



Drawing by
Guy Coleleach

THE WRENTIT

Founded 1904

Pasadena Audubon Society
A Chapter of National Audubon Society

Volume 57 — No. 4

*To bring the excitement of birds to our community through birding,
education and the conservation of bird habitats.*

September - October 2009

September Program

Little Green Birds, Little Brown Birds

Wednesday, September 16, 2009

Jon Fisher and Mickey Long

As the phrases imply, they're either Greenish (LGBs) or brownish (LBBs) and with few obvious field marks. The bane of many birders, not only do they look alike, but they can make birding frustrating since they often remain unidentified. In reality, a little homework with the field guides and some experience in the field goes a long way toward resolving this problem. Join us as Mickey and Jon help make sense of these nondescript little songbirds.

**General Meetings Held At
Eaton Canyon Nature Center
1750 N Altadena Drive
Pasadena CA
Social 7:00 pm, Program 7:30 pm**

October Program

Hummingbirds! Beauty and the Beast

Wednesday, October 21, 2009

Tom Kaminski

Avian Video Center Producer Tom Kaminski will introduce his latest DVD, "Hummingbirds! Beauty and the Beast." Tom has appeared here previously. His new DVD features 57 hummer species, including all 16 that breed in the US. This beautifully-filmed, humorously-narrated program shows that hummers are:

- Little beasts that live by the Law of the Jungle...
- Single moms, deadbeat dads and "teenage" chicks...
- Brainy Warriors with specific Rules of Engagement...
- Connoisseurs that put flower taste ahead of color...
- And more. Also shown: 14 other bird species, including the Three-wattled Bellbird, Roseate Spoonbill, Crested Caracara, and White-tailed Kite.

November Program

eBird! Learn What It Is and How to Use It

Wednesday, November 18, 2009

Kimball Garrett

You've probably been hearing a lot about eBird (www.ebird.org) lately, the website and online birding tool that is changing the face of modern birding. eBird is an internet-based checklist program built for birders by birders, whose goal is to harness the power of both birding and science. It allows you to keep track of your bird records online and share them with the birding community, while making them available for science and conservation efforts. eBird allows birders to post sightings, keep life lists, and manage their personal records. This program will show you what eBird is and why it's important that you contribute, show you what it can do for you as a birder, and teach you how to get started. Join Los Angeles eBird Coordinator Kimball Garrett for a look at this remarkable tool, and get empowered to make *your* observations count!

President's Perch

Summer is about over. Lois & I vacationed in the Sierras at Mammoth, June Lake & Yosemite. We did some birding, and I can report that Williamson's Sapsuckers are a common sight at Mammoth (the Craters & Agnew Meadows) and at Yosemite (White Wolf tent cabins). At June Lake (Silver Lake Resorts) the Red-breasted Sapsuckers rule!

On Wednesday, September 16th we return to our monthly meetings that start with a Social half-hour (7 to 7:30 pm). Refreshments will be there to welcome

us, thanks to our Hospitality Committee. I want to thank our retiring Hospitality Committee (Susan Gilliland, Judy Bass and Pam Dong) for serving us so well during the past year, culminating with our excellent June Dinner. Now let's welcome this year's Hospitality Committee: Mary Jane Macy, Linda Moore and Grace Wong. Birding is our main focus, but spending a few minutes chatting with friends around the hospitality table before the meeting is a vital part of being a PAS member!

Will

In This Issue

Conservation	2
Grants	2
Trip Reports	3
Field Trips	4
Calendar	5
Financial Report	6
Announcements	6-7
New Members	8
John's Corner	8

Conservation and Education

New Trails for Eaton Wash

On August 4th, the Altadena Foothills Conservancy, soon to be known as the Arroyos and Foothills Conservancy, celebrated the inauguration of the Eaton Wash Corridor Plan. Dave Ford, Local Public Affairs Region Manager for Southern California Edison, presented to the Conservancy a \$25,000 check to develop the Corridor Plan, a continuous trail and park network from the mountains in Eaton Canyon to the confluence with the Rio Hondo. The Conservancy will be collaborating with the City of Pasadena which has committed to developing the plan within its borders.

Laura Garrett

San Gabriel River Discovery Center

The SGRDC is a plan to replace the existing Nature Center at Whittier Narrows Natural Area with an 18,230 square foot building, a 150-spot parking lot, a man-made riparian habitat, and some restored natural habitat. After perusing the 800-page Draft Environmental Impact Report, we applaud the SGRDC Authority for its desire to reach out to local school children by giving them a wonderful way to learn about nature. At the same time, we question the wisdom of constructing such a huge building when the current Nature Centers can't stay open seven days a week due to budget cuts. We also are deeply concerned by the removal of many mature trees that this plan would necessitate. Therefore, we recommended to the SGRDC Authority that they select one of the smaller alternative plans so that they can meet their objectives without spending so much money or destroying so many trees.

Laura Garrett

Environmental Potluck Picnic

Mark your calendar now! On September 12 the Pasadena Group of the Sierra Club and other Pasadena Area Environmental Organizations will hold a potluck picnic and showing of the new award-winning film "A Sense of Wonder." It's a reflective interpretation by actress Kaiulani Lee of the life of Rachel Carson, author of the 1962 book "Silent Spring," which first brought to public attention the dangers to the natural and human environment of DDT and other chemical pesticides.

This film is an outstanding testament to the power of one dedicated person to cause a dramatic shift in society's perception of the benefits and costs of the modern chemical industry. Carson's path-breaking book was instrumental in the creation of our contemporary environmental movement.

All members of the Sierra Club and other Pasadena area environmental organizations, as well as prospective members and other interested persons, are invited to this event, which will be held at Eaton Canyon Nature Center.

Please plan to arrive at 5:30 pm; dinner will begin promptly at 6 pm, and the film will follow at 7 pm. Please bring a dish serving 6-8 people; beverages, plates, and utensils will be provided.

For further information, contact the event coordinator at (626) 793-4727 or ginnyh@ix.netcom.com.

Annandale Canyon

Last February 9, the Pasadena City Council voted to purchase 20.6 acres of open space in Annandale Canyon. After months of waiting for the State of California to free up its funding, we can breathe a sigh of relief. Escrow has closed and the land is preserved for the public. Now, the group of citizens that fought for over ten years to protect this land is working to design trails for hiking and birding. Led by Nina Chomsky and others, they desire to keep these trails flora- and fauna-friendly as well.

Laura Garrett

Local Chapters Win Grants

No grants for PAS in this particular go-round, but several nearby chapters won grants in the 2009 TogetherGreen Innovation Grants competition, with winners announced in August. Among them:

The Audubon Center at Debs Park, \$20,000 for "Beyond Nature's Open House".

Los Angeles Audubon, \$30,000 for the "Baldwin Hills Academy".

San Diego Audubon, \$20,000 for "Linking Communities, Habitat, and Wildlife along the Wildland-Urban Interface".

San Bernardino Audubon, \$45,000 for the "Torres-Martinez Rail Wetlands".

Audubon California Land Stewardship Program, \$24,700 for "Engaging High School Youth in Riparian and Oak Woodland Restoration".

Innovation Grants will be awarded for the next three years. This year; awards of over \$1 million were made possible by funding from Toyota. For detailed information about the grant program and the projects that won grants, go to www.TogetherGreen.org and click on "View Innovation Grantees".

TerraCycle and PAS

PAS is going to recycle some trash and make a little money at the same time. At our General Meetings, we will collect Nabisco cookie bags (e.g. Oreo, Nutter-Butter, Chips Ahoy! and Fig Newtons), energy bar wrappers (the kind with a silver lining) and corks (real, not plastic). We will send these items to TerraCycle, a company dedicated to the idea of ending waste, and they will send PAS money. To help, please bring the above items to any meeting, or you can contact TerraCycle at www.terracycle.net and sign up on your own. For more information, please contact Laura Garrett at: purplecow@jps.net or (626) 564-1890.

Summer! Trip Reports

By Hudson Bay

I went to Churchill, Manitoba, Canada, on Hudson Bay. This was not the Churchill of the slick, beautifully photographed advertisements. This was Churchill in the raw, freezing, thawing, raining, snowing, foggy, flooded, icy. I loved every minute of it! Best bird tour I've ever been on!



Caribou in flooded fields near Churchill

I went because I wanted to see "my" drab winter birds in brilliant breeding plumage. I was not disappointed, well, mostly not. I learned that "my" ducks, because they choose their mates on their winter grounds, did not change all that much. But the shorebirds, who mate on their summer breeding grounds, have colors. Oh, my, yes, colors like you can't imagine: Chestnut, gold, garnet, ruby, a jewel box of regal hues.

I saw new-to-me birds that never or rarely come south like Hoary and Common Redpoll, Common Eider and Long-tailed Duck, and birds that were held up in migration because of the frozen water and tundra like the Snow Bunting, Longspur and Red Phalarope. Jillions of Snow Buntings!

One result of the late greenup was that many of the Arctic birds delayed breeding or didn't breed at all this year

because of lack of food ... no bugs, good for me, but not for them. Late breeding means that the year's hatchlings are not well enough along in their development to survive migration in some cases.



Snow Bunting (one of jillions)

The colors and sounds of the ice were spectacular. And the flooded areas made the birds congregate together so, at stops along the side of the road, we might see a dozen different kinds of shorebirds all at once.

If you go, don't expect the Ross' Gull, it hasn't been seen for several years. It is suspected that photographers and unethical birders harassed its nests too much.

The trip lasted only one week and was very comfortable and very companionable. I'm going back next year to see the tundra flowers in bloom, which was another of my goals. The wide Churchill River and Hudson Bay and the flooded tundra can't be completely frozen over in two consecutive years, or can they?

Jane Strong

Photos by Donald Green

Far from the Madding Crowd at Kilauea Point

We took our two daughters to Kauai for a week to celebrate two graduations in June and returned to Kilauea Point NWR to see the reliable Frigatebirds, Red-Footed Boobies, and tropicbirds. But we had two surprises here, both spurred by a naturalist's tip. First, while we were resigned to seeing no Laysan Albatrosses, which depart earlier in the spring, the naturalist at the booth told us of a single spot where we could look up the hillside to see up to six not-yet-fledged young - - all of which

were very close to fledging and leaving. Second, while one could glimpse one or two Wedge-Tailed Shearwaters in their burrows, the best spectacle could be viewed just after sunset at the upper parking lot after the refuge was closed and locked. Right at the fence overlooking the inlet, dozens of acrobatic shearwaters would then make their way to their burrows for the night. Some of these burrows are within five feet of the fence, and a couple of shearwaters landed on the sidewalk just feet from us and scuttled under the fence into a burrow. Most amazing of all, we were nearly the only spectators, and certainly the only ones who realized what we were seeing. Highly recommended!

John L. Thompson

Everybody's an Expert

Traveling down to the north entrance of Yellowstone through Paradise Valley, MT, early this past June, I noticed a couple of cars parked at the side of the road. A lady and little boy and a man were digiscoping. A National Park and cars parked any which way on the shoulder usually equals wildlife. I slowed to see why and spied a pair of what I thought were Trumpeter Swans swimming along in the irrigation ditch. I parked and walked back for a closer look and exclaimed, quietly for me, "Trumpeters!" The lady standing there, with an open bird book in her hand, turned and said in an authoritative voice, "No, they're swans!." Fortunately, a pair of fluffy, gray cygnets appeared from behind the adults, effectively stopping any retort. Besides, I couldn't fault her. They were swans.

Beverly McKenzie

Volunteer Opportunity

Cam Clickr from Cornell

More citizen science! 8 million photos from NestCams are available on CamClickr—an online tool you can use to view the images and sort them into albums, then tag each image by the type of behavior you see. Peek into the nests of Barn Owls, bluebirds, Wood Ducks, and other birds. Collect points and compete for prizes such as binoculars, DVDs, books and posters. Go to www.camclickr.org to learn all about it.

Field Trips

Point Vicente Sea Watch

Saturday, September 12, 2009

7:30 am – 10:00 am

In September there are large and sometimes impressive numbers of seabirds moving along the coast of Southern California. When conditions are good these birds can be moving close to shore at places like Point Vicente. Bring a chair, your favorite cup of coffee, and join me for a casual morning of birding until mid-morning. We should be able to observe shearwaters, gulls, terns and possibly a few jaegers and alcids. Frequently, there are also whales and dolphins feeding just offshore. We will also bird the Bluff Trail out to Long Point from the Fishing Access parking lot.

From San Pedro take Palos Verdes Drive South to the entrance of the Point Vicente Interpretive Center, then make a U-turn back for 0.3 miles to the parking lot.

Meet at the Public Fishing Access Parking Lot at Long Point. A spotting scope is a necessity.

Mike San Miguel

New Start Times

Be sure to note the new, earlier start times for some trips, such as Hahmongna (beginning September).

Ventura County Birding

Sunday, September 27, 2009

7:30 am – Midafternoon

Join us for a fun day of birding in Ventura County. We'll scope the ocean for seabirds and visit several migrant traps. Spots we plan to visit include Sycamore Canyon, the warbler-attracting Laguna Tamarisks, the sod farms off Hueneme Rd, and the Santa Clara River Estuary (time permitting).

Bring a scope if you have one.

Meet in the beach parking lot of Leo Carillo State Beach (off Highway 1 at the western edge of LA County) at 7:30 am. There is a parking fee for the Leo Carillo parking lot, but if there is space available it is possible to access Leo Carillo by parking (for free) on the ocean side of Highway 1.

Mark & Janet Scheel

Newport Back Bay Kayaks

Saturday, October 24, 2009

10:00 am – 1:00 pm

Shorebirds hold more tightly for kayakers than they do for birders on foot. At times we are tolerated within a couple of meters of peeps and other shorebirds as the wind slowly drifts the kayaks into a mudbank where birds are feeding. By late October a wide variety of waterfowl will also be in residence. It's a very refreshing outing, normally not an

upper-body challenge, although last year's headwinds were the exception. This year's trip takes advantage of a mild tide day, so currents should be light and mostly favorable. A couple of free loaner kayaks are available, and kayaks can also be rented by the hour at our launch point. Email or call Mark Hunter for reservations and detailed directions.

Mark Hunter
fishingyak@yahoo.com (818) 957-5044

North Slope San Gabriels

Saturday, November 14, 2009

7:30 am – early afternoon

We will explore areas on the northern slope of the San Gabriel Mountains, such as Grassy Hollow Visitors Center, Jackson Lake, and locations in Valyermo. We will search for high-altitude species as well as wintering raptors. Unusual species (e.g. Lewis's Woodpecker, Yellow-Bellied Sapsucker, Swamp Sparrow) have been found in some years. Time permitting, we may look for Mountain Plovers or longspurs in the Antelope Valley.

It may be cold, especially at higher elevations, so bring warm clothes.

We will meet at the Park & Ride on Ave. S in Palmdale, just east of the 14 Freeway.

Mark and Janet Scheel

more trips on page 7

Eaton Canyon Monthly Walk

Sunday, September 20, 2009

Sunday, October 18, 2009

Sunday, November 15, 2009

8:00 am – 11:00 am

Pasadena Audubon and Eaton Canyon Nature Center are cosponsoring monthly walks at Eaton Canyon. The walks are led by Hill Penfold, who has been leading them at ECNC for many years. Hill is wonderful with birders of all levels and Eaton Canyon is one of the best locations to learn the birds of the Pasadena area.

The walks are held on the third Sunday of each month. Meet at the flagpole: bring water, binoculars, hats, but no dogs.

Hill Penfold

Hahamongna Monthly Walk

Saturday, September 5, 2009

Saturday, October 3, 2009

Saturday, November 7, 2009

7:30 am – noon

This monthly bird walk is for birders of all ages and experience. A good variety of birds should be in residence. Bring binoculars, birding guide, water and wear walking shoes. No dogs.

Exit the north 210 at Berkshire and make a right, then a left at Oak Grove. The Hahamongna Watershed Park entrance is on the right at the next stop light. Take the first left after entering Hahamongna, and park by the ballfield.

Ron Cyger

Huntington Library Monthly Walk

Sunday, September 27, 2009

Sunday, October 25, 2009

Sunday, November 22, 2009

8:00 am – 11:00 am

A special benefit for Pasadena Audubon Society members is the chance to bird the Huntington Library grounds. Attendance is by reservation only and limited to 15 participants. Members may bring one non-member guest, space permitting. We thank our member and Huntington curator, Dan Lewis, for making these trips possible.

Contact Elaine by email (preferred), putting "Huntington" in the subject line to avoid inadvertent deletion or by phone.

Elaine MacPherson

Calendar

Submit material for the next Wrentit by October 1st

September 2009

Date	Day	Time	Event	Location	Leader*
2	Wed	7:30 pm	Board Meeting	Eaton Canyon Nature Center	Will Fulmer
5	Sat	7:30 am	Field Trip	Hahamongna Watershed Park	Ron Cyger
12	Sat	7:30 am	Field Trip	Pt. Vicente Sea Watch	Mike San Miguel
15	Tue	9:00 am	Magpie Study Group	Bonelli Park, San Dimas	Madeline West & Sid Heyman
16	Wed	7:00 pm	General Meeting	Eaton Canyon Nature Center	Program: LGBs & LBBs
20	Sun	8:00 am	Field Trip	Eaton Canyon Nature Center	Hill Penfold
27	Sun	8:00 am	Field Trip (PAS members only)	Huntington Library Gardens	Elaine MacPherson
27	Sun	7:30 am	Field Trip	Ventura County	Mark & Janet Scheel

October 2009

3	Sat	7:30 am	Field Trip	Hahamongna Watershed Park	Ron Cyger
7	Wed	7:30 pm	Board Meeting	Eaton Canyon Nature Center	Will Fulmer
18	Sun	8:00 am	Field Trip	Eaton Canyon Nature Center	Hill Penfold
20	Tue	9:00 am	Magpie Study Group	Legg Lake	Madeline West & Sid Heyman
21	Wed	7:00 pm	General Meeting	Eaton Canyon Nature Center	Program: Hummingbirds!
24	Sat	10:00 am	Field Trip	Newport Back Bay Kayaks	Mark Hunter
25	Sun	8:00 am	Field Trip (PAS members only)	Huntington Library Gardens	Elaine MacPherson

November 2009

4	Wed	7:30 pm	Board Meeting	Eaton Canyon Nature Center	Will Fulmer
7	Sat	7:30 am	Field Trip	Hahamongna Watershed Park	Ron Cyger
14	Sat	7:30 am	Field Trip	North Slope San Gabriels	Mark & Janet Scheel
15	Sun	8:00 am	Field Trip	Eaton Canyon Nature Center	Hill Penfold
17	Tue	9:00 am	Magpie Study Group	San Dimas Park	Madeline West & Sid Heyman
18	Wed	7:00 pm	General Meeting	Eaton Canyon Nature Center	Program: eBird, What & How
21	Sat	7:30 am	Field Trip	Sepulveda Basin	Jon Fisher
22	Sun	8:00 am	Field Trip (PAS members only)	Huntington Library Gardens	Elaine MacPherson

* Trip Leader Information

Mark Scheel (Chair)	(626) 355-8707	SCHEEL@TAPIR.CALTECH.EDU
Larry Allen	(323) 288-2701	LARRYALLEN@EARLYMUSICLA.ORG
Lance Benner	(626) 791-1187	LBENNER@CHARTER.NET
Ron Cyger	(626) 449-3625 (before 9 pm)	RON@CYGER.ORG (preferred)
Kathi Ellsworth	(626) 564-0652	PANDIONSKY@YAHOO.COM
Jon Feenstra	(626) 792-4346	FEENSTRA@ALUMNI.CALTECH.EDU
Jon Fisher	(818) 800-2776	JONF60@HOTMAIL.COM
Nick & Mary Freeman	(818) 247-6172	MNFREEMAN@EARTHLINK.NET
Sid Heyman	(626) 571-5991	
Mickey Long	(626) 398-5420	MLONGBIRD@CHARTER.NET
Elaine MacPherson	(626) 355-9412	BIRDERGRRL@AOL.COM
Hill Penfold	(626) 352-4954	HPENFOLD@GMAIL.COM
Mike San Miguel	(626) 355-5058	SANMIGBIRD@AOL.COM
Ed Stonick	(626) 796-0595	STONICKS@EARTHLINK.NET
Madeline West	(626) 574-0429	WEST266@ADELPHIA.NET

Pasadena Audubon Society
Financial Report for the Fiscal Year
June 30, 2008 - July 1, 2009 (unaudited)

INCOME

NAS Chapter Dues Share	\$2,751.50	
PAS Dues	\$4,205.00	
Grants/Contributions/Donations	\$6,751.00	
Fundraising Events - Birdathon, Annual Dinner/Silent Auction	\$3,739.50	
Interest Income - Checking/Savings Accounts	\$8.76	
Sales - PAS Pins & T-Shirts/Hats	\$181.00	
Birding Guides	\$697.50	
Other - Christmas Bird Count Dinner	\$440.00	
Total		\$18,774.26

EXPENSE

Administration - Telephone, Postage	\$556.52	
Newsletter/Postage/Mailing	\$4,032.32	
Education Programs & Events - Honorariums	\$400.00	
Fundraising - Birdathon, Annual Dinner	\$1,711.18	
Grant of Scholarship (Young Birder Conference in San Diego)	\$795.00	
Grant to Endangered Habitat League (Montebello Hills Study)	\$500.00	
Other - Rent, Insurance, Programs, Christmas Count, Misc.	\$2,301.01	
Christmas Bird Count Dinner, Board Dinner	\$1,588.69	
Total		<u>\$11,884.72</u>

NET INCOME (OR DEFICIT) IN OPERATING FUNDS	<u>\$6,889.54</u>
PLUS: prior Bank Balances	<u>\$3,225.34</u>
PLUS: funds invested with Fidelity Investments (Jackson Endowment, etc)	<u>\$202,784.60</u>

I Am Birder, Hear Me Roar

Birders come in all shapes, sizes, genders, ages, and intensities. But a recent study by the Fish and Wildlife Service uncovered some interesting facts about birders. See if they surprise you.

1. There's a lot of them. 48 million of them over 16 years of age. 21% of the population. The percentage of participants starts low, zooms up at 35 years old, and continues to climb a little as age increases. To be counted as a birder, an individual must have either taken a trip one mile or more from home for the primary purpose of observing birds and/or closely observed or tried to identify birds around the home. So it's a conservative number.

2. Greater income and greater education increase the chance that one will be a birder. Birders are also disproportionately likely to be white, which perhaps warrants some reflection. Other animal-related outdoor recreation, such as fishing and hunting, has a disproportionate number of male participants. Birders, on the other hand, are 54% female.

3. Birders spend quite freely, contradicting the notion of birding as a low-cost pursuit. In 2006 they spent \$12 billion on trip expenses and \$24 billion on equipment, fostering an \$82 billion income in the birding industry at large.

Want to know more? There's plenty. Find the complete survey on the web at http://library.fws.gov/Pubs/birding_natsurvey06.pdf.

Central Valley Birding Symposium

It's party time again! The 13th Annual Central Valley Birding Symposium will be held Nov.19-22 in Stockton, CA., at the Hilton Stockton

Features: workshops with raptor expert Bill Clark, birding pros Jon Dunn and Joe Morlan, and more; evening programs including Murrelet Halterman on Yellow-billed Cuckoos and Stephen Shunk on "The Magic of Birding"; drawing and digiscoping workshops, ID Panel with guest experts, programs for beginning birders; and more. Many field trips, and a Birder's Market brimming with bird and nature-related items.

For more info: www.cvbs.org, or Frances Oliver at (209) 369-2010 or hummer52@sbcglobal.net.

Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Reserve

Saturday, November 21, 2009

7:30 am — noon

Sepulveda Basin and adjacent areas offer a good variety of both land and water birds. Expect waterfowl, herons and egrets. Miscellaneous wintering warblers, sparrows and flycatchers will also be present. We should also see a variety of raptors including Osprey and perhaps Peregrine Falcon. There is a small introduced population of Northern Cardinals here and along the LA River there are usually a few shorebirds and often an Orange Bishop or two.

From the 405 Freeway, take Burbank Blvd. west, then turn right (north) on Woodley Ave. Make a right turn by the water treatment plant and continue past the soccer fields to the dirt parking area on your left. We will meet at 7:30 am. A spotting scope is useful but not required.

*Jon Fisher
(818) 800-2776*

John's Corner, continued

Island Gray Fox.

The next day was more relaxed: we went to the San Diego Zoo. Although not "listable," we all learned much by getting an opportunity to see Guam Rails, Pied Imperial-Pigeons, and Harpy Eagles up close. Dave Rimlinger, curator for the bird collections at the San Diego Zoo, generously gave us helpful advice on the variety of options in having a bird-related career. Several other zoo officials brought out other birds for us to view up close and practice sketching.

After a fantastic day at the Salton Sea and another in Laguna mountains, it was hard to believe that six full days had passed. Although not relatively "lifebird-rich" (which wasn't even the goal, anyway), the YBC in San Diego was one of the most educational experiences in my life. Thanks again to the Pasadena Audubon Society for making this possible for me.

John Garrett

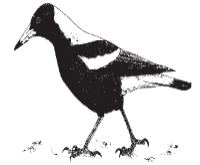
New Members, continued

Kornet; Floyd Lewis; A Livicson; Jeffrey Marksbury; MaLisa Martin; Jo Mellinger; Max Meurer; Ron Olson; Ann Peet; Ralph Perry; Adrienne Picchi; Jennifer Simpson; **ROSEMEAD:** Margaret Bradt; Karen Fabian; Belinda Faustinos; Kay Taniratna; **SAN GABRIEL:** Julio Bermejo; Philip Fritch; Robert Garoutte; Carole Kaster; June Lewis; **SIERRA MADRE:** Nancy Dozier; Agnes Hovsepian; Noel Vernon; **SOUTH PASADENA:** Dorothy Birgbauer; Anita Brandow; Margaret Wallace; Daniel Wang; **TEMPLE CITY:** Lois Sidenfader

Thank You for Your Donations to PAS

These PAS members have recently made donations to our chapter: Harlean Carroll, John Grula & Joan Depew, Don & Scarlett Hibner, Ellen Rennick and Chrystal Watson. Thanks!

Magpie Bird Study Group



The group meets the third Tuesday of each month. We bird 9:00 am to about 11:30 am, have a sack lunch, and have a short business meeting. *All PAS members welcome!*

Tuesday, September 15, 2009
Bonelli Park, San Dimas
Meet in the parking lot

Tuesday, October 20, 2009
Legg Lake (Whittier Narrows)
Meet in the parking lot

Tuesday, November 17, 2009
San Dimas Park, San Dimas
Meet in the lower meadow

Become a Chapter-only Member of PAS

Policy changes by the National Audubon Society have severely reduced the share of NAS membership dues returned to local chapters, funds which Pasadena Audubon has used to finance its programs and services. To make up for the loss of funds from National Audubon, PAS, like many other National Audubon chapters, now offers Chapter-only memberships.

When it's time to renew your National Audubon membership, we invite you to instead become a Chapter-only Member of the Pasadena Audubon Society, or make a donation to our Chapter to support our programs. Chapter-only dues are \$20 per year, or \$15 for seniors and students, all of which remains with our local chapter to fund our programs, including publication of *The Wren Tit*. We thank you all for your support!

Chapter-only Membership Application

Name Phone
Address
City State ZIP

If this is a gift, please also provide donor's information below:

Name Phone
Address
City State ZIP

Yearly dues:

- [] \$20 (regular) [] \$15 (senior, or full-time student)
- [] \$35 (T-shirt or Birding Guide, plus a PAS pin)
- [] \$_____ (donation)

Make checks payable to, and mail to:

Pasadena Audubon, 1750 N Altadena Dr, Pasadena, CA 91107

Pasadena Audubon Society Board

President Will Fulmer (626) 798-1606
 Vice-President Norm Arnheim (626) 405-0844
 Secretary Kathi Ellsworth (626) 524-0652
 Treasurer Tori Collender (626) 799-7652

Members at large: Bev McKenzie, John Garrett, Susan Gilliland, Peggy

Ogata
 Auditor Eileen Burton (626) 585-9076
 Conservation Laura Garrett (626) 564-1890
 Field Trips Mark Scheel (626) 355-8707
 Hospitality Mary Jane Macy (626) 355-7678
 Programs Ron Cyger (626) 449-3625
 Magpie Bird Study Group Madeline West (626) 574-0429
 Sid Heyman (626) 571-5991
 Jon Fisher (818) 544-5009
 Lois Fulmer (626) 798-1606

Publicity (open)
 Website Janet Scheel (626) 355-8707
 Education (open)

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John's Corner

In June 2009, because of a grant from the PAS, I was fortunate to attend the American Birding Association's Young Birder Conference in San Diego. Besides being fun and bird-rich, the YBC was very educational. Thanks, PAS!

My friend Neil Gilbert from Orange County and I set off for the University of San Diego where the conference was based. Coincidentally, a junior division of the Navy was sharing the campus with us, and their daily early morning screeching of orders worked effectively as an alarm clock, even for us birders. Neil and I met up with sixteen

other ambitious young birders from around the country, as well as our leaders: Jen Brumfield, Steve Carbol, Chris Knoll, and Lena Samsonenko. By the end of the first day, everybody already felt like old chums, except of course the Navy.

After our first full day of birding near the beach, we engaged in an educational competitive trivia game, prepared by Steve Carbol. We awoke the next day even before the Navy and made an insane drive north to the Ventura Harbor to take the ferry to Santa Cruz Island. Although the catamaran didn't pause for birds, we still saw massive

numbers of Sooty Shearwaters, as well as Pink-footed Shearwaters, Pigeon Guillemots, Xantus's Murrelets, Cassin's Auklets, and even a Northern Fulmar and a Common Murre. There was one thing the boat did stop for, however: a pair of Blue Whales! Once on the island, a park ranger took us for a short hike, lecturing about the natural history of the Channel Islands. Throughout our whole time there, we saw many island endemic species and subspecies, including Island Scrub-Jays, Hutton's Vireos, Pacific-slope Flycatchers, Rufous-crowned Sparrows, Woodland Skippers, and an

...continued on page 7

New Members

PAS is pleased to welcome the following new members. We hope you will get involved in our many activities.

ALHAMBRA: Romeo Hernandez;
ALTADENA: Stuart & Roselyn Elliott;

Holly Fraser, Nemati Family; Doris Pankow; Irma Strantz; Hannah Tomita; Chrystal Watson; **ARCADIA:** Toria Aiken; Daniel Cheng; William Jordison; Shirley Stenger; Jack Stumpf; Thomas Taquino; Laura Warren; **AZUSA:** Diane Lucas; **CLAREMONT:** Martha Estus; **LA CAÑADA FLINTRIDGE:** Matteo Lasorsa; **MONROVIA:** June Gregson;

Blaine Hebert; Sharon Poch; **MONTEREY PARK:** Jane Besen; Mrs. G. Carpenter; Emiko Hirano; **PASADENA:** Miguel Arque; Jack Ashley; Barbara Brewer; Ivan Colburn; Richard Esbenshade; Y. Gibbon; Pauli Hadley; Tanja Hinderer; Asako Ishihama; Henry Jordan; Socorro Kinsey; Robert ...continued on page 7