

# HUMMIN'

www.pvsb-audubon.org

Palos Verdes/South Bay Audubon Society

Vol. XL #4 June/July 2018

## Audubon Supports Prop 68

Palos Verdes/South Bay Audubon strongly endorses Proposition 68, a \$4 billion bond measure on the state's June 5th primary ballot. The measure provides broad benefits to California's birds and other natural treasures, as well as its people. The California Clean Water & Safe Parks Act will fund important priorities for Californians, including local, regional and state parks, clean drinking water projects, flood protection, and habitat projects that are vital to the state's diverse wildlife.

Audubon was part of a broad coalition of organizations that worked closely with lawmakers during the 2017 legislative session to put Prop. 68 on the ballot. This critical opportunity comes at a time when millions of Californians don't have access to safe parks, trails, and recreation areas. Moreover, the cycle of drought and extreme weather has already taken a toll on California's natural treasures, and threatens our communities with flooding and ecological degradation.

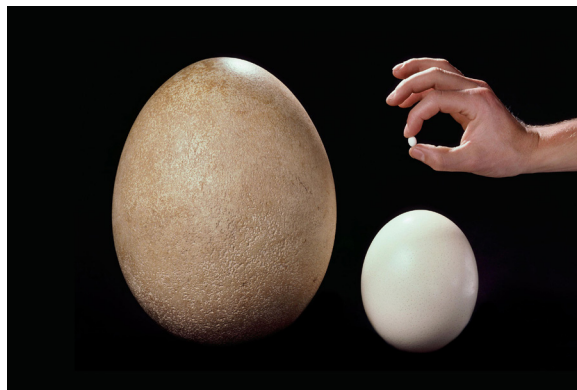
These same forces have also exposed our state's antiquated water infrastructure, bringing into doubt our ability to provide clean, safe, and reliable drinking water to our residents. Lastly, with most of the existing bond funding for vital conservation programs spent in the last few years, it is time for Californians to make the next investment in the protection of the natural resources that make California's

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## Audubon's Third Tuesdays Madrona Marsh at 7

**June 19th:** **Stephanie Remington's** presentation will be about the intriguing natural history of bats. Through her talk, we will explore the numerous evolutionary adaptations bats have made for survival in their varied habitats; especially their exceptional agility in negotiating obstacles in the dark using echo location; and their varying ability to adapt to human urban sprawl. Stephanie is bringing a bat detector, and at the conclusion of her talk, we will walk over to the marsh and use it to see if we have any bats on the marsh.

**July 17th:** Please join us for a program by **Tracy Drake**, "**The Wonder of Eggs**", providing us with an in depth look at the inside and the outside of a bird's egg. Birds'



eggs are amazing in their form and ability to house growing birds. This program will be an introduction to the remarkable aspects of bird eggs, the historical research of collecting and

studying eggs, and will include why it is important to know about and understand how eggs work to protect developing young.

## From the President Bird-a-thon



### By David Quadhamer

Our annual Bird-a-thons were held on Global Big Day, May 5th. Birders around the world entered their findings into eBird ([www.ebird.org](http://www.ebird.org)) where Global Big Day results are compiled. The total for 2018 was 6906 species, up about 4% from last year, when 6,659 species were found, and almost 70% of all the species of birds on the planet! More than 28,000 observers from 150 plus countries took part.

Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology that hosts eBird summarized it this way, “Never before have so many birders gone out in this many countries, found so many birds, and reported them to eBird for fellow

birders, researchers, and conservationists to use.” The Lab also fielded a Bird-a-thon team along the Pacific Coast in California, Honduras and Colombia as their part of the day’s fundraising, made up of observers. The Lab’s Californians found 203 species, quite a few more than the 129 species our two teams came up with, but our total was respectable, nevertheless.

Jess and his Bird-a-thon team found 126 species of birds. My team found 65. We started out at Madrona Marsh, where a rare Northern Waterthrush had been found the day before. We figured we would spend a little time looking for it once we finished finding all the regular species there. When we arrived where it had been seen, a few people had already been looking for it, but without success. We stayed for a few minutes, then decided to move on and look for more birds elsewhere.

Next, it was off to Alondra Park. An unusual sighting here was of a Brown Pelican, a bird seldom seen inland. However, there have been a number of recent sightings of Brown Pelicans away from the coast. Whether this is a good or bad omen is so far unknown. A Black-chinned Hummingbird was reported at the South Coast Botanic Garden. They have nested there in the past and it was reported in the same location. I made my way over, waited

for a few minutes and sure enough, one flew in and perched to give me a nice look.

After a picnic lunch at the South Coast Botanic Garden, it was off to Ken Malloy Harbor Regional Park. It was a nice 3.5-mile walk around the park. I found a Brown Pelican there, but didn’t find any American White Pelicans, one of which had been present earlier when Jess’s team birded the lake. The final location of the day was Cabrillo Beach. It was very windy and getting late. People outnumbered the gulls on the beaches.

Thank you to everyone who has supported our Bird-a-thons. Your contributions are greatly appreciated. If you have not supported one of our Bird-a-thon teams

yet, you can still do so. Donations can be made on a per bird basis, perhaps \$1 per species, or at a flat rate.

Checks should be made out to PV/ South Bay Audubon and mailed to 4034 South Pacific Ave. #3, San Pedro, CA 90731. Your tax-deductible contributions allow us to continue our Youth Environmental Stewards program, our Palos Verdes Blue Butterfly habitat restoration at Rolling Hills Preparatory School, and



bird-related grants from our Gambee Fund.

Our Palos Verdes Blue Butterfly habitat restoration at Rolling Hills Prep continues. We are busy pulling mustard and other invasive species that have come up during the spring.

If you would like to help with the habitat restoration, please let me know. We typically work one Saturday a month from 9:00 – noon. Tools and gloves are provided.

Our chapter birded the jetties in Redondo Beach on May 19th as part of a Pacific-Coast-wide Brown Pelican survey. Several agencies cooperate to run this survey which is conducted along the coast from Mexico up to Washington. The Brown Pelican was first listed as endangered in 1970 after populations declined precipitously due to DDT. Fortunately, the bird has made a significant recovery and was removed from the endangered species list in 2009. Challenges remain, though, and the surveys help to determine their distribution and abundance. The latest estimate is that there are 70,680 nesting pairs of California Brown Pelicans (the subspecies we see along

our coast). The majority breed in the Gulf of California, but some do breed on the Channel Islands. The next survey will be run on September 8th. Please let me know if you would like to participate. On a side note, if you see a Brown Pelican with a blue band and you can read the ID, please report it on the International Bird Rescue website since it will have been in their care.

Four students were recognized with Audubon YES awards this year. The awardees, representing three local high schools, are Brandon Baek, Jana Belsito, Hannah Meyers and Toby

Park. They earned their awards by volunteering to do habitat restoration at locations around the peninsula, including Madrona Marsh.

Stephanie Remington will give a presentation on the natural history of bats in June. Tracy Drake will give a presentation about bird eggs in July. Our monthly meetings are held at the Madrona Marsh Nature Center on the third Tuesday of most months, at 7 PM.

We have added a second monthly bird walk at Ken Malloy Harbor Regional Park, this one on the third Sunday. This and the first Sunday walk start at 8:00 at the Ranger Station. Please check the calendars in this issue of Hummin' and on our website for other activities and dates. Our monthly programs,



YES Award recipients for 2018, from left, Toby Park, Brandon Baek, Hannah Meyers and Jana Belsito, with chapter President David Quadhamer.

## From the Editor's Desk



## Anger

By Jess Morton

The Iliad opens with the word “wrath.” It is Achilles’ rage, and from that devolves the destruction of Troy and the deaths of most of the main characters. I cannot help but equate Achilles’ rage and fate with that which has been foisted on today’s American public by narrow political interests expecting to gain by it.

It has already cost untold lives and shattered many families, and it is taking us down a path toward disaster. In the environmental sphere alone, the abrogation of the Paris Accords by the current administration will be catastrophic for humanity as a whole.

Years ago, after watching some birds and traffic one day on Gaffey Street, near home, I wrote “Pizza”, to capture how pathetic greed and anger are.

*Pizza*

Below, strangers mouthing each others nerve,  
the drivers lead foot as the red light greens  
and this truculent clutter of cars careens  
away--roars

surging traffic

and none of them see

two bickering ravens high over the street  
perched side-by-side on the crossbar’s curve.

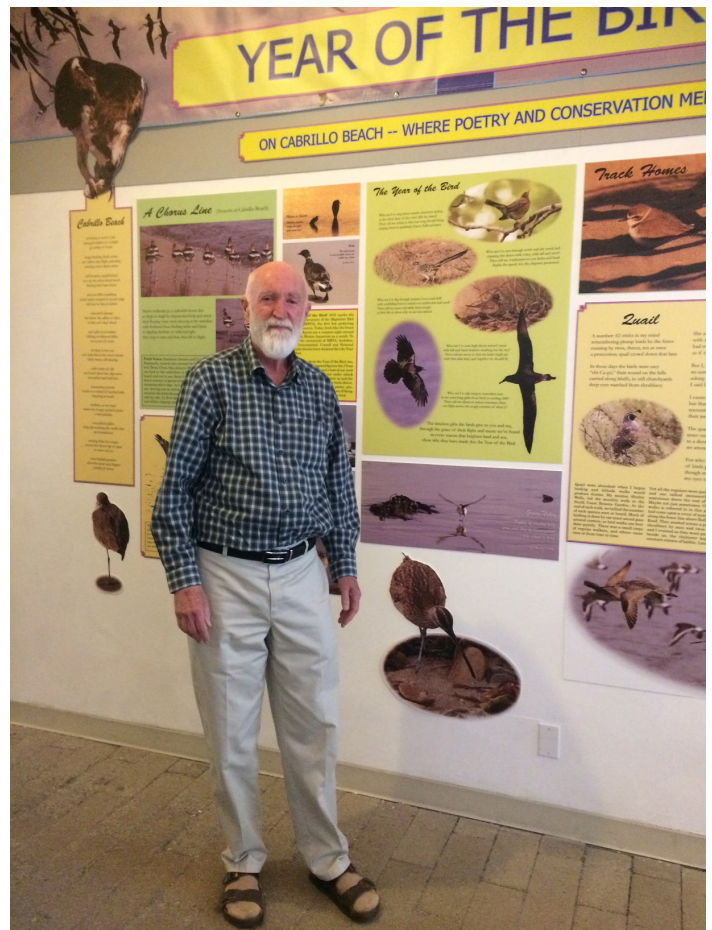
Across the road, all this a lone gull eyes  
from his place atop another light, although,  
on the rooftop of the fast-food pizza-to-go,  
what the raven now holds had been his prize--  
his half-slice of pizza sags over the bar.

Beside that raven, the second cowers,  
wings quivering in submission, as its bill  
snakesidewaysgrabs at the held swill  
(so succulent) above the

surging traffic’s

roar--

raven, gull, raven, though everyone knows  
their arguments, the mouths that gape and close,  
like ours, evermore squawking at strangers.



My **Year of the Bird** exhibit opened at the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium’s April 21st Earth Day celebration, and will remain up until the end of the year. It calls attention to the centennial of MBTA, the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, through poetry and photos of many of the birds it protects. Cabrillo Beach is always worth a visit and CMA has no entry fee, so do drop by.

## Biodiversity LA Style

By Jess Morton

A year ago, the City of Los Angeles began an assessment of its rich biodiversity as a first step toward improving conditions for both the wildlife and the residents that live within the city. In May, 2017, the LA City Council passed Councilmember Paul Koretz's Los Angeles Biodiversity Motion, in line with Mayor Eric Garcetti's goal of a "no net loss" biodiversity strategy, put forward two years before. The motion has three main objectives: 1) develop an index to measure protection, enhancement, and mitigation of impacts to biodiversity; 2) develop policies and projects to enhance biodiversity, including improving access for communities that lack access, and contributing toward broader ecosystem functions and sustainability; and 3) develop options for community outreach and engagement. The "2018 Biodiversity Report," the first step in this program, has now been released. It is a very impressive beginning!

The City of LA Department of Sanitation (LASAN), under the leadership of Assistant GM Mas Dojiri, was tasked with taking the lead on the program. Over the last year, and working under direction from City Council, and with the guidance of an ad hoc City of LA Biodiversity Interdepartmental Team, a Biodiversity Stakeholder Group, and an Expert Council, a measurement gauge was developed as the first step in implementing the Motion. The gauge is based on the Singapore index, the first such gauge, and one that has been adopted by

Helsinki, Lisbon, and Montreal, among other major cities, but LA is the first in the US to use it.

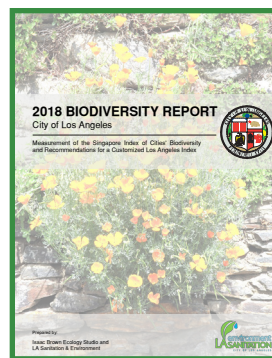
The original Motion by Councilmember Koretz was itself the culmination of more than a year of groundwork by a public Biodiversity Stakeholder group led by Andy Shrader of the 5th Council District and Dr. Travis Longcore (USC). Then, based on a recommendation by Dr. Longcore, and with the support of the Stakeholder Group, LASAN chose the Singapore Index to measure the city's biodiversity as the first step in implementing the Motion. The report just released gives us all a first look at how LA's biodiversity stands in relationship to cities elsewhere and what next steps are needed.

The Singapore index is made up of 23 indicators, each scored from 0 to 4 and based on a prescribed set of measurements, with 72 being the ideal score. LA receives the highest scores for a number of indicators including #1, the percentage of natural area (20.5%), and #3, the number of native bird species in the City (292), though neither indicator measures how that open space and the birds are distributed relative to the City's human population. Other indicators reveal decided inadequacies, such as #12, our relatively low urban tree canopy (~19%), and #14, natural area education visits, only .09 visits/pupil/year.

Current City biodiversity management practices mostly fall within the somewhat narrow

focus of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) mandates, a conservation framework that protects sensitive species on a project-by-project basis, rather than one that takes a comprehensive approach aimed at enhancing overall biodiversity. Other indicators also do not do a good job at accounting for unique contextual factors, such as the City's very large but concentrated natural areas, and unique governance structures. For example, the City receives the highest score for #13, access to nature (8.23 acres/1000 people), yet a large segment of the population has little access to natural areas near home. Therefore, the Singapore Index is just the first step in developing a customized index for LA from which to build a comprehensive management strategy for biodiversity, per the requirements of the City's Biodiversity Motion.

The 2018 Biodiversity Report is available on the LASAN website at <https://www.lacitysan.org/cs/groups/public/documents/document/y250/mdi0/~edisp/cnt024743.pdf>. It contains a lot of information and is the result of deep research and thought by the team that put it together and that will continue on the project to the end. What we must advocate for is not only the continuance of this effort and its expansion through complementary work by other cities in the county, but, most importantly, the funding that will be necessary to carry out the many recommendations that will result in supporting the most robust biodiversity possible for the City of Los Angeles.





## The Gardena Willows Wetland Preserve

By John Thomlinson

An alternate title to this article could be: **“A Hidden Treasure That Shouldn’t Be Hidden Any Longer”**.

The Gardena Willows Wetland Preserve (GWWP), or, informally, “The Willows” is a wetland preserve at the corner of Artesia and Vermont, an intersection better known for its flower sellers and the AM/PM gas station. It is a remarkable place, one of the last remnants of the Dominguez Slough, a seasonal wetland that once covered a huge part of the South Bay. Within the slough itself are two species of willow, Goodding’s Black and Arroyo, with a third species, Narrowleaf, fringing the wetland. The upland areas hold an impressive diversity of native shrubs and wildflowers, and a depressing density of invasive, non-native plants. With the help of many volunteers working over the years, the ratio of native to non-native flora is gradually improving, and alongside that, beneficial habitat for birds is also increasing. Looking at a Google Earth image of the area shows just how little native wooded habitat is available for birds, let alone wooded wetland habitat, and this impresses on us the importance of preserving this unique place.

There are a few species that breed in the preserve, most notably Yellow Warblers, the emblem of the Friends of the GWWP.

Especially during March and April, their song can be heard throughout the preserve as males divide up the territory. Other characteristic songs during these months include Common Yellowthroats and Song Sparrows, two species that are present year-round but more easily noticed when they are singing. In February, Cooper’s, Red-shouldered, and Red-tailed Hawks are noisily advertising their presence prior to nesting. Otherwise, the breeding birds are what one might expect of any area with suitable habitat, such as Downy Woodpecker, Bushtit, House Wren, California Towhee, Anna’s and Allen’s Hummingbirds, Orange-crowned warbler, and Black Phoebe. Most of those species are also present throughout the year. In winter, many visiting species take advantage of the willows, such as Townsend’s and Black-throated Gray Warblers, Hermit Thrush, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Sharp-shinned Hawk, and the occasional rarity like Cassin’s Vireo and Varied Thrush. The really intriguing times to bird The Willows, though, are during migration, especially in spring. Willow, Pacific-slope, and Ash-throated Flycatchers, Western Tanager, Black-headed Grosbeak, Hooded Oriole, Warbling and Plumbeous Vireo, Nashville and Wilson’s Warbler, and Lazuli Bunting have been observed, among other passage migrants.



Yellow Warbler

Photo by Jess Morton



Oddly, for a preserve that has “wetland” in the name, wetland birds are not common. There will be an occasional egret or heron, and Mallards have bred, but the slough is a forested wetland, a rare habitat type in the southwestern US. In other parts of the country there could be Wood Ducks or Prothonotary Warblers, birds of swampland, but in Los Angeles the birds are primarily coming to The Willows for the forest, not the wetland. Wetland species that are associated with open marshes, such as American Bittern, Marsh Wren, or Sora, are not likely to be seen at The Willows. That is one reason that the list of birds seen at Madrona Marsh, for example, is so much larger than at The Willows. Another reason is that Madrona Marsh is much more thoroughly birded. Unfortunately, under the current terms of the license between the Friends of the GWWP, who are the land stewards, and the City of Gardena, which owns the land, open hours at the preserve are very limited. The general public can enter the preserve on two weekend afternoons a month or, if engaged in restoration activities, one Saturday morning a month. We are hoping that will change this year, because two expert local birders will start doing bird surveys in The Willows. This should give a much more complete picture of the avifauna of the GWWP, and thus one more piece in the puzzle of how birds utilize green space in a highly urbanized environment like the Los Angeles Basin.

**Prop 68** continued from page 1

parks and open spaces destinations for millions of visitors every year.

“While California’s treasures are enduring, for some key areas – such as urban parks and the Salton Sea – Prop. 68 represents one of our last chances to set things right,” said Sarah Rose, Executive Director of Audubon California. Then she added, “There is real urgency to this funding.”

For the birds of the Pacific Flyway, and the roughly one million people living around the Salton Sea, Prop. 68 has profound importance. The bond measure includes \$200 million for vitally important dust mitigation and habitat restoration at the Salton Sea, where water diversions are creating a public health disaster and destroying habitat.



**Snowy Plovers** bred for the second year in a row at Malibu Lagoon. The chick in the photo above by Evi Meyer was one of three up and running over the beach shortly after hatching. The nest needed little protection from people; a barrier line adorned with signs by school children about the birds was enough to keep people at a safe viewing distance. A wire cage over the nest gave the parents access, but kept out predators. Next year, if Hermosa Beach were to follow this example, nesting snowies could return to the South Bay’s wide beaches.

## Your Backyard Habitat

Dr. Connie Vadheim



### Seaside alumroot

#### *Heuchera pilosissima*

Annual wildflowers dominate a native plant garden in early spring. But by May and June, some of our prettiest flowering perennials begin to steal the show. Among the most charming is the Seaside alumroot, *Heuchera pilosissima*.



The alumroots are interesting plants in the Saxifrage family. The Heucheras appear delicate, but in fact are quite hardy N. American

plants. California has 13 native species; only three (including Seaside alumroot) are coastal natives - the rest grow in the mountains. Fortunately, many native Heucheras can be successfully grown in local gardens.

Seaside alumroot is about medium-size among the California alumroots, forming an evergreen mound about 1 ft. by 1 ft. (2 x 2 ft. with flower stalks). The leaves are rounded (grape-like), succulent and tidy appearing. The plant looks good all year; one reason gardeners love it. The entire plant is very hairy (the name *pilosissima* means 'hairiest'). The long hairs give the plant a velvety texture.

Seaside alumroot blooms in spring to early summer, often beginning in late April or May. The small, bell-shaped flowers cluster tightly around slender flower stalks. The flowers are pale to medium pink – very much an old-fashioned charmer. And hummingbirds find the flowers simply irresistible!

*Heuchera pilosissima* is the perfect plant for under trees or in shady seating areas. It's not particular about soil



texture, but it does like some shade; the north or east side of a building or wall is great. Plants need occasional water – every other week is fine, but so is regular water.

Use this evergreen perennial along shady walks, at the fronts of beds, or massed as a shady ground-cover. All alumroots can be grown in pots; this would make a nice plant for a shady porch. And if you can't find the species, you can always purchase 'Lillian's Pink', a hybrid cultivar prized by local gardeners. The cultivar has darker pink flowers on slightly longer stalks – truly a striking garden accent!

For more on this plant see: <http://mother-natures-backyard.blogspot.com/2018/05/plant-of-month-may-seaside-alumroot.html>

For more information on growing and purchasing this plant visit the Madrona Marsh Nature Center. You can also learn about local native plants at the "Out of the Wilds and into Your Garden" series on the first Saturday of each month at the Center.



## Pied-billed Grebe

By Paul Blieden

During a trip to Ken Malloy Harbor Regional Park in the middle of March this year I noticed a small bird that I did not recognize. It surprised me by staying submerged for about a minute which I thought was a long time for a bird. The bird was solitary in nature and did not fly during my time following it.

of aquatic invertebrates, including worms and mollusks. It will also feed on fish and reptiles. I only saw the bird coming up to the surface with small fish. Again I noticed the long time it stayed below the surface and the long distance it traveled under water. One reason for this may be the ability of this grebe to control its own buoyancy. It does not have to dive and use web feet (which it does not have) to

swim. This grebe just literally sinks into the water and uses lobes that are beside each toe for movement.

The pied-billed grebe is a solitary bird by nature and will only spend time with its mate when building a nest on the water and then sharing in the care and feeding of the young until they are old enough to be on their own, which takes at least one month or more. The male and female separate and the female may take another mate and have another clutch of two or more eggs.

The male and female are lookalikes, with mostly brown feathers and a white rump. During the mating season these birds develop a dark band around their bills. They will move from one location to another during the night.

A good description of the pied-billed grebe can be found at: <http://www.audubon.org/field-guide/bird/pied-billed-grebe> and [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pied-billed\\_grebe](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pied-billed_grebe).



Pied-billed Grebe Photo by Paul Blieden

I have since been back to the park, this time bringing with me some added knowledge. The bird is a Pied-billed Grebe. Its scientific name is *Podilympus podiceps* and it can be found in all of the lower 48 states, Mexico, Central America and parts of South America.

It dives under the water when threatened and to feed. Its food consists of a variety



Pied-billed Grebe family Photo by Jess Morton

MEET, LEARN, RESTORE, ENJOY

## Chapter Calendar

### EVENTS

**Tuesday, June 19, 5:30 p.m.:** PV/South Bay Audubon board meeting at Madrona Marsh. All Audubon members and friends are welcome.

**Tuesday, June 19, 7 p.m.:** Audubon Third Tuesday Get-Together. Our speaker for the night will be Stephanie Remington, giving a presentation on “The Natural History of Bats”. Come to Madrona Marsh to socialize with friends and to enjoy the drawign with prizes from Wild Birds Unlimited.

**Saturday, July 14th, 9 to 5:** 38th annual Palos Verdes Butterfly Count. To take part, get in touch with count compiler Vincent Lloyd at [vincent@sabik.org](mailto:vincent@sabik.org).

**Tuesday, July 17, 7 p.m.:** Audubon Third Tuesday Get-Togethers. Our speaker for the night will be Tracy Drake, with a presentation on “The Wonder of Eggs”. Come to Madrona Marsh to socialize with friends and to enjoy the drawing with prizes from Wild Birds Unlimited.

### FIELD TRIPS

**Sunday June 3, 8 a.m. – 11 a.m.:** Bird Walk through Ken Malloy Harbor Regional Park. Join Audubon leaders to explore the newly restored KMHRP and witness the birds return to this sanctuary in the middle of our metropolitan area. Meet in the parking lot closest to Anaheim and Vermont.

**Tuesday, June 5, 8:30 a.m.:** “Tour de Torrance.” Join Audubon leader Tommye Hite and friends on a ramble around a great local area. Meet at Madrona Marsh Nature Center.

**Wednesday, June 6:** Birding with Bob. Bob Shanman leads bird walks to different destinations every first Wednesday of the month. For details, visit [www.torrance.wbu.com](http://www.torrance.wbu.com) and click on Birding with Bob.

**Saturday, June 9, 9 a.m.:** PVPLC Natural

History Walk to Portuguese Bend Preserve. Hike Burma Road to Rattlesnake Trail. Enjoy views of Altamira Canyon. Strenuous. For details, visit [www.pvplc.org](http://www.pvplc.org).

**Sunday, June 10, 8 a.m.:** Bird walk at South Coast Botanic Garden. Audubon leader David Quadhamer will lead this walk through the garden, located at 26300 Crenshaw Blvd., Palos Verdes. There is an entry fee to the garden for nonmembers of the SCBG Foundation. The bird walk itself is free.

**Tuesday, June 12, 8:30 a.m.:** “Tour de Torrance.” See June 5 for details.

**Wednesday, June 13, 8 a.m.:** Bird Walk at Madrona Marsh with Audubon leader Bob Shanman. Meet at the Madrona Marsh Nature Center.

**Saturday, June 16, 9 a.m.:** Los Serenos de Point Vicente Natural History Walk to Ocean Trails Reserve (Lake View and Catalina Trails). Walk the public trail system and enjoy the vistas and summer blooming habitat. Moderate. For details, visit [www.losserenos.com/pvic.htm](http://www.losserenos.com/pvic.htm).

**Sunday, June 17, 8 a.m.:** Bird walk at Ballona Wetlands with Bob Shanman. For details, visit [www.torrance.wbu.com](http://www.torrance.wbu.com).

**Sunday June 17, 8 a.m. – 11 a.m.:** Bird Walk at Harbor Park. See June 3 for details.

**Tuesday, June 19, 8:30 a.m.:** “Tour de Torrance.” See June 5 for details.

**Saturday, June 23, 8:30-10:30 a.m.:** Bird Walk at Madrona Marsh with Audubon leader Dinuk Magamma. Meet at the Madrona Marsh Nature Center.

**Tuesday, June 26, 8:30 a.m.:** “Tour de Torrance.” See June 5 for details.

**Sunday July 1, 8 a.m. – 11 a.m.:** Bird Walk at Harbor Park. See June 3 for details.

**Tuesday, July 3, 8:30 a.m.:** “Tour de Torrance.” See June 5 for details.

**Wednesday, July 4:** Birding with Bob. Bob Shanman leads bird walks to different destinations every first Wednesday of the

month. For details, visit [www.torrance.wbu.com](http://www.torrance.wbu.com) and click on Birding with Bob.

**Sunday, July 8, 8 a.m.:** Bird walk at South Coast Botanic Garden. See June 10 for details.

**Tuesday, July 10, 8:30 a.m.:** "Tour de Torrance." See June 5 for details.

**Wednesday, July 11, 8 a.m.:** Bird Walk at Madrona Marsh. See June 13 for details.

**Saturday, July 14, 10 a.m.:** Los Serenos de Point Vicente Natural History Walk to PVIC/Vicente Bluff/PV Lighthouse. Join us for a tour of the Point Vicente Interpretive Center museum, the native plant garden and a walk along the spectacular bluff top at the Vicente Bluff Reserve followed by a tour of the Point Vicente Lighthouse hosted by the Coast Guard Auxillary. Easy. For details, visit [www.losserenos.com/pvic.htm](http://www.losserenos.com/pvic.htm).

**Saturday, July 14, 4 p.m.:** PVPLC Natural History Walk to Abalone Cove Tide Pools. Visit the newly landscaped trails lined with drought tolerant plants and interpretive signage. Enjoy a walk down to explore the tide pools and pillow lava formations. Moderate. For details, visit [www.pvplc.org](http://www.pvplc.org).

**Sunday July 15, 8 a.m. – 11 a.m.:** Bird Walk at Harbor Park. See June 3 for details.

**Sunday, July 15, 8 a.m.:** Bird walk at Ballona Wetlands with Bob Shanman. For details, visit [www.torrance.wbu.com](http://www.torrance.wbu.com).

**Tuesday, July 17, 8:30 a.m.:** "Tour de Torrance." See June 5 for details.

**Tuesday, July 24, 8:30 a.m.:** "Tour de Torrance." See June 5 for details.

**Saturday, July 28, 8:30-10:30 a.m.:** Bird Walk at Madrona Marsh with Audubon leader Dinuk Magamma. See June 23 for details.

**Tuesday, July 31, 8:30 a.m.:** "Tour de Torrance." See June 5 for details.

NOTE: PV/South Bay Audubon field trips are generally free, but donations are much appreciated to support chapter programs.

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

President: David Quadhamer, 310 833-3095  
 Vice-Pres.: Paul Blieden, [pblieden@yahoo.com](mailto:pblieden@yahoo.com)  
 Ann Dalkey  
 Treasurer: Jess Morton, [jmorton@igc.org](mailto:jmorton@igc.org)  
 Secretary: Vincent Lloyd, [svlloyd@elcamino.edu](mailto:svlloyd@elcamino.edu)

**Directors:** Robert Carr, Oliver Coker, Tracy Drake, Stacy Herman, Lillian Light

#### Committees:

Calendar: Evi Meyer, [evimeyer@cox.net](mailto:evimeyer@cox.net)  
 Christmas Bird Count and  
 Field Trips: Ann and Eric Brooks, [motmots@aol.com](mailto:motmots@aol.com)  
 Hospitality: Alene Gardner,  
[alene.gardner@sbcglobal.net](mailto:alene.gardner@sbcglobal.net)  
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#### Chapter Support

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Your donation is tax-deductible \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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

**June 19th--** It's Flight Night at Madrona Marsh with Stephanie Remington. A bat expert with 22 years studying their status amid our urban environment, she will first talk about the bats, then take us into the marsh to find some.



**July 17th--** Tracy Drake presents "The Wonder of Eggs," an in depth look at the inside and the outside of a bird's egg, and why it is important to know about and understand how eggs work to protect developing young.



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

Time-sensitive material

## 2018 BUTTERFLY COUNT

### JULY 14th

The 38th annual Palos Verdes Butterfly Count will be held on Saturday July 14. 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. The count circle used for the butterfly count is the same circle used for the Palos Verdes Peninsula Christmas Bird Count, a circle of diameter 15 miles centered on a point near Palos Verdes Reservoir. This will be one of about 450 "Fourth of July" Butterfly Counts in North America. The results are collated by the North American Butterfly Association. Their annually published reports provide a tremendous amount of information about the geographical distribution and relative population sizes of North American butterfly species. Comparisons of the results across years can be used to monitor changes in butterfly populations and study the effects of weather and habitat change.

AVIANTICS

By Evi Meyer



Last year we saw 27 butterfly species. We would like to beat that record this year. If you would like to participate in this year's count, contact Vincent Lloyd at [vincent@sabik.org](mailto:vincent@sabik.org). Volunteers are needed to survey parks and canyons in the count area. We also welcome butterfly lovers who are willing just to count the butterflies in their yard on the count day.