



HUMMIN'

www.pvsb-audubon.org

Palos Verdes/South Bay Audubon Society

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THIS UNKNOWN PENINSULA *Fennel*

Photos & Story by Jess Morton

So here's the deal, I'm off on my morning walk and have gotten maybe 100 yards from home when I'm stopped dead in my tracks by a small clump of fennel between the sidewalk and a phone pole. Do I pull it up, as I've done hundreds of times with this invasive plant, tasty though it is? I think back to the dozens of hillsides, fields and little pockets where good habitat for rare birds and butterflies was being crowded out by the stuff, and that I and other volunteers had helped clean out. Or tried to. Fennel has deep roots and is hard to get rid of. You can't just top it and it goes away.

But no, this clump, there because of its invasive nature, was not a threat to anything. In fact, what stopped me was not the plant so much as what was crawling all over it—dozens of caterpillars (see photo at left). The smaller ones were little black and white tubes looking like so many bird droppings. The larger ones were lovely yellow-dotted creations with black and green bands defining each

See Fennel, Page 2

2017 PV/South Bay Audubon Programs

January 17
"Salton Sea"

Katie Krieger, Audubon
California

February 21

"The Curious Connection"
Bob Caplan, Wherehouse of
Dreams Studios

March 21

"Snowy Plovers"
Tom Ryan, Snowy Plover Surveys,
Los Angeles/Orange Counties

April 18

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

May 16
(TBA)

Bernardo Alps
PRBO Conservation Science

June 20

"The Joy of Bird Feeding"
Bob Shanman, owner of Wild

Birds Unlimited and former
president of PV/SB Audubon

July 18

"Birds and Dinosaur:
The Latest Discoveries"
Bob Carr and Tracy Drake

*All programs start at 7 p.m. at the
Madrona Marsh Nature Center,
3201 Plaza del Amo, Torrance;
for information, visit www.friends-ofmadronamarsh.com.*

GARDEN, from Page 1

body segment. When I touched one, it reared back, extruding a fleshy orange Y from its head. The osmetrium — a stink gland to drive off parasitic flies and wasps! Who could have imagined such a thing? Nature at its best.

It was too bad that I hadn't chosen to walk this way a week before, I thought. My sister Grace had been in town for the premiere of a new string quartet we had helped commission as part of Coretet (visit Coretet.org if you like new music) and were out for a walk on a typically gorgeous Point Fermin morning. We noticed a young couple consulting a cell phone, and I knew instantly that they were trying to find Sunken City, one of those hidden L.A. spots that has hit the Internet with general directions but no specifics as to exactly how to get to it, nor even exactly what it is. After introductions all around, I offered to show Parker and Sonia what they were looking for and how to explore it. So we set off, and instead of going along the street where the fennel was, I led our foursome through an alley to the path running by Sunken City. As we walked, the subject turned to caterpillars.

Parker and Sonia, a newly married couple who had just moved to the Point Fermin area, excitedly described finding a large caterpillar not long ago which they raised through its pupal stage. When it emerged, they identified it as an Anise Swallowtail Butterfly. If you have ever raised a butterfly, you know the excitement they felt. Sonia could not stop talking about what it felt like to have this beautiful creature on her hand, the way it looked. Its slight movements. Its patience and trust.

What a wonderful introduction to the area they now lived and loved in.

I, of course, babbled on a bit too, explaining to the others some of the details of what Parker and Sonia had witnessed. How it is that this black and yellow beauty arises from a "lowly" caterpillar after having spent a few days as a chrysalis. That change, metamorphosis, is one of the greatest wonders of nature. Somehow, this eating machine — the caterpillar the couple had found busily munching away and digesting the tough cellulose of a fennel plant — had developed reproductive organs, grown wings, sprouted long legs from larval stumps, and completely redone its digestive system and mouth machinery to take in and digest the sugars in the nectar of flowers. And done it quickly, too. It takes us 15 to 20 years to reach



Anise Swallowtail Butterfly

sexual maturity. These bugs do it in that many days. Wild stuff!

So here I am, a few days later, bending over this fennel clump searching through the filamentous leaves. Ah, there's another big caterpillar down there. And that's a first instar, so small it's barely visible — five more instars to go, with a molted skin between each before it pupates! I was wishing I had gotten a phone number or email address for Sonia and Parker. Such delightful young people who would love to see what I am finding by this phone pole. Perhaps they will, for they like walking here as much as I do.

I think to myself: They and these caterpillars are rays of hope for a bright future.

Aviantics

By Evi Meyer



EDITORIAL

Birds and the Election Results

By Jess Morton

Now that the voice of the people has been heard, it is time to assess what effect the elections of President and Congress, and by extension, the makeup of the Supreme Court, will have on birds. Although no policies have yet been put forward, it is easy to guess that birds and wildlife will be severely compromised by the election. Here, I must point out that the opinions expressed in this summation are my own and are not to be seen as representing any official position of National Audubon nor this chapter. But there are things that I think need to be said, because the already-severe pressures on every Audubon member to persevere in our shared quest for conservation are about to reach nearly unbearable levels.

At the moment, there is a very tiny glimmer of hope because the actual presidential election has not yet been held. In early December, after this issue of *Hummin'* is out, the Electoral College will meet to decide who shall be President for the next four years.

The founding fathers chose not to base the presidential selection on the popular vote, fearing the ease with which demagogues can sway an often poorly informed public. Instead, an Electoral College made up of free agents of high standing and integrity was vested with the power of election. While the popular vote was meant as a guide, it was hoped that the Electoral College would have the wisdom to reject anyone unfit for office. I share that hope. If all branches of government fall under the control of a single party antithetical to the principles of conservation, as it appears will happen come January, the outlook for the future is grim — and not only for birds and wildlife.

The chief threat is global warming, as everyone but a willfully ignorant minority knows. Unfortunately, the radicals that are about to take control are part of that minority and deny its existence. The policies concerning fossil fuels they will likely put in place will reverse all U.S. efforts to limit CO₂ emissions.

Doing so will almost certainly eliminate any chance the nations of earth have of preventing massive planetary climate change. The result for birds will be drastic. Audubon's existing dire predictions for bird population shifts and declines in the next few decades are based on models that contain some limits on overall temperature increase. The models will have to be adjusted to take account of very high and increasing emission rates. The resulting effects on all habitats, both on land and at sea, will not be pretty.

Other policies almost certain to be put forward — and for

which there will no longer be any effective resistance in any branch of government — include stripping environmental protections from agencies like the EPA (if it is not abolished completely) and from legislation such as the Clean Water Act and the Endangered Species Act. Among the revisions, I expect there will be reduced allowances for public input and the elevation of short-term financial gain (under the rubric of economic considerations) to a higher level of influence in the decision-making process than now. This will speed habitat fragmentation and spread invasive species into habitats now free of them. The result will be less room for birds in our lives and concomitant reductions in avian populations and ranges.

Public lands will have less protection, and there may be attempts to privatize parks and other publicly owned resources. Southeast Alaska's Tongass National Forest, the world's largest remaining temperate old-growth forest, will probably see much of it logged, with the logs sent overseas for processing. Since many bird species depend on old-growth forests for part or all of their lives, those species can be expected to decline in number and may disappear altogether.

The private use of national forest and BLM lands, some of it legal and some illegal, can be expected to increase considerably as the political spoils of single-party dominance of the body politic are harvested. This will also have deleterious effects on still other bird species. Drilling options for swathes of the Arctic Ocean will probably go on the block, though actual drilling may be some years off. Inevitable spills from such operations may have devastating effects on the very high concentrations of birds that use the waters and shores of northern Alaska, Canada and Russia.

Although California has strong environmental laws that protect birds and wildlife, most of which are enforced reasonably well, and a human population largely supportive of conservation aims, these laws may well be attacked at the federal level by passing legislation that prohibits states from having regulations more stringent than those at the federal level. Such limitations would have serious consequences for many birds and habitats within our state's richly varied, very high biodiversity.

I do not wish to sound gloomy, but I cannot find any ray of light in what the federal government will probably become. We in Audubon will have to redouble our investments in this and other environmental organizations, and we will have to work even more diligently through individual and chapter initiatives to save habitats, strengthen local protections for birds and wildlife, and make the public more aware of the seriously threatened future we share with the birds we love.

CONSERVATION CORNER

The Pesticide Assault on Our Health

By Lillian Light

The President's Cancer Panel warned in 2010 that up to 80 percent of U.S. cancer cases are directly caused by poisons in our environment and in our food. Current figures show cancer striking 48 percent of men and 38 percent of women, while also affecting increasing numbers of children. Studies have shown that glyphosate, the active ingredient in Monsanto's herbicide Roundup, can be dangerous to our health. It was recently labeled a probable human carcinogen by the World Health Organization. Glyphosate is the most widely used herbicide in America, with 300 million pounds utilized annually. Despite massive scientific evidence that this chemical is poisoning us, the EPA has avoided or delayed taking action on it.

In a recent examination of honey samples from various locations in the U.S., the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) found residues of glyphosate in all of the samples. Some of the honey samples showed residue levels double the limit allowed in the European Union. There is no legal tolerance level for glyphosate in honey in the United States. Tests have also found this toxic weed killer in breast milk, beer, and wine made from vineyards that do not allow the use of Roundup. It has been found everywhere in our environment and in our bodies.

In April 2014, Emily Cassidy published a study with the title "Extreme Levels of Herbicide Roundup Found in Food" (see

www.ewg.org/agmag/2014/04/extreme-levels-herbicide-roundup-found-food). Another study found that a stunning 93 percent of people tested positive for the chemical, and it's been detected in more than half of our rivers and streams. It has also been implicated in the massive die-off of Monarch butterflies.

In June, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service announced that it was studying how glyphosate is impacting the country's endangered species. In the same month the European Union refused to grant Monsanto a new license for the use of this chemical. It has been banned in France, the Netherlands and Brazil. The EPA's risk assessment for glyphosate was originally supposed to be completed in 2015, six years after it began.

But that deadline was missed, and now we are told that it might not be completed before the end of President Obama's second term. This delay serves only to give Monsanto more time to sell a chemical that has not been proven safe and that probably causes cancer. Meanwhile, consumers are left to deal with the health risks and environmental contamination of the world's most heavily sprayed herbicide.

The evidence is growing that Monsanto's Roundup is a danger to our health. Please contact urge the EPA administrator to stop the use of this pesticide until it has been proven safe: email Ms. Gina McCarthy, Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency by visiting the EPA homepage: <https://www.epa.gov/aboutepa/administrator-gina-mccarthy>.

'The Curious Connection'

Presented by Bob Caplan
Wherehouse of Dreams Studios
Tuesday, Feb. 21, 2017, 7 p.m.
Madrona Marsh Nature Center, Torrance

Award-winning director Bob Caplan, presents "The Curious Connection." The program pairs two high-adventure films about the role of inquisitiveness in protecting our environment.

Bob Caplan and his wife, Anita Caplan, have been shooting adventure documentaries since the early 1970s. Their work has been previously shown at the Photographic Society of America, the Sierra Club, the Audubon Society, and elsewhere. Bob currently focuses on wilderness-based fiction about dealing with the environment. One of the Caplan's greatest birding moments was the up-close sighting of Sri Lanka's Serendip Owl, a bird few people have seen. The owl was on an eye-level branch. Before leaving the bird, they watched it for more than 20 minutes, all the while, flicking leeches off their skin.

In the film "Secrets," a young girl discovers a map she probably wasn't meant to see. In this allegorical tale of the



earth's preservation, she becomes caught in a suspenseful search for a sacred and enchanted wilderness. To gain access, she must prove herself worthy of its secrets. With an original score by Ken Kozora, this documentary was filmed in the spectacular Southwest.

In "Curious Dogs," a handful of dogs discover a world beyond their village in the Himalayas that is far more interesting and a little more dangerous than they expected. It is lauded as a children's story for adults of all ages.

Your Backyard Habitat



By **Dr. Constance M. Vadheim**
CSU Dominguez Hills

Pink/Hairy Honeysuckle *Lonicera hispidula*

Many of us choose trees, shrubs and perennials to increase our garden's habitat. Often overlooked are the California native vines and climbers. One of the best — both for beauty and habitat — is the Pink honeysuckle.

Native honeysuckles are *not* the notorious thugs that overrun local gardens (those are the non-native *Loniceras*). *Lonicera hispidula* is a part-woody vine that sprawls through trees and shrubs in the wilds. It still grows on the South Channel Islands and the foothills of the Santa Monica and San Gabriel mountains.

The exotic flowers are medium to brilliant pink and fragrant. Their sweet nectar attracts both hummingbirds and children. The berries, which ripen to dark red in fall, are also edible (for birds and humans). Mature plants provide plenty of cover and even nest sites for birds and insects.

Pink honeysuckle grows to perhaps 18 feet after four to five years. The main stems produce a number of side branches. If you grow this plant, you'll need to provide some support. It can be

grown over an arbor, pergola or trellis — or woven through an openwork fence (see below). You'll need to tie the branches to the support.

The leaves are simple, light green in spring, becoming purple tinged in the dry season. Some gardeners like the foliage color as much as the flowers!

Lonicera hispidula isn't picky about soils, doing fine in clay. In our area, it does best with a bit of afternoon shade. Once established (three to four years), it is quite drought toler-



ant, but looks best with occasional summer water. That's about it.

This plant is fairly pest-resistant in local water-wise gardens. However, it is host for *Phytophthora ramorum* (Sudden Oak Death), so should not be planted near stands of Live Oaks. Other than that, Pink honeysuckle is a wonderful native plant, providing yearlong interest.

For more on this plant, visit <http://mother-natures-backyard.blogspot.com/2016/10/plant-of-month-october-pink-hairy.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.

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Christmas Bird Count Coming Up



By David Quadhamer

The 117th Christmas Bird Count is right around the corner. The count period is from Dec. 14 through Jan. 5. Christmas Bird Counts are held all over the country. Our count will take place on Monday, Dec. 26.

The first Christmas Bird Counts were held on Dec. 25, 1900. Twenty-seven people participated in 25 CBCs. Today, thousands of people participate in hundreds of CBCs, mainly in North and South America. The Christmas Bird Count is the longest running citizen science bird project in the United States.

Each count takes place within a 15-mile diameter circle. Our count circle is centered at the Palos Verdes reservoir. This circle is divided into 10 areas and each area is assigned a leader. Our website has maps of how the count circle is divided. The chapter is currently looking for help counting birds.

Participation is open to everyone. You don't need to be an expert birder in order to help. We need help counting and tallying the birds we find. It is a good learning experience as well. Participants will be assigned to one of the 10 areas and each area will have at least one knowledgeable birder to help identify the birds. The more people we have counting birds, the better the results will be. Last year we had 68 participants. If there is an area you would like to cover, please contact Ann Brooks (motmots@aol.com).

After everyone is finished counting birds, we will meet at the Madrona Marsh Nature Center for a potluck dinner and to tally all of the birds that were seen. It is interesting to hear what was seen and also what was missed. Sometimes rare birds show up, and it's fun to hear who found them and where they were found. We typically find anywhere from 160 to 170 species. Last year we tallied 167 species.

Any guesses as to which species had the highest count? It was the Western Gull — and 3,777 were counted. Single birds were found for a number of species including a Eurasian Wigeon, a Short-tailed Shearwater, a Vermillion Flycatcher and a Plumbeous Vireo.

Why are CBCs important? The data collected by bird count participants allows researchers, conservation biologists, wildlife agencies and others to study and assess the long-term health and status of bird populations. This data is combined with other surveys and together the data shows how bird populations have changed. This data is used to develop strategies

for protecting birds and their habitats.

Christmas Bird Count data has been used in a number of scientific reports. Audubon's 2014 Climate Change Report predicts how the ranges of 588 species of North American birds could be affected by climate change. The State of the Birds 2009 report, a collaborative report by the North American Bird Conservation Initiative, showed declines of bird populations during the previous 40 years. Audubon's 2007 Common Birds in Decline Report showed that the populations of some of the most familiar birds in the United States have declined significantly.

The United States is home to more than 800 species of birds, with 67 of them now federally listed as endangered or threatened. About 184 more are species of conservation concern because of declining populations, limited distribution or high threats. Information about bird populations gathered during the Christmas Bird Counts informs conservation efforts to help the endangered species and manage the others so they don't become threatened or endangered.

We can even see trends within our own count circle. There are a few species of birds that were regularly found 30 years ago and are rarely found today (i.e., California Quail, Loggerhead Shrike). Similarly, a few species of birds that were not found 30 years ago are easily found today (i.e., Scaly-breasted Munia, Eurasian Collared-Dove).



The officers for 2017 will remain the same as they are this year. I will serve as President, Paul Blieden as Vice-President, Jess Morton as Treasurer and Vincent Lloyd as Secretary. Bob Carr, Ollie Coker, Tracy Drake, Stacy Herman, Lillian Light and Brandon Winner will serve on the board. If you would like to get involved with our board or on a committee, please let me know.

Our program chairs have been hard at work and have scheduled a lot of interesting speakers for 2017. The schedule is almost full. Katie Krieger from Audubon California will give a presentation on the Salton Sea. Bob Kaplan will show two high-adventure films about how inquisitiveness plays a role in protecting our environment. Tom Ryan will talk about Snowy Plovers. Dave Weeshoff will talk about International Bird Rescue. Bernardo Alps and Emile Feisler will each give presentations, with the content still to be determined. Bob Shanman will talk about the joy of bird feeding. Bob Carr and Tracy Drake will share about the latest discoveries regarding birds and dinosaurs. Please join us for these presentations!

BOOK REVIEW

The Invention of Nature

By Evi Meyer

The Invention of Nature by Andrea Wulf is a must read for anyone who has an interest in the natural world. In this vividly written book — part biography and part adventure story — we are provided with a fascinating account of the life and discoveries of Alexander von Humboldt, the most famous scientist in his time but a somewhat forgotten hero in our times. In a compelling style Wulf revives Humboldt's reputation as a visionary scientist whose findings ultimately shaped the way we understand the natural world today.

A German born scientist of the early 19th century, von Humboldt grew up surrounded by Enlightenment thinkers who planted the seeds of his life-long belief in liberty, equality, tolerance and the importance of education. He was driven by a sense of wonder for the natural world, and to his parents dismay, he discarded a life of privilege in Prussia to discover the world and learn how it works.

Taking meticulous notes on his extensive travels in places as diverse as Amazonia and Siberia, he became the first person to see worldwide climate zones and the distribution of plants according to their altitudes. By looking at nature in a holistic way he soon realized that everything is interconnected, with nothing existing in isolation. His findings became the basis for modern-day ecology.

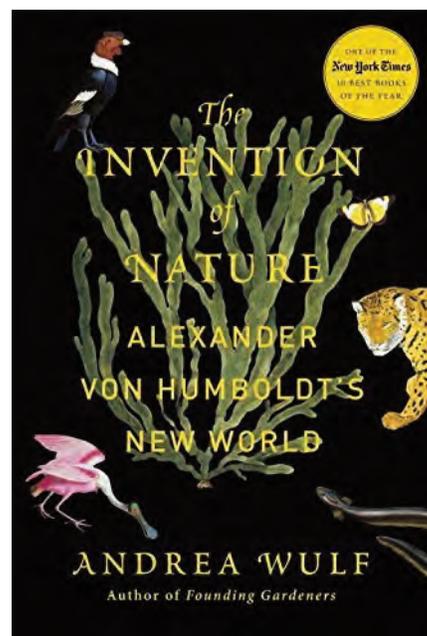
Humboldt was highly regarded by many of his famous contemporaries. In Germany he was personal friends with both Goethe and Schiller and met them frequently to discuss literature, philosophy and science. In South America, where he had spent five years of discovery, Simon Bolivar used Humboldt's detailed notes on the culture of endemic

peoples to gain deeper knowledge of the countries he wanted to liberate from Spanish oppression. In the United States President Thomas Jefferson, who had a vast interest in all sciences, invited him to the White House to learn of the complexities of nature Humboldt had found on his world travels.

Wulf also draws connections to Humboldt by people who lived after him. She shows how he influenced famous naturalists like John Muir and Charles Darwin. Both had read Humboldt's scientific travel notes before they went on their own journeys and, as a result, were able to build their findings on the principles Humboldt had established.

An especially interesting aspect of this book is Wulf's well-researched and detailed description of Humboldt's scientific method. He combined solid data collection with art, history, poetry, politics — even emotions — and called their connections the “deeply-seated bond.” Wulf points out that he was one of the last polymaths who lived at a time when scientific disciplines were beginning to develop into highly specialized fields, which were often incomprehensible to the general public. As a result of using interdisciplinary methods, Humboldt was able to make science accessible to a broad public and was well known at his time.

Wulf illustrates very poignantly that everyone can learn something from Humboldt. Farmers profit from his detailed records of worldwide weather patterns, vegetation zones and agricultural practices. Teachers use his invention of isotherms and the detection of the magnetic equator in geography and science classes. Politicians learn that there are environmental consequences of colonial rule, as colonies based on slavery, monoculture and exploitation create a system of disastrous environmental devastation.



The main point Wulf makes very successfully is that, above all, Humboldt was a visionary. It was clear to him already at the beginning of the 19th century, that human practices such as deforestation, exploitation of the land and diversion of water for irrigation would cause irreparable damage on the world's ecosystems and lead to human-induced climate change.

Today, more than 150 years after Humboldt, we can confirm his predictions with solid scientific data from over 800 climate scientists who report that global warming will have “severe, pervasive and irreversible impacts for people and ecosystems,” as stated by the U.N. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

This book is highly recommended to anyone who is not only interested in the natural world, but also in the history of science in the nineteenth century. It is not clear why Humboldt gets so little credit for being an ecological visionary, even though today's ecologists base much of their research on his original ideas. I am convinced that everyone who reads this fascinating book will remember Humboldt, and in doing so, will help restore him to his rightful place among natural scientists. Five thumbs up for this book!

MEET, LEARN, RESTORE, ENJOY

Chapter Calendar

Events

Monday, Dec. 26: Palos Verdes Christmas Bird Count. For details, e-mail Ann Brooks at motmots@aol.com or call 323-295-6688.

Monday, Jan. 2: Los Angeles CBC. For details, e-mail motmots@aol.com or call 323-295-6688.

Field Trips

Important change: Due to construction at Ken Malloy Harbor Regional Park, all second Sunday bird walks there are cancelled indefinitely.

Friday to Saturday Dec. 2–3: Fieldtrip to Sacramento, focusing on Wildlife Refuges with Eric and Ann Brooks. For details, e-mail motmots@aol.com or call 323-295-6688.

Tuesday, Dec. 6, 8:30 a.m.: “Tour de Torrance.” Join Audubon leader Ron Melin and friends on a ramble around a great local birding area. Meet at the Madrona Marsh Nature Center.

Wednesday, Dec. 7: 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.”

Saturday, Dec. 10, 9 a.m.: PVPLC Natural History Walk to Filiorum Reserve. Walk through Jack’s Hat Trail on this 191-acre property preserved in 2009 linking the Three Sisters and Portuguese Bend Reserves. This wildlife corridor boasts beautiful ocean views and native habitat. Strenuous. For details, visit www.pvplc.org.

Sunday, Dec. 11, 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 of the SCBG Foundation, or you can join there.

Sunday, Dec. 11, 12 p.m.: Los Serenos de Point Vicente Natural History Walk to Abalone Cove Shoreline Park.



Eared Grebe

Photo by Evi Meyer

Tour the tide pools teeming with fascinating marine life. Moderate. For details, visit www.losserenos.com/pvic.htm

Wednesday, Dec. 14, 8 a.m.: Bird Walk at Madrona Marsh with Audubon leader Bob Shanman. Meet at the Madrona Marsh Nature Center.

Thursday Dec. 15, 8:30 a.m.: Fieldtrip to Upper Newport Bay with Eric and Ann Brooks. For details, e-mail them at motmots@aol.com or call 323-295-6688.

Saturday Dec. 17, 8 a.m.: Fieldtrip to Kenneth Hahn State Recreational Area with Eric and Ann Brooks as well as Los Angeles Audubon. For details, e-mail motmots@aol.com or call 323-295-6688.

Tuesday, Dec. 20, 8:30 a.m.: “Tour de Torrance.” See Dec. 6 for details.

Wednesday, Dec. 21, 8:30 a.m.: PVPLC Third Wednesday Bird Walk at White Point Nature Preserve. For details, visit pvplc.org.

Saturday, Dec. 24, 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.

Wednesday, Dec. 28, 8:30 a.m.: PVPLC Fourth Wednesday Bird Walk at George F Canyon. This walk is led by Wild Birds Unlimited. For details, visit pvplc.org.

Tuesday, Jan 3, 8:30 a.m.: “Tour de Torrance.” See Dec. 6 for details.

Wednesday, Jan. 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.

Sunday, Jan. 8, 8 a.m.: Bird walk at South Coast Botanic Garden. See Dec. 11 for details.

Sunday Jan. 8, 8 a.m.: Fieldtrip to Cabrillo Beach with Eric and Ann Brooks. For details, call 323-295-6688 or e-mail motmots@aol.com.

Wednesday, Jan. 11, 8 a.m.: Bird Walk at Madrona Marsh. See Dec. 14 for details.

Saturday, Jan. 14, 9 a.m.: PVPLC Natural History Walk to Vicente Bluffs Reserve. Follow the bluff top from Point Vicente to Oceanfront Estates, an area containing high quality coastal bluff scrub habitat. A great location for sightseeing whales. Easy. For details, visit www.pvplc.org.

Sunday, Jan. 15, 8 a.m.: Bird walk at Ballona Wetlands with Bob Shanman. Visit www.torrance.wbu.com.

Sunday, Jan. 15, 8:30 a.m.: Fieldtrip to the Antelope Valley with Eric and Ann Brooks. For details, e-mail motmots@aol.com or call 323-295-6688.

Tuesday, Jan. 17, 8:30 a.m.: "Tour de Torrance." See Dec. 6 for details.

Wednesday, Jan. 18, 8:30 a.m.: PVPLC Third Wednesday Bird Walk at White Point Nature Preserve. Please see the

Dec. 21 listing for more information.

Wednesday, Jan. 25, 8:30 a.m.: PVPLC Fourth Wednesday Bird Walk at George F Canyon. See Dec. 28 for details.

Friday to Sunday, Jan 27–29, 8:30 a.m.: Annual Fieldtrip to Carrizo Plains with Eric and Ann Brooks. For details, e-mail motmots@aol.com or call 323-295-6688

Saturday, Jan. 28, 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, Jan. 29, 3 p.m.: Los Serenos de Point Vicente Natural History Walk to Abalone Cove Shoreline Park. Tour the tide pools teeming with fascinating marine life. www.losserenos.com/pvic.htm.

Tuesday, Jan. 31, 8:30 a.m.: "Tour de Torrance." See Dec. 6 for details.



NOTE: PV/South Bay Audubon field trips are generally free, but donations are much appreciated. Please visit the Chapter website at www.pvsb-audubon.org or www.southbay-calendar.org. Area youth and their families may visit [www.pvsb-audubon.org/Audubon YES.html](http://www.pvsb-audubon.org/AudubonYES.html).

'Salton Sea'

**Presented by Katie Krieger,
Audubon California
Tuesday, January 17, 2017, 7 p.m.
Madrona Marsh Nature Center**

Katie Krieger, Audubon California's Salton Sea program manager, will present a program on the Salton Sea for our January meeting. Audubon California is securing a home for birds at the Salton Sea through a three-pronged approach.

First, through habitat mapping and analysis, we are working with partners to develop a habitat road map for a future sea that mitigates dust and provides a matrix of bird habitats to support at-risk populations.

Second, through public engagement, we are using the power of the Audubon network to raise awareness about the issues at the Salton Sea and to demonstrate to the public that, with intensive action and proper management, the Salton Sea can continue to be critically important for birds and a healthy place for people to live.



White Pelicans at the Salton Sea

Photo by Wayne Stadler

Third, through policy, Audubon is building on its history of policy successes in Sacramento by helping to encourage the State of California to keep its promise to the people of Riverside and Imperial counties, while also preserving a vital place for birds of the Pacific Flyway.

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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
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Treasurer: Jess Morton (Acting), 310-748-5622
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