

## **FLOW Continues to Grow**

By Jill Lemon

The FLOW Program is growing this year! Thanks to funding from the California State Parks Foundation, we are working on two new exciting add-ons to our curriculum. Also, we welcome the addition of two interns for the summer to assist with this new programming, as well as other aspects of management and growth.

Cassandra Lacey just completed her undergraduate degree in Environment Studies at the University of Redlands. While she lives a good distance away, she is committed to our program and its ideals. Amber Davis is in her last year as an undergraduate majoring in Marine Biology at CSULB, and she too is devoted to the mission of FLOW. I am excited to have the help as we push our current boundaries outward.

The FLOW program's education component started with middle and high schoolers in mind, but with the additional funding from the California State Parks Foundation we will conduct programming for Kindergarten through Fifth Grade for the first time. The Amigos Naturalists have welcomed elementary students to the Ecological Reserve, and now they can participate in the FLOW program as well. K-2 students will have the opportunity to visit the wetland and the beach, as well as look into microscopes and make scientific observations about microscopic life. Third through fifth graders will also be guided through the wetland and look into microscopes, but the focus will be on the interconnectivity of the micro to the macro—the pieces that make up the whole. Art will feature prominently into the programming; linking art, engineering, and science is essential for our

**FLOW Grows continued on page 4**



*Students from Foshay Learning Center learn how to use a plankton collection net. Photo by Antoinette Pippin.*

# Volunteer Spotlight: Terry Hill

By Jennifer Robins

The Amigos de Bolsa Chica is pleased to recognize Terry Hill as a special Amigos Naturalist/Docent. Terry began bird watching after settling in Huntington Beach with John, the love of her life, in 1976. She joined the Amigos de Bolsa Chica in the mid-1980's and took the Amigos Docent Training Class. She quickly became an experienced birder and taught visitors at the bird station on Amigos' Public Tours at the Bolsa Chica Wetlands.

Terry worked in a small law office until "retiring" in 2000 so she and John could begin traveling part of each year in their 32-foot motor home. Their travels took them in the summer of 2000 to Glacier National Park and into Canada at Banff National Park, Lake Louise and Jasper National Park for four and a half months. For the next ten years they traveled to Texas, Louisiana, Arkansas, then across to the Colorado mountains in 2001, Alaska in 2002, Nova Scotia in 2004, Florida, coastal Georgia and South Carolina in winter/spring 2007. They have taken multiple trips to Arizona, Oregon, Wyoming, North Dakota and Utah. "There is so much to see in our country and so many beautiful places!" Terry exclaims. Terry and John make a good married couple: Terry walks through the beautiful surroundings identifying and photographing the birds while John enjoys fishing in the nearby lakes and streams. They both enjoy sharing their love of reading throughout their travels. Terry keeps birding lists on every trip she takes. She has seen a total of 662 "life birds" and has kept 3,478 individual bird lists. She is fortunate that there are online databases for recording birds like eBird. Terry is the definition of "avid birder."

In local Orange County, Terry is a participant in monthly bird counts. This is vital information to keep track of the health of the bird population. She has been co-leader for the counts at Bolsa Chica Wetlands and Harriet Wieder Regional Park in Huntington Beach with the Bolsa Chica Conservancy since they began counting in 2011. She also helped in updating the Bolsa Chica Wetlands Bird Checklist. She participates in monthly counts at San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary in Irvine, the UCI Marsh across Campus Drive from SJWS and Shipley Nature Center at Central Park in Huntington Beach.

Terry volunteered for Sea and Sage Audubon board as Secretary for two years. At the end of each year, Terry has been the leader of a Bird Count for Sea and Sage Audubon's Christmas Bird Count in Huntington Beach since 1991. Her area includes the Bolsa Chica State Beach from the Tidal Inlet to Warner Avenue, Harriet Wieder Park and all of the Bolsa Chica Ecological Reserve. She has also participated in the Inland Orange County Bird Count at Modjeska Canyon and South Orange County Count at Arroyo Trabuco Golf Course.



Since her traveling has slowed, she is also able to lead the Amigos Monthly Bird Walk at Bolsa Chica Wetlands. And we are very happy that she finds the time to share her love of birds with the visitors to the wetlands. Join her on a last Saturday at 9:00 am at the south parking lot of the Bolsa Chica Ecological Reserve to learn about the local wetlands birds.

## ***Bird News from the Reserve Manager***

By Kelly O'Reilly

May 9 – We have been seeing something unusual here at Bolsa Chica with regard to the Elegant Terns. These Terns have been flocking by the thousands on the Bolsa Basin mudflats since March but they have ignored North Tern Island where they typically nest. Although a few Caspian terns are around, they have not gone to North Tern Island either.

Peter Knapp reported seeing 500 Elegant Terns swarming over the Forster's Terns nesting within Inner Bolsa Bay marsh. That same day, using the Bolsa Chica Land Trust's Eco Cam from our office, we see even more gathering over the marsh with roughly 1,000 down on the marsh. It appears to us that the Elegant Terns may nest on the pickleweed in the

***Bird News continued on page 3***

# Remembering Jean McCloughlin, 1956-2019

By Jennifer Robins and Brian Benjamin



The Amigos de Bolsa Chica lost a good friend recently. Jane McCloughlin Benjamin passed away April 4, 2019 after a long struggle with cancer. Jean, as we Amigos knew her, was an Amigos member, board member, docent, enthusiastic volunteer and a good friend. In the 1990s, she served as Secretary for Amigos de Bolsa Chica while also participating in activities for advertising, fundraising, sales, legislative actions and public relations. Jean was a private person but certainly not a wallflower. She worked tirelessly on the Amigos Bashes (fundraiser parties) whether at a local hotel or at a Casino Night in the old Huntington Beach Mall on Edinger. She volunteered with Amigos when we sponsored the successful Annual 5K & 10K Run/Walk, “Running for the Birds” at the Bolsa Chica State Beach.

Jean was born on July 5, 1956 in Belfast, Ireland, and immigrated to the United States in 1979. A few years after that she took the oath and became an American citizen. She first worked as a chair side dental assistant and later a surgical assistant for an oral surgeon. She managed a number of dental offices in Northern Ireland and Orange County, California. She left clinical dentistry and entered the dental insurance industry with Delta Dental in Cerritos. It was there in 1997 that Jean met Brian Benjamin who would become her husband in 2006. Upon moving to Hawaii, Jane served as Operations Manager with Hawaii Family Dental in Kailua Kona right up until March 11, 2019.

Gifts may be made in Jean’s name to “Adult Literacy” in Kailua Kona, Hawaii. Jean volunteered there and was blessed by teaching a senior from Kona how to read for the first time. This woman was later able to read bedtime stories to her grandchildren before passing away herself a few months before Jean.

---

## *Bird News continued from page 2*

marsh among the Forster’s Terns rather than use North Tern Island which is empty but for a couple of Canada Goose nests. This will be interesting to watch through the season.

In other news, we began California Least Tern monitoring this week and have found twelve nests thus far (Nest Site 1-north=2; South Tern Island=2; Nest Site 2=8). Canada Goose are increasing in numbers and are nesting on both tern islands in Bolsa Bay and nest site 1. I counted 16 Canada Goose on nest site 1 with at least two nests (likely more) and 4 Canada Goose on South Tern Island.

Black-necked Stilts and American Avocets are nesting throughout the Bolsa Chica, and we observed the first Avocet chicks the week of May 9.

May 24 – There appears to have been a decrease in the number of Elegant Tern nests and we suspect this may be due to tidal flooding. Given where the terns chose to lay their eggs, we anticipated that some of them would get flooded out during the recent high tides (during the full moon phase).

As for other nesting birds, here are the season totals to date for Least Terns and Snowy Plovers: California Least Tern: 72 nests (and more expected); 40 of those nests (56%) are on Nest Site 2 located within the Muted Tidal Basin. Western Snowy Plover: 49 nests and numerous broods. On May 20, CDFW staff counted 94 adult Plovers (53 males and 41 females).

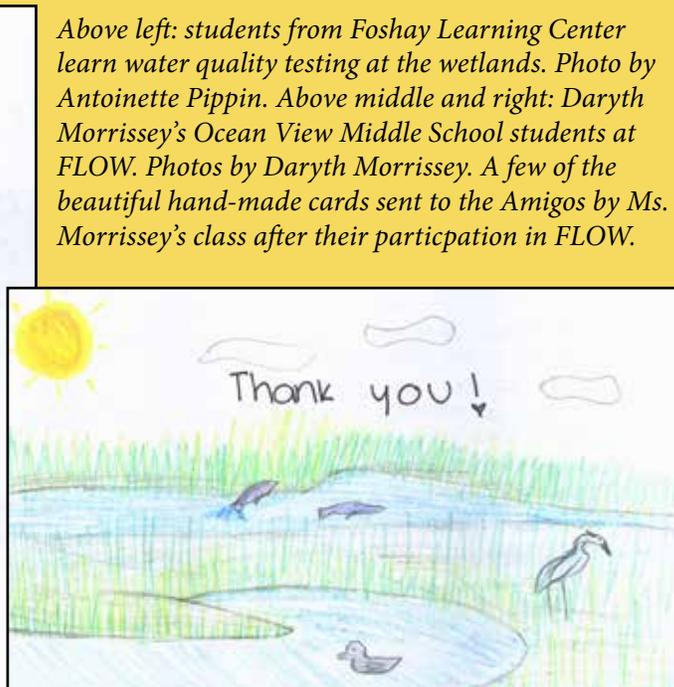
An osprey pair has nested on top of the northernmost electrical pole on the oil operator’s Whipstock area. That is located just south of the southern end of the reserve. They have three pre-fledglings and we are very hopeful that all three of the young osprey will fledge. If they do, this will be the first successful osprey nesting event. I’m not aware of osprey successfully nesting at Bolsa Chica in the past.

## FLOW Grows continued from page 1

future. Although the programming is still under development, we are excited to have K-5 Title 1 schools apply to participate and encourage our members to spread the word.

The other new development for the FLOW program is offering four classes from our committed middle and high school teachers to participate in FLOW instruction throughout the length of the school year. Students will be encouraged to visit the wetland and the beach at the beginning of the year and to think like scientists. We will give the students classroom kits and a plankton sample to take back to their schools to further their

inquiry. Towards the end of the academic year, the students will be invited back to FLOW to present their findings, and they can also further their research into their initial inquiry if more data is necessary. The length and commitment in the program are designed to assist in teaching the scientific method, develop a connection to the Bolsa Chica wetland and beach, and further the citizen science that the FLOW program conducts every week. This might sound like an endeavor with “too much science,” but the idea behind it is to engage and ask questions. If you have questions, you would be a perfect volunteer for these field trips! Send me an email: [flow@amigosdebolsachica.org](mailto:flow@amigosdebolsachica.org).



*Above left: students from Foshay Learning Center learn water quality testing at the wetlands. Photo by Antoinette Pippin. Above middle and right: Daryth Morrissey's Ocean View Middle School students at FLOW. Photos by Daryth Morrissey. A few of the beautiful hand-made cards sent to the Amigos by Ms. Morrissey's class after their participation in FLOW.*

## President's Tern

# Volunteers Make the Amigos Education Programs Great

By Charles Falzon

As I wrote in the Spring issue of the Tern Tide, the Amigos have always been driven by the principal of winning people over by knowing the facts, by knowing the scientific importance of our precious wetlands. The Amigos de Bolsa Chica has spent a lot of time designing our education programs, our wetland tours and FLOW, as well as training our volunteer naturalists and citizen scientists to be as knowledgeable on a variety of topics as possible. It's hard to not praise our volunteers enough for their desire to know as much as they can about Bolsa Chica and for wanting to share their knowledge with students and scouts of all ages—and adults, too. It is safe to say the Amigos has some of the smartest volunteers around!

Since Bolsa Chica, like the rest of California's coast, is never saved but always being saved, the Amigos feel educating people about wetlands is as important now as it ever was. And to accomplish that, we need both dedicated volunteers and strong programs that attract teachers.

Recognizing that there are so many other things to do

with one's time these days, we've been making a concerted effort to create events that keep our volunteers both smart and involved. We had a special Plant Walk on May 5 for our naturalists to learn more about Bolsa Chica's diverse and unique botanical life; we had a fun night out at the Fish Camp; and we're reinstating quarterly informational meetings now called Naturalist Nights. The first one, held on June 20 with Vic Leipzig giving a talk on Bolsa Chica's birds, was very well attended.

Then, to help promote our wetland tours and the FLOW Program for their educational value to teachers, the Amigos are holding a special event just for local educators to show how our tours and our FLOW program can help them meet Next Generation Science Standards. Interested educators have been invited to meet at the south parking lot on Tuesday, August 13 at 9:00 am to get a special tour of the wetlands to demonstrate how an Amigos-led tour/field trip can help teachers of all grades meet specific Next Generation Science Standards particularly in the areas of ecology and history. After the tour, we'll convene at the State Beach Visitor Center to demonstrate FLOW. FLOW will be unveiling brand new kindergarten through 5th grade curriculum this fall, so elementary school teachers will find this day particularly interesting.

If you are an educator or know one, please send an email to [info@amigosdebolsachica.org](mailto:info@amigosdebolsachica.org) to reserve your place at this event and you will want to schedule both a wetland tour and FLOW field trip for your class. And if you are a volunteer, or want to be a volunteer with the Amigos, know that we will give you all the training you need, and give you opportunities to meet like-minded friends.



*Both newly trained naturalists and long-time volunteers took part in the plant walk lead by Kim DiPasquale on May 5 to learn more about the diversity of Bolsa Chica's plant life. Photos by Thomas Anderson.*



# Tongvas Language Revived

By Shirley Dettloff

Recently there was an excellent article written by Tom Curwen, L.A. Times Reporter regarding the Tongvas and the work being done by linguist Pam Munro from UCLA. Ms. Munro has been teaching a class in the language of the Tongvas which was forgotten many years ago, when the Tongvas became known as the Gabrielinos. She calls her work a "reclamation effort" for a language that is no longer used in conversation.

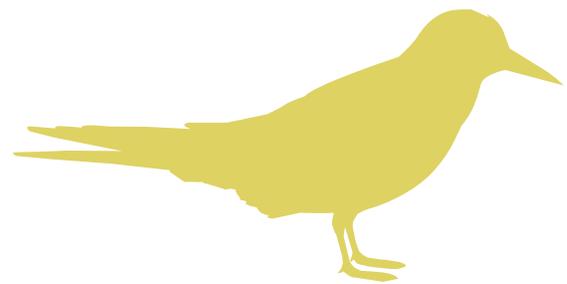
Most of us living in Huntington Beach and those who have worked with saving both the Bolsa Chica wetlands and Shipley Nature Center know that the Tongvas were the Native Americans who lived in this region most recently. Much of their culture and language was lost when the Spanish Missions were built and the Native Americans were coerced into the Mission system. The Spanish called them "Gabrielinos" because the Mission that many were brought to was Mission San Gabriel.

We know that when the Spanish arrived, the Tongvas were a peace loving people and lived a simple life utilizing the abundant natural resources of the area. The weather called for fewer garments, and their homes were made of reeds. The baskets they wove could hold water, and they built boats that were sea worthy enough to go to Catalina. And while the makers and use of the ancient cog stones found at Bolsa Chica are unknown, they attest to thousands of year of human habitation in the Bolsa Chica area.

Pam Munro has been teaching the Tongva language class for 15 years and has discovered the Tongva Tongva words for many things. Bear is huunar, bird, yayaayt, sun, taanet, valley live oak, wijt, deer, shukaat and many, many others. She never thought she would study the Tongva language because there were no native speakers. She had done a study while at UC San

Diego when she wrote of the language of the people of the Colorado River, which was the Mojave language. In that study she had native speakers, but in studying the Tongvas there were no speakers of the language. However, when she was given the notes of a former student who had done a study of the Tongvas, she began her study of the Tongvas and their language that continues to this day.

Someone who was a great help was John Peabody Harrington, who 150 years ago began compiling all of the notes on native languages in California. He began working with the remaining Tongva speakers and assembled a written record of their language. He stopped working with the Tongva speakers in 1930. So Ms. Munro had "bits and pieces" of the language but her interest continued. She held small classes of people interested in the Tongvas. Some of these people had a Tongva heritage, embraced the Tongva lifestyle, and wanted to learn more. Workshops were held which led to monthly meetings with students whom are now grandmothers bringing their grandchildren to learn about their heritage. A recent tour was held in Santiago Park in Santa Ana, where on their walks through the park, English words of plants and animals were replaced by using the Tongva name. In this way, the people of today get a glimpse into what California was like hundreds of years ago and what the Tongva heritage means today.



The Tern Tide is published quarterly by  
**Amigos de Bolsa Chica**  
P. O. Box 1563  
Huntington Beach, CA 92647

(714) 840-1575 (Phone/Fax)  
www.amigosdebolsachica.org  
info@amigosdebolsachica.org

**Editor & Graphic Design:**  
Thomas Anderson

**President:** Charles Falzon  
**Vice President:** Kim DiPasquale  
**Secretary:** Shirley Dettloff  
**Treasurer:** Brian Westcott

## Directors:

Jerry Donohue	Jennifer Robins
Craig Frampton	Jim Robins
Judith Huck	Bill Stern
Terry Jorris	Joana Tavares
Vic Leipzig	Administrative Director:
Tom Livengood	Thomas Anderson
Daryth Morrissey	
Mel Nutter	

## First Saturday of the Month Tour

Free tours of the Bolsa Chica Ecological Reserve led by Amigos docents.  
9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

## Last Saturday of the Month Bird Walk

Free bird walk led by Amigos docents. 9:00 am.  
Reservations are encouraged,  
714-840-1575

**Free monthly tours are on a first come, first served basis. Carpooling is encouraged as parking at the Bolsa Chica Ecological Reserve is limited. All tours begin at the south parking lot, PCH between Warner Ave. and Seapoint St.**

# Bolsa Chica State Beach Visitor Center Garden Update

By Kim DiPasquale

Many of you will recall the botanical history of the garden surrounding the Bolsa Chica State Beach Headquarters and Visitor Center. Through the years many dedicated Amigos have donated countless hours of weeding, pruning, planting and cultivating the native plant garden. In 2015 things really took off when Rachael Lloyd started a well organized program to move the restoration of the garden into high gear. She started an Environmental Club which met monthly for wetland education, plant propagation, and maintenance of the garden. Also in 2015, the Amigos received a grant from the California State Parks Foundation. Under Rachael's direction, the money was used to buy tools, build a tool shed, and to build retaining walls and steps for slope stabilization and for easier access to the native garden. In 2018 Rachael and her husband David, who built the tool shed and who was a very active volunteer, moved out of the area and unfortunately the garden once again became overgrown with invasive weeds and many of the more sensitive plants did not survive.

In April of 2019, I decided to pick up the reins and do my best to see to it that the native garden is restored and maintained. Since that time several volunteer groups and Amigos have assisted in weeding, pruning, and planting including Tom Pfeiffer, an enthusiastic science teacher from Segerstrom High School, and a group of about a dozen of his Environmental Science students. The State Beach maintenance department is currently working on repairing the irrigation system which will be invaluable in terms of adequately

watering the newly planted specimens until they are established and will be helpful in general for the mature plants when necessary. Our plan for the summer months is to keep the garden weeded, nurture the new plants that were just installed, and to plan for the fall when the bare spots will be filled with new plant material as the fall and winter months are the growing season for native plants. You will notice that



Rachael Lloyd, above, helps Tom Pfeiffer's Environmental Science students from Segerstrom High School with learning native plant gardening at Bolsa Chica State Beach Visitor Center. Photos by Tom Pfeiffer.



several of the plant species will appear dead during the summer months. This is because those plants are drought deciduous and lose their leaves during the summer drought. They will once again show off their beauty next winter and spring. Common examples include *Isocomia menziesii* (Coastal Goldenbush) and *Encelia californica* (California Bush Sunflower).

If you are interested in learning more about California native plants and would like to help with this restoration project please contact the Amigos at [info@amigosdebolsachica.org](mailto:info@amigosdebolsachica.org). Rachael Lloyd will also be available to share her knowledge and expertise.



NON. PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Huntington Beach, CA  
Permit No. 486

## THE TERN TIDE

Volume 43, Issue 2

[www.amigosdebolsachica.org](http://www.amigosdebolsachica.org)

[info@amigosdebolsachica.org](mailto:info@amigosdebolsachica.org)

(714) 840-1575

## AMIGOS DE BOLSA CHICA MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

I support the specific and primary purpose of Amigos de Bolsa Chica, which is to advocate the preservation, restoration and maintenance of the Bolsa Chica, to encourage the public acquisition of all the wetlands and sufficient surrounding open space to create a viable ecosystem, and to provide education about the importance of wetlands.

### ANNUAL DUES

\$ 10 Student

\$ 25 Individual

\$ 40 Family

\$100 Sustaining

\$1000 Life Member

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

### Additional Contribution:

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Fund operational expenses    \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Fund education projects    \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Total enclosed

### Please check if you are interested in volunteering for:

FLOW Citizen Science \_\_\_ Docent training/wetland tours \_\_\_ Wetlands cleanups \_\_\_ Fundraising \_\_\_ Grantwriting \_\_\_

All contributions to Amigos de Bolsa Chica are tax-deductible as allowed by law under IRS Code Section 501(c)3.

No goods or services were provided in consideration of this gift.

Return application to: Amigos de Bolsa Chica, P.O. Box 1563, Huntington Beach, CA 92647