

Flying By The Seat of Our Pants

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8051232021>

Day/Time	Presenter	Title of Presentation
Thursday		
5:00 PM	Mark Mushkat	Becoming a Better Birder - 45 tips in 45 minutes
6:00 PM	Jessica Griffiths	Why Birds Flock
Friday		
11:00 AM	Kelly Vandenhevel	PWC Meet the Raptors
12:00 PM	Sarah Killingsworth	Advanced Bird Photography 1
1:00 PM	Sarah Killingsworth	Advanced Bird Photography 2
2:00 PM	Steve Beissinger	Conserving the Black Rail
3:00 PM	Steve Schubert	Peregrine Falcons of Morro Rock
4:00 PM	Brian Sullivan	Cornell on the Cutting Edge of Bird Science
5:00 PM	John Muir Laws	The 7 Habits of Successful Happy Birders 1
6:00 PM	John Muir Laws	The 7 Habits of Successful Happy Birders 2
Saturday		
12:00 PM	Chris Cameron	Human/Raptor Interactions through the Centuries
1:00 PM	John Muir Laws	Keeping a Birders' Field Journal
2:00 PM	Norm Pilsbury	Bird Recording
3:00 PM	Tom & Peggy Burhenn	Owl Boxes - Why and How? Building and Info
4:00 PM	Benjamin Jacobs-Schwartz	Sea to Summit - The Marvelous Hummingbird
5:00 PM	Benjamin Jacobs-Schwartz	Feathers to Flight: A Journey to New World Tropics
6:00 PM	Bob Revel	Bobolink - the New Way to Run a Bird Festival
Sunday		
11:00 AM	Kara Hagedorn	Sunshine's Story (red-tailed hawk)
12:00 PM	Jessica Griffiths	Birding by Ear
1:00 PM	Steve Schubert	Condor Recovery Program
2:00 PM	Mary Whitfield	MOTUS - Science is tracking birds and bats
3:00 PM	John Muir Laws	Bird Drawing Basics - Fast Sketching
4:00 PM	John Muir Laws	More on Bird Sketching
5:00 PM	Heather Hayes	Tracking the Long Billed Curlew
6:00 PM	Claudia Freitas	Shorebirds



“Flying By The Seat of Our Pants” 2022 Zoom Morro Bay Bird Festival

Jessica Griffiths

- ***The Tips and Tricks of Birding by Ear*** Learning bird songs and calls will make you a better birder and enrich your birding experience. But it can be challenging! The leader will provide tips, tricks and mnemonic devices for identifying birds by sound, going over how to differentiate different groups of birds (how do you tell a finch from a warbler from a sparrow?) as well as reviewing songs and calls of the most common birds in this area. Open to all levels, beginner to advanced, who want to learn bird by ear skills.
- ***Why birds Flock*** You may have heard the old saying that birds of a feather flock together. But have you ever stopped to wonder why? Join Jessica Griffiths for a fascinating look at bird flocks and flocking behavior. Why do some species of birds form flocks, while others do not? Why do geese and ducks fly in a “V” formation? How do birds flying in large flocks synchronize their movements? Learn the answers to these questions and more in this presentation, which touches on bird biology and behavior, and highlights some remarkable scientific discoveries.

Mark Mushkat

- ***On Becoming a Better Birder: 45 tips in 45 mins*** This will be designed for the beginning to intermediate birder skill level. We’ll discuss ideas ranging from preparation to in-field strategies to post-birding follow-up. Topics will include trip planning, equipment, finding birds, ID strategies and aids, eBird & Merlin use, image and sound recording techniques, community sharing.

Sarah Killingsworth

- ***Advanced Bird Photography 1 and 2*** Are you the type who will spend hours, days, or even weeks just observing birds, waiting for the perfect shot? Wildlife photographers get unique images which can be vital to science, education, and conservation in addition to being beautiful art. Impactful photographs strike an emotional chord with the viewer. Along with technical skill, patience is required to succeed in this specialty area. Learn from experts how to ethically photograph wildlife without alerting or alarming them.

John Muir Laws

- ***How to Run a Good Zoom Meeting (Wed 6pm)***
- ***The 7 habits of successful happy birders part 1 & 2***
- ***Keeping a birder’s field journal***
- ***Bird drawing basics-fast sketching***

Kara Hagedorn

- ***Sunshine's Story: The Red-Tailed Hawk*** Meet Sunshine, an injured red-tailed hawk

Steve Beissinger

- ***Conserving the Black Rail*** The Black Rail is one of California's rarest, most secretive, and most threatened birds. How do you conserve a species that is rarely seen and hardly known? Find out by joining UC Berkeley Professor Steve Beissinger - an ornithologist and conservation biologist who has been studying Black Rails in California for the last 20 years for a glimpse of the railosphere and the process of unclocking a bird that lives like a mouse.

Tom and Peggy Burhenn

- ***Owl Box Building*** The bucolic location for this workshop is at one of the first certified sustainable vineyards on the Central Coast, build an owl box, have lunch and sample wine! Wolff Vineyard, under the guidance of expert vintner Jean-Pierre Wolff, has focused on enhancing native resource enhancement for bird habitat, wildlife corridors, and steelhead trout restoration on boundary creeks, which then creates opportunities for a variety of bird species. Expert woodworkers will guide us in building an owl box, which can be taken home or donated to the vineyard. Toast your new skills with some of Wolff Vineyards award winning wines over lunch (bring your own) and enjoy the panoramic view of the Edna Valley. Note that as one box will be built by each pair of participants, bring your partner! The optional wine tasting has a discounted fee of \$10, refundable with bottle purchase. Meets at Wolff Vineyards. 6238 Orcutt Road, San Luis Obispo.

Mary Whitfield

- ***MOTUS*** The Motus Wildlife Tracking System (Motus, Latin for movement) is an international collaborative research network that uses a coordinated automated radio telemetry array to track the movement and behavior of small flying organisms. Motus tracks birds, bats, and large insect through digitally-encoded radio transmitters, affixed to the animal, broadcasting signals several times each minute. These signals are detected by automated radio telemetry stations that scan for signals 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. When results from many stations are combined, the array can track animals across a diversity of landscapes covering thousands of kilometers. Come and learn what the experts are discovering!

Heather Hayes

- ***Tracking the Long Billed*** Curlew Long-billed Curlew populations of southwestern Idaho are declining at an alarming rate placing them on Idaho's "Species of Greatest Conservation Need" list. With the use of satellite transmitter technology, the Intermountain Bird Observatory (IBO) is gaining valuable data as to why. Come listen to first-hand field accounts from Heather Hayes, a research biologist for the IBO and learn about the biology of these charismatic birds including information about their habitats, nesting requirements and migratory journey. We will also discuss how satellite technology is not only uncovering some of their mysteries but is also connecting communities from the mountains of Idaho to coastal Morro Bay California!

Steve Schubert

- ***Peregrines of Morro Rock*** The peregrine falcons of Morro Rock, located along the Central Coast of California, have been admired and observed by travelers and visitors from around the world, and is one of the most well-known peregrine falcon nesting sites in North America. Falcon biology and a history at Morro Rock is chronicled with decades of efforts and dedication by nest site attendants and the management techniques - including captive breeding, double clutching, captive hatching of fragile wild eggs, and reintroduction to the wild fostering falcon chicks into wild nests - that assisted in the remarkable recovery of a once highly imperiled, endangered species. Take a virtually guided field trip to Morro Rock to observe favored perching, feeding, and nesting sites. Interact with the many other falcon observers at the 'Rock'!

- ***Condor Recovery*** The endangered California Condor, with a 9-foot wingspan, is North America's largest land bird. Capable of long-distance flights of a hundred miles soaring on fixed wings, this scavenging member of the vulture family traces its ancestry back to the Ice Age. Other aspects of condor biology – including taxonomy and life history – are discussed. The California Condor Recovery Program has assisted bringing back a species from near extinction, with innovative management techniques including captive breeding, nest site double clutching, reintroduction of young to the wild from release sites, and tracking the wild population by fitting free flying condors with radio and gps-transmitters. Take a virtually guided field trip to Bitter Creek National Wildlife Refuge within the foothills of the Transverse Range and bordering the southern San Joaquin Valley. This virtual inside tour of the refuge (closed to the public without advanced reservations) highlights radio tracking of free flying condors and distant viewing of juvenile condors within the flight pen, soon to be released and taking their first flights into the wild in the rugged mountainous terrain of 'Condor Country'.

Claudia Freitas

- ***Shorebirds Made Easy*** How do you ever tell one shorebird from another? What is a 'shorebird?' Learn how to tell the most common species apart. Join us for a photo presentation showing the characteristics of our local shorebirds,

Brian Sullivan

- ***Cornell on the Cutting Edge of Science*** The cutting edge of birding and science happening at the Cornell Lab, and walk people through our ecosystem of services for birders (e.g., eBird, Merlin, Birds of the Word), and root their participation in what it means for science action.

Benjamin Jacobs-Schwartz

- ***Sea to Summit: The Marvelous Hummingbird From Alaska to the high Andes of South America***, join us as we explore the magic of hummingbirds! With 360 species recognized globally, we'll discuss their remarkable biology, expansive range, ecological significance and the best way to attract them to your yard! Mouth watering media and local hummingbird ID section included!

- ***Feathers & Flight: A Journey to The New World Tropics*** Enjoy dazzling bird photos, captivating videos, and animated story-telling to bring a slice of the tropics to California. Delving into topics of migration, tropical speciation, and bio-diversity, this media rich journey will share some of the fascinating and unique birds that inhabit the new-world tropics. Sure to both educate and entertain, this presentation will certainly leave you with a deeper understanding of tropical ecology, and knowledge about where some of our backyard birds spend their winters!

Norm Pillsbury

- ***Bird Recording*** Enhance your birding by learning how to record calls and songs. Here we will discuss and show software and hardware you'll need whether recording is for fun, identifying birds or for posting your audio files. Join your leader to learn techniques. Bring your cell phone and download the Merlin app. For iPhone:

<https://apps.apple.com/app/apple-store/id773457673>, for Android:

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.labs.merlinbirdid.app>. If you already have Merlin on your smart phone, make sure it has the Sound ID option. If not, go to the App Store or Google Play to download the latest version.

Bob Revel

- ***BOBOLINK*** The new way to run a bird festival

Chris Cameron

- ***Human and Raptor Interactions Through the Centuries*** People love raptors. UNESCO has recognized falconry as an Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity, with 5,000 years of continuous practice worldwide. Experienced falconers working with wildlife agencies have helped bring raptor population back from the edge of extinction. Present day falconers often provide eco-friendly pest control, using thousands of years of predator/prey relationships to protect things humans care about - like wine grapes, blueberries, and safe air travel! Learn what historical and present-day falconry is all about.

Kelly Vandenhuevel

- ***Pacific Wildlife Care*** Learn about our local wildlife rehab and meet the raptors ambassadors.