

# WRENTIT

Founded 1904

Pasadena Audubon Society
A Chapter of National Audubon Society

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

September - October 2020

# Hahamongna: Lawsuit Settlement Reached for More Environmentally-Friendly Flood Protection

**Background** 

The City of Pasadena's Hahamongna Watershed Park is a natural treasure well known to area birders. Owing to the variety of habitat, over 240 bird species have been seen at Hahamongna, and around 55 species nest annually. An oak woodland surrounds the main multi-use park areas on the west side of the Hahamongna basin, an extensive riparian forest thrives in the southern half of the basin upstream from the Devil's Gate Dam, and the Arroyo Seco flows seasonally, from the San Gabriel Mountains, through the central wash toward the dam.

As a result of the Station Fire in 2009, which extensively burned the upper Arroyo Seco watershed, significant rain in the following two winters deposited 1.1 million cubic yards (MCY) of sediment in the Hahamongna basin. This decreased the capacity of the dam to provide flood protection for downstream communities in future storms. In order to regain dam capacity to handle even more extreme fire/flood events, the L.A. County Flood Control District (LACFCD) planned in the years following a massive sediment excavation and removal project (with some alternatives designed to excavate as much as 4.0 MCY), leading to community outcry against the negative aspects of the "Big Dig". The Environmental Impact Report for the LACFCD sediment removal project, released in 2014, was successfully challenged in court in a lawsuit brought by Arroyo Seco Foundation and Pasadena Audubon Society, with support from the wider community. The court decision led to revisions to the EIR in 2017, improving some aspects of the project, and contributed to the L.A. County Board of Supervisors decision to reduce the project size from 2.4 MCY to 1.7 MCY. However, ASF and PAS challenged further aspects of the project in a second lawsuit filed in 2017.

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# **President's Perch**

One of my favorite poets, Robert Frost, once wrote a lovely and heartbreaking poem called *Nothing Gold Can Stay*. For some reason, the words keep running through my

pandemic-addled mind:

Nature's first green is gold,

Her hardest hue to hold,

Her early leaf's a flower;

But only so an hour.

Then leaf subsides to leaf.

So Eden sank to grief,

So dawn goes down to day.

Nothing gold can stay.



Wide-throated Yellow Monkeyflower © Darren Dowell

I love this poem because it captures the ephemeral character of the present, and describes the constant change occurring in nature. And we sometimes struggle with that change, don't we? We want to cling to the spectacular rainbow, the shimmering moment right before sunset, the perfect view of our latest life bird. But however much we might want something to stay the same, it can't.

These thoughts have been rolling around in my teeming brain for the last few months, as we slide through this paradoxical time when every day might feel like Blursday because of the sameness of it all, yet time is rushing by. I've had months to finish some projects, yet they remain undone. Am I the only one?

Just as change is constant in nature, so it is with the Pasadena Audubon Society. Much has changed since we first formed as a conservation organization in 1904. We're rethinking and reworking our Bird Science Program to make it suitable for distance-learning, we've added Zoom continued on page 7

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# MONTHLY CHAPTER MEETINGS: UPCOMING PROGRAMS

# Mickey and Jon's Bird ID Quiz September 16, 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm Mickey Long and Jon Fisher

As is traditional, we will kick off our fall season of meetings with Mickey Long and Jon Fisher hosting an evening of photographic mystery bird identification challenges. Thanks to the power of Zoom, this year we will be throwing open the challenge of identifying these birds to an even wider audience of our membership. Our hosts will also be chiming in with expert tips and tricks for IDing the mystery species involved. We will get into the swing of fall migration by helping sharpen your ID skills and have some laughs along the way. Come join in the fun!

Monthly chapter meetings are held the third Wednesday of the month. Until further notice, the meetings will be held remotely via the Zoom platform for video conferencing. The application can be downloaded at no cost to computer or smartphone at https://zoom.us/download. Chapter members will receive an email from PAS with a link on the day of the meeting.

# The Birder Brain October 21, 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm Alvaro Jaramillo

Most bird identification lectures focus on field marks and the specifics of separating species. But few ask exactly how we identify birds? What is our thought process? Truth is that bird identification is complicated. The trick is to train yourself to do it like a professional, and that is the aim of this presentation. Join us for a lighthearted but informative explanation of how the birder brain learns birds.

Alvaro Jaramillo is an internationally known ornithologist. An expert on the birds of North America, he wrote the American Birding Association *Field Guide to Birds of California* and *New World Blackbirds*. He is also an authority on the birds of Chile, authoring *Birds of Chile*, collaborating on Chile's Important Bird Areas program, and helping to identify a new bird species there: *Oceanites pincoyae* (Pincoya Storm-Petrel). He leads birding trips throughout the world with his company, Alvaro's Adventures.

# Invertebral Limit: Insect Life of Southern California

November 18, 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm Robb Hamilton

If you've ever wondered about the myriad arthropods that make up the foundation of our local ecosystems or noticed the great variety of little critters that come out when the temperatures rise and the birds get quiet, this is the show for you. The intricate beauty and diversity of the invertebrate world around us is guaranteed to leave your head buzzing! The program will feature some of Robb's incredible photographs.

A member of the El Dorado Audubon Society in Long Beach, Mr. Hamilton is lead author of two standard references describing aspects of birdlife in California: "The Birds of Orange County: Status & Distribution" and "Rare Birds of California." He has been providing biological consulting services in southern California since 1988. His company, Hamilton Biological, Inc., specializes in the pratical application of environmental regulations to land management decisions in the region.

#### **CONSERVATION**

# **Victories & Looming Battles**

This has been a time of ups and downs in U.S. and California conservation. The current administration continues its attacks on environmental regulations. But recently one of those attacks was repulsed. A U.S. District Court agreed with various states and conservation organizations that the administration's weakening of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act protections is "contrary to the plain meaning of the law." The accidental killing of birds as a result of oil spills and toxic mining pools remains subject to major penalties, despite the administration's attempt to make those killings penalty-free.

On August 4th, the President signed the Great American Outdoors Act. In a recent message the Arroyos and Foothills Conservancy summed up the Act's benefits:

"The Great American Outdoors Act...fully funds the Land and Water Conservation Fund at \$900 million annually. The funding comes from oil and gas royalties, not from taxpayers. Years ago, it was established for mitigation of the effects of oil and gas extraction, but year-in and year-out money was redirected for other non-conservation purposes. That can happen no more.

In addition, the Great American Outdoors Act dedicates another \$1.9 billion a year for five years on improvements at national parks, forests, wildlife refuges and range lands."

A mere two weeks after the Great American Outdoors Act became law, Interior Secretary David Bernhardt announced that the department he oversees would begin selling oil and gas leases in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. As the Washington Post reported, the refuge "provides habitat for more than 270 species, including the world's remaining Southern Beaufort Sea polar bears, 250 musk oxen and 300,000 snow geese." Although auctions may not commence for over a year, and drilling might not commence for another eight years, this is surely an issue demanding our vigilance.

Opposition is building for a U.S. Forest Service plan to "thin" old-growth forest on Pine Mountain, two hours northwest of Los Angeles, in the name of fire prevention. Conservation organizations say there is no prevention value in clearing hundreds of acres of forest so far from populated areas. Pasadena Audubon and the Arroyo Seco Foundation settled a long-running pair of lawsuits against the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works regarding the Big Dig in Hahamongna. The settlement is described in detail on page one. But a new project in Hahamongna has reared its head this one planned by Pasadena Water continued on page 7

#### BIRDING WHILE AT HOME

# **Swan Song for Caged Birders Challenge**

As many of us have started to carefully emerge from our early-pandemic lockdowns, it's time to retire the Caged Birder Challenge and tally up the results. For those that are unfamiliar with it, the Caged Birder Challenge asked members birding from home to share their eBird checklists with Pasadena Audubon. The goals of the challenge were to stay safe, gather some valuable data from some potentially underbirded areas, and see who's living in the birdiest zipcode in town. For me, it was a great chance to become more in tune with my neighborhood birds, and it really got me thinking about what I could do to improve my yard, my street, my neighborhood's bird habitat. I also got to meet and "nerd out" with my neighbors some, socially-distanced of course.

And so without further ado, here are the final results:

Total Checklists: 271
Total Species: 116

#### **Most Checklists Submitted**

Marsha Fowler: 110! Lance Benner: 49 Graham Hamby: 29 Heather Sabin: 19 Hannah Carbone: 18

#### **Most Species**

Lance Benner: 78! Darren Dowell: 74 Graham Hamby: 63 Hannah Carbone: 48 Brendan Crill: 36

#### **Neighborhoods Represented**

Pasadena Eagle Rock Altadena Glendale La Cañada South Pasadena Redondo Beach Sierra Madre

Marsha and Lance will both be getting a handmade nesting box as the prize for their hard work. Hopefully they'll help add some fledglings to their home list next nesting season. Thanks again to everyone who participated!

Graham Hamby







# PAGE THREE BIRD

# Hooded Oriole

To celebrate the recent ruling against the Trump Administration's rollback of the Migratory Bird Act, this issue we're spotlighting a migratory bird that has brought some color and delight to our yards during this



A sharp-looking male Hooded Oriole sipping from an Ocotillo flower © Adriana Kleiman

pandemic. The Hooded Oriole, *Icterus cucullatus*, is not the longest or rarest migrant to grace our area with its presence, but it's arguably one of the most handsome.

Hooded Orioles come up to California from Mexico in March and April to breed. They stay through the summer, during which time they may have two or three broods of 3-5 darkly blotched eggs each. Their partiality to nesting in palm trees is strong enough to have earned them the nickname "palm-leaf orioles" in California. By October most have flown south, though apparently they can be persuaded to stick around if backyard nectar feeders are refilled dilligently. Along with a fondness for real and artificial nectar, the Hooded Oriole diet

consists of berries and insects.

Despite their bright



An elegant female Hooded Oriole pauses between drinks at the author's feeder

plumage, which in males varies regionally from bright yellow to flame orange, Hooded Orioles are often heard before they are seen. Both sexes sing a jumble of whistles and chatters, punctuated by an occasional raspy note,

overall somewhat cacophanous compared to some of their oriole kin. Other common vocalizations include a rapid series of *chucks* and a nasal *why* or *wheet* call.

From a conservation standpoint, the outlook for Hooded Orioles is mixed. Climate change models predict the species could expand its breeding range but lose winter range, primarily on the Yucatan Peninsula. Another threat comes from within their own "family". Hooded Orioles are a target for brood parisitism by fellow Icterids, the Brown-headed Cowbird and the Bronzed Cowbird. Let us all redouble our efforts to minimize our impact on the climate and ensure the lovely Hooded Orioles thrive for many generations to come!

Carl Matthies

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# HAHAMONGNA SETTLEMENT - CONTINUED

The second lawsuit resulted in a tentative decision in June 2019 in favor of ASF/PAS on several issues, which launched settlement negotiations with L.A. County. Meanwhile, the LACFCD project had started in late 2018 with the bulldozing of 50 acres of riparian habitat – a devastating reality to area residents, birders, and other members of the community – followed by the start of sediment hauling in May 2019.

#### Settlement Agreement, July 2020

The lawsuit settlement negotiations continued for a year, finally resulting in an agreement between L.A. County and ASF/PAS which was approved by the Board of Supervisors on July 7, 2020. The agreement is a better compromise between flood safety and restoration and protection of the environment. The sediment removal project still targets the reduced amount of 1.7 MCY, but several measures will be implemented to reduce the impact on air quality, wildlife habitat, and appearance of the park.

The settlement reduces the footprint of the project by 20 acres, almost 30% of the design area. 14 acres at the north end of the project area, which were to be bulldozed in this second year of the project, are instead preserved. Over 6 stream-adjacent acres at the south end are now removed from the annual maintenance zone, and riparian habitat will be allowed to grow there. These concessions should bring substantial benefit to breeding and migratory birds as well as animals such as mountain lions, which use the Hahamongna basin as a corridor between the San Gabriels. San Rafael Hills, and potentially the Verdugo Mountains.

On top of the reductions in project truck emissions resulting from the first lawsuit judgment, additional measures are introduced by the settlement of the second lawsuit to ensure that trucks are meeting standards limiting harmful emissions, and to incentivize use of clean-air trucks.

The habitat restoration program being implemented by L.A. Co. as mitigation for the sediment project will be improved by using a substantially larger fraction of locally-sourced plants. The on-site Hahamongna Native Plant Nursery will be ramping up capacity to propagate Hahamongna/Arroyo Seco plants for this effort.

As the restoration takes shape, Pasadena Audubon will be looking for opportunity to install up to three bird blinds to enhance opportunities to view nature up close in Hahamongna.

The LACFCD project has led to some undesirable aesthetic impacts along the access trails at the south end of Hahamongna. The settlement includes commitments from L.A. Co. to restore the natural ambience at those locations by the end of the main sediment removal project in 2022.

Other terms of the settlement touch on long-term planning for the larger Arroyo Seco region and aim at a spirit of cooperation between L.A. Flood Control District and local environmental organizations including Pasadena Audubon.

#### Hahamongna, Birds, and You

Hahamongna Watershed Park remains open for birding and other recreation during the sediment removal project. On weekdays during much of the year between now and 2022, the trails at the south end are closed for the sediment excavation and hauling. Birders may see crews on site performing the habitat restoration: a major, multi-year undertaking for which we will have to exercise some patience for seeing the benefits.

Visitors to Hahamongna have an opportunity to play an important role in ensuring that the implementation of the sediment removal project is following all of the rules designed to minimize its harmful impact.

Bird walks in Hahamongna organized by Pasadena Audubon are on hold in mid 2020 as a result of the COVID-19 crisis, but will resume when it is safe to do so. In the meantime, reports of bird sightings by individuals to eBird or the pasadenaaudubon groups.io email group are much appreciated!

The habitat restoration program in Hahamongna is designed to benefit most the riparian-specialist bird species in the long term. We are pleased to report that, already in 2020, a pair of endangered Least Bell's Vireos nested in Hahamongna – the first ever well-documented on-site nest to our knowledge. We are hopeful that this species will return annually, and Hahamongna will contribute to the long-term preservation of these threatened birds.

To preserve Hahamongna as a refuge for nature, our community will need to remain vigilant and active. (Remember the proposed construction of two new soccer fields that were to be built where Least Bell's Vireos now thrive)? Pasadena Audubon will keep defending birds and habitat at Hahamongna for the long term; our newsletter and general meetings are great ways to keep up with what's happening. To find out how to get more involved, please contact the Pasadena Audubon Society Board (see page 8.)

Darren Dowell

# FIELD TRIPS & CALENDAR

Please Note: All monthly birdwalks are canceled for the foreseeable future, as are Birds n Beers gatherings. However, the situation may change between now and the next Wrentit newsletter, so please check the website for the most up to date information



Indian Peahen with five chicks at Los Angeles Arboretum on August 3rd © Jim Maraitan



"I know it's bone dry right now, but you're going to want to clean these rain gutters out before winter." Red-Shouldered Hawk © Jim Margitan

# BIRD SCIENCE PROGRAM AND SCHOOLYARD GARDEN UPDATES

# **Bird Science Program Goes Remote**

School has begun at Pasadena Unified and for now, kids are home learning remotely. This has left us with a sizeable challenge: How can we deliver a program, intended to cultivate a love of birds and the outdoors, remotely through screens? Does it even make sense?

These were the questions we asked our primary partner, Jodie West, STEM Specialist at Washington Elementary. Here is what she had to say: "Keeping kids engaged in science is more important now than ever. The Bird Science Program was so successful last year that we want to continue to engage our students who were thrilled last year at their introduction to the world of birds. Kids need to take some time away from their screens and this program gets them outdoors."

Right now, we're trying to figure out how to redesign the lessons we developed for the classroom. They need to be broken into bite-sized videos so that the children don't lose interest. We'll keep the emphasis on the outdoors, with activities around observing, listening, and smelling all the cool things that are out there.

The plan is to film in the schoolyard garden and neighborhood parks as much as possible. We'll post content to the PAS website, so that you can follow this project as it unfolds. It's new territory for Pasadena Audubon, but hey, we roll with the punches and we're committed to sharing our love of birds with our community, even and maybe especially now, in this crazy year of the pandemic.





California Goldenrod coming into bloom © Lois Brunet

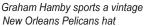


Anna's Hummingbird on Cleveland Sage © Lois Brunet

#### CHAPTER ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OTHER NEWS

# **Guys in Bird Caps Join PAS Board**







Carl with his family, and his trusty Friends of Condors chapeau

This summer Pasadena Audubon Society added two new members to the board: Graham Hamby as Membership Chair, and Carl Matthies as the Wrentit Editor. If their sartorial preferences intrigue you, read on to learn even more about these ostensible gentlemen.

## Graham Hamby

Hi folks, thank you all for the great opportunity to work with you as the organization continues to forge ahead helping people help birds in these uncertain times. As the new Membership Chair, I am looking forward to sustaining and expanding our membership as the chairperson and getting involved where I can. Members are the lifeblood of the organization and I have some really big shoes to fill after Lois Fulmer's departure. Please let me know how you think I can improve in my new role!

I have been birding since 1999 but re-caught the fever a few years ago and joined Pasadena Audubon right away. I have really enjoyed the sense of community here and the shared sense of passion and purpose. I am currently employed as a Location Scout and Manager in the commercial film business, but my academic background is in political economy and photography. I have volunteered as a Field Assistant in the study of Lewis' Woodpeckers in SE Idaho and in the North Cascades Institute's Eagle Watchers program on the Skagit River in Washington State. Having family roots in the American South and New England has allowed me some great opportunities to bird and photograph there as well.

Looking ahead, given the current status of many of our bird populations, I would like to focus my efforts with the Pasadena Audubon Soceity toward how we can help to conserve, create, and enhance bird habitat in the urban and semi-urban environment. I hope to work closely with our board and members and learn more about how to best address those needs.

#### Carl Matthies

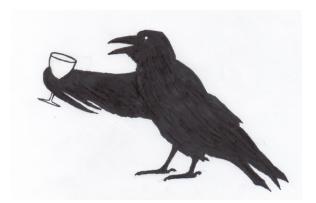
I'm a Michig*ander* by birth so perhaps it's only natural I would eventually develop an interest in birding. I've lived most of my life in southern California, growing up in the South Bay before

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# **Janet Scheel Awarded Crow Cup**

In recognition of her contributions to the Pasadena Audubon Society, this year's recipient of the coveted Crow Cup is Dr. Janet Scheel. Past honorees, who bestow the award, cited Janet's longtime service as PAS website administrator, tenure on the board as Treasurer, fundraising on the Birdathon team Irritable Owl Syndrome, and leadership on numerous field trips.

The Crow Cup Committee also lauded Janet's mentorship and patience toward novice birders, even as she routinely places in the elite ranks of the Wrentit Club, with a staggering 350+bird species seen in Los Angeles County every year since 2012! More impressive still is the fact that she has done all of this while teaching and conducting research as a physics professor at Occidental College. She is also part of an international consortium of physicists studying turbulent superstructures. What are those? As with bird ID inquiries, you should ask Dr. Scheel. Congratulations and many thanks, Janet!



# **Coffee Club Hits New Milestone**

The PAS Coffee Club had its biggest month yet in July, with orders totalling almost \$400. This figure tops the previous record, set in March, by nearly 33 percent.

Each of the six varieties of Birds & Beans has a champion in the Coffee Club. Wood Thrush appears to be the current favorite. Wood Thrush is a breakfast roast, darker than the American Redstart roast and lighter than the Chestnut-sided Warbler. Scarlet Tanager is the darkest of the regular roasts. Rounding out the options are Baltimore Oriole, which is decaffinated, and Kingbird, an espresso for those who prefer more concentrated dose of caffeine.

Bird & Bean coffee is shade-grown, allowing for deeper and more complex favors than ordinary sun-grown coffee can achieve. It is certified bird friendly, USDA organic, and Fair Trade.

Questions? Feel free to email me at coffeeclub@pasadenaaudubon.org

Kathy Linowski

#### CHAPTER ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OTHER NEWS

# New Board Members, continued from page 6

attending Occidental College to study biology, and in the process realizing I vastly preferred the San Gabriel Valley.

Some of my first jobs were doing field biology surveys. Most involved trout or insects, but one was a project to characterize the nesting areas of the endangered California Gnatcatcher at Camp Pendleton and Miramar Air Station. More recently I've been involved in criminal justice work, having seen the system from virtually every vantage point except that of a defendant.

My usual partners in crime when it comes to birding, as some of you already know, are my lovely wife Learden—renowned for her tasty avian-themed cookies—and son Wolfgang, on whom Learden and I rely heavily for his more acute hearing, vision, and memory for field marks and songs. We are hoping to get the family life list over 700 before the end of the year.

Of course, the pandemic has thwarted some of our birding plans. Thankfully I have other interests to keep me occupied. They include camping and hiking, soccer (better known as actual "football"), science fiction, crossword puzzles, dogs, classic Reggae, making home movies, and writing.

I'm honored and excited to serve on the Pasadena Audubon Society Board, and as I assume the mantle of Wrentit Editor, I hope you will all help me to maintain its high standards by sending your ideas and contributions. Write to me at pas.wrentit@gmail.com. My emailbox is always open!

## Conservation, continued from page 2

and Power. Comments on the draft Environmental Impact Report closed at the end of July, and there is vigorous opposition to some elements of the project, which proposes to increase the amount of water diverted from the Arroyo Seco and to construct many additional spreading basins in Hahamongna. Expect to see a growing and increasingly organized community effort to oppose the environmental damage that the project will cause. For more information about the Arroyo Seco Canyon Project, and the Big Dig settlement, browse www.arroyoseco.org.

Making matters worse, fire season has returned to the area. At press time, the Lake Fire, burning at the north end of Angeles Forest, had consumed over 27,000 acres including an area surrounding Upper Shake Campground (south of Pine Canyon Road and a mile or so east of Sawmill Campground) known for spotted, northern pygmy, and northern saw-whet owls.

The Ranch 2 fire, blamed on arson, has thus far burned over 4,000 acres in north of Azusa. Nearly all of the Ranch 2 fire is also within the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument. The Ranch 2 fire is alarmingly close to the upper part of Monrovia Canyon Park and threatens the West Fork of the San Gabriel River, where our own Lance Benner occasionally leads birding by bicycle trips.

Mark Hunter

# President's Perch, continued from page 1

meetings and programs to our calendar, and our Board of Directors has gone through some significant change in the last several months. Nine board members resigned or retired, some after serving for decades! In alphabetical order, they are Ira Blitz, Ron Cyger, Kathy Degner, Doug Farr, Lois Fulmer, Susan Gilliland, Katy Mann, Janet Scheel, and Mark Scheel. We owe them all a huge debt of gratitude for their years of dedicated service, so if you see them in the field, be sure to thank them!

Fortunately for us all, our chapter is abundant with skilled, dedicated folks. Jane Glicksman was elected Secretary to take over for Ira Blitz, and Carl Matthies has replaced Jane as the Wrentit editor, while Learden Matthies and Vicki Salmon will take on Hospitality, replacing Doug Farr. Luke Tiller is moving from Program Chair to Field Trip Chair, replacing outgoing Mark Scheel, and Taylor Paez was elected as Treasurer to replace outgoing Janet Scheel. Graham Hamby, assisted by his lovely partner Sherra Fermino, has taken up the role of Membership Chair from retiring Lois Fulmer, and Kelsey Reckling is doing amazing work with Publicity, and Chris Spurgeon is taking on the role of webmaster from the Scheels. Truly, we have much talent in our membership!

Having said that, we are still in need of more help from you. We would love assistance with outreach, education (both for adults and our Young Birders), leading field trips, hospitality, conservation, advocacy, publicity, programs, development, and more. Trust me, there is something for you here! And this is a wonderful time to get involved because we are reinventing ourselves and so are especially open to change and new ideas. If you have any interest in getting more involved in the innerworkings of our chapter, please contact Program Director Lois Brunet at lbrunet@pasadenaaudubon.org or me at mypurplecow@outlook.com. We would love to hear from you!

We are Pasadena Audubon, and we adapt to change!

Laura Solomon

# Thank you to our Wonderful Donors!

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# Welcome to our New Members

ALTADENA: Sarah Paloma Avila, Ken Haber, Leigh Swanson; GLENDALE: Julie Hoskins; PASADENA: Sarah Deschenes, Karlene Goller, Michael Stangl, Jane Hufnagel; SAN GABRIEL: Faye Kirchhoff; SAN MARINO: Heather Fleming, Kendrick Watson

Join Pasadena Audubon! It's never been easier. Simply visit pasadenaaudubon.org, click on "JOIN PAS" under the "HOME" tab and fill out the form online.

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Just email your name and address to paperless@pasadenaaudubon.org. You'll receive an email with a link to the newsletter when each issue comes out. And you'll have the satisfaction of knowing you're doing one more thing for our planet, our birds and our chapter.