



Store Location
King's Court Center
 792 Blossom Hill Road
 Los Gatos, CA 95032
 408-358-9453
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 www.losgatosbirdwatcher.com

Store Hours Mon-Sat • 10 AM-5 PM | Tues • 10 AM-7 PM | Closed Sundays

Gated Communities Welcoming Bird Feeders

By Lisa Myers

To the dismay of bird lovers, many gated communities have not allowed residents to have bird feeders, but we have noticed this mindset is changing. We admit, feeding birds has the potential to entice unwelcome critters, but leaving pet food outside, or growing vegetables and fruit, can also attract more than birds. We are always working with our customers to help them create backyard feeding stations that minimize unwanted creatures.

We have noticed some gated communities are starting to allow their residents to put up feeders. The Terraces, located next door to the Los Gatos Birdwatcher, now has bird feeders stationed throughout their community. Recent studies indicate that watching and identifying birds helps support brain health, and we know the residents enjoy the birds.



Most recently the Rinconada Hills community in Los Gatos started a bird club. I was invited by customer David Garrett to give a presentation to the residents interested in feeding birds and bird watching. David shared, *"I am a long time birder from Los Angeles, and my wife and I moved to Rinconada Hills after retirement to be closer to grandkids. Rinconada is always looking for shared interests and when someone suggested birding, I jumped at the chance. Birds are fascinating and we have over 100 different species documented on the Rinconada Hills property. Plus a birding group brings neighbors together."*

After the presentation, everyone moved up to David's patio to see his feeding stations. He had an impressive setup which included several bird baths, two fountains, and both a suet and seed feeder. David also had a family of Violet-green Swallows in a nest box he installed. We enjoyed watching the swallow parents repeatedly returning to the nest box to feed their hungry young. Plucking insects out of the air to feed just one growing swallow family translates into thousands fewer mosquitoes! The pesticide-free way to control insects.

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Welcome To Our New Neighbor

A vibrant shopping center benefits everyone, and we're pleased to welcome our newest neighbor to the King's Court Center, IV Nutrition.

Located between Wells Fargo Bank and Lunardi's, IV Nutrition provides IV hydration therapy, immunity support, recovery, red light therapy, weight management programs, and other wellness services. We wish them much success and encourage you to stop by and say hello the next time you're visiting the center.



OUR MISSION IS TO EDUCATE, SHARE ADVENTURES, AND HAVE FUN THROUGH EXPERIENCING BIRDS AND NATURE.



Let's go Birding

The tour division of the Los Gatos Birdwatcher sponsors weekend bird walks. Dates and locations are listed below and on our website. Unless it is a special workshop, these walks are free and run from 8:30–10:00 AM. They are open to all birding levels, but pre-registration is required. Please refer to our website for details per adventure and then call the store to register at **408-358-9453**.

Jul 11	Alum Rock Park, San Jose
Jul 25	Shoreline Lake, Mtn. View
Aug 15	Belgatos Park, Los Gatos
Aug 29	Stevens Creek Cty Park, Cupertino
Sep 5	TBD – We'll see what is being reported
Sep 26	Santa Teresa Cty Park 5:30 – 7:00 PM

Free Monthly Birding Workshops

Curious about the birds in your backyard? Start here!



Open to all levels, these free workshops help customers learn the fundamentals of birding in the Bay Area and beyond. **Workshops will take place at the Los Gatos Birdwatcher outside in our back parking lot from 6:00–7:00 PM.** We ask that you bring your own folding chair with you. Call the store to save your spot, 408-358-9453.

Workshop Schedule:

Tuesday, July 14

How to tell the juvenile birds from the adults.

Tuesday, Sept. 22

Fall Migration: Who is coming and going?

Paint Your Pet with Tangy Design Studio *(or paint your Favorite Bird!)*

Thursday, August 20 • 6:00–8:00 PM • FEE: \$85



The Los Gatos Birdwatcher is known for sharing a love of birds, but dogs have always been welcome too, and the dog treats hidden behind the counter are anticipated by our furry friends after they walk through the front door. In honor of all the wonderful pets we have met throughout the years we welcomed professional pet portrait artist Marianne Carmona of Tangy Design Studio to design an event for the store. This event was created so our fellow

pet loving customers could enjoy a relaxed evening of creativity, laughs, and community. Marianne will guide us step-by-step as we turn our pet's photo into a one-of-a-kind painted portrait.

Marianne will create a custom sketch of your pet from your submitted photo, then guide you step-by-step as you bring your portrait to life on canvas. No artistic experience needed. Just bring your love for your pet and get ready for a creative evening filled with color, laughter, and fellow animal lovers.

Your registration includes:

- Custom pre-sketched 11x14" canvas of your pet
- All painting supplies for use
- Step-by-step instruction
- A one-of-a-kind portrait to take home
- Some light refreshments

How it works:

We hope you will join us. Call the Los Gatos Birdwatcher to sign-up and we'll save you a space and tell you where to submit your pet portrait.

Marianne will have your canvas ready to paint when you arrive the evening of August 20. Space is limited.



The Peregrines of San Jose City Hall

Presentation at The Terraces with Sherry Stack and Jan GlioZZo
Friday, September 11 • 7:00–8:00 PM • Free

Educators and Fledgewatch volunteers Jan GlioZZo and Sherry Stack will speak about the Santa Cruz Predatory Bird Research Group's past and current Peregrine Falcon conservation efforts. They will discuss the successful recovery of Peregrine Falcons following the widespread use of the pesticide DDT, as well as today's famous Peregrine Falcon families that return every year to raise their young on San Jose City Hall.



San Jose's peregrine fledglings

Jan and Sherry will bring one nesting season to life by following the hatching, development, banding, and first flights of peregrines Chico and his sisters. Learn about the lives of peregrines in urban settings, the challenges posed by Avian Influenza, and how the UC Santa Cruz Predatory Bird Research Group and Fledgewatch volunteers rescue and release birds during the nesting season. Registration is not required. Park at the King's Court Center and walk over to The Terraces, located behind the Los Gatos Birdwatcher.

Another Way People Connect With Peregrines

We have enjoyed the recent activities of the Peregrine Falcons that nest on San Jose City Hall. Their story is so beloved that we invited volunteers Jan GlioZZo and Sherry Stack to share their knowledge and experiences with our community on Friday night, Sept. 11 at The Terraces.



Kenny and Anatum Peregrine

of prey, including the Anatum Peregrine pictured here. Read the full story at losgatosbirdwatcher.com/blog

We know others that also work with Peregrine Falcons but in a different way. In our latest blog post, we talk with local falconer Kenny Elvin about falconry, wildlife conservation, and his partnership with birds

Belize Tours SOLD OUT

For the first time since COVID, the Los Gatos Birdwatcher offered an international birding tour which proved so popular we scheduled a 2nd tour. In partnership with the Belize Bird Conservancy, participants will be guided by local birding expert

Roni Martinez as they explore Belize's remarkable birdlife, with additional birding in Tikal, Guatemala. Jessica will be co-leading the first tour **July 12–20**, and Lisa will be co-leading the second tour **August 9–17**. If you stop by the store during those dates and don't see one of them, you'll know they're out birding! We'll share highlights when we get back.



Roni Martinez

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The bird list used by residents today was created by another customer and birder, Linda Sullivan, when she lived at Rinconada Hills. Linda shared, *"I loved living there and have fond memories of my son, Justin helping me maintain the nest boxes we installed throughout the community. He built some, and other boxes came from the Los Gatos Birdwatcher. I am thrilled to know they have started a new bird group and are still using the list I created a decade ago."*

Happy birds, happy residents! If you want to know what you can do to attract birds to your yard or community, we are here to help.

Composting, Recycling, Landfill....

We are all being asked to do better when it comes to sorting our trash. This involves separating plastics from paper, and knowing what goes into a landfill, versus a compost bin. Admittedly, it's confusing. We like to do business with suppliers that also appreciate the art of recycling. Based in Missouri, Gold Crest is our main supplier. They ship everything to us in pre-used boxes. It saves them money to reuse perfectly good boxes that they collect around town. It also means these boxes get more than one life. Gold Crest also uses paper to pack their products which we then recycle.



And we get our high-quality wild bird seed from our other main distributor, Volkman Pet Products out of California's Central Valley. Roughly 10,000 pounds of seed arrives every week in 20 lb. compostable paper bags. This means (in most municipalities) when empty you can toss them into your compost or yard clipping bins. Just remove the plastic handle. We also package our 5 lb. bags of seed in paper bags that we ask our customers to return to us when empty. We are able to use them again and again, over and over.

California Condors In Santa Clara County

According to the Ventana Wildlife Society, "By the 1980s, the California Condor was on the brink of extinction. Populations had plummeted due to shooting, poisoning, collisions with power lines, egg collecting, and habitat loss. In 1987, the last wild condor was brought into captivity, joining just 26 others in a desperate effort to save the species.

No one knew if these magnificent birds - with wings stretching nearly 10 feet - would ever soar freely again". From that drastic effort to save the species there are now 602 condors, with 112 of them living wild in Central California around Big Sur and Pinnacles. As their population increases they are showing up in the Bay Area in search of food. In recent years they have been spotted near the Lick Observatory, Anderson Reservoir, Casa De Fruita and during the last week in June they were at Harvey Bear County Park off New Ave. Condor #1301 was one of many condors and Turkey Vultures that came to feed on wild boar carcasses. She was born just over two years ago in a wild nest located at The Pinnacles.



California
Condor #1301
-Carlos Mendoza

DID YOU KNOW?



Raptors such as hawks and eagles may reduce their hunting activities in the heat of the day and will take advantage of the updrafts making it easy to soar at higher altitudes where temperatures are cooler.



LOS GATOS
Birdwatcher

Loyal Customer Discounts

Loyal Customers are in our store's database and receive: one email per month, our seasonal newsletter, two 15% off coupons each quarter, and enrollment in our frequent buyer program.

**15% Off
Seed**

Loyal Customers mention this coupon and get 15% off one item. Excludes consignment items, Haikubox, sales items, excursions, optics.

**15% Off
One Item
(not seed)**

Loyal Customers mention this coupon and get 15% off one item. Excludes bird seed & chicken feed, consignment and sale items, Haikubox, excursions, and optics.

Frequent Buyer Program: Buy 10 bags of the same seed 20 lbs or higher at full price and get the 11th bag free.

One coupon per customer. Not to be combined with other offers. Coupons Expires Sept. 30, 2026.