



Band Tales

Palomar Audubon Society
A Chapter of the
NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY

Volume XXIX
No. 4

November-December
2018

Editor
Arne Christiansen

SUNDANCE TAKES FLIGHT

Alice Holmes

The Sundance Elementary School “Recess Birding” resumed on September 10th with over 50 third, fourth and fifth grade students turning out to bird. Each grade level birds for 20 minutes between 12:00 and 1:15 on Mondays. Four parents have stepped up to help, two with birding and two on binocular checkout. The children and the parent volunteers are improving their binocular and observation skills and continue to be enthusiastic. Since the beginning of the program in January 2018, we have seen 36 different avian species and one U.S. Military V-22 Osprey. Recent new additions to our “Sundance Life List” are the American Kestrel, Western Meadowlark and the Scaled Munia.

Each week this Fall between forty and fifty Sundance students have turned out to bird. Enthusiasm is high and many second and first grade students are anxious to participate. We are working on adding more parent volunteers to the program and would love to have Palomar Audubon members participate. One Monday a month between 11:45 and 1:15 would be so helpful. If you are interested please email Alice Holmes at greenheron@sbcglobal.net.

Behind the scenes, Krisztina Scheeff and I have completed ten more bird posters and one poster acknowledging all of the people and organizations that have contributed to this project. The Twin Trails Education Foundation of Sundance Elementary is having the original fifteen posters and eleven new posters printed on weatherproof vinyl. The posters will have grommets in all four corners and will soon be mounted on the cyclone fence that overlooks the running track area where we see so many birds.

Many individuals and groups have contributed to the success of this project. It was the idea of Bob Rodrigo, Principal of Sundance. Krisztina Scheeff has donated her beautiful bird photographs. The binoculars have been provided by Palomar Audubon, assisted by Wild Birds Unlimited and Vortex Optics. The printing and preservation of the posters has been provided by the Twin Trails Education Foundation, working with Hewlett Packard. And parent and private citizen volunteers have contributed their time and enthusiasm. I thank them all so very much.

ESCONDIDO CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

SATURDAY JANUARY 5TH, 2019

Each year between December 14th and January 5th, thousands of birders and nature enthusiasts participate in one or more of the 2000+ Christmas Bird Counts held annually in the United States, Canada, and many other Western Hemisphere countries. This year will mark the 119th year for this event.

This holiday season please join with the other birders for this important citizen science effort sponsored by the National Audubon Society. The one-day bird counts provide valuable data about the number of bird species and numbers of each species occurring within a set geographical area.

Palomar Audubon Society would like to extend an invitation to all birders to participate in the annual **Escondido Christmas Bird Count on Saturday, January 5, 2019**. The count circle incorporates mostly rural areas near Escondido, Valley Center, Ramona, and Poway. Fantastic birding skills are not a requirement – an extra pair of eyes is always helpful. The after-birding compilation meeting will be held in the early afternoon at Kit Carson Park's covered picnic shelter. The highlight of the day will be the deli-style lunch provided, courtesy of Palomar Audubon Society.

For more information contact Jim Beckman on an upcoming Saturday field trip. Jim can also be reached at (858) 205-2819. For additional information and/or team assignments contact the Escondido CBC senior compiler, Ken Weaver by phone at (760) 723-2448 or by email at greenheron@sbcglobal.net.

This year Palomar Audubon Society is making a concerted effort to have more of its members participate in this important event. Sign up now and join the fun!

Inside this Band Tales

<i>A Birds-Eye View</i>	page 2
<i>Conservation Notes</i>	page 2
<i>Programs</i>	page 5
<i>Field Trips</i>	pages 4,5

A BIRD'S EYE VIEW

Penny Hernandez, President

Recently I was at the birthday party for my future daughter-in-law. My son gave her 45 shares in a start-up tech company. He did get her some romantic gifts also, but thought the shares hopefully would be a long-time gift. So where am I going with this, what do you give someone, spouse, parent, older friends, who are trying to down size and don't need one more knick-knack? How about a 1000 acres? Palomar Audubon is again supporting the "Save a 1000 Acres" project led by The Escondido Creek Conservancy. You could buy a star, or the shares of stock, but with a 1000 acres you would be saving a place for wild life, for future open spaces, for your grandchildren. You will soon receive another 1000 acres request in the mail, please enjoy the beautiful pictures of your investment. When you read the letter, you will see not only that PAS is matching your dollar amount, we have an anonymous donor who will also match your dollar amount. Wouldn't it be fun to take the receiver of your gift to the acres and show them what a beautiful gift you have bought them?



Don't forget that we have no meetings in November or December, but have a wonderful holiday season and continue to bird with the group on Saturdays.

Penny

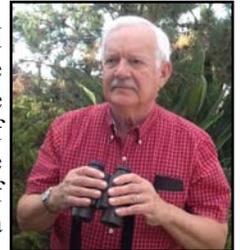
CONSERVATION NOTES

Richard Fowler, Conservation Chair

Adaptation to Climate Change

Multiple bird species are undergoing population stress due to habitat destruction. The latter may be due to human encroachment on habitats, drought, high temperatures, disease, or loss of food sources. Climate change is a factor in the latter four.

I was thinking about this last week as I witnessed a remarkable sight in the Laguna Mountains off mile 19 on the Sunrise highway. A huge number of Pinyon Jays (at least 200) were flocking back and forth in a stand of Jeffery Pines just South of Big Laguna Lake. They appeared to be feeding on the nuts of the Jeffery Pine.



Why was this remarkable? According to Phil Unitt, the author of the San Diego County Bird Atlas (2004), the Pinyon Jay is a rare vagrant in San Diego County. They have been documented in only 10 seasons between 1877 and 2004. The largest of these was an estimated flock of 200 in 1990 in the Lagunas and up to 55 in the Cuyamaca Mountains in 2000-2001. Is there a trend here?

The Pinyon Jay is a bird of the Pinon- Juniper woodlands that covered a huge area of the arid Southwestern United States. Millions of Pinon trees in Arizona, Utah, New Mexico and Colorado have perished in recent decades because of drought, heat, and bark beetles. Bird surveys in these areas indicate a large fall off of multiple species, including the Pinyon Jay.* Where did they go? A reasonable assumption is that the Jay headed for higher ground. The Ponderosa and Jeffery Pines survive at higher elevations and provide a food source. The good news is that these birds are adaptable. However, as climate change worsens, will the Ponderosa and Jeffery Pines survive? If they don't, how will the Pinyon Jay Survive? I don't have an answer, but hopefully their adaptability will save them again. It is one more reason to take climate change seriously and adjust our lives accordingly.

**Reese, April. Bird Population Plumets in Pinon Forests Pummeled by Climate Change. Audubon News, September 14, 2018.*

Richard



OLYMPIC BIRDFEST 2019

Discover birds of coastal Pacific Northwest. Guided field trips, boat cruise in Strait of Juan de Fuca, gala banquet, speaker: wildlife science professor and author John Marzluff. The festival with the most spectacular setting!

April 12-14, 2019. Guided birding trips, boat tours, live auction & raffle, gala banquet, and more. Our featured speaker:

John Marzluff, wildlife science professor and author. Enjoy a three-day pre-festival birding cruise of the San Juan Islands,

April 9-11. Stay on for our Neah Bay post-trip on April 14-16: two days birding coastal Washington.

Program information and registration at www.olympicbirdfest.org.



natural world and the importance of preserving the habitat we still have. What better way than this to celebrate the year of the bird?

For more information about this marvelous program see:

<http://palomaraudubon.org/free-thayer-birding-software-for-young-birders/>



Young Birder Program from Thayer Birding Software

Special Code: PalomarYoungBirder

Starting September 21, 2018 any young birder in pre-K, grade school, middle school or high school will be able to use the above special code that will let them download the new version 7.7 of Thayer’s Birds of North America at **NO COST**.

This amazing software, for Windows or Mac computers, features the 1007 birds that have been seen in the continental U.S. and Canada. The software includes over 6,600 color photos, 1,500 songs and calls, 550 video clips of the birds in action, 700 quizzes and much, much more, as shown here: <http://www.thayerbirding.com/v7-Features>

Why are we doing this? Because the company founder, Peter W. Thayer, decided that this would be the perfect way to celebrate his 70th birthday.

“Over the past 24 years I have heard from thousands of folks who told me how much this birding program meant to them. I have been overwhelmed by the kind words and feedback we have received from people who are now professional bird guides, ornithologists, college professors and wildlife managers. They told me they used our program when they were growing up to learn more about the birds around them...and they still use it today!”

Our favorite letters are from the kids, especially this one from 9 year-old William: “I was so excited we downloaded it the night I got it. I looked at pictures, watched videos, made lists and did quizzes until my parents made me go to bed. It is totally awesome!”

“My philosophy has always been that I just wanted to create a truly great birding program for me (the nine-year-old me as well as the seventy-year-old me of today). If anyone else wanted a copy – well, that was just a nice bonus! Thanks to hundreds of suggestions from users over the past 24 years, I think we did it!”

Now it is time to give back something to the birding community and to the millions of young birders (and potential young birders) who just need a spark to get them started on a life-long quest for knowledge about our

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

- Loretta La Bianca
- Alan Billotte
- Brian & Janet Edwards
- Robert Farber
- Anna Marie Lea
- Richard Mason

**AND WE APPRECIATE OUR
DONORS VERY MUCH!**

- Katherine Boyd
- David Clark
- Jennifer Falconer
- Sam & Sandy Farrow
- Eva Harden
- Karen Matthews
- John Oldson



2019 SAN DIEGO BIRD FESTIVAL

We received no copy regarding this year’s event. However, should you have an interest in attending you might find information of interest at:

https://sandiegoaudubon.org/images/birdfestival/2019_Bird_Festival/SDBF_2019_program_lowres_final_rev1.pdf

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 terrain.

Saturday, November 3, 8:30 am. (NOTE: New Fall/Winter Start Time)

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" sign and turn left (north) on La Honda Drive. Continue up the hill toward Dixon Lake and on to the Daley Ranch free parking area on your left. Meet at the trail-head kiosk.

Leader: Tom Trowbridge
760-743-1052

Saturday, November 10, 8:30 am.

Lake Hodges East/Rancho Bernardo
Rancho Bernardo

(1150 – A6) Rating: 2

From I-15, exit west at Rancho Bernardo Road. and turn right onto West Bernardo Drive going north. Proceed to the street marked Rancho Bernardo Recreation Center (stoplight) and turn left. Drive west to the parking areas by the Ed Brown Senior Center (18402 West Bernardo Drive).

Leader: Jeff Ebright
858-484-3932

Saturday, November 17, 8:30 am.

South Bay Salt Works
National City

(1330 F4) Rating: 1-2

From North County, take I-15 south to I-5 and exit at Palomar Street in National City. Go west a short distance and turn left on Bay Boulevard Continue south to 1470 Bay Boulevard and the dirt parking lot on your right. No restrooms. Use a gas station restroom or a fast food joint in National City before arrival – on Palomar Street East, etc. This location is a restricted area not open to the public. We will be driving/hiking out on the dikes extending into South Bay to view waterfowl and shorebirds. **Arrive early for car assignments. The entrance gate will be closed and locked after our departure.** FWS Ranger Debbie Good will accompany us on this field trip

Leader: Jim Beckman
858-205-2819

Sunday, November 25, 8:30 am.

San Jacinto Wildlife Area
Perris, Riverside County
(RC 749-B4) Rating: 2

NOTE: THIS A SUNDAY FIELD TRIP. From San Diego County take I-15 north to I-215. Continue north on the I-215 to Perris. Exit at the Ramona Expressway right (east). Continue east to Lakeview (a small town). At the stoplight, turn left (north) on Davis Road. Proceed on the asphalt and gravel road for three miles to the SJWA headquarters parking lot on the right. From Escondido, allow 75 minute drive-time.

Bring a lunch for an after-walk picnic. Always a favorite field trip!

Leader: Sally Sanderson
760-749-6995 vcwillow@aol.com

Saturday, December 1, 8:30 am.

Lindo Lake
Lakeside

(1232-B3) Rating: 2

From North County, take I-15 south to Highway 52 then east to Hwy 67. Head north, and take the Winter Gardens Boulevard Exit. 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 Street which then becomes Lindo Lane. Park in the small parking lot on the left, next to the VFW hall at 12650 Lindo Lane. A great assortment of birds is always found here.

Leader: Jack Friery
619-218-7342

Saturday, December 8, 8:30 am

A Fallbrook Adventure!
Live Oak County Park/Los Jilgueros Preserve
Fallbrook

(1028- C5) Rating: 1

Take I-15 north to the Fallbrook/E Mission Exit 51. Cross over the freeway and turn left on to Old Highway 395 located at the stoplight immediately after the I-15 South Freeway exit. Proceed 1 mile south to Reche Road. Turn right and proceed 2.2 miles up Reche Road to Live Oak County Park located immediately after Gird Road. Meet in the parking lot. There is a small parking fee at all SD County Parks, but free with a Senior Parking Permit. Our target birds here are the Band-tailed Pigeons and Wood Ducks. Lewis's Woodpeckers have also been seen here at this time of the year. Afterwards, we travel to Los Jilgueros Preserve for winter riparian species. Continue up Reche Road until it dead-ends onto Old Stagecoach Road. Turn left and proceed until it dead-ends into S Mission Road. Turn right, proceed through the next traffic light and within 100 yards, turn right into Los Jilgueros Preserve. **Afterwards a buffet lunch is being served two minutes away at the Walkley's.** A word of caution: several GPS models do not work well in the Fallbrook area. It is best to follow these instructions.

Leader: Doug Walkley
310-387-8190

Saturday, December 15, 8:30 am.

Batiquitos Lagoon

Carlsbad

(1127-A7) Rating: 1-2

From I-5 in Carlsbad, exit east on Poinsettia Lane. Turn right on Batiquitos Drive, drive about 1/2 mile to Gabbiano Lane, turn right and continue to the end. Park on the street in the residential area. We will look for ducks, waterfowl, raptors, and riparian birds.

Leader: Dave Cowan
858-437-4101

Saturday, December 22, 8:30 am.

Tijuana Estuary

Imperial Beach

(1349-F1) Rating: 2

Travel south on I-5 from San Diego and exit west on Coronado Avenue, which becomes Imperial Beach Boulevard Turn left on 3rd Street to Caspian Way, turn left and then right to the Tijuana Estuary Visitor Center parking lot.

Leader: Sally Sanderson
760-749-6995 vcwillow@aol.com

Saturday, December 29, 8:30 am.

Dixon Lake

Escondido

(1110-C3) Rating: 2

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. Drive up the hill to the free parking area on your left at the end of the road. Meet at the east end of the parking lot, near the kiosk, adjacent to the Dixon Lake park entrance.

Leader: Jim Beckman
858-209-2819

Saturday, January 5

Escondido Christmas Bird Count

Palomar Audubon Society would like to extend an invitation to all birders to participate in the annual Escondido Christmas Bird Count on Saturday, January 5. The count circle incorporates mostly rural areas near Escondido, Valley Center, Poway, and Ramona. Fantastic birding skills are not a requirement – an extra pair of eyes is always helpful. The after-birding compilation meeting will be held in the early afternoon at Kit Carson Park's covered picnic shelter. The highlight of the day will be the deli-style lunch provided, courtesy of Palomar Audubon Society. For more information and/or team assignments, contact Jim Beckman (858) 205-2819 or Ken Weaver (760) 723-2448

email natcatcher@sbcglobal.net.

Sign up now and join the fun!



**Palomar Audubon Society
Chapter-only Membership**

Mail your application to:

**Palomar Audubon Society
P. O. Box 2483
Escondido, CA 92033-2483**

Membership in the Palomar Audubon Society includes a subscription to **Band Tales**, Palomar Audubon's bimonthly newsletter, and an invitation to our monthly programs and weekly field trips.

New Member - \$25 *Renewal - \$25*

(payable to Palomar Audubon Society)

Contribution _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ *State* _____ *ZIP* _____

Telephone _____

E-mail _____

*100% of Chapter Membership dues
supports
projects locally.*

PROGRAMS

No programs are scheduled during the months of November and December. General meetings will resume in January on the regularly scheduled fourth Thursday of each month.

Band Tales

November-December, 2018

The *Band Tales* is an official publication of the Palomar Audubon Society; it is issued bi-monthly and sent to all Chapter-only members as a part of their Palomar Audubon Society Chapter-only membership. It is also available for online viewing at: <http://www.birding@palomaraudubon.org>.



Band Tales
Palomar Audubon Society
 P.O. Box 2483
 Escondido, CA 92033-2483

NONPROFIT ORG.
 U.S. POSTAGE PAID
 SAN DIEGO, CA
 PERMIT NO. 1515

DATED MATERIAL
Please Expedite

CHECK ADDRESS
 LABEL FOR
 EXPIRATION DATE
 OF MEMBERSHIP

**PALOMAR AUDUBON SOCIETY
 OFFICERS, DIRECTORS,
 & COMMITTEE CHAIRS
 2018-2019**

- President**
 Penny Hernandez'760-746-8315
- Vice-President**
 Jim Beckman858-205-2819
- Secretary**
 Dianne Benham858-679-7904
 Doug Walkley310-387-8190
- Treasurer**
 Sunny Christiansen.....760-297-3096
- Directors**
 Joan Falconer.....858-566-7050
 Richard Fowler.....619-252-3767
 Alice Holmes925-212-8165
 Nabih Mansour858-566-7050
 Mary Marquis941-323-8647
 Tom Trowbridge.....760-743-1052
 Jill & Fred Weber760-604-3734
- Committee Chairs**
 Band Tales Arne Christiansen.....760-297-3096
 Band Tales Mailing ...Jan Behrhorst.....858-486-1945
 Conservation.....Richard Fowler.....619-252-3767
 Education Alice Holmes.....925-212-8165
 Field Trips/Programs . Jim Beckman858-205-2819
 Hospitality Jill & Fred Weber.....760-604-3734
 Membership..... Alice Holmes.....925-212-8165
 Scholarship Jim Beckman858-205-2819
 Travel..... Hal & Dianne Benham.858-679-7904
- Web Page:** <http://www.birding@palomaraudubon.org>
Webmaster: Jeff Ebright: 858-484-3932
palomaraudubon@gmail.com

Board of Director's Meeting

Thursday, November 1st
Thursday, December 6th
 7:00 p.m. at the Remington Club
 16916 Hierba Drive
 Rancho Bernardo

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

QUICK CALENDAR

November	1	Board of Directors' Meeting
November	3	Daley Ranch Walk
November	10	Lake Hodges East/Rancho Bernardo Walk
November	17	South Bay Salt Works Walk
November	25	San Jacinto Wildlife Area Walk
December	1	Lindo Lake Walk
December	6	Board of Directors' Meeting
December	8	Live Oak County Park/Los Jilgueros Preserve Walk
December	15	Batiquitos Lagoon Walk
December	22	Tijuana Estuary Walk
December	29	Dixon Lake Walk
January	5	Escondido Christmas Bird Count