



HUMMIN'

www.pvsb-audubon.org

Palos Verdes/South Bay Audubon Society

Vol. XLV #3 May/June 2023

Spring Count Results By Kim Moore

The Spring Palos Verdes Butterfly/Dragonfly Count was held this year on Saturday, April 8th. The Spring Butterfly Count helps monitor butterfly species that fly early in the season and are less common or absent at the time of the Summer Butterfly Count.

We had fifteen people out looking across six areas of PV, many of them with Jeanne Bellemin at Madrona Marsh. The good news came from Jess Morton, who found three Palos Verde Blues at the coast, including the one in the photo at left. Finding these butterflies, indicative of an actual wild population, is exciting!



While the rains are bringing out the green and flowers on the peninsula, the cool temperatures and gray skies may have contributed to fewer butterflies flying this year. Spring is always a slower time than summer, but all teams said they thought the number of insects seemed even lower than expected this year. The data bears this out. The butterfly species count this year was 14 with only 72 individuals (last year 24 species and 387 individuals). Of course, not all things are equal, and there are many factors that contribute to the numbers. It is often hard to attribute counts to a single cause, such as the weather, number of counters, climate/habitat change, or other factors. That is why it is important to track the conditions as well as the

(Count continued on page 3)

May and June Meeting Programs

From Alaska to the high Andes of South America, join us May 16th at Madrona Marsh, at 7 P.M., as we explore the magic of hummingbirds with **Benny Isaac Jacobs-Schwartz**.



With 360 species recognized globally, we'll discuss their remarkable biology, extensive range, ecological significance, and the best way to attract them to your yard! Mouth-watering media and local hummingbird ID section included!

"Snowy Plovers & Least Terns in Los Angeles: Conservation + Sketching!" will



be presented by **Stacey Vigallon** June 20th, at 7, at Madrona Marsh. In this interactive presentation, we will hear about California Least Tern and Western

Snowy Plover conservation efforts in Los Angeles County and the role that education programs and community-based monitoring efforts have played since 2007. With shorebirds and terns as our theme, we will also sharpen our observation and bird identification skills through a series of sketching activities.

From the President April 2023

By Ann Dalkey

While sitting at my desk contemplating what to write for the May/June edition of Hummin', I was distracted by the plaintive calls of a young American crow sitting near the top of a pine tree behind our house. It has quieted down now, as happens after an adult arrives to feed a fledgeling. I thought for a moment, are the crows nesting about the same time, or later than usual due to our very wet and cool spring?

Contemplating questions like this helps one better understand seasonal and year-to-year changes in bird populations. The more familiar one becomes with bird activities, the better one can recognize various species and understand what birds are doing, including the very vocal American crows behind our house.

Everyone can participate in observing and reporting bird activities. For observational activities, our Palos Verdes/South Bay Audubon Chapter has plenty of birding opportunities available to everyone. Visit the website (<https://pvsb-audubon.org/>) for regularly scheduled activities and unique field trips to interesting bird areas throughout the southland (<https://pvsb-audubon.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/Winter-Spring-2023.pdf>). In addition, the Chapter conducts a Birdathon, Butterfly Counts, and Christmas Bird Counts, the latter an activity that has been conducted for over 100 years!

For more in-depth studies, visit the National Audubon Society's website. There one can learn about Audubon's work in bird science, conservation and



advocacy. Personally, I enjoy learning about wildlife science, in particular behavior. Everyone can join in on the fun, such as installing bird-friendly plants in your yard, especially local native plants.

Whether it is at home, on a scheduled hike, or on a field trip, everyone is welcomed join in on the fun. And, you are welcomed to write about your experience and send it to us at info@pvsb-audubon.org with a photo, if possible. We would love to receive submissions for Hummin' describing your experiences while birding, whether you are an expert, a passionate nature observer or both.

The last few months have brought us a lot of rain! It was so welcomed and now we are seeing wildflowers popping out here and there in the landscape--as well as weeds. And so, Spring California Style has begun to bring about abundant foraging for the birds.

Recently our new webmaster, Prevail de Rox, and talented Treasurer Julian Chasin have teamed up to update the chapter's website. The home page provides a summary of our next monthly program along with a nice photo of the presenter. A button on the webpage takes one to a page with more details. The Events Calendar has been updated so that details on an event are shown when clicked. For example, click on "Chapter Meeting," and presentation title, date, time, location, speakers, and Zoom link are shown.

Our Chapter is fortunate to have many photographers that capture beautiful photos of local birds. Several of them have donated their photos for use on the website. Because I love pretty and colorful photos, I have asked our webmaster to include more visual effects on the website. We also studied other websites to understand what works best for optimal visual effects while containing as much or more information to satisfy your curiosity. Our goal is to finish the website revamp in a couple of months.

Please note, you may contact PV/SB Audubon directly via email at info@pvsb-audubon.org. I or other board members will be happy to answer questions and accept suggestions.

Website Update in Progress By Prevail de Rox

Our website is a powerful conductor of our chapter's voice. The awesome array of birds that nest locally, combined with our community's collective expertise and appreciation for them, gives us a unique story to tell. We're exploring new ways to tell this story via a redesign of our chapter website - to further share in the beauty and fascination of our local birds. I'm excited about the opportunity to partake, and appreciative of our chapter leaders' guidance throughout this process. The site should be ready for launch within the next few months; tweaks and improvements will likely continue for a while thereafter.

(Count continued from page 1)

number of butterflies counted. This data gets added to the North American Butterfly Association (N.A.B.A.) database, along with all the other butterfly counts in North America. It is the analysis of many sets of data that brings meaning. Thus, low counts are still important to record.

Notable were the low numbers of Cabbage Whites, Marine Blues, Gulf Fritillaries, Mourning Cloaks, and skippers. Several common species were missing altogether. Here are the count totals: 4 Western Tiger Swallowtail, 11 Cabbage White, 1 Pacific Sara Orange-tip, 3 Cloudless Sulphur, 2 Marine Blue, 3 (PV) Silvery Blue, 2 Blue sp., 5 Gulf Fritillary, 2 Mourning Cloak, 6 Painted Lady, 5 Red Admiral, 21 Monarch, 2 Funereal Duskywing, 3 Fiery Skipper, 2 Umber Skipper.



Pacific Forktail
Photo: Vincent Lloyd

A few 'Odes' (Dragonflies and Damselflies, order Odonata, or Odes for short) were flying at Ken Malloy Regional Park and Madrona Marsh, with one Blue-eyed Darner found at Linden H. Chandler preserve. Vincent Lloyd found 19 Pacific Forktail damselflies at Ken

Malloy. Otherwise, there was nothing noteworthy. Full list: 19 Pacific Forktail, 5 Common Green Darner, 3 Blue-eyed Darner, 2 Variegated Meadowhawk, 2 Wandering Glider, 1 Spot-winged Glider, 1 Dragonfly sp.

In some ways, the Spring Count is a warmup for the big Summer Count. The Summer Butterfly Count is one of hundreds conducted every summer in the United States, Canada, and Mexico. As in the Christmas Bird Count, the aim is to count all the butterflies that are seen on the count day within the count circle. Our count circle extends east to the Los Angeles River, north to Alondra Park, west to Santa Monica Bay, and south into the Catalina Channel.

Thank you to all who came out for the count, and particularly to our most dedicated counters who have repeated the effort over many years.

Mark your calendars: The 43rd Palos Verdes Summer Butterfly/Dragonfly Count will take place on Saturday, July 8. Look for a reminder in the next issue of Hummin'.

Chapter Leader Profile Julian Chasin



Julian is one of those examples of people who have turbo-charged their retirement years by taking on challenges that our many current environmental problems have posed. A transplant from the Midwest, Julian

worked for 35 years in IT and Aerospace, bringing his family to the South Bay in 1996. Even before retiring, he volunteered at Madrona Marsh and co-led a 'Green Team' at Boeing in Long Beach. To keep mentally agile in retirement, he took up book-keeping, becoming expert at QuickBooks software and gaining hands-on experience with local firms, individuals and non-profits, such as Los Serenos de Point Vicente. When not balancing the books for the PV-SB Audubon chapter, he gets outdoors--hiking, vegetable gardening, or restoring coastal native habitat at Vicente Bluffs (PVPLC) and the Esplanade Bluffs (SBPC). Julian enjoys bicycling, bowling, beer, and lately, birds.

Julian says, "As the chapter's newest Treasurer, I'd like to chip in with some thank-yous. First, you may not know that in addition to his many talents and years of dedication to the chapter, Jess Morton has been keeping the books - meaning a lot of time spent checking our PO box, paying invoices, producing P&Ls, staying right with the authorities, and myriad other tasks large and small. I owe him a debt (that's a long-term liability in bookkeeper-speak) of gratitude for all the help he's provided in the transition.

Secondly, thank you to all the contributors to this year's annual appeal. We have so many supporters who care deeply enough, and dig deeply enough, to keep our programs going. It's clear from all your support that confidence in the chapter remains strong. My promise is to care for your funds to see that they are spent wisely and kept safe.

Speaking of which, I hope you will donate in support of our annual Birdathon, described on page 11. You can easily make a donation on our website, via our Donate button, or by sending a check. We treasure any amount you may wish to provide.

Landslide

By Jess Morton

While much of the country is consumed with worries about catastrophic, rains, flooding, fires, tornados and hurricanes, the southernmost part of Los Angeles County has landslides to contend with. The recent geologic history of the Palos Verdes and LA Harbor region is one of many slippages seaward. In geological terminology, “recent” often means the last few hundred thousand years. Though that does apply here, for PV, recent also means within living memory.

Locals can claim a devastating landslide presaged the 1929 stock market crash! Omen or not, in January a landslide had created what is now known as San Pedro’s “Sunken City.” That landslide, not so many years before my time, took out a chunk of coast road along with some homes. Sunken City is still littered with bits of road bed and old foundations. Every once in a while, I see a bemused visitor studying his (usually, rather than her) cell phone, trying to figure out where this mythic place is that some social media site has sent them to. I’m always happy to show them the tumbled landscape they came for, though it’s hardly the exotic vista they had expected—Atlantis, perhaps? Geology classes from various local schools show up here too,

soon to go on to visit several more landslides further along our coast.

We’ll jump ahead of the class, though, for they will be stopping first near White Point to look at the slide that took out another stretch of Paseo Del Mar a dozen years ago, and then the golf course on which half of the 18th hole slid away twenty-three years ago, six weeks before the course was scheduled to open, after years of planning, litigation and construction. We are headed still further west to visit the granddaddy of them all, the nation’s, if not the world’s, largest active landslide, the one in Portuguese Bend. It’s a landslide I remember reading about in *Life* (or another national magazine) when I was in school, shortly after the slide had destroyed half the homes in the beach community there, and some years before I came to California. Two-thirds of a century on, that landslide is still in motion.

The photo of the landslide on the opposite page was taken in 1993, thirty-five years after the slippage first began. Over those years, Palos Verdes Drive South, seen in the upper part of the photo, had move seaward so far that it had to be realigned inland. The result, shown here, was that the buildings seen in the upper center had gone from one side of the road to the other! They have since been demolished, and while the land has continued its move seaward during the last thirty years, the central portion of the roadway

has dropped about thirty feet. PV Drive South no longer looks as it does in that old photo.

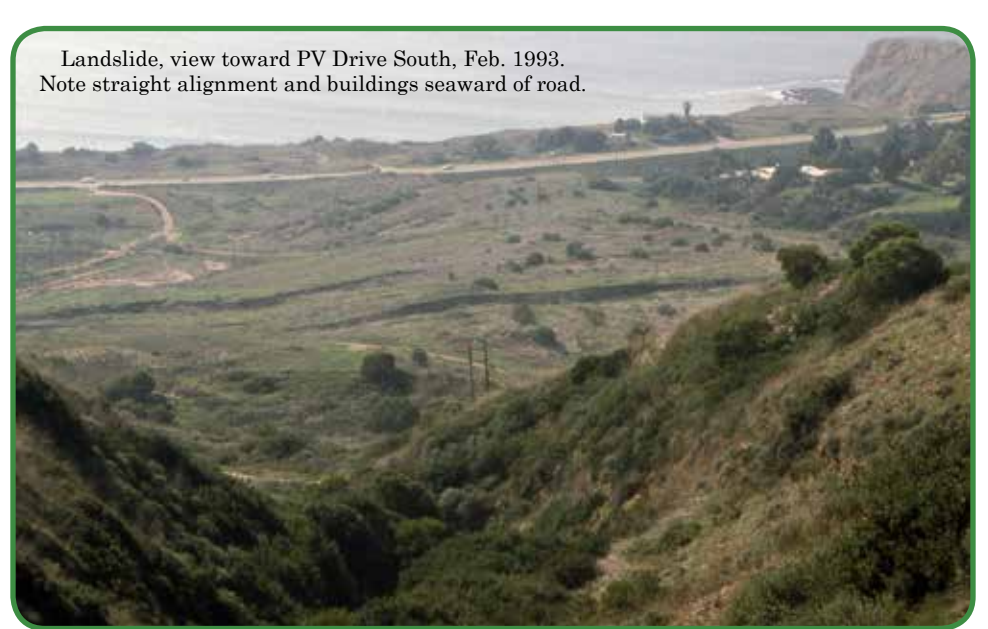
Indeed, today it is moving faster than it has in many years, as any regular user of Palos Verdes Drive South will have noticed. Driving speed through the landslide area has dropped in response, perhaps the only beneficial element in this pending catastrophe. If that road is cut off by the slide, it will take a critical sewer line with it, affecting hundreds of local homes. So it is no surprise that plans for a possible remediation project are in the works. Time is not on the sidelines here, as it might have seemed to be a couple of years ago. The rains in the last few months have had a speedier and greater effect on slide movement than I, and perhaps many others, would have expected. Rainwater that used to take six months to percolate into the soil, now seems to engender movement in far less time. Time is of the essence!

So why an article in *Hummin’*? Are the birds likely to care one way or the other about our efforts in the landslide? Yes, because planned remediation will probably have an effect on the habitat in the nature preserve that occupies much of the sliding land. Four elements make up the proposed remediation: a set of horizontal dewatering wells, the filling in of open cracks in the ground, a series of culverts and swales to facilitate runoff, and a detention basin to capture

high-flow runoff through the swale system to prevent it from washing out the seaward culverts and/or roadway.

Phasing of this project is the question before us. It is a major question addressed in the Environmental Impact Report being considered as I write, and shortly to be released. There is no doubt this project will go forward, and there is little opposition to it per se. However, how it is implemented can have significantly different effects on habitat and wildlife. Everyone seems agreed that the cracks need to be plugged to limit infiltration of rain water into the ground, and downward from there to the slide plane, the source of the problematic slippage. A second element, and perhaps the most important one, is the installation of dewatering wells. Unlike the vertical wells that proved a failure decades ago, these would be horizontal wells bored in under the slide plane to capture artesian water, the source of which is the septic systems and other water usages from the homes high above in Rolling Hills and Rolling Hills Estates. The hope is that four-fifths or more of the water driving the landslide can be drawn off in this way. It is a proven technique.

The other elements in the remediation project will affect habitat and the wildlife that uses it. The swales, with their geotechnical fabric linings, will drain the canyons and other surface water sources during rainstorms, but not sustain



Landslide, view toward PV Drive South, Feb. 1993.
Note straight alignment and buildings seaward of road.

the coastal sage scrub habitat there now. Even more habitat will go for a large, fabric-lined detention basin proposed on land that Jimmy Ishibashi farmed many years ago, and that has now returned to native habitat. What effect these alterations will have on the landslide itself, is uncertain. Presumably, they will help slow things down. Stopping the slide may have to be left to future generations.

The Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy, which manages this land and knows it intimately, prefers that this surface reengineering be held off pending implementation of the dewatering well program and an evaluation of its effectiveness. Since most of the damage from this year’s rains won’t be affected by installing the swales, this may well be a reasonable approach to the problem of habitat loss. Other factors, especially those having to do with funding may override best practices, though.

Money under Biden’s Inflation Reduction Act is available for projects like this in the short term, but longer-term funding could be cut off by a recalcitrant House of Representatives, should it refuse to fund things already approved by Congress. If the swales and catch basin are installed, we should expect their vegetation to be quite different from that which is there now. The vegetation coming in will be short-rooted and suited to very dry conditions, something for which annual fire-prone weedy grasses are well adapted. Constant management of the swales will be necessary, as will extra efforts to remediate the concurrent loss of coastal sage scrub habitat by reestablishment elsewhere in the preserve. The trick in this will be to find the sweet spot, where habitat, roadway and sewer lines are preserved, all without driving speeds being cranked back up to its reckless pace of recent years.



Loon Songs

Below the loose cliffs, where the wet fist knocks,
lacy seas surge over the raised knees of cleft rocks
and the chasing shadows as the loons dive and climb,
dark forms easing seaward in the slow thighs of time.

Rounding the point, the loons line low over gray waves,
urgent black notes undulating across sea-staves,
an unvoiced evocation of their lake-sung ululant cry.
Loons lining north under the vast, soft rhythms of sky.

The boneless mists lapse onto the lake, diverge, retire
into silhouette cedars. Foretold in the eyes' dark fire,
the loons, slow forms, low, drift away, with fog coalesce.
At the shore, tense needles of spruce, on end, motionless.

Ice forms and the thick heads lift. South the quick bore
through chill wind. One unknowable pulse pulls at the core
of the purposed loons. This dark blood of earth, that sings
along unseen veins of necessity on hot heartbeat of wings.

*By Jess Morton
from Shorelines*

BIRDS OF THE PENINSULA

February — March 2023

by Vincent Lloyd

The cold and wet weather of January continued into February and March, when another 10 inches of rain were added to the seasonal total. Cool temperatures (by southern California standards) continued into April. The low temperature during the period was 37° F on Feb. 26; the high of 75° occurred during a brief warm spell on Mar. 18. Otherwise, daily highs were in the low 60s. It was the Winter that Never Ended.

The **Black-legged Kittiwake** is a small gull that breeds in Alaska and wanders south in the winter. In

Black-legged Kittiwake

Photo: Sofie Shen



the last century, it was a common sight in winter. It appeared on the PV Christmas Bird Count every year until 1983, but only occasionally since. So it was a nice

Black-legged Kittiwake

Photo: Sofie Shen



surprise when Sofie Shen found a juvenile Kittiwake on Torrance Beach on Feb. 27. (Another was spotted from a boat in the Channel a half mile off Cabrillo Beach on Mar. 11.)

Several observers reported large numbers of **American Robins** migrating north during late February. Typical was the flock of 100 that Merryl Edelstein saw at South Coast Botanic Garden on Feb. 21. Other early migrants included a **Rufous Hummingbird** in Miraleste on Feb. 18 (Marilyn Borosdy), a **Cliff Swallow** at Malaga Creek on Feb. 25 (David Moody), and a **Bullock's Oriole** at Ocean Trails on Feb. 26 (Riley Daniels). The first migrating **Western Kingbird** — not counting the kingbird that wintered at Madrona Marsh — was spotted at Alta Vicente on Mar. 19 (Aaron Graham, Daniel Irons). The first **Black-headed Grosbeaks** weren't seen until Mar. 28: one at Madrona (Jeanne Bellemin) and one on the L.A. River (Dick Barth).

The **Brown-crested Flycatcher** that wintered at SCBG continued thru Feb. 26. **Tropical Kingbirds** continued along the L.A. River at Willow St. and at Golden Shores. A **Vermilion Flycatcher** continued at 22nd St Park in San Pedro. Jonathan Nakai found a **Loggerhead Shrike** at Madrona Marsh on Mar. 16. Common in the Santa Monica Mountains but seldom seen in the South Bay was the **Oak Titmouse** that chef ito spotted at Pt. Fermin on Feb 6. **White-breasted Nuthatches** were observed in Miramar Park on Feb 2 (Bob Diebold) and along Paseo del Campo in PVE on Feb. 19 (Sierra Rose). No **Phainopeplas** were seen in February or March, but — just to fool us birders — 3 popped up at Terranea on Apr. 1 (Leslie Sobol) followed by another the next day at the RHE Landfill Loop (Anonymous).

Charlie Keller scoped out an unusual **Purple Finch** at Entradero Park on Mar. 24, while the five that wintered at SCBG were still there at the end of March. The **Pine Siskin** is a goldfinch that normally is found in the mountains. Edward McFadden had a siskin in Torrance on Feb. 9, while Sierra Rose came upon another along Paseo del Campo on Feb. 20. Another unusual goldfinch, **Lawrence's Goldfinch**, popped up at Madrona Marsh, Alta Vicente, Ocean Trails, and a home in RPV. The **White-throated Sparrow** that Manuel Duran and Alejandra Cedillo found at Harbor Park on Mar. 6 stayed for two weeks; continuing were the sparrows on Crest Road in Rolling Hills, at a home in RPV, and at SCBG. Dick Barth had a "brilliant blue, orange/rust and white male" **Lazuli Bunting** at Willow Street on April 7.

Meanwhile, the **Black and White Warblers** at Wilderness Park and Madrona continued thru March,

White-throated Sparrow
Photo: Jim Aichele

as did the **Palm Warbler** on the L.A. River at 20th Street. The **Orange-crowned Warbler** is a familiar year-round resident in the South Bay, but you may not have heard that a dusky race (*Leiothlypis celata sordida*) of the species, normally found on the Channel Islands, breeds also on the Peninsula. As the name suggests, these birds are noticeably darker than the dominant race. They also have a different song. On Mar. 24, Dave Moody came across three sordida warblers at Del Sol Park in RPE that were engaged in courting activities. Spring is coming!

Cactus Wrens popped up at Ryan Park in RPV, Alta Vicente and Pelican Cove. Surprising was one in the cactus scrub at White Point Nature Preserve, well east of more usual haunts (Zoe Allen). **Rufous-crowned Sparrows** were seen at Terranea, Forrestal Preserve, and in San Pedro.

A group of ten **Snow Geese** hung out at Harbor Park in February, while another dropped by Alonda Park on Feb. 26. Dave Moody spotted a lone Snow Goose circling overhead with a flock of gulls at AES Wetland on Mar. 29. A **Wood Duck** first seen at Harbor Park in December continued into early March. A **Eurasian Wigeon** relaxed at Magic Johnson Park in February, while a dozen **Redheads** and four **Greater Scaup** continued on the River through March.

A lone **Horned Grebe** was spotted on the L.A. River at Anaheim on Feb. 19 (chef ito, David Hurst). Cathy and Jim had a **Band-tailed Pigeon** in their yard in Rolling Hills in mid-March. An immature male **Costa's Hummingbird** appeared at Bixby Marshland on Apr. 1 (DM). **Virginia Rails** were seen at Harbor Park and Ocean Trails.

Black Skimmers
Photo: Kiersten Lo

A **Wandering Tattler** wandered into Abalone Cove on Feb. 14 (Doris Rodriguez), while another visited King Harbor on Mar. 21 (DM). **Black Skimmers** were seen at Golden Shores, Cabrillo Beach, Hermosa Beach, and Manhattan Beach. A **Scripps's Murrelet** was spotted on the South Bay Escarpment on Mar. 11 (Naresh Satyan et al.), while a **Manx Shearwater** was seen at the Palos Verdes Escarpment on the same day. A **Brown Booby** was in the San Pedro Channel on Mar. 4 (Kimball Garrett); that or another was seen again on Apr. 2 (NS). Two unusual **Neotropic Cormorants** were at Madrona Marsh on Feb. 13 (Kevin Kosidlak) and another hung out for weeks at Polliwog Park.

Sofie Shen had a **Red-naped Sapsucker** in her yard in RPV on Feb. 16. There was a **Red-shafted/Yellow shafted Intergrade Flicker** at RHE Landfill on Apr. 3 (ME). The **Yellow-shafted Flicker** continued at Madrona into April as did the resident **Acorn Woodpeckers** at Willow St.

One bird that we wouldn't mind seeing more often is the **Bald Eagle** that was spotted on Mar. 20 at both Manhattan Beach (Terry Poulton) and USAF Pacific Heights above White Point (Sasha Pleasant) and on Apr. 3 flying southward towards Pt. Vicente (Pete Major).

Vincent thanks everyone for their contributions. He seeks reports from readers about unusual birds found in the South Bay area (the area west of the Los Angeles River and south of I-105.)

Send reports to:
stephenvincentlloyd@gmail.com.

MEET, LEARN, RESTORE, ENJOY

Chapter Calendar

Bird walks and other in person events are limited to people who have been vaccinated. Masks are recommended. Zoom links for programs can be found on our website at pvsb-audubon.org

Tues.-Thurs, May 2-4. Field trip to Whitewater Preserve, North end of the Salton Sea, Big Morongo Canyon Preserve, and other desert spots. Meet Tuesday at 12:30 pm for lunch and a stroll at Whitewater Preserve: <https://wildlandsconservancy.org/preserves/whitewater> Meet Wednesday at 7:30am at Covington Park in Morongo Valley. Big Morongo: <https://www.bigmorongo.org/visit/> Thursday start point TBA. Email motmots@aol.com to take part.

Sunday, May 7, at 8 AM: Bird walk at Ken Malloy Harbor Regional Park. Meet in the parking lot between Vermont and Anaheim above the ranger station.

Sunday, May 7. Field trip to Placerita Canyon. Meet at the Walker Ranch gate at 8 am (1.7 mile past main entrance, on right). Bring lunch, water, sunscreen, wide-brimmed hat! <https://parks.lacounty.gov/placerita-canyon-state-park/> and <http://www.pcnc.org/maps-brochures.html> for brochures and maps of the park. Email motmots@aol.com to take part.

Sunday, May 14. Field Trip to Malibu Creek State Park. Meet at the day use parking area at 8 am. https://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=614. Email motmots@aol.com to take part.

Tuesday, May 16, at 7, in person and via Zoom. Our program is “**Sea to Summit: The Marvelous Hummingbird**” presented by **Benny Jacobs-Schwartz**.

Saturday, May 27, at 9. Birding For Kids at Madrona Marsh. Leader: Jazmín Ríos.

Sunday, May 28. Field trip to Charmlee Wilderness Park, Malibu. Meet in the parking lot at 8 am. <https://www.malibucity.org/561/Charmlee-Wilderness-Park>. Email motmots@aol.com to take part.

Saturday-Sunday, June 3-4. Field trip to Big Bear. Meet Saturday at 8 am at Aspen Glen Picnic Area, <https://www.fs.usda.gov/recarea/sbnf/recarea/?recid=26305> 40105 Mill Creek Road, Big Bear Lake, CA 92315 Sunday schedule TBD. Adventure Pass or Golden Eagle/Golden Age Pass needed. Email motmots@aol.com to take part.

Sunday, June 4, at 8 AM: Bird walk at Ken Malloy Harbor Regional Park. Meet in the parking lot between Vermont and Anaheim above the ranger station.

Tuesday, June 20, at 7, in person and via Zoom. Our program is “**Snowy Plovers & Least Terns in Los Angeles: Conservation + Sketching!**” presented by **Stacey Vigallon**.

Saturday, June 24, at 9. Birding For Kids at Madrona Marsh. Leader: Jazmín Ríos.

Sunday, June 25. Field trip to San Gabriel Mountains. Meet at Switzer Picnic area at 8:00 am. National Forest Adventure Pass or America the Beautiful Pass required. Email motmots@aol.com to take part.

Saturday, July 8. **Summer Butterfly Count**. All are welcome to participate, regardless of expertise. To take part, contact Kim Moore at kims.sight@verizon.net.

Birdathon takes Wing!

It's time for our chapter's annual **BIRDATHON**, when our birding team, led by Jon Nakai, heads out around the South Bay and PV Peninsula to see how many kinds of birds can be recorded in a 24-hour period, and, most importantly, raise money for your Audubon chapter's activities.

This year, we especially want to replenish the Gambee grant fund so that next year we can award up to \$5,000 for worthy bird-related projects, like the one described by Ann on page 3, and to our other education and conservation projects mentioned elsewhere in this issue of Hummin'. Please give generously, either as a fixed dollar amount or on a per species basis. We expect the day's count to run anywhere from 110 to 135 species. A high total depends on it being a “birdy” day, and with many birders out to take its measure.

You can expect a lot of superb bird photos to be produced by our photographers on count day, so we are offering donors an email with a selection of prize, print-worthy pictures. For donors of \$10 per species or more, we will send a fine print, suitable for mounting, of their choice from the pictures of day. To pledge, e-mail your support to info@pvsb-audubon.org.

SUMMER BUTTERFLY COUNT

The Palos Verdes Summer Butterfly Count is scheduled for Saturday, July 8. Under the auspices of the North American Butterfly Association, this count seeks to survey our early-flying butterflies. We need both beginners and old pros to help count the butterflies. If you have butterflies in your garden, a report about them would be valued. If you are interested, please contact Kim Moore at kims.sight@verizon.net.



The Palos Verdes/South Bay Audubon Society and the National Audubon Society, of which PV/SB Audubon is the local chapter, are dedicated to the understanding and preservation of our natural heritage. Within the framework of National Audubon Society policies, we seek and implement ways to preserve indigenous flora and fauna, especially that of our local area, and provide educational services to the region's communities with respect to birds, wildlife, ecology and conservation.

Executive Officers and Staff

President: Ann Dalkey
 Vice-Pres.:
 Treasurer: Julian Chasin
 Secretary: Jonathan Nakai (acting)
 Directors: Prevail de Rox, Tracy Drake,
 Jess Morton, David Quadhamer
 Project Manager: Jazmín Ríos, 562 896-3369

Committees:

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 Hospitality: Alene Gardner,
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Photos by the author unless stated otherwise.

Chapter Support

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Please make checks to PV/SB Audubon and mail to: PO Box 2582, Palos Verdes, CA 90274

THIRD TUESDAYS

7 PM at Madrona Marsh

3201 Plaza Del Amo, TORRANCE



May 16th: **Benny Jacobs-Schwartz** presents “**Sea to Summit: The Marvelous Hummingbird,**” taking us on a trip from the arctic to the Andes to learn about some of the 360 species of these fascinating birds.

June 20th: **Stacey Vigallon** will give us a program on “**Snowy Plovers and Least Terns.**” two of our shore-loving birds that have been greatly affected by human activity, and what is being done to protect them.



Palos Verdes/South Bay Audubon Society
P.O. Box 2582
Palos Verdes Peninsula, CA 90274

Time-sensitive material
Please deliver promptly

AVIANTICS

By Evi Meyer

