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Lisa Went Shopping in Las Vegas!

by Lisa Myers



I went to Vegas this past winter to attend one of the largest apparel shows in the west. My goal, to meet new clothing vendors and add to our clothing department. We do not have one type of customer, so picking styles is daunting. However, I always look for designers who are inspired by nature and I met some really wonderful people. We are excited to introduce a line from "Leopards & Roses." The designer originates from South Africa & travels to Nepal yearly to create new patterns and styles using organic cotton. She sponsors a "Nepal Child Education Program" which provides educational scholarships to Nepalese children.

We are also introducing casual clothing from Unique Batik. A Fair Trade wholesaler based in Raleigh, NC., Unique Batik partners with artisans worldwide. A member of the Fair Trade Federation, Unique Batik guarantees its artisans fair wages, long-term relationships, and safe working conditions. We also have a new line of earrings from Anju called "Aasha" meaning hope. They are made out of completely recycled materials. Using discarded saris. This line creates sustainable employment for women living near Delhi, India.

Those are just a few of our new lines. And of course, many of our customers prefer clothing "Made In the USA" and we have that too from Jess & Jane & Jostar out of LA. We can be the convenient solution when you need a new look for your weekend adventures.



LOS GATOS
Birdwatcher

Spring Coupon

Mention this coupon and take...
10% off one item

Excludes sale & consignment items, excursions & optics.
Not to be combined with any other offers.
Expires June 30, 2019 #SPRING2019

Don't Forget Mother's Day on May 12 & Father's Day on June 16

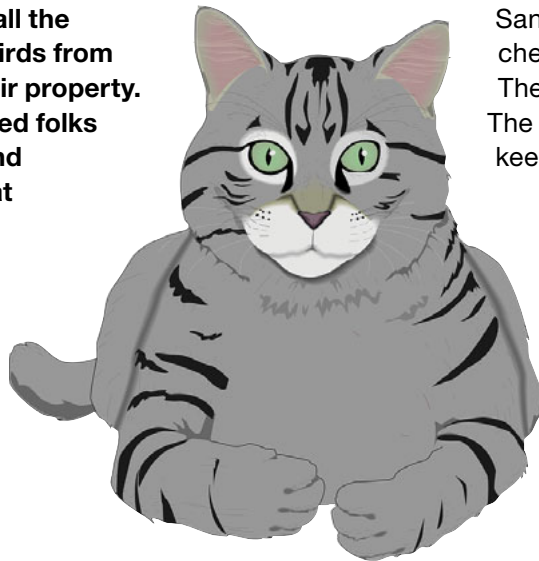
We have all kinds of unique gift items for your parents. From clothing & jewelry to field guides and binoculars. Or how about a new bird bath. Everyone already knows we have high quality seed and the best bird feeders around. We'd be happy to help you pick out the perfect gift for your loved one and we'll even wrap it for you.



How Do You Keep Cats Out of Your Bird Habitat?

Below is the feedback we received from customers

We are asked by customers all the time how to save backyard birds from unwanted cats that enter their property. In our last newsletter we asked folks what they do to save birds and discourage cats. Here is what they said.



“I cut up orange or green plastic temporary fencing, and attach it to the base of the feeder such that it protrudes several inches from the feeder base on all sides. The cat can’t jump up & snag a feeding bird.”

“I scatter seed in our back garden walk-way. We edged the walk-way with low garden fencing. In the past the neighbor’s cats would hide in the shrubs that line the walk-way. Now they have to leap over the fence and the extra time it takes for the cats to clear the fence is enough time for the birds to escape.”

“I placed the “Cat Scat Mat” on the ground under my feeders. It’s a roll of flexible plastic spikes in mat form that won’t hurt the cat, but is uncomfortable under their paws. This keeps the cats from sitting below my feeding station.”

“I hang my feeders from poles that I place in the middle of my yard. There is no place for a cat to hide.”

“I caught my neighbor’s cat and put bells on it. The cat’s owner took the bells off. So I now feed the cat in the back of my yard. The cat is getting so fat it no longer hunts my birds.”

“Over the years I have found that the best way to get rid of cats in my yard is to trap them and take them to the

Santa Clara Humane Society. They check for a chip and call the owners. There is a charge to retrieve their pets. The charge encourages cat owners to keep a closer watch on their cats.”

“I placed an old metal portable dog crate underneath our tube feeder. It serves as fencing around the ground underneath the feeder. If seed falls to the ground below the feeder, the birds can eat the seed within the walls of the dog crate without being vulnerable to pouncing cats.”

“I catch the cat in a humane cat trap and return the cat to its owners. I ask them to please keep their cat in their yard. If I catch the cat several times I take it to the Humane Society and provide them with the address where the cat lives. The owners are then called. After a few visits they work harder to keep their cat inside their own yard.”

“I spray the cat with water. It does not hurt them, but they run back home. Sometimes I mix mouthwash with the water. This does not hurt the cat, but they do not like the smell.”

“I just let our dogs outside and they chase the cat away.”

“We installed a “scarecrow sprinkler” near our feeders. It is activated by movement. If a cat walks near the sprinkler it is activated and it scares the cat out of the yard. It can also scare other unwanted animals like raccoons, etc.”



“We wrapped our bird bath with chicken wire. So there is a wall of wire around the bath. The birds can still fly in and safely drink and bathe without the fear of a cat pouncing.”

Peregrine Falcons Hanging Out In Campbell – PBRG update

Did you know you can often find Peregrine Falcons sitting on the railings of the city of Campbell’s water tower? Its true! Located in downtown Campbell, the water tower is visible from miles around and serves as a great perch for a falcon. It is always exciting to see a Peregrine Falcon and their presence on the water tower has not gone unnoticed. The Predatory Bird Research Group (PBRG) in partnership with UC Santa Cruz has recently placed a nest box on the water tower’s platform.

The folks at PBRG were aware that a pair of Peregrine Falcons has frequented this structure, and hoped that by placing the nest box in this Campbell location these birds, once on the endangered species list, might be encouraged to use it this breeding season. The PBRG mission: “To use the example of the Peregrine Falcon recovery as an inspiration for tackling today’s environmental challenges, and to involve students and citizen scientists in monitoring the current status of predatory birds in California.” Because the water tower is so easy to access and observe, PBRG hoped that members of our bird watching community would be able to assist by reporting any falcon activities they observed. They welcome your input. For more information about the group, please visit pbrg.pbsci.ucsc.edu. And the next time you are in Campbell remember to look up!

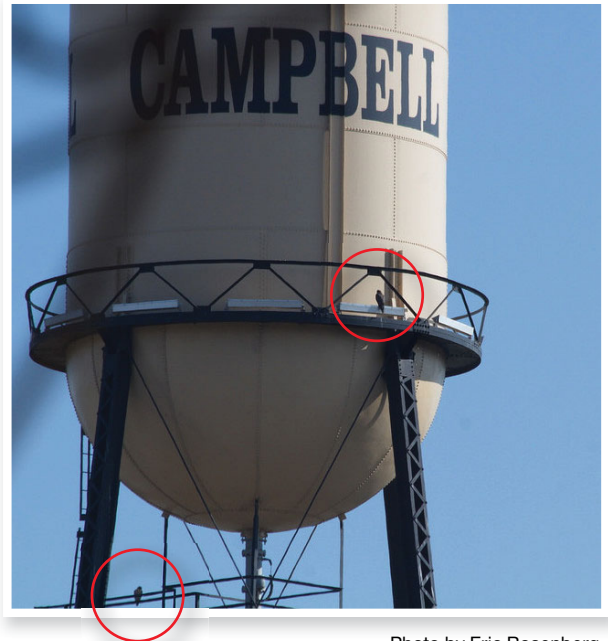
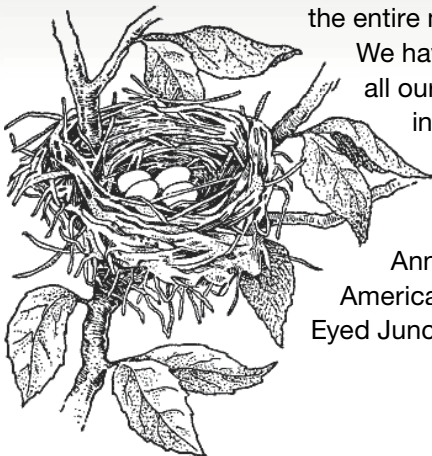


Photo by Eric Rosenberg

Come Check Out Our Nest Display at the Store

The Los Gatos Birdwatcher has a very impressive nest collection that we want to share with all of you. And this is the perfect time of year to do it. We'll have nests on display in the store for the entire month of April.

We have nests from all our local species including Hooded Orioles, Lesser Goldfinch, Bewick’s Wren, Anna’s Hummingbird, American Robin and Dark Eyed Juncos.



Earth Day – 2019

Saturday April 20 • 11 AM – 4 PM

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 bird-ing 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 - www.earthday.org. One of our Partners, the Youth Science Institute is having an Earth Day Celebration in Alum Rock Park where you can learn about local pollinators, sustainable gardening and native plants, take an hike led by staff from iNaturalist, get your face painted and meet YSI’s live animals ambassadors. Fun for the whole family!



Cost: Free

YSI Alum Rock Park, April 20

15350 Penitence Creek Road, San Jose, CA



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.**



April 6	Call the store Friday night for location
April 13	Guadalupe Oak Grove Park at Thorntree Dr. San Jose
April 20	Please join Lisa as she leads a fundraising team for the Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society's Spring birdathon from, 8 AM to 1:00. \$50 donation to SCVAS.org
April 27	Meet-up Los Capitancillos Ponds in South San Jose. Meet on Singletree Way off Camden at PG&E power station
May 4	Coyote Valley Open Space off Palm Ave.
May 11	Edenvale Gardens Regional Park meet in lot at 200 Edenvale Ave.
May 18	Santa Teresa County Park Fortini Road Entrance off McKean
May 25	No walk because of the Memorial Day weekend
June 1	No Morning walk (please join our Butterfly Walk, details page 6. \$25)
June 8	Belgatos Park off Blossom Hill Road
June 15	No Morning walk (join our Summer Breeding Bird Workshop, details page 5. \$45)
June 22	McClellan Ranch – Cupertino (SCVAS headquarters)
June 29	Meet-up Martial Cottle County Park - Meet at Visitor Center 5283 Snell Ave \$6 parking fee
July 6	Call the store Friday night for location

World Migratory Bird Day

May 11, 2019

Every year we celebrate the long-distance journey many of our feathered friends make as they migrate across the globe. In 2019,



World Migratory Bird Day (WMBD) focuses on fighting plastic pollution, adopting an eco-friendly lifestyle and protecting birds from the consequences of plastic exposure.

Designed by Cuban Artist, Arnaldo Toledo Sotolongo, the T-Shirt features 12 bird species representing diverse groups of birds, the habitats they use, and their foraging behaviors. Despite their differences, each of these birds and their habitats have been impacted by plastic pollution. Please come down to the store this day and enjoy refreshments and enter to win. We'll also have a limited supply of this years WMBD shirts on sale.



The Los Gatos Birdwatcher is celebrating WMBD on Sat. May 11 by giving away free **"Environment for the Americas"** t-shirts.

Everyone who spends a minimum of \$20 in the store this day will be entered to win. **A winner will be selected every hour.**

Bird Identification Workshops at the Los Gatos Birdwatcher with Lisa Myers

– Open to all levels

These workshops have proven extremely popular as customers learn how to identify the birds coming to their yards and into the Bay Area. Workshops take place at the Los Gatos Birdwatcher 7:00 – 8:00 PM (Free)

These one hour workshops will focus on four different bird species we can expect to see in our local area. 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. We ask that you bring your own folding chair and field guide with you for class. Call the store to save your spot: 408-358-9453

Bird Identification Workshops

Tuesday, April 23

– European Starling, Eurasian Collared Dove, House Sparrow, Nutmeg Mannikin

Tuesday, May 21

– Raven, American Crow, Brewer's Blackbird, Cowbird

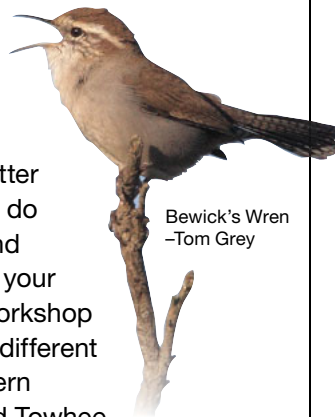
Birding-by-Ear Workshop

– with Lisa Myers

Wednesday morning May 8 • 10:00 – 12:00

Spring is the time of year that most of our Bay Area birds will nest. That means finding a mate! What a better way to find a mate than by singing. It is the males that do most of the singing. This is how they attract a mate and declare territory. Many of you wish you could identify your birds by their song so this workshop is for you. The workshop will take place in the field so we can listen & learn the different aspects behind bird song. We'll be listening for Northern Mockingbird, Bewick's Wren, Mourning Dove, Spotted Towhee, Song Sparrow, Oak Titmouse, White-Breasted Nuthatch, California Thrasher and more. Location to be confirmed later. **All levels welcome.**

Call the store to sign-up, 408-358-9453. Fee: \$25



Bewick's Wren
–Tom Grey



Santa Clara Valley
Audubon Society
Established 1926

SCVAS Spring Birdathon

March 31 – May 5, 2019

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 prearranged Guided Teams. Our own Lisa Myers has been leading team "Persistent Picidae" for many years. She welcomes your support if you would like to sponsor the team, or you are welcome to join the Picidae on **Saturday, April 20** when they will bird from 8:00 AM – 1:00 PM.

Visit www.scvas.org to learn more about this year's event.

Butterfly Walk. We'll also stop for birds and wildflowers

June 1 • 10 AM - 1:00 PM

Picchetti Ranch Open Space, Cupertino

Please join us for a fantastic walk in nature as we focus on butterflies. Jan Hintermeister and Kathy Brown will co-lead this walk with Lisa helping. Both are docents with the Mid Peninsular Open Space District and have a tremendous amount of experience leading walks and

hunting for all the different type of nature found out on the trail. You'll want to have comfortable walking shoes, your optics, note book and snacks. Please call the store to sign-up. 408-358-9453. **Fee \$25**



Summer Breeding Bird Workshop with Biologist Ryan Phillips

June 15 • 8:30 AM – 12:30 PM

We will spend the morning within the Mtn. Hamilton Mountain Range below the Lick Observatory. Ryan will concentrate on the activities involved with our local breeders. Away from suburbia, this environment will be alive with breeding bird activity including bird song, begging chicks and pair bonding. We will be on the look out for raptors, orioles, hummingbirds, bluebirds, magpies, quail and kingbirds. To minimize our impact on the environment we ask that folks be willing to carpool from the Los Gatos Birdwatcher. Lisa will also join in on the fun. **Call the store to sign-up, 408-358-9453. Fee: \$45**

Los Gatos Birdwatcher's Summer Nature Series



2019

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

Why Birds Build Nests

Friday, June 14
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.



All About Owls

Wednesday, July 24
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.

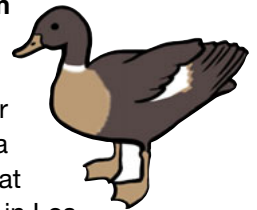


Come to the Los Gatos Birdwatcher and learn about owls; learn how they find their food and what they eat. You will get to dissect your own owl pellet. And we invite you to come meet "Olive", a live Western Screech Owl here at the store from the Palo Alto Junior Museum and Zoo.

We're Going Birding

Wednesday, August 7
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 Vasona County Park in Los Gatos. Kids will meet on site and will look for the species of birds found right here in our Los Gatos community. Some birds will be in the water and others on land. Space is limited, so call soon to reserve your spot. The exact meeting location will be provided upon confirmation.



Rescue Birds from WERC – May 18

We are very excited to have the volunteers from the Wildlife Education and Rehabilitation Center returning to the Los Gatos Birdwatcher on **May 18 from 11 AM – 2 PM**. WERC is 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.

Please plan to come down to the store and meet the volunteers from WERC and their educational animals. We raise money for WERC throughout the year, but we will also have a donation box available on Saturday so you can help them continue their good work.



Entertaining and Educational Photo Presentations

The Los Gatos Birdwatcher is proud to sponsor entertaining and educational nature photo presentations each season for our local community. Presentations take place at The Terraces which is located behind the Los Gatos Birdwatcher. 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.

Come Learn About Our Bay Area Open Spaces

Thursday May 16 • 7 pm at The Terraces

Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District is an independent special district that has preserved over 63,000 acres of public land and manages 26 open space preserves. Midpen's boundary extends from San Carlos to Los Gatos and to the Pacific Ocean from south of Pacifica to the Santa Cruz County line. Midpen's purpose is to create a regional greenbelt of unspoiled public open space lands in order to permanently protect the area's natural resources and to provide for public use and enjoyment. You can learn more by visiting www.openspace.org

Midpen's Public Affairs Specialist, Carmen Lau, will give an introductory presentation about the open space agency and share information on the many outdoor recreational activities, local trails, newly opened preserves and volunteer opportunities.



Russian Ridge
Photo by Deane Little

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**.

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. You can refer to our home page for rescue organizations.



King's Court Center
792 Blossom Hill Road, Los Gatos, CA 95032
408/358-9453
email: info@losgatosbirdwatcher.com
website: www.losgatosbirdwatcher.com

Find us on 

Dates to Remember

- April 21 – Easter (Closed)
- April 22 – Earth Day
- May 11 – World Migratory Bird Day
- May 12 – Mother's Day
- May 27 – Memorial Day (closed)
- June 14 – Flag Day
- June 16 – Father's Day
- June 21 – First Day of Summer
- July 4 – Independence Day (closed)

New Saturday Hours

The store will now close at 5:00 PM on Saturdays.



Loyal Customer Discount

Mention this coupon and take...

15% off one item

Expires June 30, 2019

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

#NC06302019

Store Hours

Monday – Friday: 10 am to 6 PM
Saturday: 10 am to 5 PM
Sunday: Noon to 5 PM

