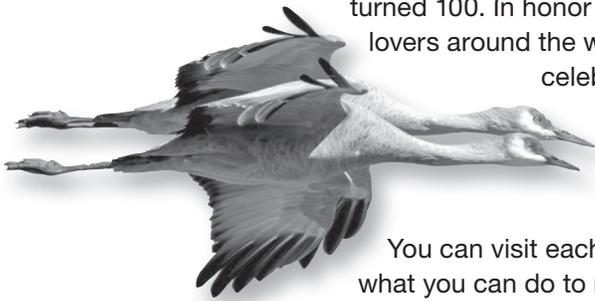




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2018 is the Year of the Bird

The National Audubon Society, National Geographic, BirdLife International, and the Cornell Lab of Ornithology teamed together to officially make 2018 the Year of the Bird! In 2018 the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, the most powerful and important bird-protection law ever passed, turned 100. In honor of this milestone, nature lovers around the world are joining forces to celebrate the “Year of the Bird” and commit to protecting birds today and for the next hundred years.



Sandhill Cranes
– Dionna House

You can visit each of their web sites to learn what you can do to make a difference for birds. You can also ask us at the Los Gatos Birdwatcher, because we celebrate birds each and every day.

SPRING COUPON

Mention this coupon and take...

10% off one item

Expires June 30, 2018

One Coupon per customer please.
Excludes all food items or seed, sale items, excursions & optics.
Not to be combined with any other offers.

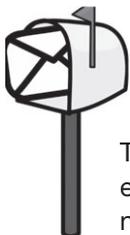
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What It Means to be a Loyal Customer

It means you enjoy shopping with us and know we provide quality seed and feeders in addition to nature inspired products. Loyal Customers are entered into our data base to qualify for money saving coupons each quarter and are automatically enrolled in our Frequent Seed Buyer Program – buy 9 of the same seed bags at 20 lbs or more at full price and get the 10th bag free, a \$30+ savings. We maintain your purchase history in our database to help you remember your seed preferences and answer any questions about your past purchases. Loyal Customers also get first dibs at signing up for classes or tours. Lastly, Loyal Customers will be kept up-to-date with a monthly email from Lisa Myers. Feel secure in knowing we do not share our data base with anyone.



New! Seasonal Newsletter Moves to Your Email Box



After this Spring issue, we will no longer be mailing newsletter via “snail-mail”. Receiving the newsletter by email is the easy, convenient way to keep up with store news. It also saves trees! Emails go out once a month and include the quarterly newsletter plus current specials and events. This gives customers the option to read the newsletter online, or print it to read at their convenience. The next time you come in we will be asking you for your email address. For those that do not have email, or prefer the feel of paper and highlighting the important stuff, we will have paper copies of the newsletter ready for pick up in the store!

International Migratory Bird Day – May 12, 2018

Every year we celebrate the long-distance journey many of our feathered friends have to make as they migrate across the globe. Out here in the west IMBD is May 12. “Environment for the Americas” says it beautifully, “It can be a long journey between non-breeding sites across the Americas and the Caribbean to nesting sites in North America”.

Along the way, migrating birds may need to rest and refuel, and the health and safety of resting sites is critical to the survival of migratory birds. “Our goal at the Los Gatos Birdwatcher is to help you provide a healthy and safe environment for all the birds that fly into your yard and neighborhood”.

To help us celebrate IMBD 2018, volunteers from the Wildlife Education and Rehab Center (WERC) are coming to the Los Gatos Birdwatcher. They are a local nonprofit dedicated to helping sick, injured and orphaned native wildlife. They also go out to schools and visit other organizations to educate the public on how to peacefully coexist with nature. **They will be here Sat. May 12 from 11 AM – 2 PM with their animal Ambassadors.** Please plan to come down to the store and meet the volunteers from WERC and their educational animals. We will also have a donation box available so you can help them continue their good work.



– Luna the Great Horned Owl

– Owlivia the Western Screech Owl

Photos taken at the 2017 event.

Services Available from the Los Gatos Birdwatcher

- **Feeder Cleaning** – We want to help you maintain a healthy environment for your backyard birds. That is why we offer this service to clean feeders on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Bring your feeder into the store in the morning and we'll have it ready before closing. While we clean feeders for free we do ask that you consider making a minimum donation of \$5 per feeder to one of the Bay Area charities we support. You'll find collection boxes at the store.

- **Frequent Buyer Program** – Buy 9 of the same seed bags of 20# or higher at full price and get the 10th bag free. Coupons do not apply.

- **Outreach to community organizations about birding** – We have educational programs about birds and birding, ideal for gardening and other service groups.

- **Backyard Bird Consulting Program** – We will come out to your home and talk about what you can do to attract more birds to your yard. What species you can attract, where to set-up feeders, bird baths and nest boxes are just some of the topics we'll cover. There is a \$25 consultation fee per visit. With your visit you'll receive a \$10 Los Gatos Birdwatcher gift certificate.

- **Help you to ID your Birds** – We can help you ID that mystery bird in your yard. Just take a photo using your cell phone and email it to info@losgatosbirdwatcher.com, or drop by the store and show your photo to our staff.



We invite you to share your photos to our Facebook page and we will provide feedback.

- We offer **Gift Certificates** and **complimentary gift wrapping**.

Entertaining and Educational Photo Presentations

The Los Gatos Birdwatcher is proud to sponsor an entertaining and educational photo presentation each season for our local community. Presentations take place next door at The Terraces which is located behind the Los Gatos Birdwatcher and presentations start at 7:00 PM. You are welcome to park at The Terraces, or use our Kings Court parking lot and take the short walk next door. These presentations are free and there is no need to pre-register.

Exciting Encounters with Alaska's Brown Bears with Joan Sparks

Thursday, May 17 • 7–8 PM at The Terraces

Join wild life photographer, Joan Sparks, on an adventure to see the beauty of Cooks Inlet in Alaska and be prepared to be in awe of the brown bears which inhabit this beautiful habitat. Learn of four active volcanoes in the “Ring of Fire”, common brown bear behavior; see adorable three-month-old cubs, salmon frenzies, puffin and glorious sun rises. You’ll be astounded seeing the bears up close but in the safety and comfort of your chair!

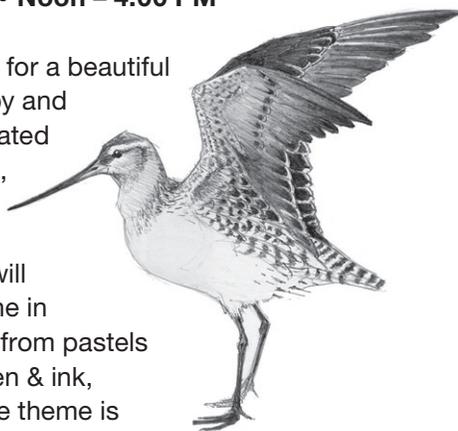


Mark Your Calendars!

9th Annual Artist Exhibition

Sunday, July 22 • Noon – 4:00 PM

We are setting up for a beautiful art show! Come by and enjoy artwork created by 30 local artists, many of whom are customers. On this day, you will enjoy artwork done in various mediums from pastels to watercolors, pen & ink, oils and more. The theme is always about nature! And if you yourself are an artist and wish to exhibit your work, please call the store and we’ll provide you with all the details. Some of the artwork will also be for sale. Refreshments will be served. Artists, please call the store to reserve your space at 408-358-9453.



Pencil sketch of Bar-tailed Godwit
by Matthew Dodder

13th Annual Photo Exhibit

Sunday, August 19 • Noon – 4:00 PM

On this day, the store will be filled with 30 talented photographers as they share their photos of something they photographed in nature. And if you are a photographer, here is your opportunity to share your favorite photo with our birdwatcher community. It’s a fun day as the store fills with photographers and conversations about camera preferences, lens types, apertures and how they got their shot! Refreshments will be served. Artists, please call the store to reserve your space at 408-358-9453.



Photo of Spotted Antbird (taken in Panama)
by Brooke Miller



Let's go Birding

Let's Go Birding is the tour division of the Los Gatos Birdwatcher

Let's Go Birding tours get you out of your yard and into different habitats where you can experience a variety of species not found at home.

Saturday Morning Local Bird Walks

FREE

Join us Saturday mornings for an enjoyable bird walk. Walks end by 10:00 am. Dates and locations are listed on our web page. Mornings listed with, “*Meet-up” indicates a morning when birders will meet on sight at 8:15 AM without Lisa. For all other walks you can meet Lisa at the Los Gatos Birdwatcher at 8:00 am, or meet at the trip location by 8:30 am. These two hour Saturday walks are open to all who are interested in birding. If the forecast calls for an 80–100% chance of rain in Los Gatos, the trip cancels. **A reminder of Saturday's location can be accessed on the store's voice mail at 408-358-9453 on Friday night.**



- 4/7 Stevens Creek County Park – Chestnut Picnic Area (parking fee)
- 4/14 Please join Lisa as she leads a fundraising team for the Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society's Spring birdathon from, 8 AM to Noon. \$50 donation to SCVAS.org
- 4/21 Please join our Shorebird Workshop with Ryan Phillips, see page 5
- 4/28 La Rinconada Park – Granada Way in Los Gatos
- 5/5 Please join our Birds In Love Class field trip, see page 6
- 5/12 International Migratory Bird Day! - Belgatos Park in Los Gatos off Blossom Hill Road
- 5/19 Santa Teresa County Park Fortini Rd. Entrance off McKean Rd.
- 5/26 No walk because of the Memorial Day weekend
- 6/2 Guadalupe Oak Grove Park at Thorntree Dr. San Jose
- 6/9 Please join Ryan and Lisa for a birding day on the coast
- 6/16 Meet-up: McClellan Ranch 22221 McClellan Rd. Cupertino
- 6/23 Meet-up: West Valley Junior College in Saratoga, meet in front of Fox Theatre off of Fruitvale & Admissions Way
- 6/30 Alum Rock Park San Jose - meet at “Rustic Lands” free lot

* Meet-up indicates a morning when birders will meet on sight at 8:15 AM without Lisa

Bird Identification Workshops

– Open to all levels
Hosted by Lisa Myers

These workshops have proven extremely popular and fill at 25 participants. Workshops take place at the Los Gatos Birdwatcher **7:30 – 8:30 PM (Free)**. These one hour workshops will focus on five different bird species we can expect to see in our local area the month of each workshop. We'll go over the field marks you can use to make the ID. We'll also talk about behaviors, food preferences and even vocalizations. You will need to have a field guide with you for class. Call the store to save your spot. 408-358-9453.

Wed. April 25 Workshop: Bewick's Wren, Chesnut-backed Chickadee, Oak Titmouse, Bushtit, Western Tanager

Wed. June 6 Workshop: Lesser Goldfinch, American Goldfinch, Lawrence's Goldfinch, Pine Siskin, House Finch

Earth Day – April 22!

We only have one Earth! All of us at the Los Gatos Birdwatcher encourage you take time out this year to enjoy a bit of nature and celebrate Earth Day. Get outside, take a walk, have a picnic, go birding or just remember to look up! Here at the bird store, we take time to do it every day! Earth Day was founded in 1970. If you would like to get ideas on how you can celebrate Earth Day please visit - <https://www.earthday.org/>

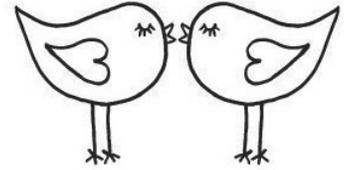


One of our Partners, the **Youth Science Institute** is having an event on Earth Day that you are encouraged to attend. They want you to come Learn about local pollinators & sustainable gardening. It will be held at Alum Rock Park (16260 Penitencia Creek Road, San Jose, CA 95127) from 1:00 – 4:00 and its free.

Birds in Love Class with Lisa Myers

May 2, lecture at the store 6:30 - 8:30 PM plus May 5 morning field trip

Back by popular demand we have scheduled the infamous “sex class” created by our own Lisa Myers! Don’t worry, the class is rated PG and includes one evening lecture followed by a Saturday morning bird walk. This class was created to talk about all the behind the scenes activities that take place during the breeding season. While many people enjoy their birds, few really understand all the mechanics behind finding a mate, bird song, copulation and incubation, let alone raising young. Space will be limited so sign-up soon by calling the store **408-358-9453. Fee \$50.**



Trip has filled

Yellowstone This June, North American Hot Spot

On this exciting 9-day tour we will enjoy Yellowstone National Park, and it’s equally spectacular neighbor the Grand Tetons. This tour is planned as the parks make their transition from spring to summer. The snow will be gone and the wildlife will be centered around breeding time activities including nesting, bird song, babies and more. We will experience spectacular spring landscapes as we will be on the look-out for both mammals and all the birds. Tour fee includes park permits, lodging plus Van transportation throughout our tour. You will also have the benefit of two Yellowstone tour specialists Chris Brown and Adam Brubaker, plus tour leader Lisa Myers. Airfair and alcohol are separate. – **Now taking a wait list.**



“Dusky Grouse”

The Santa Clara Valley Audubon’s 2018 Birdathon

Join Lisa Myers on April 14 when she lead’s her team the “Persistent Picidae’s”

Each spring our local Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society holds their most important fundraiser known as the Spring Birdathon. To participate you can form your own Self-Guided team or join one of the already pre-arranged Guided Teams like the “Persistent Picidae’s” led by our own Lisa Myers. Lisa will be leading her team on Saturday April 14 from 8 AM – noon, and encourages you to join the adventure. It is \$50 to participate and all monies go directly to this year’s event. No matter of your birding skill level, the Persistent Picidae’s is a great way to see an incredible variety of bird species in one morning. Email lisa@letsgobirding.com for more information or visit www.scvas.org.

Birding Coastal Hot Spots around Moss Landing Leaders Biologist Ryan Phillips and Lisa Myers

June 9 • 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM

We are heading to the coast! We will stop in several summer hot spots around Moss Landing and spend time at Moss Landing identifying the many species that make this Elkhorn Slough outlet their preferred habitat. In addition to the many different shorebirds and seabirds found here, we will also be on the look-out for California Sea Otters, Harbor Seals and whales off the coast. **\$65 Fee includes transportation & entrance fees.**



Moss Landing Turkey Vulture
- Tony Woo

Summer Raptor Workshop with Biologist Ryan Phillips

July 14 • 8:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Our raptor workshops are extremely popular so we just keep’em going. Ryan will concentrate on the summer time activities of Northern California’s raptors. Location to be determined closer to the date. Carpooling will be encouraged. Ryan will discuss the different raptor families found in the Bay Area each summer including - eagles, buteos, accipiters, harriers and falcons. Lisa Myers will also be there to help with birding activities.

Fee: \$35 per workshop.

Los Gatos Birdwatcher's Summer Nature Series



2018

Reservations
required, call
408/358-9453.
Classes fill quickly.
\$10 per child for
each class.

Why Birds Build Nests

Fri., June 29 • 11:00 am–12:00 pm

(For ages 5 to 12)

This class will be held inside the store. All birds lay eggs when starting a family, but did you know that different birds make different kinds of nests? Some use mud, while others use moss and even pet hair. Some birds nest inside of holes and others build their nests on top of trees. We will have many different types of nests to share.



owls; learn how they find their food and what they eat. You will get to dissect your own owl pellet. And we invite you to come meet “Olive”, a live Western Screech Owl here at the store from the Palo Alto Junior Museum and Zoo.

We're Going Birding

Wednesday, August 8 • 11:00 am–12:00 pm

(For ages 5 to 12)

Bird tour leader and store owner/educator Lisa Myers will lead a 60-minute bird walk at Rinconada Park in Los Gatos. Kids will meet at the birding location and will look for the species of birds found right here in our Los Gatos community. Birds will be viewed through high powered spotting scopes. Space is limited, so call soon to reserve your spot.



All About Owls

Wednesday, July 18 • 11:00 am–12:00 pm

(For ages 5 to 12)

Owls are mysterious birds usually found only at night as they hunt after dark in search of rodents. Because of that we have created a wonderful class. Come to the Los Gatos Birdwatcher and learn about



Are you a teacher in search of bird friendly resources!

“BirdSleuth” is the K-12 education program of the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. Their mission is to create innovative K-12 resources that build science skills while inspiring young people to connect to local habitats, explore biodiversity, and engage in citizen-science projects. They take an inquiry-based approach to science curriculum that engages kids in scientific study and real data collection through the Cornell Lab of Ornithology’s exciting citizen-science projects.

BirdSleuth provides educators with kits that encourage kids to get outside in nature. BirdSleuth offers a variety of resources for all types of educators no matter the setting. For a full list of our offerings, www.birdsleuth.org. We also have BirdSleuth information for you here at the Los Gatos Birdwatcher. Just ask for help at the front desk.



It's Nesting Season

– Here's how you can help

- ✓ Before you trim shrubs or trees, make sure there are no active nests hidden within
- ✓ Keep cats inside; they are the number one killer of birds throughout the world
- ✓ Be careful not to use pesticides near nests or on a potential food source
- ✓ Keep water and food sources available and clean

If You Find A Baby Bird

If you find what you think is an orphaned baby bird on the ground, we encourage you to leave it alone and watch from a distance to see if its parents come down to feed it. Several different species of birds actually leave the nest a few days before they can fly. They hide in the bushes while their parents come down to feed and care for them until they can fly. However, if you have determined your baby bird is in danger and is too young to fend for itself, it is OK to pick up the bird, place it in a box and then call a rescue organization for assistance.



Rescue Services for Injured Wildlife

Wildlife Center of Silicon Valley

– Provides wildlife rehab for Santa Clara County.

Animal Drop Off Location:

3027 Penitencia Creek Rd, SJ, 95132

(no field services) 9am–4:30pm

Spring & Summer: 9am–5pm / 7 days a week

Ph: 408-929-9453 (no phone on weekends; leave voice message). If outside of business hours, take animal to Humane Society. They will transfer animal to WCSV the next day. www.wcsv.org

Humane Society Silicon Valley

– Drop off only. 24/7

Animal Drop Off Location:

901 Ames Ave, SJ 95035

(Open 24 hours a day for incoming)

Ph: 408-7262-2133/ www.hssv.org

San Jose Animal Care & Services Center

– Field Services closed Mondays.

(Milpitas, San Jose, Los Gatos, Saratoga, Cupertino)

Animal Drop Off Location:

2750 Monterey Road, SJ 95111

7 days a week; 7am–9pm.

Direct Dispatch: 408-794-7222

www.sanjoseanimals.com

Silicon Valley Animal Control Authority

– Field Services closed Mondays. (Monte Sereno, Santa Clara, Campbell, Mtn. View)

Animal Drop Off Location:

3370 Thomas Road, S.C, 95054

Animal Intake Hours: 8am–6pm (Weds 8am–7pm).

Not staffed at night. Retain animal or drop off at HSSV if after hours.

phone: 408-764-0344

Direct dispatch Campbell police: 408-866-2101 (after 6pm)

<http://svaca.com/services/field-services>

Wildlife Emergency Services

– Serving Monterey, Santa Cruz, Santa Clara, and San Benito Counties.

For injured animal:

Download free WILDHELP APP for iphone and ipad or call 1-866-WILD-911 to leave message.

For nuisance animals: call 1-855-548-6263

(1-855-5-HUMANE) [Rebecca 1-866-WILD-911 / Charlotte 408-341-5433 / Andrew 408-341-5461]

Bay Area Raptor Rescue

– (BARR) Craig Nikitas 415-810-5116



LOS GATOS
Birdwatcher

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email: info@losgatosbirdwatcher.com
website: www.losgatosbirdwatcher.com



Return Service Requested



Printed on
recycled paper

Dates to Remember

Easter – April 1 / Earth Day – April 22 / International Migratory Bird Day – May 12

Mother's Day – May 13 / Memorial Day (closed) – May 28 / Flag Day – June 14

Father's Day – June 17 / First Day of Summer – June 21 / Independence Day (closed) – July 4



LOS GATOS
Birdwatcher

Loyal Customer Discount

Mention this coupon and take...

15% off one item

Expires June 30, 2018

#NC063118

One Coupon per customer please.
Excludes sales items, excursions and optics.
Not to be combined with any other offers.

Store Hours

Monday – Saturday: 10 am to 6 PM

Sunday: noon to 5 PM

