Cyger & Larry Johnson
14	Wed	7:30 pm	Board Meeting	Pasadena Presbyterian Church	585 E. Colorado (at Madison)
17	Sat	8:00 am	Field Trip	Buckhorn Campground/ San Gabriel Mountains	Ed Stonick
18	Sun	8:00 am	Field Trip	Eaton Canyon Nature Center	Hill Penfold
20	Tu	9:00 am	Magpie Group	Descanso Gardens	Sid Heyman & Madeline West
25	Sun	8:00 am	Field Trip	Huntington Library Gardens	Dan Lewis & Elaine MacPherson
25	Sun	6:00 pm	Annual Dinner	Eaton Canyon Nature Center	<i>See Page 3 for details</i>

(PAS Members Only)

July 2006

1	Sat	8:00 am	Field Trip	Throop Peak (cancelled, contact trip leader)	Ed Stonick
16	Sun	8:00 am	Field Trip	Eaton Canyon Nature Center	Hill Penfold
23	Sun	7:00 am	Field Trip	Huntington Library Gardens	Elaine MacPherson & Dan Lewis
29	Sat	7:00 am	Field Trip	Piute Ponds/Antelope Valley	Ron Cyger & Mark Scheel

(PAS Members Only)

August 2006

19	Sat	7:00 am	Field Trip	Los Angeles River	Mark Scheel
20	Sun	8:00 am	Field Trip	Eaton Canyon Nature Center	Hill Penfold
27	Sun	7:00 am	Field Trip	Huntington Library Gardens	Dan Lewis & Elaine MacPherson

(PAS Members Only)

September 2006

2	Sat	8:00 am	Field Trip	Hahamongna Watershed Park	Lois & Will Fulmer
13	Wed	7:30 pm	Board Meeting	Pasadena Presbyterian Church	585 E. Colorado (at Madison)
16	Sat	7:00 am	Field Trip	Galileo Hills	Nick & Mary Freeman
17	Sun	8:00 am	Field Trip	Eaton Canyon Nature Center	Hill Penfold
19	Tue	9:00 am	Magpie Group	TBA	Sid Heyman & Madeline West
20	Wed	7:00 pm	General Meeting	Eaton Canyon Nature Center	Program: Shorebird ID – Workshop
24	Sun	7:00 am	Field Trip	Huntington Library Gardens	Elaine MacPherson & Dan Lewis

(PAS Members Only)

***Trip Leader Information**

Mark Scheel (Chair)	(626) 355-3938	SHEEL@TAPIR.CALTECH.EDU
Larry Allen	(323) 221-2022	LARRYALLEN@EARLYMUSICLA.ORG
Lance Benner	(626) 791-1187	LBENNER@CHARTER.NET
Ron Cyger	(626) 449-3625 (<i>before 9 pm</i>)	RON@CYGER.ORG (<i>preferred</i>)
Jon Feenstra	(626) 792-4346	FEENSTRA@ITS.CALTECH.EDU
Nick & Mary Freeman	(818) 247-6172	MNFREEMAN@EARTHLINK.NET
Sid Heyman	(626) 571-5991	
Dan Lewis	(626) 398-4805	DANOLEWIS@EARTHLINK.NET
Elaine MacPherson	(626) 355-9412	BIRDERGRRL@AOL.COM
Hill Penfold	(626) 352-4954	HPENFOLD@BIGFOOT.COM
Ed Stonick	(626) 796-0595	EDSTONICK@EARTHLINK.NET
Madeline West	(626) 574-0429	WEST226@ADELPHIA.NET

Field Trips *(continued)*

Piute Ponds/Antelope Valley

Saturday, July 29, 2006

7:00 am – 2:00 pm

Join us for a day at Piute Ponds and other hot spots in the Antelope Valley. Fall shorebird migration is underway, and the Ponds host an impressive assortment of shorebirds, waterfowl, and marsh dwellers, as well as desert species. It will be hot; bring plenty of water, food, and a scope if you have it.

Note: The Piute Ponds are located on Edwards Air Force Base, which has restricted entry. Participants limited to 12; email Mark to sign up.

Mark Scheel and Ron Cyger

Los Angeles River

Saturday, August 19, 2006

7:00 am – noon

The Los Angeles River is one of the premier locations in our area for shorebirds, and the month of August is smack in the middle of the fall shorebird migration season. We'll look through the thousands of shorebirds that frequent the river at this time: Western and Least Sandpipers, Dowitchers, Yellowlegs, Phalaropes, Stilts, Avocets, Plovers, and more. Occasionally a Peregrine Falcon harasses the flocks. Possible rarities include Semipalmated, Baird's and Solitary Sandpipers.

Meet at 7:00 am at the Willow St. crossing. Directions: from the 710 freeway, exit Willow St. East in Long Beach. Drive east over the LA River. Make the first left on Golden Ave. Make the next left on 26th Way and drive west

until you come to the bank of the river. Park anywhere along the street and walk up the bike path to the riverbank.

Mark Scheel

Galileo Hills *(PAS members only!)*

Saturday, September 16, 2006

7:00 am – 4ish

One of the top four Fall migrant traps in the state, this spot has produced Eye-browed Thrush, Groove-billed Ani, Veery, Painted Bunting, Yellow-green Vireo, and Blue-winged, Connecticut and Golden-winged Warblers. We won't see these, but surprises are commonplace. We may even ogle some reptiles or dragonflies.

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 pond. About 2 hrs driving time from L.A. Bring lunch, sun block.

Reserve with Nick at (818) 247-6172 or NFREEMAN@EARTHLINK.NET, and please do not show up without confirmation.

Nick & Mary Freeman

New Members *(continued)*

Nilsson; **NEWHALL:** Kathleen Crandall; **PASADENA:** Yusra Adem, Gail Anderson, Julia Brandauer, Lauren Bullock, Jason Celek, Elizabeth Cepielik, Kenneth Colborn, Erika Esau & George Boeck, William Greeland, Paul Hadley, Chuck Heaton, Doris Hilton, Sue Hitselberger, Donald Hoagland, Linda

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, May 16, 2006

Lower Arroyo

Meet at the parking area near the casting pond

Tuesday, June 20, 2006

Descanso Gardens

Meet at the entrance

*Sid Heyman
Madeline West*

Iannucci, Robert Knowles, Thomas & Cynthia Lake, Gina Lombardi, Oscar Mendoza, Ann Parish, Betty Parker, T. Quinn, Robert Reddingius, Carol Robbins, Linda Siggins, Kurt Slater, Allisha Tralli, Paul Wagner, Kenneth Ward, Dr. & Mrs. H. Zoff; **SAN GABRIEL:** Jason Byrne, Fred Nelson, Lisa Wong; **SAN MARINO:** Mrs. John Hoover; **SIERRA MADRE:** Natasha Opalenik, A.M. Tyler, Carole Weeks; **SOUTH GATE:** Barbara Niewola; **SOUTH PASADENA:** John Doolittle, Kathleen Gross, Joan Kick Hewett, Wendy Kerfoot, Allen Mathies, Wahid Nur, Lenore Rodah; **STUDIO CITY:** Rita Rothman; **TEMPLE CITY:** Norman Bailey, Trudy Barker, Gene Mo, Jennie Guard, Elsie Tiroux, C.B. Winston.

Become a Chapter-only Member of PAS

Policy changes by the National Audubon Society have severely reduced the share of NAS membership dues returned to local chapters, funds which Pasadena Audubon has used to finance its programs and services. To make up for the loss of funds from National Audubon, Pasadena Audubon, like many other National Audubon chapters, now offers *Chapter only* memberships.

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

We thank you all for your support!

Membership Application

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____
 State _____ Zip Code _____ Phone _____

Email _____

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 or PAS Birding Guide*

[] \$15 Senior/Full-time Student

Donation [] _____

Make checks payable and mail to:

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

Kid's Corner

An Interview with John

I don't know if you're aware, but we have a Master Birder in our midst. What's a Master Birder? Hmm. . . definitional problem. We all can agree that the number of birds on a Life List is a rough estimate of experience. So how about Life List divided by age? Or maybe by years of birding? By either measurement John Garrett is a Master Birder (as pointed out by a recent newspaper article).

John and I sat down over a cup of espresso to talk about the ABA Young Birder of the Year award.

Ron: Many people can't believe you're only 12. How long have you been birding?

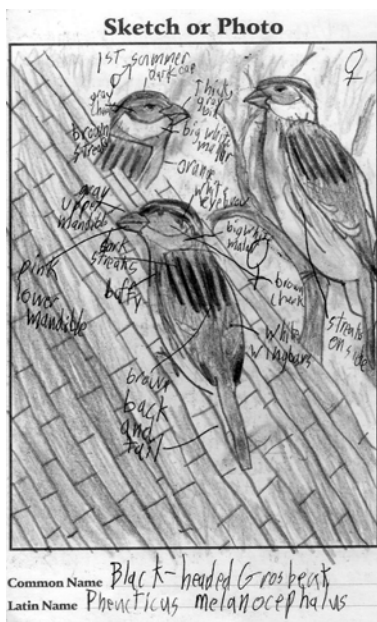
John: I've been birding a little over four years.

R: And how many birds do you have on your life list?

J: ABA or World?

R: Both.

J: In the ABA area I have 340 and the world I have seen 419. My ABA and California list are the same, I don't get out



Page from John's field notebook.

of the state much (Mom and Dad, can I borrow the keys to the car)?

R: I hear you've recently won an

award from the American Birding Association. What did you win?

J: It's the Young Birder of the Year award, sponsored by Leica.

R: Why did you apply?

J: I thought it would be fun. I applied last year (2004) in the field notebook, photography, and writing categories and won 2nd prize in Photography. In 2005, I submitted for these three categories, plus illustrations. I won 3rd prize in the photography, writing, and field notebook categories and Honorable Mention overall.

R: Why did you resubmit in 2005?

J: I resubmitted because it's fun, and it makes me a better birder. The field notebook especially helped a lot. I had to have complete sketches and point out details. Each category had three judges who reviewed my work. Judges included Alvaro Jaramillo, Ted Floyd, and Shawneen Finnegan.

R: Well, congratulations John! All of us at Pasadena Audubon Society are very proud of you and your accomplishment.

Ron Cyger

New Members

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

ALHAMBRA: Yao W. Hong Efiap, Mr. & Mrs. Michael Kapic, Linda Mendenhall, Michael Ong, Eric Peralta; **ALTADENA:** Glenn Arbuthnot, Marcelle Crunkleton, Martha & George Giffen, Patricia

McKenna, Sudhakar Menon, Chrystal Watson, Joanne Westbrook, Marie White; **ARCADIA:** Daniel Burschinger, Lisa Contreras, Jim Curiel, Ann Durgerian, Janet Heightland, Basil Johnson, Leticia Shterenverg, Lucille Wang; **AZUSA:** Ted Esters, Virginia Herreras, Irene Mazura, Brian Smith; **BRADBURY:** Richard Winslow; **COVINA:** Clifford McLean; **DUARTE:** James Chadwick;

LA CAÑADA FLINTRIDGE: Barbara Abraham, Scott Dewey, Dwayne Fritsche, John & Carol Goddard, Melvin Trickey; **LA CRESCENTA:** Al Kisner; **MONROVIA:** Diane Anderson, Margery Patrick; **MONTEREY PARK:** Lewis Amack, Carmen Jacobsen, Mrs. M. Katz, Andy Loh, Kurt McMillan, Rebecca Schnell, Peter Tang; **MONTROSE:** Eivor

(see New Members, page 7)

Pasadena Audubon Society Board

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Pasadena Audubon Society

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