



## San Antonio Audubon Society

# AUDUBON NEWS

A Conservation and Birding Club since 1954

Volume 66, Number 1

January/February 2020

## RUSTY BLACKBIRDS By Mike Scully

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It had been many years since I had seen one, but in late November, I found three Rusty Blackbirds (*Euphagus carolinus*) feeding along a wooded area of Leon Creek. Perhaps I have been birding in the wrong places, as I cannot recall seeing the species in this area, although there are probably places in East Texas where even now the species still merits “uncommon” status.

In North America, grackles, Brown-headed Cowbirds and Brewer’s Blackbirds have all adapted to a human-altered landscape, increasing in numbers and expanding on their former ranges. By way of contrast, over the last 40 years the Rusty Blackbird has suffered an estimated 90% overall population decline. The species is now

Rusty Blackbirds breed in wooded swamps, around beaver ponds and along watercourses across a breeding range encompassing the entire Boreal Zone from Alaska east to Labrador and Newfoundland and south to Northern Michigan, the Adirondack Mountains and Northern New England.

Much remains to be learned about the exact habitat requirements of this species. Despite the seemingly abundant habitat available, even 50 years ago the Rusty Blackbird was sparsely distributed or absent in some areas of the breeding range. Males arrive on the breeding grounds first to establish territories and in some areas form loosely colonial associations. Monogamous pairs are the norm. The female rapidly constructs a bulky nest on a branch close to the ground amid dense coniferous vegetation. Egg laying typically commences that same week and the female alone incubates, while both sexes feed the young.



Rusty Blackbird  
By Alan Schmierer/Flickr.com

Rusty Blackbirds require relatively large breeding territories. In summer they feed almost entirely upon aquatic invertebrates, walking and wading like sandpipers along the water’s edge while making little use of the forested portions of their territory. Breeding adults have been observed traveling some distance from the home territory in order to exploit emergences of aquatic insects. In some areas, a number of neighboring broods have been seen congregating after fledging, tended by multiple adults. Perhaps these crèche-like assemblages were associated with aquatic insect swarms. Studies indicate that where they do still breed, the survival rate for Rusty Blackbird nestlings is relatively high, so nest failure is probably not be the reason for their catastrophic decline.

ranked as “Threatened” by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). Research has been underway for two decades trying to identify the cause. In appearance, the Rusty Blackbird resembles the closely related Brewer’s Blackbird (*E. cyanocephalus*) and both are about the size of the Red-wing Blackbird. The glossy, dark-colored males are somewhat larger than the drabber females. The Brewer’s and Rusty Blackbird males have prominent pale yellow eyes, as do female Rusty Blackbirds. In winter plumage, both male and female Rusty Blackbirds bear russet tips on their head and upper body feathers, hence the common name.

The winter range of the Rusty Blackbird includes most of the eastern half of the United

(Continued on p. 3)

## SAN ANTONIO AUDUBON CALENDAR: JANUARY/FEBRUARY

Please call the trip leaders if you have questions. Last-minute changes to field trips will be posted at [saaudubon.org](http://saaudubon.org), [www.facebook.com/saaudubon/](http://www.facebook.com/saaudubon/) or sent by email via SATXBirds. Please arrive early.

Saturday, January 4, 8:00 AM

### Acequia Park

Meet leader Christian Fernandez (210/415-0843) in the parking lot at 8500 Mission Parkway. The park is located on the east side of the San Antonio River just south of Military Drive.

Thursday, January 9, 8:00 AM

### Southside Lions Park

Meet leaders Lorna and Dodge Engleman (210/415-1038) at the Salado Creek Greenway trailhead by the lake at Southside Lions Park. Address is 4008 Pecan Valley Dr.

Saturday, January 11, 8:30 AM

### SAAS Beginners' Bird Walk

Meet leader Georgina Schwartz (210/342-2073) at the Judson Nature Trails, 246 Viesca Street. From the 5900 block of Broadway, turn west on Ogden Street and drive to the stop sign at Greeley Street. You'll see a sign to Judson Nature Trails. Turn left, go one block and turn right on Viesca, then into parking lot on left. We have binoculars to lend.

Saturday, January 18, 8:00 AM

### Granger Lake Area, NE of Austin

We will look for longspurs, Mountain Plover, Prairie Falcon and other open country wintering birds. Dress warmly, as the weather can be very cold at this location. Meet leader Bob Doe at the entrance to Friendship Park on the north shore of Granger Lake, several miles east of the town of Granger, on road 971. Bring food/drink for lunch and a few dollars for park entrance fees. There are several possible routes to the town of Granger: consult a mapping function like Google maps or the navigation feature on your car or phone to determine your best route. Allow 2 to 2-1/2 hours from San Antonio. Contact Bob Doe (210/508-2729) for further info, or if you miss meeting up with the group on the morning of the trip.

Tuesday, January 21, 9:00 AM

### Crescent Bend Nature Park

Meet Sandi Wheeler ([wheels5683@gmail.com](mailto:wheels5683@gmail.com)) in the parking lot of the park. From San Antonio, take I-10 east to the FM 1518 exit and go north toward Schertz. Look for a brown park sign at

Schafer Road. Turn right and go 3 miles to the park. Entrance on left before Cibolo Creek. Bring water.

Thursday, January 30, 8:30 AM

### Medina River Natural Area

Meet leader Helen Rejzek ([hmr78253@gmail.com](mailto:hmr78253@gmail.com)) at Medina River Natural Area, 15890 TX Hwy 16, San Antonio, TX 78264. From Loop 410, drive 4.2 miles south on Hwy 16; the park entrance is on the east (left) side just before the Medina River bridge. Meet in the parking lot. Bring water.

Saturday, February 1, 8:00 AM

### Castroville Regional Park

Meet Georgina Schwartz (210/342-2073) in the upper parking lot of the park. Take US 90 West to Castroville. At the end of the Medina River bridge, as you enter Castroville, turn left onto Florence Street and follow the signs to the park. Bring water and snacks; lunch at a local restaurant.

Saturday, February 8, 8:30 AM

### SAAS Beginners' Bird Walk

Meet leader Barbara Sykes (210/573-0535) at the Judson Nature Trails parking lot. See directions for January 11 walk.

Friday, February 14, 9:00 AM

### San Antonio Botanical Garden (SABG)

Meet leader Karen Moulder ([moulderkf@gmail.com](mailto:moulderkf@gmail.com)) at the entrance to SABG at 555 Funston. Admission is free to SABG members, \$12 for non-members and \$10 for non-members over 65.

Saturday, February 15, 9:00 AM

### Medina Greenway at Pleasanton Road

Meet leader Helen Rejzek ([hmr78253@gmail.com](mailto:hmr78253@gmail.com)) in the parking area. From Loop 410, take Exit 46 (Moursund/Pleasanton Road). Turn south and drive past Mitchell Lake Audubon Center. Continue for about 3 miles and the park will be on your left at the blinking light.

Sunday, February 16, 9:00 AM

### Crescent Bend Nature Park

See January 21 field trip for directions.

Monday, February 17, 9:00 AM (Continued on p. 3)

### Warbler Woods, 19349 Old Wiederstein

Meet Sandi Wheeler at Don and Susan Schaezler's sanctuary in Cibolo. Take I-35 north toward Austin.

## SAAS FIELD TRIPS CONTINUED

### **Warbler Woods** (Continued from page 2)

Take Exit 176, Wiederstein Road. Turn right onto Wiederstein at the overpass. Turn left at the next road, Old Wiederstein Road. After you pass Dean Road, the Schaezler property begins on the right.

.....  
*Thursday, February 20, 8:00 AM*

### **Pearsall Park**

Meet Nancy and Damian Martinez (210/744-9330) in the parking lot by the playground at 5102 Old Pearsall Road. Take Exit 2 off SW Loop 410 to Old Pearsall Road. The park is located 2 miles inside the loop on the right. Be sure to go past the first entrance for Pearsall Park, which is the dog park.

.....  
*Saturday, February 22, 9:00 AM*

### **Aquarena Springs (The Meadows Center)**

Meet leader Sandi Wheeler in the first parking lot at The Meadows Center. Take I-35 north from San Antonio. Take Exit 206 and turn left on Aquarena Springs Drive. Go approximately one-half mile. Take a slight right onto Bobcat Dr., turn left onto Post Rd and then right on San Marcos Springs Dr. to The Meadows Center on the right. Travel time from San Antonio is about one hour. Bring binoculars, water and snacks. Please text Sandi (210/632-2812) to RSVP.

.....  
*Saturday, February 29, 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM*

### **Canyon Lake, Comal County**

Meet leader Zachary Tonzetich (210/232-3670 or [zachary.tonzetich@gmail.com](mailto:zachary.tonzetich@gmail.com)) at 8:00 AM in the parking lot for Overlook Park. Overlook Park is located at the Southeast corner of the lake and can be accessed from the S. Access Rd., which junctions with FM 2673. If you need further assistance with directions, contact the trip leader. We will start at Overlook Park and then visit several spots around the lake looking for water fowl and winter birds. Bring water and snacks.

.....  
*Saturday, March 7, 9:00 AM*

### **Vanishing Texas River Cruise on Lake Buchanan**

SAAS is joining the four-hour Vanishing Texas Eagle and Birding Cruise. The crew will point out birds and wildlife seen on Lake Buchanan and the Colorado River. Access the open upper deck for viewing and photography. The enclosed lower deck has good viewing and seating. Lunch will be provided on this trip.

Please visit the cruise [website](#) to purchase tickets @ \$49.95/person or call VTRC at 512/756-6986. These trips sell out quickly. The cruise departure site is more than two hours from San Antonio, so allow plenty of travel time to arrive early. Call Mariann Golden (210/415-4661) if you have additional questions.

### *Rusty Blackbirds continued from page 1*

States south of Canada, with the largest concentrations occurring along the Mississippi Valley. Single-species flocks of up to 1,000 birds may occur in and around forested wetlands. At other times, Rusty Blackbirds occur in mixed-species flocks with other blackbirds, feeding in open areas and croplands.

A number of causes have been proposed for the decline of this species. High mercury concentrations have been found in the bloodstream of some birds, indicating local contamination on the breeding grounds. Acid rain may be depressing insect populations. Another possible cause is habitat destruction due to forestry practices; in the carefully preserved habitat of the Adirondack Mountains, breeding populations of the Rusty Blackbird have remained relatively constant. In reference to the Boreal forest as a whole, though, our familiar kinglets, Hermit Thrushes, Orange-crowned Warblers and Yellow-rumped Warblers have not suffered comparable losses.

In winter, Rusty Blackbirds join mixed-species roosts consisting of many thousands of blackbirds and starlings. In some areas these roosts have been subject to lethal control on the grounds of agricultural depredations and public health. It is possible that large numbers of Rusty Blackbirds have been killed in this way, though they form at best a minor component of these assemblages.

It is my fervent hope that the small group of Rusty Blackbirds I saw may not become analogous to the last reported sightings of passenger pigeons and Carolina parakeets of just over a century ago.

*To contact the author: [Mike.scully@nisd.net](mailto:Mike.scully@nisd.net)*

### **Bexar Audubon Invites SAAS to Events and Field Trips**

Bexar Audubon Society (BAS), the local chapter of National Audubon, has found a new meeting location, Eco Centro, 1802 N. Main. Check out the BAS [website](#) for upcoming meetings and field trips.

### **WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!**

Lourdes Zarate

# SAAS MEETINGS CALENDAR

**Thursday, January 9 • 7:00 PM**  
**San Antonio Zoo Education Center**  
**Mad Birding: Birding the Four**  
**Corners of Madagascar**  
**Presenter: Steve Gast**

Steve Gast, a retired geologist and life-long birder, will offer a brief account of a long journey to Madagascar. You'll hear the stories about how six birders spent 33 days seeking each of the five endemic bird families and nearly every

endemic bird species in Madagascar, using virtually every mode of transport to do so. Out of 110 fully endemic and 16 regional near-

endemic birds, the team managed to find all but five species! Even more, the parade of rare mammals and endemic reptiles seemed endless. Steve will share a few photos of a fraction of the many birds and animals and experiences from the first-ever Marathon Mad Mega Tour of Madagascar.

Steve lived and worked in seven countries on six continents during his career. Since his retirement in 2011, he has traveled and birded internationally several times a year. He uses eBird extensively and has recorded sightings from more than 70 countries. He currently resides in Houston and when not traveling, he volunteers for various Texas conservation organizations, including Audubon and the Katy Prairie Conservancy.



Long-tailed Ground-roller



Lemur

**Thursday, February 6 • 7:00 PM**  
**San Antonio Zoo Education Center**  
**North Slope of Alaska Bird Habitat**  
**Presenter: Christine Turnbull**

With continuing questions regarding oil and natural gas potential and the Arctic coast of Alaska, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service launched a multi-year study on an expansive tract of land adjacent to the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge in the late 1980s. The project, "The North Slope Bird Habitat Study," intended to document specific habitat associations of nesting birds on the coastal plain. SAAS member Christine Turnbull participated in one season of data collection for this project.



Red-throated Loon

The data collection group was based in a remote field camp amidst nesting shore birds, loons, waterfowl, ptarmigan, terns and trees only a few inches tall. Despite challenging weather conditions, predators and large caribou migrations, shorebirds fly thousands of miles each year to nest in this productive area. Christine will discuss the dramatic challenges these birds face throughout the nesting season on the Arctic coast.

The relevance of these birds and habitats today are stronger than ever as the permafrost—frozen, carbon-filled soil that makes up much of the Arctic—is thawing.

## PELAGIC CRUISE AUGUST 2020

Join SAAS on a cruise, Los Angeles to Vancouver, BC, August 22-26, 2020 onboard the Golden Princess. If interested, make reservations with



Princess Cruises directly at [Princess.com](http://Princess.com) or 800/774-6237. We recommend making at least a deposit early, because the ship is already nearly full. Contact Bob Doe for more info: [doefamily@aol.com](mailto:doefamily@aol.com).

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## SAAS Annual Budgets for 2020

The SAAS Board of Directors approved the 2020 budgets for both the General Operating Fund and the Special Projects Fund.

In 2020, we continue to operate the General Operating Fund in the black. The Education Outreach budget will be the same in 2020 as 2019. By year end, we anticipate a net gain of \$771.00, an amount that may increase depending on our annual donations.

Donations are made from the Special Projects Fund with the approval of the Board of Directors. This fund has a deficit of \$2,350 so SAAS can fund important conservation projects. The Special Projects Fund received \$5000 in 2017 from the estate of Sue Bayley, and in 2019 we purchased the 2019 Bexar County Bird Checklists with some of these funds. The SAAS Board of Directors will monitor and approve donations made from the Special Projects Fund. If you have any questions, please contact treasurer Robin Stevens at [robins@areatx.com](mailto:robins@areatx.com)

### Budget 2020 - General Operating Fund

Income	
Membership Dues	\$3,500
Tax Exempt Sales	\$200
Taxable Sales	\$100
General Donations	\$500
Bexar Audubon	\$425
Miscellaneous	<u>\$200</u>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$4,925</b>

### Expenses

Paypal Expenses	\$70
Newsletter	\$1,200
Postage	\$50
Mail Box	\$180
Office Supplies	\$100
Website Support	\$370
Sales Tax	\$20
Education Outreach	\$700
Treasurer Bond	\$109
Picnic Supplies	\$30
Gifts/Awards/Honorarium	\$925
Equipment Purchases	\$150
Miscellaneous	<u>\$250</u>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$4,154</b>

**Income – Expenses**                    **+\$771**

**Duck Stamp (Net)**                    **\$ 0**

**Annual Dinner (Net)**                **\$ 0**

**Pass Through (Net)**                 **\$ 0**

### Budget 2020 - Special Projects Fund

Income	
CD and MM Interest	\$500
Donations	\$150
Donations to JNT	\$50
Carbon Offset Donations	<u>\$500</u>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$1,200</b>

### Expenses

Donation Requests	\$1,000
Carbon Offset	\$ 500
MLAC Donation	\$1,000
LHI Donation	\$ 250
Warbler Woods Donation	\$ 500
JNT	\$ 100
GEAA	<u>\$ 200</u>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$3,550</b>

**Income – Expenses**                **-\$2,350**

## LOCAL BIRDING LOCATIONS

### MITCHELL LAKE AUDUBON CENTER

10750 Pleasanton Road  
San Antonio, TX 78221

Visit the [MLAC website](http://mlac.audubon.org) or email [mlac@audubon.org](mailto:mlac@audubon.org)  
or call 210/628-1639

### SAN ANTONIO BOTANICAL GARDEN

555 Funston, San Antonio, TX 78209

Visit [www.sabot.org](http://www.sabot.org) or call 210/207-3250

### GOVERNMENT CANYON

12861 Galm Rd, San Antonio, TX 78254

Visit [www.friendsofbc.org](http://www.friendsofbc.org) or call 210/688-9055

### CIBOLO NATURE CENTER

140 City Park Rd., Boerne, TX 78006

Visit [www.cibolo.org](http://www.cibolo.org) or call 830/249-4614

### JUDSON NATURE TRAILS

246 Viesca Street, San Antonio, TX 78209

## MITCHELL LAKE MONTHLY BIRDING TOURS

Pre-register online at [MLAC website](http://MLAC website)

1st Sunday: Jan. 5 & Feb. 2, 8:00 AM

2nd Sunday: Jan. 12 & Feb. 9, 8:00 AM

2nd Tuesday: Jan. 14 & Feb. 11, 8:00 AM

3rd Sunday: Jan. 19 & Feb. 16, 8:00 AM

4th Sunday: Jan. 26 & Feb. 23, 8:00 AM

4th Saturday (Beginning Birders Tour): Jan. 25 &  
Feb. 22, 8:00 AM

**\$8 for non-members; Free for members**

Visit the [MLAC website](http://MLAC website) or email  
[mlac@audubon.org](mailto:mlac@audubon.org) or call 210/628-1639.

## SAAS Membership

The SAAS newsletter is sent by email only to all members who have provided an email address. You will also receive a membership renewal notice by email. We no longer mail a printed membership directory to everyone, but a PDF copy is available by email from the membership secretary at [members@saadubon.org](mailto:members@saadubon.org)

## SAN ANTONIO AUDUBON NEWS

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Contributing Editor: Georgina Schwartz

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## SAAS-Y NOTES

### THANK YOU LETTERS SENT TO SAAS

Sara Beesley, Center Director for Mitchell Lake Audubon Center, sent SAAS a thank-you letter for the \$100 donation SAAS made in memory of member Mike Creese, who passed away in October.

Don and Susan Schaezler of Warbler Woods Bird Sanctuary sent a letter of thanks for the \$500 donation SAAS made to Warbler Woods last May.

The Friends of Hondondo Creek Trails sent a card thanking SAAS for a recent \$500 donation.

### SAAS Board of Directors Meeting

Donkey Barn at the SA Zoo

Thursday • January 23 • 6:00 PM

Thursday • February 27 • 6:00 PM

All are invited. Contact Bob Doe for more  
info: [DoeFamily@aol.com](mailto:DoeFamily@aol.com)

### San Antonio Audubon Society

5150 Broadway #257

San Antonio TX 78209-5710

[info@saadubon.org](mailto:info@saadubon.org)

[www.saadubon.org](http://www.saadubon.org)



#### Officers

Bob Doe, President

Mariann Golden, Vice President

Georgina Schwartz, Secretary

Debra Engler, Treasurer

#### Directors at Large

Lorna Engleman

Christian Fernandez

Christine Turnbull

#### Committee Chairs

Bird Records

Dodge Engleman-----[birdreports@saadubon.org](mailto:birdreports@saadubon.org)

Education/Outreach-----[info@saadubon.org](mailto:info@saadubon.org)

Field Trips

Christian Fernandez-----[christian1253@yahoo.com](mailto:christian1253@yahoo.com)

Historian, Betty Walters

Membership

Database, Michael Shaw----[members@saadubon.org](mailto:members@saadubon.org)

Judson Nature Trails

Barbara Sykes-----[btsykes@sbcglobal.net](mailto:btsykes@sbcglobal.net)

Publicity, Debra Engler-----[info@saadubon.org](mailto:info@saadubon.org)

Newsletter, Lora Reynolds-----[editor@saadubon.org](mailto:editor@saadubon.org)

Website, Christine Turnbull-----[web@saadubon.org](mailto:web@saadubon.org)

## San Antonio Audubon Society Membership/Renewal Form

New

Renewal

Gift

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

How did you hear about us? \_\_\_\_\_

Please be sure your e-mail address is correct.

Your newsletters will be sent via e-mail unless other special arrangements have been made.

Please check box(s):  Individual (\$20 per year)  
 Household (\$30 per year)

We need and appreciate your financial support. Please indicate additional donations below.

Donation: Special Projects Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Donation: Judson Trails Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Donation: General Operating Fund \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to: **San Antonio Audubon Society**. Send dues and address changes to:

ATTN: MEMBERSHIP  
SAN ANTONIO AUDUBON SOCIETY  
5150 BROADWAY #257  
SAN ANTONIO TX 78209-5710

Payments can also be made online at: <[www.saadubon.org/membership.html](http://www.saadubon.org/membership.html)>

## SAAS Members Honored in December

In keeping with year-end tradition, SAAS recognized several individuals at the December 5 holiday party who made contributions to the organization during the past year. Members of the planning committee for the Texas Ornithological Society's spring meeting in San Antonio last May were each given a coffee mug featuring a photo of a Golden-fronted Woodpecker, the species on the SAAS logo. Committee members included Patsy Inglet, Patty Leslie Pasztor, Anne Parrish,



(Left to right) Mariann Golden, Patsy Inglet, Patty Leslie Pasztor at the December meeting

Karen Moulder, Christine Turnbull, Lora Reynolds, Mariana Outlaw, Sandi Wheeler and Mariann Golden.

SAAS members Lorna and Dodge Engleman brought special gifts from Panama to offer Patsy and Tom Inglet in appreciation of their many years of service to SAAS. Since about 2009, Patsy served as Program Chair and Education Outreach Chair, while Tom served as Membership Chair. They were given a mug, beaded necklaces and an embroidered lunch bag. Shirley Bartels, longtime Publicity Chair and Judson Nature Trails Chair, was given an embroidered bag, decorated oven mitts and coasters featuring birds from Panama. Many thanks from SAAS to Tom, Patsy and Shirley for all of the time and effort they gave in so many aspects of volunteer activities on behalf of San Antonio Audubon.

Also during the holiday party, several members shared photos of birds and other wildlife they had seen during the past year. Photographers included Lee Pasquali, Lila Theis, Beth McBroom, Patsy Inglet, Ken Butler and Bob Doe.



## Take Part in the Great Backyard Bird Count

Launched in 1998 by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology and National Audubon Society, the Great Backyard Bird Count was the first online citizen-science project to collect data on wild birds and to display results in near real-time. Now, more than 160,000 people of all ages and walks of life worldwide join the four-day count each February to create an annual snapshot of the distribution and abundance of birds.

For at least 15 minutes on one or more days of the count, **February 14-17, 2020**, simply tally the numbers and kinds of birds you see. You can count from any location, anywhere in the world, for as long as you wish!

If you're new to the count, or have not participated since before the 2013 merger with eBird, you must [create a free online account](#) to enter your checklists. If you already have an account, just use the same login name and password. If you have already participated in another Cornell Lab citizen-science project, you can use your existing login information, too. [Click here for more info on how to get started.](#)

### Mitchell Lake Audubon Center Upcoming Events

#### Christmas Bird Count for All

Saturday, January 4, 8:00 AM  
Join young birders, new birders and birding families to learn about this annual citizen science event and see some new birds!  
RSVP to [MLAC@audubon.org](mailto:MLAC@audubon.org).

#### Wildlife Photography Workshop

Saturday, January 18, 8:00 AM  
[Register](#) to learn how to take the best photos in nature and work with light, clouds and wind.

#### Sunset Hike and Picnic

Saturday, February 15, 6:00 PM  
[Register](#) for a sunset bird walk and catered picnic dinner. \$50/couple



### SAAS Board Election Results

SAAS Board Officers and Directors were elected at the November general meeting, with Bob Doe as President, Mariann Golden as Vice President, Georgina Schwartz as Secretary and Debra Engler as Treasurer. Directors-at-large continuing from 2019 are Lorna Engleman, Christian Fernandez and Christine Turnbull.

Many thanks to Mariann Golden for serving as President the past two years and to Robin Stevens for serving as Treasurer and Mariana Outlaw as Secretary.

Debra Engler has offered to step in as Publicity Chair since the resignation of Shirley Bartels. Barbara Sykes is the new Judson Nature Trails Chair. Lora Reynolds and Michael Shaw are succeeding Tom Inglet as Membership Chair.