



# Band Tales

Palomar Audubon Society  
A Chapter of the  
NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY

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May-June  
2017

Editor  
Arne Christiansen

## A BIRD'S EYE VIEW

*Penny Hernandez*

Be sure to read the whole newsletter for the best news. Find the article on the annual picnic, and mark your calendars. New beautiful location, wonderful food, great friends. Check Richard Fowlers conservation column. He always has good things to tell us about. I'm always surprised by the other articles that Arne, the Editor, finds to include in each issue. Jeff Ebright contributes a bunch and hopefully some of you do too. I know Arne asks members to



send news to help fill up the pages, and we are actually interested in what you have to say. How did you get into birding? What's the best birding trip you have taken? What trip do you have planned, would you like some suggestions, loan of a bird book of the area, etc.? You might be surprised how people will respond to you and get to know you.

The other thing I want you to look for is an envelope in your mail from Palomar Audubon Society. This is our request for donations to help run the organization: programs, scholarships, Newsletters, etc. are not free.

The Board does everything we can to keep expenses down, but as with everything, costs keep going up. I know that there are a lot of requests in your mail, as in mine, but PAS doesn't ask you but once a year, so please give what you can.

Here is to a wonderful Spring and Summer of birding.

*Penny*

## CHANGE FOR SHARING TRIP REPORTS

For years we have used YahooGroup PalomaBird for sharing our trip reports and other notices. We have decided to stop using the Yahoo service due to difficulties in supporting it and the lack of support from Yahoo (which may go away in the near future also). We have created a new "listsrv" for sharing trip report via our website, which we will start using on June 1<sup>st</sup>. The new address will be [birding@palomaraudubon.org](mailto:birding@palomaraudubon.org) for submitting reports and notices. To be added to this listsrv, send your email address to our web administrator at [palomaraudubon@gmail.com](mailto:palomaraudubon@gmail.com). We will archive reports on the website. There is a search function on the website that you can easily search for past report. We will keep the archive on the YahooGroup for reports done prior to November 2014.

## CONSERVATION NOTES

*Richard Fowler*

### STRENGTH IN UNITY

The PAS board has voted to authorize a dollar for dollar match up to \$15,000 for the **Save 1000 Acres Campaign** which will unite PAS with two other conservation groups, The Escondido Creek Conservancy (TECC) and the Friends of Daley Ranch (FODR). As a small environmental group PAS will gain strength through this partnership and together we will have more clout than any one of us alone.



In 2017 we have a unique opportunity to save a green belt in north inland San Diego County for future generations. In spite of unending commercial development in North County, the TECC staff has had incredible success in acquiring and restoring property in the Escondido Creek watershed.

Their vision of restoring the entire watershed is a bold one. It will require the full support of groups like PAS and all of you who love nature. TECC's past successes have inspired many to participate in this effort. However, the battle is not won. Challenges remain and you can still make a difference.

Funds raised by PAS will go immediately into escrow accounts for one of two properties (see the March-April Band Tale for further details). We will be timing our letter of solicitation to you for later this calendar year. Be on alert for a letter with the Palomar logo.

*Richard*

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## FIELD TRIPS

*Jim Beckman*

Whether a seasoned birder or a beginner, you are welcome to join us. For more information call the trip leader shown below. Heavy rain cancels trips. Locations in Thomas Guide Coordinates are shown in parenthesis as (Page-Column Row). Ratings: 1=easy, suitable for all levels, 2=moderate, a bit more walking and possibly some hilly terrain, 3=challenging, longer hikes and may involve some steep terrains.

Saturday, May 6, 8:00 a.m. NOTE time change

### Daley Ranch

Escondido

**(1110-C3) Rating: 2-3**

From I-15 in Escondido, exit at El Norte Parkway and drive east approximately 3 miles. Look for the "Daley Ranch/Dixon Lake" signs and turn left (north) on La Honda Drive. Continue on toward Dixon Lake and on to the free Daley Ranch parking lot on your left. Meet at the kiosk.

Leader: Tom Trowbridge  
760-743-1052

Saturday, May 13, 8:00 a.m.

### Kit Carson Park

Escondido

**(1150-C1) Rating: 1**

From I-15 in Escondido, exit east on Via Rancho Parkway (which becomes Bear Valley Parkway) and drive about 1 mile to the Park Road entrance on your left – at the fire station. Proceed on Park Road about ¾ mile to the Amphitheater parking lot on the right. Woodland, riparian, and open-area habitats usually get us a nice list of resident birds.

Leader: Jeff Ebright  
858-484-3932

Saturday, May 20, 8:00 a.m.

### Lindo Lake

Lakeside

**(1232-B3) Rating: 2**

From North County, take I-15 south to Highway .52 east to Mission Gorge Rd. Turn left and continue east to Woodside Avenue. Go under the Highway 67 overpass staying on Woodside Avenue (into Lakeside) to end at the Lindo Lake County Park. From San Diego, take I-8 east to Highway 67 north, and take the Riverford Road exit. After exiting, turn left on Woodside Avenue (into Lakeside) and continue northeast to the Lindo Lake County Park. Stay on Woodside a short distance, turn right on Chestnut St. which then becomes Lindo Lane. Park in the small parking lot on the left, next to the VFW hall at 12650 Lindo Lane.

Leader: Jack Friery  
619-218-7342



Saturday, May 26, 8:00 a.m.

### Sweetwater River Gorge

Rancho San Diego

**(1271-J6) Rating: 2-3**

From I-5, I-805, or I-15, take Highway 94 east; stay on Highway 94 as it becomes Campo Road, then turn right on Singer Lane, and then an immediate left onto the dirt parking area near the old steel bridge. This area is a rich stream habitat surrounded by native chaparral and sage scrub. There are no restrooms or drinking water available, so plan accordingly. Expect warm weather. **It's a PAS tradition to eat lunch at close-by Rubio's Fresh Mexican Grill after birding.**

Leader: Jim Beckman  
858-205-2819

Saturday, June 3, 8:00 a.m.

### Wm Heise County Park/Santa Ysabel Mission

Julian

**(1156-C5) Rating: 2-3**

From Escondido take Highway 78 east (from San Diego take Highway 67 east) to Ramona, then Highway 78 toward Julian, past Santa Ysabel. After the town of Wynola, start looking for the sign on your right for William Heise County Park (1 mile west of Julian). Turn right on Pine Hill Road and drive south for 2 miles to Frisius Road. Turn left (east) onto Frisius Road, and drive another 2 miles to the park entrance. We will meet in the parking lot. There is a parking fee, but free with a senior County pass. We will also drive to the Santa Ysabel Mission to look for orioles and other spring/summer migrants. Bring a lunch for an after-birding picnic. Expect warm weather.

Leader: Jeff Ebright  
858-484-3932

Saturday, June 10, 8:00 a.m.

### Agua Dulce Creek

Laguna Mountains

**(430-B5) Rating: 2-3**

We will meet at the old parking area for Agua Dulce Creek Group camp. Driving east on I-8, and after Pine Valley, look for signs indicating the Sunrise Highway Exit and Laguna Mountain Recreation Area. Go north on Sunrise Highway (S-1) approx. 8 miles to Wooded Hill Road, the first road on the left and directly across the road from Morris Ranch Road. Restrooms, picnic tables and water are available in the Lagunas near the General Store at Burnt Rancheria Picnic area. A Forest Service Adventure Pass is required for day-use parking and is available locally in San Diego County at major sporting goods stores and at other areas in the Lagunas. Bring a lunch for an after-walk picnic. Expect warm weather.

Leader: Sally Sanderson  
760-749-6995

Saturday, June 17, 8:00 a.m.

### Cuyamaca Rancho State Park

Julian

**(429-L3) Rating: 2-3**

From San Diego, take I-8 east and exit north on Highway 79. Continue approximately 12 miles to the Paso Pacacho Campground on the left. From the North County, take Highway 78 (or Highway 67) to Ramona, and then

continue on Highway 78 just past Julian, to Highway 79. Take Highway 79 south approximately 10 miles to the campground on the right where we will meet. There is a day use fee. Bring a lunch for an after-walk picnic.

Expect warm weather.

Leader: Hal Benham

858-679-7904

Saturday, June 24, 8:00 a.m.

**Palomar Mountain**

San Diego County

**(409-G7) Rating: 2**

This field trip will start from the parking lot at Doane Pond. Leave the Escondido area before 7 a.m. From I-15, take Highway 76 east to Highway S6, north to Palomar Mountain. Or from Escondido, take Highway S6 to Palomar Mountain. At the mountaintop, at the S7 intersection stop sign, turn left and continue for 3 miles on State Park Road to the Palomar Mountain State Park entrance. There is a day use fee. Proceed 1.5 miles to the Doane Pond/School Camp area. Bring a lunch for an after-walk picnic. Expect warm weather.

Leader: Jim Beckman

858-205-2819

Saturday, July 1

**Lake Murray**

La Mesa

**(1250 E6) Rating: 1-2**

Take I-8 east to the Lake Murray Boulevard. Exit and proceed 1 mile north (right turn) to Baltimore Drive. Turn left and drive about 1 mile to Jackson Drive. Turn left again, proceed ¼ mile and make another left turn on Golfcrest Drive. Continue about 1 mile on Golfcrest Drive to the Mission Trails Regional Park entrance on the left. Meet in the parking lot near the softball field bleachers. This location is on the northwest end of Lake Murray. Expect warm weather.

Leader: Jim Beckman

**FROM THE NATIONAL AUDUBON  
WEBSITE**

**CLIMATE CHANGE EFFECTS ON  
THE BURROWING OWL**

Audubon's climate models predict that by 2080, this diurnal owl species could lose 77% of its current breeding range. Climate change will disrupt its winter range as well, leaving only 33% intact, shifting the remaining 67% elsewhere. The Burrowing Owl is already a species of conservation concern because modern agricultural practices have removed the prairie dogs and ground squirrels that it depends on to provide nesting burrows. Artificial burrows might help stem population declines in the coming decades.

The amount of overlap between the 2000 circle and the 2080 circle indicates how stable the range will be geographically. Lots of overlap means the bird's range doesn't shift much. No overlap means the species will leave its current range entirely.

**About This Bird**

This comical little raptor is an easily recognized icon of the grasslands and arid regions of western North America and Florida, and is widespread in the Caribbean, Mexico, Central America, and South America as well. This owl uses a variety of hunting methods. It may pursue large insects by hopping or running across the ground, but it also hunts insects and rodents by swooping down from a raised perch or from hovering flight. Hunting by day or night, it tends to take large insects during daylight in warm weather, small mammals at night or in winter. Lives in loose colonies and nests in underground burrows; while capable of digging its own, it often uses an existing hole provided by prairie dogs, skunks, or armadillos, and isn't shy about moving into manmade burrows provided by conservationists. It is migratory in northern portions of its range, and inhabits open, treeless areas wherever it is found—including agricultural fields, golf courses, cemeteries, and airports. Populations are declining in many areas

**Hey, All You Birders!**

**If you gots access to The Internet and ain't yet visited yer PAS website, [www.palomaraudubon.org](http://www.palomaraudubon.org), you are missing out on some FREE, WHOLESOME FUN! (Cain't hardly git none o' that online NO HOW NO MORE!!)**

**Fer example, if you are now readin' a hard copy of this issue of Band Tales you prob'ly think all them grey boxes is boring. WELL, visit us online and you just might be pleasantly surprised! I kid you not,**

**"it's a beautiful thang when it's in COLOR!"**

*Signed, yer frenly editer*



# PAS ANNUAL PICNIC: AN OLD FASHIONED GARDEN PARTY SUNDAY, JUNE 11<sup>TH</sup>, 4:00 P.M.

This year's PAS Social will be a Garden Party at the home Sunny and Arne Christiansen located at:  
**26739 Red Ironbark Drive in Valley Center, telephone number 760-297-3096.**

In keeping with the Garden Party theme those who wish to participate should bring a potted plant (flowers, succulents or vegetable, your choice.) Everyone who brings a plant will receive a free raffle ticket which allows them to select a plant from the table - or a plant someone else has already chosen until all the plant raffle tickets have been called. In addition raffle tickets will be sold for various fun gift cards.

Wrangler Barbecue will be supplying barbecued beef and chicken, baked beans, tangy coleslaw, rolls and butter. Penny has promised to whip up her famous potato salad. PAS will provide wine, beer and soft drinks as usual and ice cream sundaes and cookies for dessert. And don't forget to bring fruit for the famous PAS Friendship Salad. Please fill in the form below and send it with a check for \$25 per person made out to Palomar Audubon Society to make your reservation. Mail it to:



**Sunny Christiansen, 26739 Red Ironbark Drive, Valley Center, 92082 by June 5<sup>th</sup>.**

## DIRECTIONS TO THE GARDEN PARTY:

Take I-15 to El Norte Parkway (just north of Highway 78 in Escondido.) Drive east on El Norte Parkway until you reach East Valley Parkway. Turn left on East Valley Parkway, which becomes Valley Center Road. A large service station can be seen on the left; the next street is Mirar de Valle. Turn left on Mirar de Valle and drive up the hill to Valley View Ranch. Turn left (gate code 1941) and drive almost to the end of Red Ironbark Drive. Please park on the street; someone will be available to give you a ride to the top of the driveway should you wish assistance.



## 2017 PAS PICNIC - PLEASE RSVP BY JUNE 5<sup>TH</sup>

\$25 per person – Please make your check out to PAS and mail it with this form to Sunny Christiansen – 26739 Red Ironbark Drive, Valley Center, CA 92082.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of People \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (just in case) \_\_\_\_\_

Do you prefer \_\_\_\_\_ Beer, \_\_\_\_\_ Soft Drinks , \_\_\_\_\_ Water or \_\_\_\_\_ Wine

I would like to help with setup \_\_\_\_\_ , cleanup \_\_\_\_\_ or bartending \_\_\_\_\_ .

**NOTE: PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING A PIECE OF FRUIT FOR THE FRIENDSHIP SALAD AND A PLANT FOR THE EXCHANGE.**

**ALSO, PLEASE BRING A DIGITAL CAMERA IF YOU OWN ONE. SEND PHOTOS TO [arnec@juno.com](mailto:arnec@juno.com) AND WE'LL FIT AS MANY AS WE CAN ALONG WITH A PICNIC RECAP IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF **BAND TALES** .**

## PROGRAMS

*Please join us for our interesting monthly program and refreshments at the Remington Club, 16916 Hierba Drive, Rancho Bernardo. There is a social period beginning at 7:00 pm with the meeting and program getting under way promptly at 7:30 pm.*

**Thursday, May 25**

**Ryan Andrews**

**“Birding Costa Rica: My Camp Selva Verde Adventure”**

Palomar Audubon Society has a multifaceted mission, including a community outreach program with several special initiatives. One of these initiatives is our youth scholarship program. In December 2016, we provided a 100% scholarship award for a week-long educational teenager birding camp conducted by the National Audubon Society at Camp Selva Verde in Costa Rica. The recipient of this Young Birder scholarship was Ryan Andrews. Ryan is 17 years old and has been an active member of PAS since age 13. Ryan is an excellent birder and a very active eBird lister. He is looking forward to sharing his good time and great photos with the generous members of PAS who support our scholarship program!

**Mark your calendars. Don't miss this one!**

**No General Meeting in June but walks continue**

## PALOMAR AUDUBON SOCIETY WELCOMES THESE NEW AND RENEWING CHAPTER-ONLY MEMBERS

Barbara & Curt Asman

Gray & Al Church

Deanne Clatworthy

Dave Cowan

Jeff & Vicki Ebright

Jennifer Falconer

Gary & Cheryl Grantham

Max Leibowitz

Cal & Ginger Mcgaugh

Charlotte Morris

Gail Smith

Jonathan Title

John Top

**AND WE VERY MUCH  
APPRECIATE THE GENEROUS  
SUPPORT FROM THESE  
DONORS:**

Audry Grigsby

Charlotte Morris

John Top

Margaret Yorio



*(just a peek at this year's picnic site)*

# Band Tales

## May-June, 2017

*Band Tales* is an official publication of the Palomar Audubon Society; it is issued bi-monthly and sent to all members as a part of their National Audubon Society membership or Palomar Audubon Society Chapter-only membership.



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**Palomar Audubon Society**  
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 & COMMITTEE CHAIRS  
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- Vice-President**  
 Jim Beckman ..... 858-205-2819
- Secretary**  
 Jeff Ebright ..... 858-484-3932
- Treasurer**  
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  - Richard Fowler ..... 619-252-3767
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  - Travel ..... Hal & Dianne Benham ..... 858-679-7904

Web Page: <http://www.palomaraudubon.org>  
 Webmaster: Jeff Ebright: 858-484-3932  
 palomaraudubon@gmail.com

**Board of Directors' Meeting**  
*Thursday, May 11<sup>th</sup>*  
 7:00 p.m. at the Remington Club  
 16916 Hierba Drive  
 Rancho Bernardo

*Note: All Palomar Audubon Society members are welcome at Chapter Board meetings.*

**No Board of Directors' Meeting in June**

**QUICK CALENDAR**

- May 6** Daley Ranch Walk
- May 11** Board of Directors' Meeting
- May 13** Kit Carson Park Walk
- May 20** Lindo Lake Walk
- May 25** General Meeting: "Birding Costa Rica"
- May 27** Sweetwater River Gorge Walk
- June 3** William Heise County Park/Santa Ysabel Mission Walk
- June 10** Agua Dulce Creek Walk
- June 11** Annual Picnic
- June 17** Cuyamaca Rancho State Park Walk
- June 24** Palomar Mountain Walk
- July 1** Lake Murray Walk