



HUMMIN'

www.pvsb-audubon.org

Palos Verdes/South Bay Audubon Society

October/November 2010 Vol. XXXII No. 5

Marcos Trinidad Named TogetherGreen Fellow

By Jess Morton

Our own Marcos Trinidad, who runs the Audubon YES! program, has been named a 2010 TogetherGreen Fellow. Each year, 40 of the nation's most promising young conservationists are acknowledged for their innovative leadership under this 3-year-old



Marcos Trinidad was selected to be a TogetherGreen Fellow.

conservation alliance of the National Audubon Society and Toyota. TogetherGreen Fellows are chosen for leadership potential, skills and commitment to engaging communities in conservation action.

Marcos has been awarded a \$10,000 stipend and assistance

in launching local projects within the many communities our Audubon chapter serves. As a Fellow, he is receiving specialized training in conservation planning and execution. The training began with a weeklong workshop in West Virginia, completed in early September. The workshop includes the chance to work with experienced environmental professionals and assistance with project outreach and evaluation.

It has had the added benefit of acquainting him with the other 2010 Fellows, one of whom is Los Angeles Audubon's Stacey Vigallon, and their projects. Marcos and Stacey are already talking about how their projects can complement each other.

Past Audubon President John Flicker has said of the Fellows, "Each of our TogetherGreen Fellows demonstrates exceptional environmental understanding and commitment, combined with tremendous potential to inspire and lead others. They are the talented leadership the envi-

See Fellow, Page 4

CHAPTER'S OCTOBER SPEAKERS



Southern Buller's Albatross

Photo by Eileen Byhower

What: Green Birdathon Video Premiere and "The Natural Wonders of New Zealand" presented by Martin and Eileen Byhower

When: Tuesday, October 19, 2010, 7 p.m.

Where: Madrona Marsh Visitor Center, 201 Plaza Del Amo Torrance, CA 90503

Please join us on October 19 at the monthly general meeting of the PV/South Bay chapter of the Audubon Society for two exciting presentations (in addition to the usual door prizes and homemade treats).

First, see the premiere presentation of the new 10-minute video production documenting the PVSb Audubon Green Birdathon Team, the BushWhackers, as we pedaled and hiked across the South Bay. On our quest we found many of our wonderfully varied species of bird, while raising funds for conservation and doing so in a precedent-setting, carbon-neutral manner. Two students and two adults demonstrated that wildlife watching in the 21st century can be fun *and* green, and professional videographer Steve Dexter caught it all on film! The film also

See Speakers, Page 7

CONSERVATION CORNER

Vote! Our Future Depends Upon It



By Lillian Light

The main action that you can take to help the world avoid climate catastrophe is to vote against Proposition 23 and work to persuade others to do the same. We are taking millions of years worth of carbon, stored beneath the earth as fossil fuels, and releasing it into the atmosphere as carbon dioxide. By now the planet has 392 parts per million of carbon dioxide. Scientists are saying that this number is higher than at any time seen in the recorded history of our planet—and we are already seeing disastrous impacts on people and places all over the world. Glaciers are starting to melt and disappearing, and they are a source of drinking water for hundreds of millions of people. Drought is becoming much more common, making food harder to grow. Sea levels have begun to rise, and scientists warn that they could go up as much as 6 or 8 feet during this century.

Propelled by the news of these accelerating impacts, leading climate scientists have revised the highest safe level of carbon dioxide to 350 parts per million. Unless we can return to this level, we risk reaching tipping points and irreversible impacts such as the melting of the Greenland ice sheet and major methane releases from increased permafrost melt. Like carbon dioxide, methane is a “greenhouse gas” that promotes global warming.

As you know, the Senate has refused to do anything to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The responsibility to do so rests with local governments, our cities and our states. California passed a landmark bill to fight climate change, the anti-global warming law, AB 32, in 2006. Way ahead of the country as a whole, California implemented this law in order to cut the state’s emissions of greenhouse gases to 1990 levels by 2020.

Oil companies from Texas and Kansas are pouring many millions of dollars to push Prop. 23, a deceptive ballot proposition that would kill California clean energy and air pollution control standards. It would allow polluters to avoid California’s clean energy standards, kill competition and jobs from our state’s clean technology companies and keep us addicted to harmful fossil fuels. It was particularly infuriating to read a September 4 article in the *Los Angeles Times* stating that 97% of the money raised to promote Prop. 23 has come from oil interests and 89% from out of state. The article began with the news that Koch Industries, headquartered in Kansas, gave \$1 million to promote Prop. 23. Valero and Tesoro Texas Oil companies have given many more millions to buy the votes of

Californians in the forthcoming November 2 election.

Voters are likely to take guidance from those with the money to buy the most TV commercials. That is why we must vote, recruit voters among our friends and neighbors, and take action in organizations that are working to inform voters that a vote for Prop. 23 is a vote to destroy our environment. Remember the remark made about those funding this limitless war chest, “Have they no grandchildren?” To become active on this issue, contact Bryce Carter at bryce@greencorps.org (703-434-9852) or Alex Epstein at alex@greencorps.org (720-352-2689). Their office is in Santa Monica where you can get lawn signs protesting this proposition.

On October 10 (10-10-10), there will be nationwide and worldwide actions to remind people of the perils of climate change (see p. 4). Contact me at lklight@verizon.net or 310-545-1384 to learn how to participate in these local events.

Environmentalists need to take action on other important propositions as well. Be sure to vote no on “Polluter Protection” Proposition 26, which would redefine regulatory fees imposed on companies for harm done to the environment or public health as taxes. Since taxes, unlike fees, require a two-thirds vote for approval, it would be much harder for state and local governments to seek such payments from those making harmful products or creating public nuisances. The likely result is that the fiscal burden of the harm to the environment or public health will fall on the public rather than the businesses involved (from “The California League of Women Voters Recommends”).

Vote yes on Proposition 21, which proposes an \$18 vehicle license fee to fund state parks and wildlife programs. Our state parks have been targeted for closure and are severely underfunded. This modest fee will help to save our state parks, and will keep them from being taken over by developers. We need to save habitat for our wildlife and make sure that Californians have access to wild places.

I agree with the League and recommend a yes vote on Proposition 25 (a.k.a. the Passing the Budget On Time Act). The League supports this measure, which would change the vote required for the legislature to pass a budget from the current two-thirds to a simple majority. Majority rule is a fundamental part of democracy. This measure will reduce the stranglehold the minority now exercises over the budget process.

I would like to give you the League opinion on Proposition 24, the Tax Fairness Act. Below are selected quotations from their recommendations. Prop. 24 would repeal the corporate

See Propositions, Page 3

Prop. 23 Halts Comprehensive Environmental Law AB 32

By Jess Morton

The most important ballot measure to go to the voters in November is Proposition 23, which if passed, will have horrific global consequences. Purportedly to help relieve California's unemployment problems, Prop. 23 suspends all efforts by California to address the looming threat of climate change. In theory, the suspension would last "only" until the unemployment rate, now hovering around 10%, drops below 5.5% for four consecutive quarters.

However, without massive investments in renewables and other locally based initiatives to combat CO² and other emissions, the state's unemployment rate is unlikely to meet the target in the foreseeable future.

As one would expect, the pro-23 publicity campaign is funded by oil and coal interests and others who refuse to

Propositions, from Page 2

tax cuts that were passed in closed-door budget deals of 2008–2009. These tax breaks cost approximately \$1.3 billion in revenue to the state, while benefiting only 2% of California's businesses. Prop. 24 will make big multi-state corporations pay their fair share and put \$1.3 billion back into the treasury to help our schools, health care and other essential services that have suffered severe budget cuts in recent years. Passing this proposition might help our state parks to survive!

There has never been a more important election for environmental protection than the one you will participate in on November 2!

Here are my recommendations:

- Prop. 21: Yes
- Prop. 23: No
- Prop. 24: Yes
- Prop. 25: Yes

see the inevitable consequences of global warming if no action were taken. Prop. 23 is powerful for it reverses AB 32, the world's strongest and most comprehensive environmental law addressing climate change that was passed by the State Legislature 4 years ago. AB 32 set a framework within which to reduce polluting emissions and create a greener economy, especially one that will develop long-term, well-paying green jobs. David Yarnold, Audubon's new president, built the coalition of environmental groups that lobbied so effectively for the passage of AB 32.

Please read the state's assessment of Prop. 23 to see how dangerous it will be:

"Suspends State laws requiring reduced greenhouse gas emissions that cause global warming, until California's unemployment rate drops to 5.5 percent or less for four consecutive quarters. Requires State to abandon implementation of comprehensive greenhouse-gas-reduction program that includes increased renewable energy and cleaner fuel requirements, and mandatory emission reporting and fee requirements for major polluters such as power plants and oil refineries, until suspension is lifted. Summary of estimate by Legislative Analyst and Director of Finance of fiscal impact on state and local government: Potential positive, short-term impacts on state and local government revenues from the suspension of regulatory activity, with uncertain longer-run impacts. Potential foregone state revenues from the auctioning of emission allowances by state government, by suspending the future implementation of cap-and-trade regulations."

It is worth reiterating the last point for a sound cap-and-trade program could generate substantial income for California, as could a severance tax such as that imposed by all but one or two other states. For information about the benefits of AB 32 and what Californians would lose if Prop. 23 passes, please visit www.climatechange.ca.gov. In short, Prop. 23 leaves everyone a loser, even those who believe that they will benefit from its passage.

What's Happening with Audubon YES!

By Marcos Trinidad
Volunteer Coordinator

This month Palos Verdes/South Bay Audubon would like to thank all the participants in Audubon YES! and offer congratulations to all the recipients of the Audubon YES! Awards; Nigel Amstock, Joseph Y. Cho, Minzee Choi, Annie Hong, Tae Hoon Jung, June Kim, Brian G. Lee, Ji Young Lee, John A. Lee, Paul Lee, Joowon Oh, Sewon Oh, Heewon Park, Hyo Chol Shin, Nick Spadoni and William Suh.

Audubon YES! is in the process of making a few changes to our program. The YES! program will now be offered exclusively to Audubon members and their families. We are in the transition period of changing our info sheets and web site, so please stay tuned to all updates. We will also be offering an "Excellence in the Environment" Audubon YES! Award. This award is for members who have already received an Audubon YES! Award yet who continue to volunteer and make a difference not only in their urban communities but also in their natural environment.

It is also an honor to announce my Audubon/Toyota TogetherGreen Fellowship for 2010. My project will focus on Madrona Marsh Preserve and the ecological association to Owens Valley, Calif. I will be working with Tracy Drake (Madrona Marsh) and Mike Prather (Owens Valley Committee) to provide an opportunity for students to perform some important habitat restoration, birding and educational research in the Owens Valley in addition to Madrona Marsh.

Audubon YES! is open to all student Audubon members and their families. If you know of any organizations or areas in need of volunteers, please contact me at marcos@pvsb-audubon.org or 323-945-4346.

Prop. 21: A Legacy for California State Parks

Did you know that 52 Audubon California Important Bird Areas are at least partially owned by California State Parks totaling 156,000 acres? Audubon California, The Nature Conservancy, Save the Redwood League and California State Parks Foundation are sponsors of The State Parks & Wildlife Conservation Trust Fund Act (“State Parks Initiative”) appearing on the November 2, 2010 statewide ballot as Proposition 21.

Prop. 21 works like this. Vehicles registered in California will get a free, year-round day-use admission to all

California State Parks in exchange for a new annual \$18 vehicle license fee, a considerable savings if you go to more than two state parks in a year. The funding will provide a stable, reliable and adequate source of funding to the state park system for wildlife conservation and increased and equitable access to those resources for all Californians.

The parks budget will no longer be subject to cuts by the legislature or the Governor, the Trust Fund cannot be borrowed from or raided and our state parks can begin work on acquisitions and deferred maintenance once the

funds become available. The passage of this proposition is a conservation legacy that all of us Audubon members in California can leave to future generations!

But the proposition faces opposition. Yes on 21 needs volunteers to organize campaigns in cities, towns, neighborhoods and communities across the state. If you can give any volunteer time to the campaign, please go to <http://yesforstateparks.com/> and find out how to get involved. Save our State Parks and help pass Proposition 21 in November!

— Audubon California

Celebrate Sustainability on 10-10-10

The City of Manhattan Beach is hosting a Sustainability Summit on Sunday, October 10 (10-10-10) as part of a global movement to get communities together to discuss the solutions to climate change. We have taken this goal and expanded it to a full day of activities to teach our community about sustainability.

The theme of the summit is “Climate. Oceans. Community. Working Together to Protect Our Planet.” We will feature a panel discussion highlighting the topics of sustainability, water conservation and climate change. The summit will be followed by an eco-tour of the South Coast Botanical Garden and of a residential rainwater harvesting system. We will also provide the community with an opportunity to install a drought-tolerant learning garden at City Hall and attend an all-day eco-fair highlighting green vendors and environmental organizations.

The event is being hosted by the City of Manhattan Beach, and we are partnering with several local environmental organizations and businesses, including Enviroscope, the Manhattan Beach Botanical Garden, VOICE and the South Bay 350 Climate Action Group to provide the community with a forum to learn about reducing their environmental impact. The impetus for the event is centered on the 350 organization’s global day of environmental activism occurring on Sunday, October 10, 2010 (10-10-10) with a goal of getting people to come together to deal with climate change.

Information on the event is available on the City of Manhattan Beach web site (www.cityymb.info/Index.aspx?page=1906), and there is also a link to the event flyer (<http://sb350.pbworks.com/Manhattan+Beach+10-10-10>). If you are interested in participating, please RSVP to Sona Kalapura, Environmental Programs Manager, at skalapura@cityymb.info.

Fellow, from Page 1

ronmental community will need to tackle the huge challenges and opportunities confronting us now and in the years to come. These are amazing people who can help us all shape a better future.”

Half the Fellows are selected from within Audubon’s network of nearly 500 local chapters, centers and state organizations. The remainder earned their credentials with other groups that help to broaden the reach of TogetherGreen conservation efforts. One of the TogetherGreen’s goals is to foster diverse leaders and serve communities who have not yet been engaged in conservation activities.

Audubon and Toyota launched the 5-year TogetherGreen initiative in 2008 to fund conservation projects, train environmental leaders and offer volunteer and individual action opportunities that significantly benefit the environment with a \$20 million gift from Toyota to Audubon. For information on the program, visit www.TogetherGreen.org.

Hats off to Marcos for his achievement!

Your Backyard Habitat



By Dr. Connie Vadheim, CSUDH

Summer Holly *Comarostaphylis diversifolia*

Fall is just around the corner. You can sense it in the air—and see it in the return of the first migratory birds.

One of the best ways to enjoy fall is to grow plants that provide abundant food for our fall and winter visitors. Many birds enjoy the seeds of native grasses and shrubs, while others will search your yard for fruits and berries. One plant sure to attract them is Summer Holly. With its bright red berries, it attracts a variety of fruit-eating songbirds like a bird magnet.



Summer Holly (*Comarostaphylis diversifolia*) is a larger member of the Heath family (Ericaceae), which includes the Manzanitas and Mission Manzanita. It is an uncommon shrub in Coastal Sage Scrub and Chaparral from Santa Barbara County to Baja. In nature, Summer Holly grows on drier slopes from sea level to 5,000 feet, often with Manzanitas and Chamise. With its evergreen holly-like leaves, it has been said to somewhat resemble a Manzanita with Madrone-like berries.

The fruits of Summer Holly, with their pebbly surface and dark red color, are extremely bright and showy in late summer through the fall. The brazenly displayed fruits literally say “come and get me” to passing birds. The plants ben-



efit from the birds’ assistance in dispersing their seeds—after a trip through the bird’s alimentary canal. This is a good example of mutualism as both Summer Holly and birds benefit from the relationship. In fact, the fruits are specifically designed to attract the birds.

Summer Holly is a large shrub that is usually taller (6 to 20 feet) than it is wide (5 to 10 feet). Its leaves are evergreen, glossy above, thick and edged with fine sharp teeth. Summer Holly is neat looking—somewhat like Toyon in appearance—and is slow growing. With its dense, evergreen foliage, it makes a good screen plant or small tree in a narrow space. It looks good all year long and can be pruned to shape, a useful trait in home garden shrubs.

Summer Holly grows in full sun to afternoon shade. It does well in any local well-drained soil; if your soil drains poorly, plant it on a slope. It is more tolerant of summer water than other native shrubs and looks best with deep watering once a month after it is established.

The flowers of Summer Holly are small white bells like Manzanita flowers. Flowers appear in the spring, followed by the edible fruits. Summer Holly is so pretty, with its flowers, fruits and shredded gray bark that it is often chosen as an accent plant. It truly is one of our nicer local native shrubs!



For more information on growing and purchasing this plant, visit the Madrona Marsh Nature Center. 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.

Birds of the Peninsula

July and August 2010

By Kevin Larson

After the last of the spring landbird migrants come through in June, birders shift their attention to the fall migration of shorebirds at the Los Angeles River. An excellent showing of adult shorebird rarities such as a Semipalmated Sandpiper, four Pectoral Sandpipers and a Ruff were found during Richard Barth's excellent coverage of the river in July.

Shorebirding was unusually slow in early August when many of the first juveniles arrive, but the excitement picked up dramatically with the discovery of a Buff-breasted Sandpiper late in the month.

Top breeding bird news included the discoveries of a Snowy Egret nest in Redondo Beach, a White-tailed Kite nest in Playa del Rey and a second pair of Bell's Vireos fledging young in the Ballona area. Early fall landbird migration was barely noticeable until around mid-August when a few minor waves came through.

A few days of warm weather came in mid-July and late August, but otherwise it was an unusually cool summer. The coast was mired in spring-like conditions of persistent marine layer, on-shore flow and very cool temperatures through July and much of August due to a low-pressure system parked off the coast of northern California. Even inland areas experienced below-normal temperatures much of the summer.

A Greater White-fronted Goose at Harbor Park on 16 Jul. had taken up residence since last winter (Martin Byhower). A Brant at the L.A. River near Willow Street on 7 Aug. was unseasonal (Jon Fisher). Evidently summer wanderers, a pair of Redheads, were at the L.A.



Buff-breasted Sandpiper

Photo by Thomas Benson

River near Willow Street on 25 Jul. (Ed Griffin). A Clark's Grebe at Harbor Park on 11 Jul. might best be categorized as a summer record (MB). Completely unexpected in summer, an **American Bittern** was at Harbor Park 11–16 Jul. (MB). Formerly common at Harbor Park, an adult Least Bittern photographed by Steve Wolfe in June is the first recorded there in a few years.

A **Snowy Egret nest** containing juveniles photographed at a condominium along the Esplanade in Redondo Beach on 20 Jul. is the only breeding record I am aware of in the Palos Verdes Peninsula Count Circle (Christina Jones, Jen Enoch, Mary Jane Sesto). A few White-faced Ibises were reported at the L.A. River during July and August (Richard Barth et al.) and two were at Ballona Creek on 29 Jul. (Walter Lamb).

A **White-tailed Kite nesting** in Playa del Rey bordering the southern portion of the Ballona area was big news. Unfortunately, the nest with four large nestlings was blown out of a tree during a windstorm in late April. The two surviving nestlings were taken to rehab. Up to two Virginia Rails in the Playa Vista Riparian Corridor 4 Jul.–8 Aug. were where breeding was con-

firmed last year (Don Sterba).

About seven Solitary Sandpipers at the L.A. River in Long Beach and Paramount 6–28 Aug. was a good showing (many observers). A juvenile Wandering Tattler, a bird of rocky coastlines, at the L.A. River south of Del Amo Boulevard 17–18 Aug. is only the second known to have occurred along the concrete-bottomed section of the river (RB). A **Semipalmated Sandpiper** at the L.A. River near Del Amo Boulevard on 15 Jul. is one of few adults ever found locally (RB).

Sightings of juvenile Semipalmated Sandpipers along the L.A. River in Long Beach and Paramount 27 Jul.–24 Aug. involved only five individuals this year (David Bell, JF, RB). Four to five juvenile Baird's Sandpipers along the L.A. River 15–30 Aug. (RB, Richard Norton) were far fewer than expected, but this species can often make a good showing in September. Up to four adult **Pectoral Sandpipers** along the L.A. River in Paramount and Long Beach 19–22 Jul. (RB) and another at the L.A. River in Long Beach on 21 Aug. (Marc Scheel) was a high and likely unprecedented total of adults to be found in one season here. The first juvenile Pectoral Sandpiper at the L.A. River was in Paramount 21–29 Aug. (Marc Scheel).

A juvenile **Buff-breasted Sandpiper** at the L.A. River in Long Beach 28–30 Aug. (Steve Morris, Jeff Boyd) is the second record for the L.A. River and fourth for this article's coverage area. A **Ruff** along the L.A. River near Rosecrans Avenue on 9 Jul. was an outstanding find (RB); photographs suggested it

See Peninsula Birds, Page 7

Peninsula Birds, from Page 6

was a molting adult or near-adult male. Two Bonaparte's Gulls at the L.A. River in Long Beach on 7 Aug. (JF) constituted a rare summer record; up to three had been reported there since 6 Jun (RB). Single Black Terns were reported at the L.A. River in Long Beach on 23 Aug. (DB) and 29 Aug. (RB).

A calling Pacific-slope Flycatcher in the Playa Vista Riparian Corridor on 7 Jul. was an interesting summer record since breeding is unknown in this area (Don Sterba). As reported in the last issue of *Hummin'*, a pair of Bell's Vireos nested successfully at the Ballona Freshwater Marsh. Don Sterba's frequent surveys of the Playa Vista Riparian Corridor just to the east during July and August documented the second successful nesting in the Ballona area this year.

A Bank Swallow was along the L.A. River in Long Beach on 13 Aug. (RB). An adult Rock Wren with a juvenile along the bluffs of Long Point at Teranea Resort on 11 Aug. gave evidence of successful breeding (Jess Morton).

A pair of Western Bluebirds with at least one fledgling at Columbia Park on 6 Aug. establishes a new breeding location in our area (Ron Melin). An Oregon Junco at Highridge Park on 22 Jul. (Sally Moite) was near a spot where breeding was confirmed a few years ago; recent summer records likely indi-



Blackskimmers at Cabrillo Beach

Photo by Jess Morton

cate they are still nesting in the area. An Indigo Bunting was at Madrona Marsh on 27 Aug. (Tracy Drake).

Following are a few early dates of the southbound migrants: Northern Shoveler, 1 Aug., Ballona Freshwater Marsh (Don Sterba); adult Spotted Sandpiper, 11 Jul., Harbor Park (MB);

juvenile Wilson's Phalarope, 22 Jul., L.A. River (RB); Belted Kingfisher, 16 Jul., Harbor Park (MB); Townsend's Warbler, 11 Aug., Westchester (KL).

Now comes the difficult part. After 8 years, I am retiring as author of the bird article. I would like to thank my three editors over the years who have done outstanding work. A special thanks also to all of you who took the time to send your interesting bird observations. Without you, the local bird record would be incomplete. Compiling the dates and locations of these bird records has revealed a remarkably complex and dynamic local avifauna.

Just in the past decade, many changes have occurred regarding the numbers, timing and breeding status of migratory and resident birds. It has been a thrill to share this with you. I am pleased that Bob Shanman and Tracy Drake have volunteered to co-author the bird column. They are no strangers to our Audubon chapter and are well connected to the pulse of local birding. I wish them well.

Speakers, from Page 1

includes some truly remarkable photos of the species we saw, taken by some of our finest local photographers.

Last spring, my wife Eileen and I ventured on our dream trip to New Zealand. This country is an island of endemism, meaning that of the more than 200 species of birds there, nearly 87% are unique to the region. Three quarters of these are threatened with extinction, although the country is a world leader in wildlife conservation efforts. We saw over 100 species on our whirlwind tour of both the North and South Islands, including a wild Kiwi, the elusive Kakapo and two penguin species—the rare Yellow-eyed Penguin and the nocturnal Little Blue Penguin—and a truly remarkable assortment of seabirds, including nine species of albatross! We found that the forests, lakes, seashores and other natural splendors seen in the *Lord of the Rings* films are every bit as beautiful in real life, and the people, food, wine, and especially, local beer, are equally enjoyable. We have distilled the sights and sounds recorded—over an hour and a half of film and over 1,000 photos—into a short but sweet presentation that we hope you will enjoy!

—Martin Byhower

The PV/South Bay Audubon Chapter sincerely thanks Kevin Larson for 8 years of contribution.



MEET, LEARN, ENJOY, RESTORE

Calendar

Events

Saturday, October 2, 8 a.m.–12 p.m.: Natural history walk at Bixby Marsh. Explore the new 17-acre Bixby Marshland after a half-hour introductory walk with Audubon leaders Jess Morton and John Nieto. Walks begin on the hour at the parking lot welcome table. Learn about how the marsh came into being, see the results of this successful restoration and view the many birds that have made the wetland home. Located in Carson, Bixby Marshland is on the west side of Figueroa Street just south of Sepulveda Blvd. (Trucks sometimes block the entrance.) The marsh is managed by the L.A. County Sanitation District: www.lacsd.org/education/.

Wednesday, October 6, 7 p.m.: PV/South Bay Audubon board meeting at Madrona Marsh. All Audubon members and friends are welcome.

Wednesday, October 6, 7 p.m.: Eric and Ann Brooks birding class at South Coast Botanic Garden. Walks in the garden before class start at 6 p.m. as long as daylight permits. The fee for eight classes is \$36 for SCBGF members and \$40 for nonmembers.

Saturday, October 9, 9–11 a.m.: Second Saturday Habitat Restoration Project at Ken Malloy Harbor Regional Park (KMHRP). Come take part in Audubon's important partnership with the Chadwick Ecommunity and the City of Los Angeles to restore habitat in Harbor Park. Led by Chadwick students Roderick Go, Lauren Stoneburner and teacher Martin Byhower, this is a hands-on opportunity to learn about invasives removal and native species planting. Students earn community service credits. Wear closed-toe shoes, long pants and a

hat. Bring water, a snack, sunscreen, bug repellent and work gloves. Harbor Park is located at 25820 Vermont Ave., just west of the Harbor Fwy. Call Martin at 310-541-6763, ext. 4143.

Thursday October 14, 8:30–10:30 a.m. Bird survey on a habitat restoration site. In collaboration with the Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy (PVPLC), we will be monitoring the bird population on the Three Sisters restoration site as a long-term project (see Dalkey's article in Aug.-Sept. 2009 *Hummin'*). Volunteers are needed. They will be trained in identification and the survey methods. Contact Ann Dalkey at adalkey@pvplc.org or 310-541-7613, ext. 208.

Saturday, October 16, 8:30–10:30 a.m.: Bird survey on a habitat restoration site. See October 14 for details.

Tuesday, October 19, 7 p.m.: Audubon Third Tuesday Get-Togethers. Our speakers for the evening will be Martin and Eileen Byhower, who will present the premiere of their video production of the bushwhacker's green Audubon Birdathon in the South Bay, filmed by videographer Steve Dexter. The Byhowers will also share about their recent birding trip to New Zealand, where they were able to see over 100 different bird species. Come to Madrona Marsh to socialize and to enjoy the bird quiz, raffle and prizes from Wild Birds Unlimited.

Wednesday, October 20, 7 p.m.: Eric and Ann Brooks birding class at South Coast Botanic Garden. See October 6 for details.

Wednesday, October 27, 7 p.m.: Eric and Ann Brooks birding class at South Coast Botanic Garden. Annual bird costume affair with prizes. See

| October | | | | | | |
|---------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
| | | | | | 1 | 2 |
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| 31 | | | | | | |

| November | | | | | | |
|----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| S | M | T | W | T | F | S |
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | | | | |
| | | | | | | |

October 6 for details.

Wednesday, November 3, 7 p.m.: Eric and Ann Brooks birding class at South Coast Botanic Garden. See October 6 for details.

Saturday, November 6, 8 a.m.–12 p.m.: Bixby Marshland open to the public. See October 2 for details.

Wednesday, November 10, 7 p.m.: Eric and Ann Brooks birding class at South Coast Botanic Garden. See October 6 for details.

Thursday, November 11, 7:45–9:45 a.m.: Bird survey on a habitat restoration site. See October 14 for details.

Saturday, November 13, 9–11 a.m.: Second Saturday Habitat Restoration Project at KMHRP. See October 9 for details.

Tuesday, November 16, 7 p.m.: Audubon Third Tuesday Get-Togethers. Our speaker for the evening will be Evi Meyer, who will share about her recent trip to the Galapagos Islands, a paradise for those interested in wildlife. Come to Madrona Marsh to socialize and to enjoy the bird quiz, raffle and prizes.

Saturday, November 20, 8–10 a.m.: **Bird survey on a habitat restoration site.** See October 14 for details.

Field Trips

Sunday, October 3, 8 a.m.: **Bird walk at South Coast Botanic Garden.** Audubon leader Stephanie Bryan will lead this walk through the garden, located at 26300 Crenshaw Blvd. There is a minimal charge for non-members of the SCBGF.

Tuesday, October 5, 8:30 a.m.: **“Tour de Torrance.”** Join Audubon leader Dave Moody and friends on a ramble around a great local birding area. Meet at Madrona Marsh.

Saturday October 9, 3–5 p.m.: **PVPLC Natural History Walk to Royal Palms State Beach.** See unusual geological formations on the coastal bluffs. The area is rich in history dating from the Abalone fishing industry of the late 1800s and then a resort with pools fed by natural hot springs. Moderate. Visit www.pvplc.org.

Sunday, October 10, 8 a.m.: **Second Sunday Walk at KMHRP.** Explore this important natural area of the South Bay. See October 9 Events listing.

Sunday, October 10, 8:30 a.m.: **Field trip to Galileo Hill and Silver Saddle Resort** with Eric and Ann Brooks. For details, call 310-913-2799 or 913-2798.

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

Wednesday, October 13, 8 a.m.: **Bird Walk at Madrona Marsh** with Audubon leader Bob Shanman.

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

Wednesday, October 20, 8 a.m.: **Bird Walk at South Coast Botanic Garden.** See October 3 for details.

Sunday, October 24, 8 a.m.: **Field trip to Sycamore Canyon and Oxnard Plain** with Eric and Ann Brooks. Call 310-913-2799 or 310-913-2798.

Sunday, October 24, 3 p.m.: **Los Serenos de Point Vicente Natural History Walk to Ocean Trails** at Trump National Golf Course. Walk the switchback trail to the beach. Learn about local geology and fall blooming habitat. Stay to watch the sunset from beautiful Founders Park. Moderate. Visit www.losserenos.com/pvic.htm.



Cactus Wren at home in coastal cactus scrub

Photo by Steve Wolfe

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

Sunday, October 31, 8 a.m.: **Field trip to Hanson Dam** with Eric and Ann Brooks. Call 310-913-2799 or 913-2798.

Tuesday, November 2, 8:30 a.m.: **“Tour de Torrance.”** See October 5 for details.

Sunday November 7, 8 a.m.: **Bird Walk at South Coast Botanic Garden.** See October 3 for details.

Sunday, November 7, 9 a.m.: **Field trip to Castaic Lake.** Call 310-913-2799 or 913-2798.

Wednesday, November 10, 8 a.m.: **Bird Walk at Madrona Marsh.** See October 13 for details.

November 11-14: **Field trip to Death Valley** with Eric and Ann Brooks. Call 310-913-2799 or 310-913-2798.

Saturday November 13, 9–11 a.m.: **PVPLC Natural History Walk to Upper Malaga Cove.** Walk along a secluded fire road above Malaga Cove Plaza, enjoying mature Toyon bushes full of brilliant red berries, and savor the unobstructed view of the beach cities coastline. Easy. For details, visit www.pvplc.org.

Sunday, November 14, 8 a.m.: **Second Sunday Walk at KMHRP.** See October 10 for details.

Tuesday, November 16, 8:30 a.m.: **“Tour de Torrance.”** See October 6 for details.

Wednesday, November 17, 8 a.m.: **Bird Walk at South Coast Botanic Garden.** See October 3 for details.

Saturday, November 20, 1 p.m.: **Point Vicente Natural History Walk to Abalone Cove Shoreline Park.** Tour the tide pools teeming with fascinating marine life. Moderate. Visit www.losserenos.com/pvic.htm.

Saturday, November 20, 8 a.m.: **LAAS bird walk at Kenneth Hahn SRA** with Eric and Ann Brooks. Call 310-913-2799 or 913-2798.

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



For more information on local events, please go to the Chapter Web site at: www.pvsb-audubon.org. For a complete list of events at Madrona Marsh, go to: www.southbaycalendar.org and click on Friends of Madrona Marsh. For a list of activities for Audubon's Youth Environmental Service program, go to: www.AudubonYES.org.

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

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PALOS VERDES, 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: John Nieto, 310-544-2714
Vice President: Connie Vadheim, jconroth@hughes.net
Treasurer: Jess Morton, 310-832-5601
Secretary: Nancy Feagans, 310-483-8192
Past President: Martin Byhower, 310-539-0050

DIRECTORS

Eileen Byhower Robert Carr Ollie Coker
Linda Chilton Tracy Drake Allen Franz
Candy Groat Lillian Light Evi Meyer
Bob Shanman Laurie Szogas

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Audubon at Home: Tracy Drake, tdrake@torranceca.gov
Audubon So. Cal. Council Rep.: John Nieto, johnnieto@pvsb-audubon.org
Birdathon Teams: Martin Byhower, avitropic@sbcglobal.net
Tracy Drake, tdrake@torranceca.gov
Lillian Light, lklight@verizon.net
Jess Morton, jmorton@igc.org
Birds of the Peninsula: Kevin Larson, cbirdr@ca.rr.com
Bird Walks—KMHRP: Martin Byhower, avitropic@sbcglobal.net
Madrona Marsh: 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: Stephanie Bryan, SCBryan@aol.com
Blue Bird Nest Project: Dan Lee & Nancy Feagans, nancy@pvsb-audubon.org
Christmas Bird Count: Ann & Eric Brooks, motmots@aol.com
Community Outreach: John Nieto, johnnieto@pvsb-audubon.org
Conservation: Lillian Light, lklight@verizon.net
Education: *Vacant*
Field Trips: *Vacant*
Hospitality: Eileen Byhower, leniak@sbcglobal.net

Hummin' Editor: Michelle Fisher
Hummin' Calendar: Evi Meyer, evimeyer@cox.net
KMHRP: Martin Byhower, avitropic@sbcglobal.net
Membership: Vicki Nishioka
Programs: John Nieto, johnnieto@pvsb-audubon.org
Publicity: Shirley Borks
Restoration—Harbor Park: Geffen Oren, gefbofef@yahoo.com
Science Advisory Committee: Candy Groat, groat99@aol.com
Surveys—Coastal Cactus Wren: Ann Dalkey, adalkey@pvplc.org
Three Sisters Restoration: Ann Dalkey, adalkey@pvplc.org
Snowy Plover: Ron Melin, rdmelin@utla.net
South Bay Birds: Dave Moody, 310-803-0396
Webmaster: Nancy Feagans, nancy@pvsb-audubon.org
YES! Coordinator: Marcos Trinidad, marcos@pvsb-audubon.org

Join and Renew

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