



LOS GATOS Birdwatcher

Fall Newsletter 2025

STORE HOURS

Mon–Sat 10AM–5PM • Tues 10AM–7PM • Closed Sundays



Store founder Freddy joins the Los Gatos Birdwatcher team for some anniversary fun.

Thank You for Coming!

We are so grateful to everyone who came by the store during our 30th Anniversary celebration. The day was everything we could have hoped for. Thank you for caring about birds and wildlife, and making us part of your lives. Here's to many more years of bringing people and nature together as your community resource for all things bird.



WERC's Luna the Great-Horned Owl



We had our cake and we ate it too!



Monarch Magic—Tara Johnson's presentation packed our outdoor tent.

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Fake Spider Webs

Dangerous for Wildlife

That stretchy “spider webbing” used for Halloween decorations, pose a real threat to birds as they can become entangled. This Western Screech-Owl learned the hard way when it flew into the fake cobwebs and became powerlessly stuck. Thankfully, it was rescued. If you decorate for the season, consider alternatives for wildlife-friendly décor that won't put local animals at risk.



Western Screech Owl rescued from fake web -Dave Strapp, Marine Humane Society



Dark-sided Flycatcher, a very rare vagrant -Tim Hoo

Migration Brings Rare Visitor

Fall migration is an exciting time for bird lovers. Species that raised young in the northernmost parts of our continent are on their way south as winter approaches. Data from **BirdCast** shows bird movements. [Click here to see BirdCast data for your local area...](#) It's also the season when "vagrants" can appear. This Dark-sided Flycatcher was discovered in Mtn. View on Sept. 18 and seen for about four days before disappearing. It breeds in Siberia, Mongolia, China, and Japan and winters in Southeast Asia, Borneo, or the Philippines. Never before recorded in the lower 48, this tiny bird took a wrong turn. It was discovered by local birders Eve Meier & Patricia Lynch.

For the Birds (not squirrels)

A bird's taste receptors are different from mammals, so while squirrels feel the burn, birds enjoy the feast without a second thought. Now offering Mr Bird seed cylinder in larger size



Let's go Birding



Our store's tour division, Let's Go Birding, gets you outside and into different habitats to learn about the various species found throughout the Bay Area. All our Let's Go Birding events are listed in the newsletter [here...](#)



© Jessica Guenther



© Jessica Guenther

Birding Big Sur

We recently led two Let's Go Birding tours to Big Sur in search of California Condors, our first trip there since Covid. Participants learned about the Ventana Wildlife Society and their success in saving North America's largest vulture from extinction. On Sept. 6, we enjoyed several condors including Kodama (#646) and her mate Vincent (#892). A portion of tour proceeds supports Ventana's mission. *Photos by co-leader Jessica Guenther.*

Saturday Birdwalks

October is shaping up to be an unusual month for our Saturday Birdwalks. With many events happening in our community, we are adjusting our usual schedule to support both the San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory's Fall Fundraiser and Santa Clara Valley Bird Alliance's Centennial Celebration.



Let's Go Birding Condor Tour to Big Sur

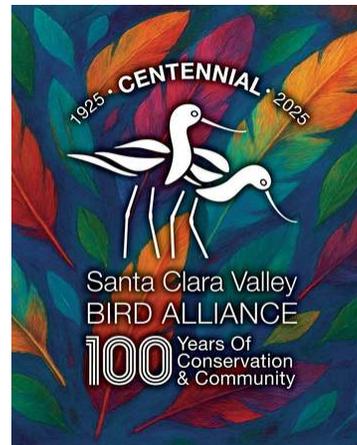
- **Sat. Oct 4:** Please join us at the Wildlife Fair at West Valley College (see below)
- **Fri. Oct. 10:** Morning at Rancho San Vicente for the SCVBA (FULL)
- **Sat. Oct 11:** SFBBO Fundraiser at an East Foothills Private Estate (see below)

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We're Headed to the SCVBA Wildlife Fair

Saturday, Oct 4 • West Valley College

While we celebrate our 30th Anniversary at Los Gatos Birdwatcher, our friends at the Santa Clara Valley Bird Alliance are celebrating 100 years! SCVBA is hosting a Wildlife Fair filled with educational exhibits, live animal encounters, and community fun. The Los Gatos Birdwatcher will be there too. We'll have one of our binocular experts, Mike, on hand to answer any questions. It's a nice opportunity to meet the organizations that keep our birding community strong. Learn more here: [Santa Clara Valley Bird Alliance Wildlife Fair](#)





Fundraiser for SFBBO

Reverting Land Back to Nature

Sat, Oct 11 • 9 AM–1 PM

As part of San Francisco Bay Bird Observatory's annual California Fall Challenge fundraiser, the Los Gatos Birdwatcher partners with customer LC Boros for a special morning at LC's private East Foothills property fondly known as Purgatory Auto Works & Dinosaur Farm. Once an overgrazed site, it has been transformed into a thriving native habitat where more than 110 bird species have been documented. Learn more in the newsletter [here](#). Call the store to RSVP 408-358-9453. \$50 donation includes lunch.

Bird ID

“Iridescent” feathers shift in color depending on the light or the viewing angle. If the light isn’t just right, these feathers may appear dark, making identification difficult. This customer wanted to confirm this was a male Anna’s Hummingbird. She was correct. Because it was overcast this male’s usual bright red feathers appeared black.



Male Anna's Hummingbird -L.Becker

To share your bird images, simply email your photo to us at: info@losgatosbirdwatcher.com or drop by the store.

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Store Hours

Open Mon-Sat 10AM–5PM. Tues 10AM–7PM.

Closed Sundays.

Curbside pickup available. Call ahead 408-358-9453



Our Mission

We educate, share adventures, and have fun through the love and experience of birds and nature —*Lisa Myers, Bird Tour Leader, Store Owner, Educator*

[Los Gatos Birdwatcher in the King's Court Shopping Center](#)

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info@losgatosbirdwatcher.com

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