

Amigos de Bolsa Chica
THE
TERN TIDE



Since 1976

Summer 2005
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THE TERN TIDE

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SAVE THE DATE

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2005
JOIN US FOR A MUSICAL EXPERIENCE
WITH THE GW POPS
HUNTINGTON BEACH CENTRAL LIBRARY
THEATRE

This concert will showcase the talent of this 65 member group which has quickly reached a vast audience around the world through the international language of music. Images of Bolsa Chica will be the backdrop for a vibrant visual experience for the second half of the concert.

Immediately following the concert, there will be a reception to give both music enthusiasts and nature lovers an opportunity to meet the musicians as well as Amigos de Bolsa Chica board leadership and staff.

We are in the final planning stages but soon invitations will be in the mail to supply you with all the details.

We hope to see you all there as we expand our fundraising activities.



RESOURCE CONSERVATION: Successful Strategies and Funding Opportunities for Creating Healthy Communities

The Local Government Commission, the Institute for Local Self Government, the local non-profit Friends of Harbors Beaches and Parks and its Orange County Green Vision Project are jointly presenting this daylong conference on Friday, September 16, 2005 at the Hyatt Regency Huntington Beach. The event will focus on strategies to conserve land in Orange County for people to enjoy as parks, recreation areas, natural places and sources of clean water ensuring livable sustainable communities for generations.

For more information visit www2.lgc.org/events or contact:
Tony Leonard
916-448-1198, ext. 315
aleonard@lgc.org
Registration is available now at www2.lgc.org/events.

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714-536-7262
horganf@aol.com

THE TERN TIDE: ONLINE OR HARD COPY?

In our continuing effort to give our members a choice to receive this newsletter via email or regular mail, we continue to offer our online option in PDF format. Those who prefer the online option can print the newsletter as if receiving it in the mail, saving us postage and printing costs. If this option appeals to you, please contact the office by emailing Alexia at info@amigosdebolsachica.org or call her at (714) 840 1575. Once the Tern Tide has been downloaded onto our Amigos website, you will receive an email linking you to our newsletter. For those who prefer receiving their issue of the Tern Tide in the mail, this service will continue. Printed issues of the current Tern Tide will also be available at our office, our public tours and at our general meetings. To continue to receive the latest updates on Bolsa Chica, please visit our website www.amigodebolsachica.org

RESTORATION UPDATE

Construction delays caused by the record rains in January and February have pretty much been eliminated. Ground water levels are now low enough to allow heavy equipment to resume the building of levees and nesting sites and the rough contouring of the full tidal basin. Both nest sites 1 and 3 were constructed successfully. Construction of nest site 2 recently begun and will be finished in early summer. Construction of the culverts to connect the full tidal basin with the muted tidal wetlands also has begun. The last of the 310 truckloads of contaminated soil and other debris has been hauled off the site, less than originally expected. A floating dredge will be moved on schedule into the flooded site in September to carry out the final shaping of the full tidal basin.

Delivery of large rock is on going. The rocks will serve to protect levee slopes. These rocks will be placed along locations in the full tide basin to fortify the levee and protect it from wave attack once it is connected to the ocean. The rocks will also be used to construct the two short jetties at the mouth of the inlet. The temporary traffic signal on PCH will allow safe movement of trucks. Actual jetty construction will not begin until November of this year, however.

PCH bridge construction has resumed. Earlier in the year, excavation workers discovered buried remnants of the old Pacific Coast Highway and abandoned pipes in the bridge site, which slowed progress somewhat. The driving of piles that will support the bridge has begun with final construction scheduled for October of this year.

WELCOME NEW DOCENTS!

Our latest docent training class concluded in May. On June 1st, at a graduation luncheon at the Lahaina Broiler in Seal Beach, four new docents were officially welcomed into the group: Barbara Delgleize, Anna Horner, Kevin McCarthy and Jamie Pavlat. They were an enthusiastic and most interested class and come with backgrounds in docenting, scouting, wildlife care and office skills. Already they have been volunteering and are down at the Bolsa Chica using their newly acquired knowledge. Thanks to you all for joining the docent program and welcome aboard!

FALL TOWN HALL FORUM

Mark your calendars for our next Town Hall Forum is set for Wednesday, October 12 at the HB Central Library's Talbert Room from 7-9pm. Expect an update on the lowland restoration program as well as other specialized programs. Watch for the fall Tern Tide for more information.

THANK YOU!

A special thank you to the Amigos members who organized and instructed the latest docent training classes: Vic Leipzig, Margaret and Dave Carlberg, Grace Winchell, Helen Higgins and Barbara Sentovich. Thanks also to Jennifer Robins for speaking to the group about the Saturday public tours and to Barbara Stewart for organizing the luncheon.

PRESIDENT'S TERN

By Thomas Anderson

With another year and some months to go on the Lowlands Restoration Project, the Amigos de Bolsa Chica has been taking a look at the goals we have met and what our next steps will be. Now that our lobbying efforts are winding down, our primary goal is education. Coastal saltwater wetlands like Bolsa Chica are among the most biologically diverse habitats on the planet, and we are so fortunate to have this unique and precious habitat in our backyard. But wetlands lack the "glamour" of places like tropical rainforests, so it takes extra effort to get the message out that these habitats are essential to the health of the planet.

Our tour program has long been the backbone of our education and outreach efforts, and we are committed to offering the best possible tours to schools, to private groups and to the general public. We are also committed to training docents with the best information available. We are now offering off-site slide and PowerPoint presentations that can be made in classrooms and at a variety of organizational meetings. We have recently published a unique and informative Educators Guide to augment the tour program. We are committed to monitor the Restoration Project, and we are planning another informative Town Hall meeting in October with the focus on the project's progress.

The Lowlands Restoration Project has been underway for several months, and despite some delays, due primarily to record rainfall, construction is only a little behind schedule. It is very exciting to all of us who care about preserving this unique and important habitat to watch the oil wells go, to see a new tidal basin being sculpted, and to see a new bridge built over a new tidal inlet. After more than 100 years, the Bolsa Chica wetlands will once again be connected to the ocean. In a sense, we will soon have a brand new classroom. There has likely never been a dull moment in the history of the Bolsa Chica, and now is no exception, though this time it is for long-awaited reasons.

While we have cause to be grateful and to celebrate, our work is not done and probably never will be. We will always need volunteers with a variety of skills and interests who can help with tours, with developing educational materials, with raising the funds needed to keep the education activities going. We can never stop getting out the message that the Bolsa Chica is an irreplaceable jewel. The Amigos de Bolsa Chica has been working to do that for 30 years. There are few other groups like ours in California who can say that. Of course, we could not have done this work without incredible community support. If you feel strongly about maintaining the Bolsa Chica for generations to come, please give us a call. Whether you are new to the community or you've been here for a long time, the Amigos de Bolsa Chica needs your help.

SIGN UP TODAY FOR THE EASIEST WAY YET TO MAKE DONATIONS

Do you want to donate to Amigos but just don't have any extra money to spare? Our donation programs are just for you! Over the last few months, the Fundraising Committee has been busy pursuing a variety of donation opportunities. Through the Amigos' Bolsa Chica Foundation, we have registered as a participant in both the eScrip program and the Albertson's Community Partners Fund. Registration for both programs is free and can easily be done online. To register, please follow the steps below:

eScrip: The beauty about this donation program is that over 150 merchants are registered through this program, including Von's, Macy's and many online sites. To register, please click on the link <http://escrip.com/>. Click on #1 "Sign Up – It's Free." Enter "Bolsa Chica Foundation." "Click search." The link for our account will appear on your screen. Click on the link and then click on "next" to enter your personal information. Because this program is associated with many merchants, contributions are calculated by the store cards and credit cards entered on the secured site. Once you have entered all your information and reviewed your summary, complete the registration process. eScrip will automatically send you information and updates about all the many businesses and services that participate in making donations.

Albertson's Community Partners Fund: For those who regularly shop at Albertson's and/or Sav-On, this is a wonderful donation program for you. To register, you first must have a Preferred Savings Card. For those who need to apply for this card, please click on the link <http://www.albertsons.com> and apply for this card. For those who already have the Preferred Savings Card, please click on the link <http://www.albertsons.com/cp/>. Follow the steps for shoppers to enroll in the donation program by entering your card number and your phone number. Next click on "Find a Partner." Under name, enter "The Bolsa Chica Foundation", city as "Huntington Beach" and the state "California." Click on "Find Partners." The Foundation information will appear on your screen. Check the box and then click on "Add Selected Partners."

If you have any difficulty with your registration, please contact Alexia at the office. You do not need to be an Amigos member to sign up for these programs, so please encourage your friends and family to register. With no out of pocket money, your registration guarantees money to be used for our educational programs. It simply is that easy.

Albertson's

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March 6, 2005

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Volunteerism
 Environmental Affairs
 Hunger Relief
 Health & Nutrition
 Youth & Education

in the community

It's important to be good neighbors
 and give back to our communities
 ...to improve all of our lives.

Albertson's and its family of stores believe in being a good neighbor by contributing to the quality of life in the diverse communities we serve. In 2003, Albertson's provided more than \$78 million in cash and in-kind donations with support focused on hunger relief, education and the development of our youth, and health and nutrition.

Albertson's support of local communities and youth activities dates back to the first store opened by Joe Albertson in 1939. Mr. Albertson's generosity and leadership have served as the foundation of Albertson's understanding of the importance of community involvement, and the development of the programs Albertson's offers today.

“ In 2003 alone, Albertson's donated more than \$78 million cash and in-kind donations to help meet community needs. ”

eScrip and Albertson's have now made making donations to the Amigos' Bolsa Chica Foundation easier than ever before. Just enroll in these programs online, and every time you shop using the various cards you have registered, we receive a donation. Thank you for taking the time to sign up!

A list of all the merchants in Southern California participating with eScrip and the amount of your purchase that will go to the Amigos' Bolsa Chica Foundation.



AUTOMOTIVE

1-800-TOW TRUCK	5%	Auto Driveaway Co.	5%	MAACO Auto Painting & Bodyworks	4%
89glass.com	5%	Bill Heard Chevrolet	7%	Pep Boys	4%
AAMCO Transmissions	5%	Driversed.com	5%	Webtrafficschool.com	5%

RETAIL

Eddie Bauer	5%	Macysbridal.com	up to 6%	Ultimate Outlet	3%
Macy's	up to 6%	Sierra Trading Post	5%		
Macys.com	up to 6%	Spiegel	5%		

GROCERS

Balboa Village Market	2%	Keil's Food Stores	up to 5%	Super A Foods	up to 5%
Bristol Farms	up to 7%	Major Market	up to 4%	Top Valu	up to 5%
Cardiff Seaside Market	up to 7%	New Frontiers Natural Foods	up to 4%	Valu Plus	up to 5%
Catalano's Market	up to 4%	Notrica's Market	up to 4%	Vons	up to 4%
El Rancho Market	up to 4%	Pacific Coast Greens	10%	Vons.com	up to 4%
Farm to Market	up to 5%	Pavilions	up to 4%	Wrigley's Supermarket	up to 3%
Green Frog Market	up to 5%	Spencer's Fresh Markets	up to 4%		
Hows Markets	up to 5%	Stumps Apple Market	up to 5%		

RESTAURANTS

Baja Fresh	5%	Coco's Bakery Restaurant	3%	Rewards Network Dining	10%
Carl's Jr.	8%	Daphne's Greek Cafe	4%	Shaker's Family Restaurants	4%
Carrows Restaurants	3%	Diner on Main	4%	Shakey's Pizza	6%
Chick 'N Chow	3%	Pick Up Stix	5%	Wild Thyme Café & Bakery	4%
Claim Jumper Restaurant	5%	Pizza World	5%	Yard House	5%

SPECIALTY ITEMS & SERVICES

Aloha Island Kona Coffee (866-55-ALOHA)	2%	Goldspeed.com	5%	Reseda Photo	2%
Catholicfamilygifts.com (Online)	3%	GreenPoint Mortgage	.2%	ServiceMaster Clean	5%
Creative Cakery	5%	(Please call 800-764-3114)		Shutterfly (Picture Studio for eScrip)	10%
Dinosaurusuperstore.com (Online)	2%	Hooper Camera & Imaging	2%	Strand Cleaners	up to 8%
Dogwatch Hidden Fence Systems	10%	Kid Concepts, U.S.A.	5%	Surfinbox.com Dialup Internet Service	7%
eBags (www.ebags.com)	7%	Magazines & More	10%	Terminix	5%
eScrip Visa	up to 2%	Mary Kay (Online or By Phone)	10%	TruGreen ChemLawn	5%
Final Wrap	10%	MCI WorldCom Communications	up to 5%	Wondernation	4%
Gamerang.com (Online)	5%	Merry Maids	5%		
Giddyuphorsie.com (Online)	2%	OfficeMax	2%		
Giftbasketsbyangel.com (Online or By Phone)	5%	Petals & Stems Floral Decorators	5%		

SPORTING GOODS

Big 5 Sporting Goods	2%	Orvis	10%	Sportcap, Inc.	4%
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TRAVEL & TRANSPORTATION

American Airlines Flight Certificates	3%	Carnival Cruises	up to 5%	Princess Cruises	up to 5%
Ordered through Mitch-Stuart, Inc. 1-888-233-6636.		Celebrity Cruises	up to 5%	Rewards Network Hotels	8%
Budget Rent A Car	3%	Club Cruise	up to 5%	Royal Caribbean International	up to 5%
Must call 800-455-2848, use eScrip code X462300.		Disney Cruise Line	up to 5%		

PROMOTIONAL PARTNERS

VDAC		Picture Studio for eScrip	10%		
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Visit www.escrip.com for participating merchant locations.

GROWING UP AT THE BOLSA CHICA GUN CLUB

By Dave Carlberg

What was it like growing up as a teenager at the Bolsa Chica Gun Club? Ask Jim Okuda. From 1910 to 1935, his father was groundskeeper at the businessmen's hunting retreat on the bluff overlooking the Bolsa Chica wetlands. The gun club was built in 1899 by a group of wealthy Los Angeles and Pasadena businessmen. Many familiar names appeared on the club membership roster, such as Jonathan Slauson, Jared Torrance and Henry Huntington, whose trolley line stopped less than 200 yards from the clubhouse front door. Okuda's family was one of the few clubhouse staff who actually lived on the gun club property. Born in Huntington Beach in 1921, Okuda lived with his parents and siblings in a house below the clubhouse. When not attending school in Huntington Beach, Okuda spent the days fishing and swimming in the lagoon, helping tend his mother's chickens or enjoying sunsets from the beach. At times he would help his father care for the landscaping around the clubhouse, including a nine-hole golf course. Young Okuda watched as lines of chauffeur-driven Duesenbergs, Cadillacs and Buicks dropped off bankers, industry leaders, sports figures, Hollywood stars, members of the 1932 Los Angeles Olympic Committee and even royalty. One slim, ordinary looking gentleman Okuda observed entering the clubhouse, the eleven year old was to learn later, was the Prince of Wales, two years later to be known as King Edward VIII of Great Britain.

Duck hunting was the major activity on the property. Each morning hunters would be taken out to the fresh water ponds that covered much of the Bolsa Chica. Instead of using dogs to retrieve downed ducks, local boys in hip boots were hired to do the work. Okuda was not old enough to play bird dog, but he sometimes tagged along and he can't forget the awesome sight and sound of several thousand ducks suddenly taking flight when startled by gunfire. The quantity and variety of waterfowl in the Bolsa Chica during that era were astounding.

Okuda remembers that all cooking, heating and lighting on the property was supplied by natural gas from a well in front of the clubhouse. The well was intended as a source of water, but the water was so saturated with natural gas, it was unusable for drinking or cooking. Instead, the gas was separated from the water and piped into the clubhouse and some of the other buildings on the property, including the Okuda home.

Okuda recalls one Friday evening in March of 1933 when a powerful earthquake struck. The quake, now known as the Long Beach quake, was caused by movement of the Inglewood/Newport fault. The fault passes directly under the Bolsa Chica and continues to the city of Inglewood. Being primarily of wood construction, the gun club buildings fared relatively well, but the road up to the clubhouse and the dam were riddled with deep cracks. And the 12 year old soon was to learn that his school had been destroyed by the trembler.

In 1935, when Okuda was 14, his father lost his gun club job due to a back injury. The family was desperate; these were depression years and there was no work. Then Okuda's mother realized that the experience the family gained raising chickens at the gun club would get them through hard times. They bought a small farm near what is now the intersection of Brookhurst Street and the 22 Freeway. By 1941 their chicken farm was operating in the black. Then Japan entered World War II and the family was ordered to the Japanese internment camp at Poston, Arizona. They turned their farm over to the care of their feed supplier and headed for Arizona. After the war, they reclaimed their farm and in a few years it again became highly successful. When freeway construction took over their business, they started a larger operation at Hazard and Bushard, but urbanization eventually forced the chickens out and welcomed mobile homes in.

Jim Okuda is now a spry 84, an avid golfer and world traveler with clear memories of what life was like at the Bolsa Chica Gun Club.



Jim Okuda - today at 84

MEMBERSHIP

A very special “thank you” needs to be extended to Anna Horner. Not only did she recently “graduate” as a new docent this spring, but she has been the dedicated volunteer who has single-handedly been very successful in bringing many of our former members back to their Amigos home. These former members welcomed her call and thanked her for that extra personal attention. As more people become interested and knowledgeable about the Bolsa Chica Lowland Restoration Project, many realize that indeed our work to preserve Bolsa Chica will never be done. Those who renewed or began their membership at the sustaining levels are Joe and Cheryl Cunha, Linda Herrick, Cindy Rosene, Ena Burrud, Rita Healy, Gene and Alma Bowman and Florence Purdy. We also want to congratulate Chris and Courtney Button and Nell McCown who renewed as life members.

In an effort to assist us with mailing costs, won't you please check your renewal date on your mailing label to see when your membership is due? Membership checks received prior to renewal deadlines are greatly appreciated. For those of you who have email, please include your email address on your renewal form to receive a renewal reminder prior to your membership expiration date.

THANK YOU!

SLIDE SHOW PRESENTATIONS

As the education crisis continues in California, many primary school educators struggle to meet the California life science standards of incorporating the study of wetlands into their curriculum. When funding is simply not available to visit Bolsa Chica. In our attempt to “bring” the wetlands to the public, we now offer three unique presentations which are available to both children and adult groups all year long:

The Bolsa Chica Story is a 30-45 minute slide show and discussion telling the story of the Bolsa Chica: where it is, what it is, why it is important and its history from the earliest Indian inhabitants to the current restoration. It covers the nature of a tidal salt marsh as well as the birds, animals and plants that are found in such an ecosystem.

The Birds of the Bolsa Chica is a 30-45 minute slide show and discussion of the birds of the Bolsa Chica. This program covers migration, seasonal variation of bird populations, and avian adaptations in a tidal salt marsh, while viewing beautiful slides of the birds of the Bolsa Chica. **The Bolsa Chica Restoration** is a full explanation of the restoration of the Bolsa Chica wetland in a Power Point program. The 30 minute presentation consists of maps, still photographs, diagrams and animations that detail one of the largest wetland restoration projects in California history. The program is updated periodically as the restoration progresses to its scheduled completion in the spring of 2006.

Book your presentation today by phoning our office at (714) 840-1575.

EDUCATION TOUR PROGRAM UPDATE

For many years, we have offered a wonderful lecture tour at the south lot at the footbridge. We are pleased to announce that we will once again offer mesa tours from the north lot. This mesa tour offers the lecture of the footbridge tour with the walking element of a hiking tour. To book your tour today, please call our office at 714-840-1575.

SOUTH LOT CLOSURES

As many of you know, the south lot at the Reserve has been in need of repairs for some time. From June 6 through June 10, this lot was closed for the first phase of repairs to the parking lot only. To finish the repairs to the parking lot and the repair the footbridge, the south lot is scheduled to close again on Sunday, August 21 and remain closed until Saturday, October 15. Please note that these dates are subject to change, so please contact our office for updates. During this closure, we will offer our mesa tour program. For more **information, please visit our website www.amigosdebolsachica.org or call Alexia for booking details.**



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AMIGOS DE BOLSA CHICA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

I support the specific and primary purpose of Amigos de Bolsa Chica, which is to advocate the preservation of the Bolsa Chica and to encourage public acquisition and planning to restore it to its natural marsh state surrounded by open space.

ANNUAL DUES

- \$ 20 Individual
- \$ 30 Family
- \$ 50 Patron
- \$ 75 Sponsor
- \$100 Sustaining
- \$300 Life Member

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Please check if you are interested in volunteering for:

Office assistance _____ Committees: Community Education _____ Fundrasing _____ Grants _____

Additional Contributions:

\$ _____ Fund educational programs (Tax-deductible check payment to Bolsa Chica Foundation)

\$ _____ Fund operational expenses (Check payable to Amigos de Bolsa Chica)

\$ _____ Total enclosed