



HUMMIN'

www.pvsb-audubon.org

Palos Verdes/South Bay Audubon Society

April/May 2017 Vol. XXXIV No. 3

A Migrant Crane and Others

By Jess Morton

Panama is a place for migrants, birds from the U.S. and Canada, some passing through and others that spend the winter months where it is warm and the living is, if not easy, at least possible. So it is each year that one migrating bird (actually my sister Grace) escapes Boston on January 1 to sojourn far south of the border in Gamboa for three or four months. Hot and humid is what she likes, and with most of Panama, hot and humid is what you get. This year, I went to visit her for a few days.

Gamboa is on the Panama Canal at the southern end of one of the hottest birding hotspots of the tropics, the Oleoducto, a.k.a. the Pipeline Road, along which several hundred species of birds have been found. The town of Gamboa is small, a few



Two of Gamboa's finest: a Singing Hermit, above, and a Red-legged honeycreeper, below.

Photos by Jess Morton



hundred residents only, but its birds and wildlife offer a glimpse of biodiversity at rainforest prime. The birds are everywhere, and they are as colorful as you could possibly want. The rainbow flies into Grace's yard every morning!

The Blue-crowned Motmots, parrots and tanagers that visit her for a bite of banana had my camera's attention for hours, to say nothing of the time spent on the toucans and aracarís carrying on overhead. Talk about color—the range is immense. The motmots have all of them at once, whereas a migrant like “our” Summer Tanager specializes in just one—flame red. Panama is where the warblers go, too, and the orioles. But there was one migrant that was totally unexpected—a crane.

No, not a Sandhill Crane. That's a bird one might expect to see in Panama on occasion. And it's much too small! This one is a veritable behemoth: Titan, the 350-ton crane that was confiscated from Germany at the end of World War II, and the largest naval crane ever built. When I last saw Herman the German, as it was colloquially called here in L.A., it was docked in

See PANAMA, next page

PANAMA, from Page 1

the Long Beach Naval Shipyard. It vanished some 20 years ago, and if I knew then that it was headed for the Panama Canal, I had long since forgotten.

Now, here it was, employed for maintenance work along the canal. When docked, it towers over the town. But it makes a good perch for birds, and one can find all sorts of insect eating birds around it. There are Mangrove, Southern Rough-winged and Blue-and-white Swallows coursing the waterfront, and a half dozen lookalike flycatchers with bright yellow “underparts”—some with white head striping like the Social and Rusty-margined Flycatchers and two kiskadees, and some, like the ubiquitous Tropical Kingbird, without.

My favorite of these flycatchers, though, was the diminutive Common Tody-flycatcher. What it lacked in size it more than made up for by owning the self-assurance of a hawk, an eye-blinding yellow feathering, and an enormous dangle of nest to rival any made by bushtits here at home. Unlike a bushtit, the Tody-flycatcher has almost no tail, but its hunt for insects and spiders to eat is similar, gleaning prey from the vegetation rather than flying out after it as all of the flycatchers that make it to our area do.

It would be unconscionable to write about birding in Panama without giving adequate attention to tanagers. There are dozens of species representing two bird families whose principal relationship is a similarly spectacular coloring. One of the first birds to show up for banana in the morning at Grace’s house in Gamboa was the Crimson-backed Tanager, a stunning bird with a lower mandible that seemed to glow a light blue in the shade of the forest canopy. It was followed by an equally gorgeous Blue-gray Tanager. Then Palm, Plain-colored and Summer Tanagers all appeared, though the latter, like our Western Tanager, is now considered related to the seed-eating cardinal family rather than the “true” tanagers. To add more confusion to this, another tanager showed up: a Red-legged Honeycreeper, which with its small size and long, decurved bill looks more like a hummingbird than a tanager. But, oh, the color! Electric blue and jet black in the male’s plumage, with fire-bright legs. This bird is unmistakable. The female lacks his blue-black shock, but she too sets the world on fire wherever her feet touch down.

There are hundreds of species of birds in Panama that I did not see and many habitats I did not visit. So I expect to return and visit Grace again in the not too distant future. One place in particular that I plan to see is the Chucantí Cloud Forest Reserve, where important work is being done to preserve a sky island of old-growth forest and study its biodiversity in depth. So far, dozens of new species have been discovered, including several endemic vertebrates. My visit there will be as leader of a small group of Chucantí donors from the South Bay who share my interest in birds and conservation. Who knows, we may even come up with a new species of bird.



Blue-crowned Motmot

Photos by Jess Morton



Crimson-backed tanager



Orange-chinned parakeet

Darwin's Rheas

By Evi Meyer

This past January David and I embarked on a trip to Chilean Patagonia. That part of the world, with land masses reaching much farther south than any other continent outside of Antarctica, has always had a special attraction for me. I was eager to see the gorgeous landscape and interesting flora and fauna as well as experience the unpredictable weather described as “four seasons in one day” by many people who had been there.

Among the numerous birds we saw in the low grasslands of Patagonia, one caught my attention for sheer size and odd appearance. This bird is the Darwin's (or Lesser) Rhea, one of two large flightless birds found in South America, along with its larger cousin, the Greater Rhea.

Interestingly, the Darwin's Rhea received its name as a result of Darwin's second expedition on the HMS Beagle. In Patagonia, Darwin saw many of the Greater Rheas, but failed to find its smaller and more elusive cousin the Lesser Rhea. When he finally was close to one, it was the bird on his dinner plate, accidentally shot by one of the staff on-board. Horrified, he collected and assembled all the bones to reconstruct the skeleton of the bird, and sent it on to his mentor and friend John Steven Henslow in Cambridge. With the help of native people in southern Patagonia, Darwin did end up seeing live Lesser Rheas later on. Ornithologist John Gould initiated the name change from Lesser to Darwin's Rhea in 1837.

I have long been intrigued by flightless birds and saw them in various sizes on all the southern continents I have visited. I wondered if they all had a common ancestor on the giant supercontinent Gondwana and were carried off in different directions when it split into our modern continents. This was believed to be the case until more recent times. However, scientists at the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History among other places used DNA data to reconstruct the evolutionary origins and relationships of living organisms. The results showed that the flightlessness of birds on southern continents is more likely to be due to convergent evolution, meaning that they each lost their ability to fly independently.

Darwin's Rheas stand 35 to 39 inches tall and weigh between 30 and 60 pounds, due to their large leg muscle mass and the weight of the solid bones possessed by all flightless birds. They have relatively large wings, which they use in sprinting to reach speeds of up to 37 mph. These same wings are also used in elaborate breeding displays of the males.

Darwin's Rheas have an interesting social structure. Outside of the breeding season, they live in groups of up to 30 birds consisting of both sexes and a variety of ages. They are often found moving with herds of various mammals such as guanacos, which are camelids native to South America. During breeding season, male Rheas become territorial and build a



Darwin's Rhea was once called the Lesser Rhea Photo by Evi Meyer

nest in their territory. By fanning their large wings, they try to attract as many females as possible, so they will lay their eggs into the nest after mating. One nest can hold up to 50 large eggs from many females. It is the males that incubate these eggs for about 40 days and then rear the chicks, while the females take off to mate with other males and deposit eggs into their nests. Polygynandry at its best!

The most interesting and distinctive characteristics of Darwin's Rheas are their long feathers that look more like hair than plumes. The barbs of a feather of volant birds are fastened together by hooked structures called barbules. This creates a smooth, flat surface that can push against the air in flight. Rheas' feathers lack barbules and are not interlocked, creating soft hair-like structures hanging down the body. This quality made them very desirable for fashion, jewelry, decorations and fly-fishing. Sadly, masses of these birds have been poached for the great market value of their feathers.

Recognizing the serious threat to the Darwin's Rhea population, the Chilean government provided protection by listing it as endangered. Conservacion Patagonica, a nonprofit organization in California, launched a Darwin's Rhea Recovery Program to help monitor and restore the population.

When we were in Patagonia, we saw Darwin's Rheas in the wild almost every day. It seems that the efforts of the Chilean government and conservation organizations are successful, and it is indeed possible to see these marvelous birds again.

I am still left with many questions about this species, such as how they thermo-regulate and stay dry with feathers that don't provide a protective sheet against temperature, wind and rain — or what the function of their enormously long eyelashes is. I am very grateful, though, that the problem of potential extirpation was recognized and acted upon by people who saw the importance of conservation and restoration.



Erato

Photo by John Thomlinson

'Birds, Butterflies, & Landscapes: Spring on the Road'

Presented by Dr. John Thomlinson
Tuesday, April 18, 7 p.m.
Madrona Marsh Nature Center

John Thomlinson received a sabbatical for Spring 2016 to write a textbook for a class that he teaches at California State University, Dominguez Hills on Landscape Ecology. John decided to write it on the road, traveling through four states and immersing himself in different kinds of landscapes to gain different viewpoints. Along the way, he took some time to observe nature and to take a few photographs. John will present a sampler of the results.

'Birding the Ends of the Earth'

Presented by Bernardo Alps
Tuesday, May 16, 7 p.m.
Madrona Marsh Nature Center

Bernardo Alps' travels took him to two major landmarks in 2016: He crossed both the Antarctic Circle and the Arctic Circle, traversed the Drake Passage from Ushuaia, Argentina, to the Antarctic Peninsula as staff on an expedition with Cheesemans Ecology Safaris in March, and then worked as marine mammal observer on the ALTIMA research cruise in the Chukchi, Bering, and Beaufort Seas out of Nome, Alaska, in September.

He will share some of the tales and images of his encounters with many very fascinating wildlife species, including penguins, polar bears, albatrosses, walruses, Ross's gulls, leopard seals, Bowhead whales, giant petrels, Humpback whales, South Polar Skuas and many, many more.

Bernardo is a field biologist specializing in seabirds and marine mammals. He serves as president of the American Cetacean Society—Los Angeles Chapter, is an Associate Research Scientist with the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium, and he runs California Whales and Wildlife, a local environmental consulting/nonprofit firm, with his wife, Diane. Bernardo has done work for NOAA, Catalina Sea Ranch, Point Blue Conservation Science and Chevron Shipping, among others. He is an avid wildlife photographer, a fanatic eBirder and loves being on the ocean.

'The Joy of Bird Feeding'

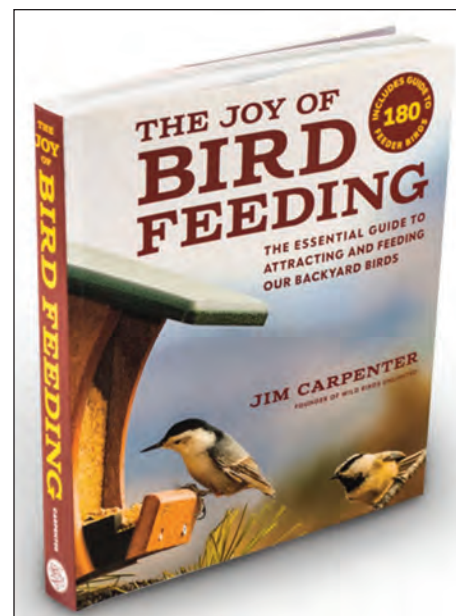
Presented by Bob Shanman
Tuesday, June 20, 7 p.m.
Madrona Marsh Nature Center

Bob is the owner of Wild Birds Unlimited, as well as a longtime supporter of the Audubon Society and many other bird-related and environmental groups in Los Angeles.

Through his Wild Birds Unlimited store in Torrance, he has introduced thousands to the hobby of backyard bird feeding. In his new talk, "The Joy of Bird Feeding," Bob will ex-

plain why the birds benefit from our providing food for them. He will describe the five steps to mastering bird feeding in the backyard, and introduce us to the 12 elements of thoughtful bird feeding stations for our backyards. His talk is based on the just-released book of the same title, written by Jim Carpenter, the founder of Wild Birds Unlimited.

A how-to guide, the book describes these subjects in more detail, and is a guide to 180 feeder birds across the country. As a special gift, Bob is giving Audubon two copies of the book as part of our door-prize drawing for the evening.



2017 PV/South Bay Audubon Programs

April 18

“Birds, Butterflies and Landscapes: Spring on the Road”

Dr. John Thomlinson
Biology Professor, CSUDH

May 16

“Birding the Ends of the Earth”
Bernardo Alps, Wildlife Biologist

June 20

“The Joy of Bird Feeding”
Bob Shanman, owner of Wild Birds Unlimited Past President of PV/South Bay Audubon

July 18

“Birds and Dinosaurs: The Latest Discoveries”
Bob Carr & Tracy Drake
Madrona Marsh

August – No Meeting

September 19

“International Bird Rescue”
Dave Weeshoff, Conservation Chair, San Fernando Valley Audubon Society

October 17
“Peru”

Dr. Randy Harwood

November 21
Emile Feisler

All programs start at 7 p.m. at the Madrona Marsh Nature Center, 3201 Plaza del Amo, Torrance; visit www.friendsofmadrona-marsh.com.

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN Birdathon, PV Blues Update

By David Quadhamer



Our Audubon YES (Youth Environmental Stewards) Awards ceremony will be held at 2

p.m. on Sunday, April 23 at the Madrona Marsh Nature Center. This is an annual awards ceremony to recognize students who have completed at least 50 hours of environmental volunteer work. Students earn credit towards an award by volunteering at Madrona Marsh and other locations in the South Bay. Last year we had 18 students earn an Audubon YES award.

Wild Birds Unlimited will be having a fundraiser for Palos Verdes/South Bay Audubon. It will be held after our Audubon YES Awards ceremony. It will take place on April 23 from 4 to 6 p.m. at Wild Birds Unlimited (25416 Crenshaw Blvd., in Rolling Hills Plaza). Bob Shanman, owner of Wild Birds, will donate 20% of sales to our chapter. I'd like to thank Bob for all of his support for the chapter over the years and for donating all of the raffle prizes for our meetings. Your support means a lot to us Bob! Wild Birds has a wide selection of items to attract birds to your yard. It is also a great place for finding gifts. Please stop by and support our chapter fundraiser. Light refreshments will be provided.

Our annual birdathons are quickly approaching. Jess Morton and I will be leading teams again this year. We will each pick a day, typically in late April or early May, to go out birding and find as many species of birds as we can. Each team typically finds 100 to 130 species of birds. Our teams will bird throughout the South Bay. It is a long day, but fun

to try and find as many species of birds as we can and of course it is for a worthy cause.

Please contact either Jess (jmorton@igc.org) or me (dquadhamer@yahoo.com) about supporting our birdathons. The money raised will support our chapter, our Audubon YES program and our new Palos Verdes blue butterfly habitat restoration partnership. Donations can be made at a flat rate or on a per-species basis, perhaps \$1 per species.

Palos Verdes/South Bay Audubon has partnered with Rolling Hills Preparatory School (RHP) to restore 10.5 acres of habitat for the Palos Verdes blue butterfly. PV/SB Audubon will be serving in an advisory role and



A captive reared male PV Blue released at Chandler in 2013. Photo by Jess Morton

the students at RHP will be doing most of the restoration. There are opportunities for members and friends of our chapter to be involved in the restoration as well. We have scheduled three Saturday volunteer days for Audubon members and friends. They are April 29, May 27 and June 3. The volunteer days

See PRESIDENT next page

PRESIDENT, from Page 5

will run from 9 a.m. to noon. Rolling Hills Preparatory School is located at 1 Rolling Hills Prep Way in San Pedro. We will meet in the main parking lot at 9 a.m. Please join us for these volunteer days. If you can't stay for three hours, any help will be appreciated. Bring a pair of gloves, sturdy shoes and water. Tools will be provided.

Our partnership has been a long time in the making. Initial meetings were held three years ago to work on some of the details of the partnership. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was agreed upon and initialed by RHP and PV/SB Audubon. The MOU describes the responsibilities of RHP and PV/SB Audubon. RHP and PV/SB Audubon have worked with the U. S. Navy, the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Department of Education to get our partnership approved. Almost three years to the day after the MOU was initialed, we signed the MOU. The Reserve that we will be restoring was part of the Defense Fuel Support Point. The deeds for the property have been transferred to RHP, which will be responsible for ownership and management, and will conserve the Reserve habitat in perpetuity.

The PV Blue will be incorporated into the science and horticulture curriculum. Students will learn about the butterfly, its habitat, its food plants and how to restore and maintain PV Blue habitat. Students will monitor changes in the flora and fauna. They will also learn the hierarchy of organization in an ecosystem and learn how to identify and track changes to key components in an ecosystem community to the community level. The PV Blue is a federally listed endangered species so the students will also learn about endangered species and the importance of the Endangered Species

Act and how it relates to the PV Blue. It was thought to be extinct in 1983, but was rediscovered in 1994 on the DFSP, as Jess Morton wrote about in the last issue of *Hummin'*.

The PV Blue is a subspecies of the silvery blue butterfly. It was listed as federally endangered on July 2, 1980. Flight season for the PV Blue is late February to early May. Adult PV Blues have a life span of only four to five days. They are about the size of a quarter.



A PV Blue after a release at Chandler Preserve, in 2012.

Photo by Jess Morton

There are two host plants for the PV Blue: deerweed (*Acmispon glaber*) and milkvetch (*Astragalus trichopodus*). Deerweed is found throughout the Reserve, but milkvetch is not present. These are early successional species that are adapted to thrive in disturbed habitat. In areas without disturbed habitat or active maintenance, coastal sage scrub or non-native species tends to out-compete the deerweed and milkvetch. Thus, active management of the Reserve is required.

The numbers of PV Blues on the DFSP and the former Palos Verdes Naval Housing area have fluctuated since it was rediscovered in 1994. The highest estimate was 282 PV Blues in 2004. No PV Blues were recorded during the 2014 and 2015 surveys. The recent drought conditions have likely contributed to the

decline. It is possible, if remotely, that the PV Blues may recover naturally. However, it isn't known exactly how long pupae can survive in leaf litter. Given the decline in PV Blues at the DFSP and within the former Palos Verdes Naval Housing area, active reintroduction efforts may be required. There is a captive rearing program at Moorpark College in Ventura. PV Blues have been reintroduced with apparent success at the Linden H. Chandler Preserve in Rolling Hills Estates.

Our work in the Reserve will be guided by a Habitat Management Plan (HMP). The introduction of the vision statement contains this summary: "The goal for the Palos Verdes blue butterfly Reserve (Reserve) is to increase the abundance of the federally endangered Palos Verdes blue butterfly (*Glaucopsyche lygdamus palosverdensis*) through habitat enhancement and to sustain a robust, stable population through active habitat management."

Our goals in the HMP include maximizing habitat availability for the PV Blues, actively managing the Reserve to promote further expansion of deerweed, continuing to monitor PV Blues with the surrounding land owners, minimizing unintended disturbance in the Reserve, maintaining coordination with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and updating the HMP as appropriate.

Habitat restoration in the Reserve will be a long process. The first few years will require a lot of work to significantly reduce the non-native vegetation and establish a robust deerweed population either through the existing seed bank or by planting. In subsequent years, periodic maintenance and habitat disturbance will be required. RHP and PV/SB Audubon are looking forward to our partnership and we hope that you will be a part of our restoration efforts.

Your Backyard Habitat



By Dr. Constance M. Vadheim
CSU Dominguez Hills

Wild Hyacinth (Bluedicks) *Dichelostemma capitatum*

Amongst the wildflowers that brighten a spring garden are the perennials that grow from bulbs and corms. These little geophytes have much to recommend them, and a few are among the easiest California natives to grow. Chief among the easy ones is the Wild hyacinth.

Wild hyacinth (also known as Bluedicks) grows in most California counties, from sea level to about 7,000 feet. Clearly this is an adaptable plant! It is most common in sunny openings or after a fire or other disturbance.

Dichelostemma capitatum grows about 1 foot tall and perhaps 12 to 14 inches wide. Like most native bulbs, it has strap-like leaves that begin growing in winter (in our area). The leaves are the powerhouses of the plant; they make the energy that's ultimately stored underground over the dry season.

Wild hyacinth is one of the earliest flowering native bulbs, often starting to bloom in March or even earlier. The flow-

ers, which grow in a tight cluster at the top of a flowering stalk, are small, violet-colored and bell-shaped. The flowers attract hummingbirds and whatever butterflies are flying at the time—from Tiger Swallowtails to Skippers. Plant this one where you can enjoy all the action!

After flowering, *Dichelostemma capitatum* begins to dry out while it forms seeds. At the same time, the plant is storing food reserves in an underground part of the stem, called a *corm*. The plants then die back to the corm, remaining dormant until the next winter.



Wild hyacinth can be grown in the ground or in pots. It likes a sunny spot and can take any local soil. You don't need to amend the soil. The only tricky part is making sure that the plants remain dry over summer and fall. If you grow them in pots, just move the whole pot to a cool, dry place after blooming. In the garden, *Dichelostemma* tolerates occasional water *if the soil dries out in between waterings*.

Plant *Dichelostemma* along walkways, near seating, or around native shrubs, grasses and wildflowers. It will naturalize by seed and underground by offsets, so it's a good bargain. We heartily recommend this easy, pretty native.

To learn more about this plant, visit <http://mother-natures-backyard.blogspot.com/2017/03/plant-of-month-march-wild-hyacinth-blue.html>.

MEET, LEARN, RESTORE, ENJOY

Chapter Calendar

Events

Tuesday, April 18, 5:30 p.m.: **PV/South Bay Audubon board meeting** at Madrona Marsh. All Audubon members and friends are welcome.

Tuesday, April 18, 7 p.m.: **Audubon Third Tuesday Get-Togethers.** Our speaker Dr. John Thomlinson will present "Birds, Butterflies, and Landscapes: Spring on the Road." Come to Madrona Marsh to socialize with friends and to enjoy the bird quiz, raffle and prizes from Wild Birds Unlimited.

Saturday, April 29, 9 a.m.-12 p.m.: **PV Blue Butterfly Habitat Restoration.** Please join us to restore habitat for the PV blue butterfly. Meet in the parking lot of Rolling Hills Prep, 1 Rolling Hills Prep Way, San Pedro. Bring gloves and water. All Audubon members and friends welcome.

Tuesday, May 16, 7 p.m.: **Audubon Third Tuesday Get-Togethers.** Our speaker Bernardo Alps will reporting on "Birding the Ends of the Earth." Come to Madrona Marsh to socialize and to enjoy the bird quiz, raffle and prizes from Wild Birds Unlimited.

Saturday, May 27, 9 a.m.-12 p.m.: **PV Blue Butterfly Habitat Restoration.** See April 29 for details.

Field Trips

Please Note: Due to construction at Ken Malloy Harbor Regional Park, all second Sunday bird walks to this area are cancelled indefinitely.

Sunday, April 2, 8:30 a.m.: **PVPLC First Sunday Bird Walk at George F Canyon Nature Preserve.** This is a naturalist guided nature walk for beginners. Free binoculars are provided. For details, visit pvplc.org.

Tuesday, April 4, 8:30 a.m.: **"Tour de Torrance."** Join Audubon leader Ron Melin and friends on a walk around a great local birding area. Meet at Madrona Marsh Nature Center.

Wednesday, April 5: **Birding with Bob.** Bob Shanman leads bird walks to different destinations every first Wednesday of the month. Visit www.torrance.wbu.com and click on "Birding with Bob."

Saturday, April 8, 9 a.m.: **PVPLC Natural History Walk to Linden H. Chandler Preserve.** Experience this impressively restored 28-acre nature preserve with its lush oasis of riparian habitat and home for the rare Palos Verdes Blue butterfly. Moderate. For details, visit www.pvplc.org.

Sunday, April 9, 8 a.m.: **Bird walk at South Coast Botanic Garden.** Audubon leaders Steve Dexter, Manuel Duran and Ed Griffin will lead this walk through the garden, located at 26300 Crenshaw Blvd., Palos Verdes. There is a minimal charge for nonmembers, or you can join there.

Wednesday, April 12, 8 a.m.: **Bird Walk at Madrona Marsh** with Audubon leader Bob Shanman. Meet at the Madrona Marsh Nature Center.

Sunday, April 16, 8 a.m.: **Bird walk at Ballona Wetlands** with Bob Shanman. Visit www.torrance.wbu.com.

Tuesday, April 18, 8:30 a.m.: **"Tour de Torrance."** See April 4 for details.

Wednesday, April 19, 8:30 a.m.: **PVPLC Third Wednesday Bird Walk**



Red-breasted Merganser

Photo by Evi Meyer

at White Point Nature Preserve. For details visit www.pvplc.org.

Saturday, April 22, 8:30-10:30 a.m.: **Bird Walk at Madrona Marsh** with Audubon leaders Tracy Drake and Dinuk Magammana. Meet at the Madrona Marsh Nature Center.

Sunday, April 23, 8:30 a.m. Fieldtrip to Malibu Creek State Park with Eric and Ann Brooks. Meet in last day-use parking lot. For details, call 323-295-6688 or e-mail motmots@aol.com.

Tuesday, April 25, 8:30 a.m.: **"Tour de Torrance."** See April 4 for details.

Wednesday, April 26, 8:30 a.m.: **PVPLC Fourth Wednesday Bird Walk at George F Canyon.** This walk is led by Wild Birds Unlimited. For details, visit www.pvplc.org.

Saturday, April 29, 10 a.m.: **Los Serenos de Point Vicente Natural History Walk to Forrestal nature Reserve.** Walk through coastal sage scrub habitat. Learn about the local geology. Moderate to strenuous. Visit www.losserenos.com/pvic.htm

Sunday, April 30, 8 a.m. Fieldtrip to Huntington Beach Central Park with Eric and Ann Brooks. Meet in the Slater Avenue parking lot. For details, e-mail motmots@aol.com.

Tuesday, May 2, 8:30 a.m.: "Tour de Torrance." See April 4 for details.

Wednesday, May 3: Birding with Bob. Bob Shanman leads bird walks to different destinations every first Wednesday of the month. For details, visit www.torrance.wbu.com and click on "Birding with Bob."

Friday to Sunday May 5-7. Annual trip to the North End of the Salton Sea, Morongo and Joshua Tree with Eric and Ann Brooks. Meet Friday at 12:30 at Whitewater Preserve, Saturday at Covington Park in Morongo Valley. Sunday meeting time TBD. For details, e-mail motmots@aol.com or call 323-295-6688.

Sunday, May 7, 8:30 a.m.: PVPLC First Sunday Bird Walk at George F Canyon Nature Preserve. See April 2 for details.

Tuesday, May 9, 8:30 a.m.: "Tour de Torrance." See April 4 for details.

Wednesday, May 10, 8 a.m.: Bird Walk at Madrona Marsh. See April 12 for details.

Sunday, May 11, 9 a.m. Fieldtrip to Descanso Gardens with Eric and Ann Brooks. Admission is free with your South Coast Botanic Garden membership. Meet near the entrance. For details, e-mail motmots@aol.com or call 323-295-6688.

Saturday, May 13, 9 a.m.: PVPLC Natural History Walk to Forrestal Nature Reserve. Appreciate some of the best wildflower viewing and dramatic geological formations on the cliffs of this former basalt quarry. See the faults, folds and igneous intrusions visible in the sedimentary bedding. Moderate to strenuous. For details, visit www.pvplc.org.

Sunday, May 14, 8 a.m.: Bird walk at South Coast Botanic

Garden. See April 9 for details.

Tuesday, May 16, 8:30 a.m.: "Tour de Torrance." See April 4 for details.

Wednesday, May 17, 8:30 a.m.: PVPLC Third Wednesday Bird Walk at White Point Nature Preserve. See April 19 for details.

Saturday, May 20, 10 a.m.: Los Serenos de Point Vicente Natural History Walk to Abalone Cove Shoreline Park. Walk the Alta Vicente trail through coastal sage habitat. Enjoy the wildflowers, visit one of the original Japanese farms, and see WWII and Cold War installations. Moderate to strenuous. For details, visit www.losserenos.com/pvic.htm.

Sunday, May 21, 8 a.m.: Bird walk at Ballona Wetlands with Bob Shanman. For details, visit www.torrance.wbu.com.

Tuesday, May 23, 8:30 a.m.: "Tour de Torrance." See April 4 for details.

Wednesday, May 24, 8:30 a.m. Fieldtrip to Silver Saddle Resort, Galileo Hills with Eric and Ann Brooks. Meet in the parking lot in front of the lobby. For details, e-mail motmots@aol.com

motmots@aol.com or call 323-295-6688.

Wednesday, May 24, 8:30 a.m.: PVPLC Fourth Wednesday Bird Walk at George F Canyon. See April 26 for details.

Saturday, May 27, 8:30-10:30 a.m.: Bird Walk at Madrona Marsh with Audubon leaders Tracy Drake and Dinuk Magamma. Meet at the Madrona Marsh Nature Center.

Sunday, May 28, 8 a.m. Sand Dune Park and other South Bay points of interest with Eric and Ann Brooks. Meet at the south end of Sand Dune Park at 29th & Bell. Please e-mail motmots@aol.com or call 323-295-6688.

Tuesday, May 30, 8:30 a.m.: "Tour de Torrance." See April 4 for details.



NOTE: PV/South Bay Audubon field trips are generally free, but donations are much appreciated to support programs. Please visit the Chapter website at www.pvsb-audubon.org or www.southbaycalendar.org. Area youth and their families may visit www.pvsb-audubon.org/AudubonYES.html.

Following the Audubon "YES" Awards Ceremony join us for a

Reception & Fundraiser at Wild Birds Unlimited!

Sunday, April 23 - 4-6pm

**20% of all sales will be donated
to Palos Verdes Audubon**

Light Refreshments & Door Prizes!



Wild Birds Unlimited Nature Shop

25416 Crenshaw Blvd, Torrance (Rolling Hills Plaza) 310.326.BIRD (2473) wbu.com/torrance



PALOS VERDES/SOUTH BAY AUDUBON SOCIETY
P.O. BOX 2582
PALOS VERDES, CA 90274

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
TORRANCE, CA
PERMIT NO. 172

**Time-sensitive material—
please deliver promptly**

The Palos Verdes/South Bay Audubon Society and National Audubon Society, of which PV/SB Audubon is the local chapter, are dedicated to the understanding and preservation of our natural heritage.

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

President: David Quadhamer, 310-833-3095
Vice President: Paul Blieden, pblieden@yahoo.com
Treasurer: Jess Morton (Acting), 310-748-5622
Secretary: Vincent Lloyd, svlloyd@elcamino.edu
Past President: Nancy Feagans

DIRECTORS Robert Carr Ollie Coker Tracy Drake
Stacy Herman Lillian Light Brandon Winner

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Annual Fundraiser/Conservation Awards: Donna Morton
Audubon So. Cal. Council Rep.: David Quadhamer, dquadhamer@yahoo.com
Birdathon Teams: Tracy Drake, tdrake@torranceca.gov
Jess Morton, jmorton@igc.org
David Quadhamer, dquadhamer@yahoo.com
Birds of the Peninsula: Open
Bird Walks: KMHRP: Open
Madrona/Polliwog/Ballona: Bob Shanman, wildbirdbob@gmail.com
Out of Area: Eric & Ann Brooks, motmots@aol.com
Tour de Torrance: Dave Moody, dsmoods@verizon.net
South Coast Botanic Garden: Steve Dexter, Manuel Duran and Ed Griffin
Bluebird Nest Project: Open
Calendar: Evi Meyer, evimeyer@cox.net
Christmas Bird Count: David Moody, compiler;
Ann & Eric Brooks, motmots@aol.com
Community Outreach: Open
Conservation Awards/Special Events: Donna Morton
Education: Open
E-mail announcements: Jan Gardner, Janet.Gardner@ngc.com

Field Trips: Eric & Ann Brooks, motmots@aol.com
Hospitality: Alene Gardner, Alene.Gardner@sbcglobal.net
Hummin' Editor: Michelle Fisher
KMHRP: Open
Mailings manager: Bob Shanman, wildbirdbob@gmail.com
Membership outreach: David Quadhamer, dquadhamer@yahoo.com
Programs: Candy Groat, groat99@aol.com; Bob Carr, robertfcarr@aol.com;
Jan Gardner, janet.gardner@ngc.com
Publicity: Open
Restoration: Harbor Park: Open
Science Advisory Committee: Candy Groat, groat99@aol.com
Surveys: Three Sisters Restoration: Ann Dalkey, adalkey@pvplc.org
Snowy Plover: Open
South Bay Birds: Dave Moody, dsmoods@verizon.net
Webmaster: Paul Blieden, pblieden@yahoo.com
YES Director: David Quadhamer, dquadhamer@yahoo.com)
NOTE: Send corrections to David Quadhamer at the above email address.

Join and Support

Name _____
Address _____
City/State/Zip _____
Phone _____
E-mail _____

Membership (National Audubon) \$35.00
Chapter Supporter (to support local programs)
Gift: \$25__ \$50__ \$100__ Other__ \$_____
Total Enclosed \$_____

Please make your check payable to the Audubon Society and mail it to: P.O. Box 2582, Palos Verdes, CA 90274

C0ZC430Z