



# Los Gatos Birdwatcher

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## Wildlife Education and Rehabilitation Center (WERC) visits Los Gatos Birdwatcher for Annual Fundraiser

**Saturday, May 11, 11:00am – 3:00pm**

Break into your piggy banks. Dig deep into your pockets. Bring what you can to help this great organization continue caring for injured and orphaned birds and wildlife. Amy Yee and friends will bring several of WERC's educational ambassadors for you to meet. Last year's guests included the peregrine falcon, screech owl, Northern pygmy owl, and the star of the show, Clarabell, the acorn woodpecker.



## Photo Presentation by Judy Bingman

### Visit the National Parks and Cultural Heritage Sites of India

**Thursday, May 16, 6:30 – 7:30 (note the time change)**

Judy Bingman visited India in November 2012 and spent three weeks with Cheesemans' Ecology Safaris discovering the wonders of India's National Parks and photographing the elusive tigers in the wild. She also found wild elephants, rhinos, wild dogs, seven different kinds of deer and many species of birds. The Taj Mahal is one of many Heritage sites we will visit along the way. No Charge, but please call to reserve your space. Call 408/358-9453.



## Lisa Myers' Bird Nests Workshop

**Class: Thursday, May 23, 6:30 – 8:00pm**

**Field Trip: Saturday, May 25, 9:00 – 11:00am**

**Fee: \$20/per person**

Different species of birds nest in many different ways. Some birds make their own nests using twigs and leaves, while other birds use holes in a tree trunk. Some birds nest directly on the ground, while others nest on top of tall buildings. We'll talk about all the different ways birds nest and what we need to look for when birding.

## Lisa Myers' Adults vs. Juveniles Workshop

**Class: Thursday, June 27, 6:30 – 8:00pm**

**Field Trip: Saturday, June 29, 8:00 – 10:00am**

To become a better birder you have to be able to identify the juvenile birds from the adults. Some birds are born precocial and are ready for the world as soon as they emerge from their egg; while other birds are altricial and need a lot of help from their parents before they leave the nest. Learning to ID an immature bird in juvenile plumage will make bird identification much easier.

# What Do You Do If You Find A Dead Banded Bird?

Marilyn Porter, one of our mountain customers, called to say that she found one of her many pine siskins dead on the ground. She thought it might have been killed by a cat, but it may also have been one of the “puff balls”, or sick birds, that we have seen this winter. She noticed the band and called us to see if we had a phone number to contact a group that kept track of such things. The number we gave her was not valid anymore, but unperturbed, Marilyn started looking online and found the Bird Banding Laboratory under the auspices of the USGS.

She received a response from the “Encounter Data Manager” who asked for more information about her encounter as the migration of this pine siskin was unusual. It turns out that her bird was banded on September 23, 2012 in Haines Junction, Yukon Territory, Canada and was determined to have hatched in 2011 or earlier.

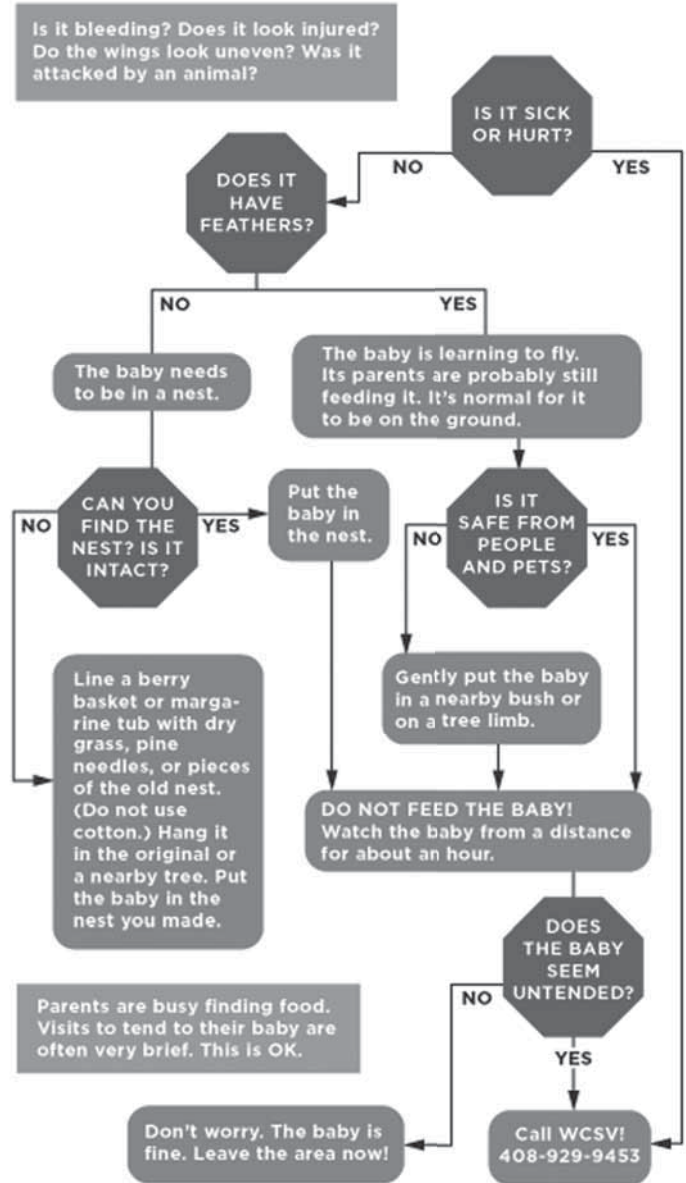
We helped Marilyn take photos of the bird with the band and the band separately then sent them to [bandreports@usgs.gov](mailto:bandreports@usgs.gov). Marilyn received a nice email back saying, “Thanks again for reporting the band and for your help with verifying all the details. While we know siskins move south in the winter, the routes individuals take are still being discovered and it’s an incredibly interesting species. We have received just two other encounter reports of siskins banded in the Yukon Territory.” They even sent her a Certificate of Appreciation with the banding information. Thanks to Marilyn’s

perseverance we found out about the Bird Banding Laboratory and about the incredible journey undertaken by pine siskins.



# I found a baby bird on the ground. Does it need help?

*Reprinted with permission from Wildlife Center of Silicon Valley*



# Call for artists and photographers

## Artists show your talents

– Enter our fourth Annual Artist Exhibition on Sunday, August 11.

Join other talented artists for our fourth annual Artist Exhibition. The artists work in pastels, watercolors, pen & ink, and oils. If you have a talent for painting birds and would like other people to see your work, mark your calendars for Sunday, August 11 from 12 – 4pm. The deadline to enter is **Friday, August 2** and is limited to the first 30 artists. Please call the store to get your name on the list. Details will be emailed. Refreshments will be served. We hope you will be able to be a part of this fun event.



WERC's Clarabell  
by: Kris Crane



Allen's Hummingbird  
by: Gary Aspenall

## Photographers here's your chance to shine!

– Enter our eighth Annual Photo Exhibition on Sunday, August 18.

Many of our customers are very talented nature photographers. For the eighth year we will be hosting an exhibition of their work. Have you taken a nature photo that transports you back to when you took it? Now is the chance to share it with everyone. Our participants have varied and grown over the years. The photographs are amazing! We are soliciting photographs of birds that you would like to exhibit. We are limiting the number of photographers to 30 and are asking you to submit only one entry (maximum size 16 x 20 inches framed). First come, first served so call now to reserve your display space.



Northern Harrier  
by: Gary Aspenall

The deadline to enter is **Friday, August 9** and space is limited. The event will be held on Sunday, August 18, from 12 – 4:00pm at the Los Gatos Birdwatcher. Refreshments will be served. We hope you will be able to be a part of this fun event. Please call the store and we will send you the entry form and information.

## Mother's Day Sale



**Sunday, May 12** is the day we show our love and appreciation for our mothers. We can help with the perfect gift and save you money in the process. Saturday, May 4 through Saturday, May 11 save 15% on all jewelry and clothing.

## Father's Day Sale



**Sunday, June 16** is the day we show Dad how much we care. We can help with the perfect gift and save you money in the process. Saturday, June 8 through Saturday, June 15 save 15% on all feeders.

## Services Available from the Los Gatos Birdwatcher

- **Feeder Cleaning** – Drop off your feeders any day of the week. We clean on Mondays and Thursdays, asking only a donation to one of four charities (Wildlife Center of Silicon Valley, Wildlife Education and Rehabilitation Center, Nike Animal Rescue Foundation, and Friends of San Martin Animal Shelter). If possible, please bring your feeders in early in the day. We will call you by closing for pickup.

- **Frequent Buyer Program**, buy 9 bags 20# or higher of the same seed and get the 10th one free. Coupons do not apply.

- **Seed Delivery** in the local area, free for over \$40 total, \$4 charge for under \$40 total, available on Tuesdays and Fridays.

- **Monthly children's nature programs** and children's programs for pre-schools through 3rd grade. Also great for scout troops. For more information, ask for our new "Educational Programs Insiders Info" sheet.

- **Outreach to community organizations** about birding. We have birding and "Show and Tell" programs ideal for gardening and other service groups.

- **Backyard Bird Consulting Program** - Freddy will come out and see what you have, what you want, and what might work. The consultation is about an hour and the cost is \$20, which will be applied to any purchase of new feeders, seed, baths, or hardware.

- **Birthday parties with Build a Seed Feeder workshop**. Bring 11 of your friends to the **Los Gatos Birdwatcher** (or at your desired location) and build a birdfeeder. Learn about the different birds that are likely to come to the small hopper feeder that you construct from a pre-cut wooden kit. (Includes a packet of seed, use of tools, and instruction.) **Cost:** \$15 instructor fee + \$10/child (availability may be limited)

- We offer **Gift Certificates** and our popular "**Drop a Hint**" cards that allow you to choose a selection of gifts you would like (wish list) to be considered and when the gift giver comes in with the list, we know exactly what you want.

- Spend \$100 or more and receive our new **reusable canvas tote** with royal blue handles – quite spiffy! The tote is also for sale for \$3.99 and would make a good "wrapping" for a gift.



- 15% off one item Coupon is available every two months. You don't have to bring in the physical coupon, but you do have to let us know at the time of the sale that you would like to use it. We do not apply the coupon automatically. The coupon excludes optics, trips and sale items. Coupon does not apply to Frequent Buy purchases.

## Lisa Myers has joined the Los Gatos Birdwatcher Team

Many of you know Lisa from her classes and field trips. Now you can visit with her at the store. She joined the crew the end of March and is getting the hang of all the things that go on in a retail setting. As she says "I know about the birds and birding trips so this adds to my appreciation of the retail side of things." Lisa's strong customer service experience in her family's senior portrait business is ideal and much appreciated at Los Gatos Birdwatcher. Lisa has also been keeping our Facebook page up to date where we partner with her company's website, [www.lets gobirding.com](http://www.lets gobirding.com).

Let's Go Birding specializes in customized birding excursions both locally and internationally. She is leading a trip to Costa Rica in January. Lisa's boyfriend, Al Lowder, is also helping John tackle our weekly seed delivery, freeing Freddy up to tackle her daily pile.



*Welcome  
Lisa*



# Los Gatos Birdwatcher's Summer Nature Series

2013

**Reservations Required Space is limited. \$8/child for each class**  
**Call (408) 358-9453 to register.**

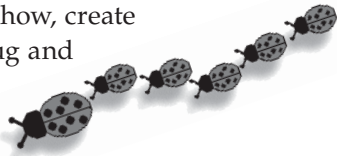
### Bug Friends

Thursday, June 20

For ages 3 to 5: 10:30 – 11:30am

For ages 6 to 12: 1 – 2pm

Come to Los Gatos Birdwatcher to discover fascinating things about the bugs around you. Watch a silly puppet show, create your own beautiful bug and meet some live bug friends too!



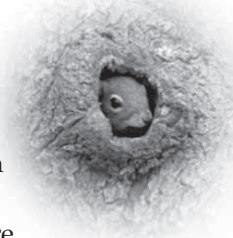
### Hiding Places

Thursday, June 27

For ages 3 to 5: 10:30 – 11:30am

For ages 6 to 12: 1 – 2pm

Meet us at Belgatos Park to discover wonderful animal hide-aways. Explore the trails in search of all sorts of different hiding places and discover how they were made. Create your own hiding critter to play hide and seek with.



### Live Critters

Thursday, July 11

For ages 3 to 5: 11am – 12 noon

For ages 6 to 12: 1 – 2pm

Come investigate different beak shapes and find out what they are perfectly designed for as we meet a variety of live critters visiting from Sulphur Creek Nature Center. Don't miss this special opportunity to see, touch and feed these delightful creatures.



### Teddy Bear Picnic

Thursday, July 18

For ages 2 to 9: 11:30am – 1pm

(Siblings under 2 free of charge)

Bring your favorite stuffed friend, lunch and a blanket for sitting to Belgatos Park for our annual picnic. Investigate colors with us as we create spectacular bubbles and go exploring on the trails.

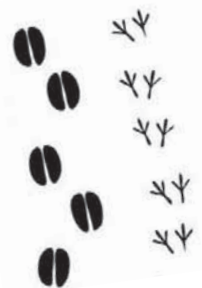


### Animal Tracking Painting Workshop

Thursday, July 18

For ages 6 to 12: 2 – 2:45pm

Investigate clues to help you discover what animals have been visiting. Learn to recognize common animal tracks and use some rubber tracks to paint a colorful t-shirt. Bring your own t-shirt to paint, and wear grubbies!



### Floating Fun

Thursday, July 25

For ages 3 to 5: 10:30 – 11:30am

For ages 6 to 12: 1 – 2pm

Meet us at Vasona Lake for some floating fun. Experiment with us to discover what floats and why. Search for creatures floating in the water and create your own boat to float. Wear shoes that you don't mind getting muddy.

## Dazzling Dragonflies

Thursday, August 1

For ages 3 to 5: 10:30 – 11:30am

For ages 6 to 12: 1 – 2pm

Meet us at Oka Ponds in search of these flying jewels.

Discover how they grow and change, and find out what makes them such helpful bug hunters. Search the trails for these colorful flying friends and create your own dragonfly to take flying in your yard.



## Fruit Harvest

Thursday, August 8

For ages 3 to 5: 10:30 – 11:30am

For ages 6 to 12: 1 – 2pm

Come to Belgatos Park to harvest fruit from the trails with us. Discover which creatures like to eat fresh fruit and search for signs of them as you eat some yourself.



### Belgatos Park

Belgatos Park is located at the south end of Belgatos Road. From the store go east on Blossom Hill Road. Just past Leigh Avenue, turn right on Belgatos Road and follow it to the parking lot at the end. Since the Belgatos Road sign is small, look for the more noticeable green Mulberry School sign directly below it.

### Oka Ponds

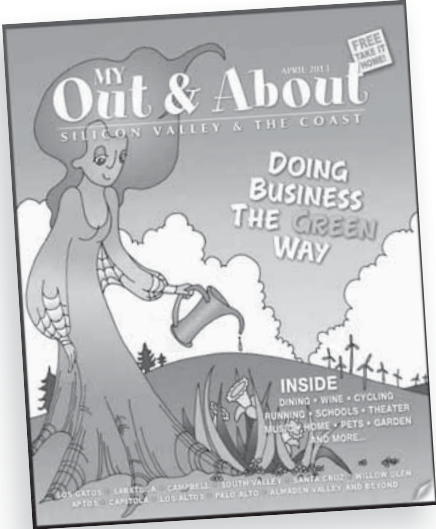
We will meet at the gate at the end of Oka Lane. Take Lark Avenue to Oka Road and follow it under Highway 85 to the end. Turn left on Mozart and take an immediate right on Oka Lane. Go to the end of the road and park along the street.

### Vasona Lake

We will meet at the gate by the dam on Garden Hill Drive. From Lark Avenue turn onto Garden Hill Drive (opposite the southbound 880 Lark Avenue Exit) then veer to the right at the fork in the road. Meet at the gate at the next bend in the road (before you get to the Santa Clara County Department of Recreation and Youth Science Institute buildings).

# New Monthly Magazine in Town – My Out & About

My Out & About, Silicon Valley & the Coast is full of interesting articles, local events, and community bulletin boards. April's issue has articles on Gardening, Doing Business the Green Way, Earth Day activities, Music and Theater Notes, Being a Locavore (with two yummy sounding recipes) and a fascinating article on the differences among wine corks.



Los Gatos Birdwatcher has an ad and a coupon for \$5 of \$10 or more available each month; and the editor, Susan Bassi, has invited me to be one of the columnists. April's article is What is that New Bird in My Yard? and talks about three different birds that are orange, black and white. The photo of the black-headed grosbeak was labeled as a Bullock's oriole, so just translate when you read. May's column is about nests.

I am so pleased to be part of such a fine, community-driven publication that strives to include events and information directed at people with very different passions. Pick up a copy at Los Gatos Birdwatcher or Lunardi's the first week of each month.

# Kid's Corner

Call 358-9453 to reserve your space. **Reservation Required**

## Nesting Birds

For ages 3 to 9  
Fee: \$8/child  
Thursday, May 16th, 4:00 - 5:00pm

Come to Los Gatos Birdwatcher to investigate our collection of nests and find out about all the weird stuff birds use to build their nests and how they do it. Watch a puppet show about "Why Birds Sing" and hear a story about the migration of the thrush. Create your own nest craft to take home.



## Save the Dates:



Keep your eye on the calendar for these fun Young Audubon activities for children and families coming up soon! Space may be limited - so don't wait to sign up!



**Wingding Family Fest:**  
A celebration of Birds and Spring!  
Saturday, May 4th; 10:00am-3:00pm

Join SCVAS and the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District for a FREE event for all ages at Skyline Ridge Open Space Preserve. No advance registration required, though some activities have limited space.

Highlights will include bird walks, geocache walks, arts-and-crafts, and some live bird guests!

**2013 Summer Nature Days**  
Outdoor Day Camps for Grades 2-6  
July 22nd-26th, 2013

(in partnership with the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District and Shoreline at Mountain View)

Come explore with us at McClellan Ranch Preserve, Picchetti Ranch Open Space Preserve, Shoreline Lake, and Skyline Ridge Open Space Preserve

Don't wait to register - Summer will be here sooner than you think!

Full details and registration information available online (go to [www.scvas.org](http://www.scvas.org) - click on "Kids' Corner")



LOOK WHAT  
FREDDY FOUND!

### EARLY BIRD IDEAS FOR MOTHERS DAY!



New

**3-Compartment Feeder** in sunflower and nyjer styles, easy to clean.



#### Leaf Bath

Bright green metal will be a focal point and attractive to the birds.



More New

#### Garden Art

aka *House Jewelry*

Colorful hummingbirds, owls & dragonflies.



#### Boxed Cards

by local artist, Edward Rooks.



**Butterfly Scarf** in many pretty colors.



#### Spring Clothing

Embroidered Tank Tops, Pretty T's, Crisp blouses and colorful sweatshirts.



*Los Gatos Birdwatcher*  
*King's Court Center*  
*792 Blossom Hill Road*  
*Los Gatos, CA 95032*

#C0613

/ 2013

Pay to the order of *Our Loyal Customer*

**15% Off One Item**

Memo: *Expires 06/30/13*

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

## Field Trips & Outings

### **Saturday Morning Local Bird Walks**

Join us every Saturday morning for an enjoyable meander looking for birds. Call the store Friday nights after 7pm to find out where we are going the next morning. Except for our once a month all-day field trips, we go on a local bird walk from 8 to 10 am and return for bagels and shade grown coffee. Some of the nearby places we go to are Oka Ponds, Guadalupe Oak Grove Park, BelGatos Park, Almaden Lake Park, Shoreline and Charleston Slough.

**No Charge.**

### **Sunnyvale Audubon walks**

**First Wednesday of the month**

**May 1, June 5, and July 3**

**Noon to 1pm**

Bring your binoculars (loaners are available) and meet Freddy at the **Sunnyvale Pollution Control Plant** where Borregas and Caribbean meet off of 237. After entering the plant turn left at the first stop sign and continue to the end of the parking area. We will see raptors, shorebirds, and lots of ducks.

**No Charge.**



### **Let's Go Birding with Lisa Myers to Mitchell Canyon**

**Saturday, May 18, 8:00am – 4:00pm**

Located in Contra Costa County, Mitchell Canyon sits on the northern side of Mt. Diablo State Park. With its rugged canyons, oak trees, chaparral and more, it's a wonderful place to bird. We'll be there in time for the tail-end of the spring migration which means we'll be on the look out for many different species of warblers, vireos, flycatchers and much more. We'll select trails that offer great birding and ease in walking.

**Fee: \$30 plus share of gas.**

### **Let's Go Birding with Lisa Myers to Caswell State Park in Search of Swainson's Hawks**

**Saturday, June 22, 8:00am – 5:00pm**

Raptors are a favorite group of birds for many and Swainson's hawks are a target species. These birds winter in Argentina and come north to spend their spring and summer. We have to go into California's Central Valley to find this beautiful insect-eating hawk. While we are looking for Swainson's Hawks, we'll bird Caswell Memorial State Park located along the Stanislaus River near the town of Ripon. The Central Valley can get hot in the summer and this 258 acre park will offer us shade as we walk the trails underneath what remains of some of California's mature oak riparian forest.

**Fee: \$30 plus share of gas.**

# Los Gatos Birdwatcher

King's Court Center  
792 Blossom Hill Road, Los Gatos, California 95032  
408/358-9453  
email: [info@losgatosbirdwatcher.com](mailto:info@losgatosbirdwatcher.com)  
website: [www.losgatosbirdwatcher.com](http://www.losgatosbirdwatcher.com)

PRESORT STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
SAN JOSE, CA  
PERMIT NO. 10

See Summer Nature Series  
Insert

Return Service Requested



Printed on  
recycled paper

## Part-time Canine Greeter

*Augie's at-home mom, Karen  
and at-work mom, Freddy*



## Dates to Remember

Closed Memorial Day

- 5/12 Mother's Day
- 6/16 Fathers's Day
- 6/25 Summer Solstice
- 5/27 Memorial Day

## Store Hours

Monday – Saturday: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
Sunday: 12 noon to 5 p.m.

