

Amigos de Bolsa Chica THE **TERN TIDE**



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BOLSA CHICA WETLAND RESTORATION: AN UPDATE

By Dave Carlberg

Inside this Issue:

1

Restoration Update

2

President's Tern

3

**Bolsa Chica's Future
Rediscover Bolsa Chica**

4-5

**eScrip and Albertson
Donation Programs**

6

**Fall Town Hall Forum
Bird Column
Tern Tide Options
Daphne's Grand Opening**

7

**Show Us Your Support
California Coastal Cleanup
In Recognition**

THE TERN TIDE

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It is hard to believe that it has been a full year since the restoration of the Bolsa Chica wetlands was officially launched. On October 6, 2004, eight high ranking representatives from government and private entities, including Lt. Governor Cruz Bustamante, took part in the historical ground breaking ceremony. Historical because the event marked the start of the largest coastal wetland restoration ever undertaken in California, a restoration that will have a state-wide impact. There are a number of publicly owned wetlands in California that are in need of restoration. Sam Schuchat, California Coastal Conservancy executive officer in speaking to Sacramento Bee reporter Laura Mecoy, said, "The Bolsa Chica restoration is...a forerunner for the rest of the state's wetlands."

After delays due to the record rains last January and February, the Bolsa Chica restoration project has made enormous progress in the last seven months. Major earth moving is completed and as you read this, a dredge, floating in the partially flooded full tidal basin, is sculpting the final contours of the bay. The dredge, operating around the clock, will take 2 to 3 months to remove about a million cubic yards of sand from the basin.

Construction of the three large culverts that will deliver water to the muted tidal area is complete, as are the levees that separate the full tidal area from other parts of the wetland. The last of the 260 pilings that will support the highway bridge that will cross the future tidal inlet are in place. The bridge deck is now under construction and traffic should be flowing over a completed bridge by early January.

Through an eleventh hour settlement, Hearthside Homes agreed in July to the cleanup and sale to the state of the area known as the Fieldstone property. Sale of the 41 acre parcel, located in the northeast corner of the Bolsa Chica lowland, was delayed several years while negotiations were being conducted over details of the cleanup of toxic soil contamination and conditions of the sale itself. The property can now be included in the restoration. Decontamination of the property is now essentially complete and the berm that ran along the property's east perimeter has been leveled in preparation for the installation of the ground water barrier. The barrier will protect adjacent homes from salt water intrusion. The berm will be replaced on completion of the barrier and a permanent fence will be installed on the ocean side foot of the berm.

The last major operation is the construction of the ocean inlet and associated jetties. Rocks for the jetties, some weighing over 8 tons, are already on site. Once the jetties are in place and the total restoration project is complete, the inlet will be opened and a thirty year dream will be fulfilled.

PRESIDENT'S TERN

By Thomas Anderson

It is not only hard to believe that it was one year ago this month that ground was officially broken for the Bolsa Chica Lowlands Restoration Project, but also that so much has been accomplished in a very short amount of time. In spite of a few setbacks due to record rainfall, a new tidal basin has been sculpted, the dykes are nearly completed, the new bridge over the new tidal inlet is starting to take shape, and new nesting areas have been built. The ocean will once again begin flowing into the Bolsa Chica by March or April of 2006. It is heartening to see such massive construction take place so quickly.

Here at the Amigos de Bolsa Chica, we are both looking back at more than 30 years of effort to reach this point of acquisition and restoration, and looking forward to the role the community will play in the future care and maintenance of the restored and enhanced Bolsa Chica. Restoring the wetlands doesn't mean our work is over; it just means the work changes. We are proud of our accomplishments in Sacramento and Washington, D.C. But the lobbying has moved into the background; education and science have become the Amigos' priority.

Restoring the Bolsa Chica after more than 100 years of degradation is almost like starting from scratch. There haven't been many projects of this magnitude before, so we will have a thousand acre laboratory in our backyard that will be of great interest to scientists and bird watchers the world over. There are so many questions we won't know the answers to for quite some time: How long will it take to for the cordgrass to get established? When will it attract Light-footed Clapper Rails? What kinds of birds will come to the new nesting areas? What kinds of fish will utilize the new tidal inlet?

The Amigos are also committed to playing a key role in establishing Bolsa Chica's future management. In addition, we will assist in the creation of trails and construction of signage as well as continue our docent training program, print updated educational materials and lead in-depth tours about this unique habitat. The community's involvement in caring for the Bolsa Chica is as important and as necessary as it ever was. There are so many opportunities for volunteers to ensure that everyone who visits the Bolsa Chica is educated about this "wild" spot in the middle of an intensely developed California coast. It is an exciting time to be a member of the Amigos de Bolsa Chica.



Boardwalk Demolition Photographs - Courtesy of Jack Fancher, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

BOLSA CHICA'S FUTURE

Good news! At the Coastal Commission's September meeting in Eureka, the Commission voted to support a request by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to allow the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach to receive mitigation credits at Bolsa Chica Wetlands. The ports will purchase these credits with a \$23 million payment, thus allowing them to enlarge port facilities, using their mitigation credits at Bolsa Chica. This will allow the ports to continue their expansion projects. Anytime a port project is planned, the Ports are required to replace any lands lost in the expansion. They will now get mitigation credit for these impacted acres and the Bolsa Chica Restoration project will be finished on schedule. Also some of these monies can be designated for management purposes. The Bolsa Chica Restoration Project has \$7 million in a management account, and additional monies will ensure that this invaluable resource is cared for in the future. Several state and federal agencies are now reviewing their interest in assuming management responsibilities for the future, as well as private sources such as conservancies and trusts.

As this "always interesting" project continues, we will keep you all informed. As you can see the Amigos' still have a very important role in making sure that our dream of saving, acquiring, restoring and now managing the Bolsa Chica is kept alive!



REDISCOVER BOLSA CHICA

The Amigos de Bolsa Chica and the Golden West Pops will premiere a new musical experience on Sunday, October 16, 2005 at 1:30 P.M. The Huntington Beach Central Library Theater will be the venue and the cost per ticket is \$25.00.

The Concert will truly be a memorable experience. The Bolsa Chica is in the middle of an enormous restoration project that is transforming an old oilfield into a fully functioning wetland. Water from the ocean will be returning after an absence of over 100 years. Now is the time to rediscover what the Bolsa Chica is and to see what a group of concerned citizens has worked for over three decades. We are truly in an historic time to be witnessing nature returning to an area in the midst of urban and suburban sprawl. We invite you to join us in the celebration and to Rediscover Bolsa Chica for yourself.

The concert will showcase the 65 member Golden West Pops, who are quickly reaching a vast audience around the world through the international language of music. For the second half of the concert, images of Bolsa Chica will blend with the music for a powerful aural and visual experience.

Wine and cheese will be served before 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, staff and our generous sponsors. Dessert and coffee will be served. We hope to see you all there as we expand our fundraising activities in a new and rewarding direction for the community.

We have enclosed a flyer in this issue of the Tern Tide for you and remember that seating is limited so contact us today to purchase your tickets.

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%
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GROGERS

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%
Dinosaursuperstore.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%
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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

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Visit www.escrip.com for participating merchant locations.

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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/cpl/>. 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

Corporate Information March 6, 2005 SHOP ONLINE

Home > In the Community

ABOUT ALBERTSONS NEWS INVESTOR INFORMATION IN THE COMMUNITY CAREERS

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!

FALL TOWN HALL FORUM

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2005 – 7PM

PATIO LEVEL

HB CENTRAL LIBRARY

Join Amigos as we kick off our 30th year anniversary at our next Town Hall Forum. Dave Carlberg will give his excellent Power Point presentation on the Bolsa Chica Lowland Restoration Project and Peter Knapp will give a personalized bird presentation on what are the hopes and dreams for the bird population at Bolsa Chica at the completion of the restoration project. Both gentlemen have long histories with Bolsa Chica and are experts in their respective fields. In addition, there will be updates on upcoming Amigos events and an information table. For more information, contact Alexia at the office 840-1575.

THE TERN TIDE: ONLINE OR HARD COPY?

If you are still receiving the Tern Tide in the mail and are interested in our online option in PDF format, please email Alexia at info@amigosdebolsachica.org or call her at 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

DAPHNE'S GREEK CAFE GRAND OPENING NOVEMBER 3, 2005 CELEBRATE WITH US!

Please join us at the Grand Opening Celebration of Daphne's Greek Café in Huntington Beach at the Bella Terra Shopping Center. There will be a VIP Reception on Thursday, November 3rd from 5:00-7:00pm. Upon arrival, all guests will receive a complimentary VIP card for your food and beverage purchases. 20% of the overall sales for the day will be donated to Amigos, so if you cannot attend the reception, please join us between 11am-9pm for some wonderful food. Plus, if you sign-up with eScrip and use your registered credit card for your food purchase, Amigos will earn a percentage back on your purchase since Daphne's is one of eScrip's many participating restaurants. Please note that Amigos will also have an information table outside the café the entire day. Invitations for the reception will be mailed to our local residents soon, so please save the date!

THE BIRD COLUMN

By Peter Knapp

If you visited Bolsa Chica this summer, you know it was a very good year for terns. If you didn't visit the reserve, you missed an exciting spectacle, but I'll recap some of the numbers for you. First of all, the restoration effort appears to have had no adverse impact on terns. The following estimates were provided by Charlie Collins, Mike Horns and my own observations. Initially the Elegant terns chose the L.A./ Long Beach ports as a nest site but were disturbed by an unknown predator and they relocated to Bolsa Chica. The North tern island of the reserve provided a site for approximately 9300 nests. This was broken down into 9000 Elegant, 75 Caspian, 20 Royals, and 145 Forster's tern nests. Least terns nested on the South tern island and in small numbers in cells of seasonal ponds with a combined total of 140 nests. Black Skimmers are the last to breed and are currently using the South tern island. They began nesting here at the end of the Least tern nesting cycle. There are still 25 active nests. The large number of Elegants equates to 18,000 adults and with one egg per nest, about 7500 fledglings for a total of over 25,000 Elegants.

Other nesting bird species included Least bittern, Green heron, Killdeer, American avocets, Black-necked stilts, Beldings savannah sparrow, Canada goose, Snowy plovers, Horned larks and others. The Belding savannah sparrows were not surveyed this year. I am currently working toward a final count on Snowy plover fledgling success.

Of current interest, two Reddish egrets have been entertaining photographers and birders for the past six weeks. This past week over 125 White pelicans, mostly juveniles, have been present close to the boardwalk.

SHOW US YOUR SUPPORT

By Alexia Swanepoel

As the holiday season approaches, many of you are already getting caught up in making those travel plans, shopping for Halloween costumes and candy, writing and reading gift wish lists, cleaning your house for relatives from afar, and wondering what to feed everyone for the next three months. Frankly, I can empathize with all of you. While this year we may not be traveling, my two young sons are already asking for Bob the Builder costumes, looking over toy catalogs sent home from the preschool and pointing out what they think they can't live without, caring little about how clean the house is and hoping that there will be enough ice cream in the freezer throughout the winter. With family mayhem, it is difficult to even consider the "wants" and "needs" of your local non-profit organization and yet what we desperately need is your support and enthusiasm.

So how can you help? By sending in your membership when it is due. By opting to receive your Tern Tide via email rather than by mail. By sending in a small donation for a fundraising event if you can not attend. By donating your recyclable toner cartridges and cell phones to our office. By signing up for the eScrip and Albertsons/Sav-On programs which cost you nothing. By eating at Rubio's and Daphne's Greek Café on our donation nights because you have to eat anyway, so why not there? By offering some of your time and amazing talents to one of our several committees. By telling your friends and family how wonderful Bolsa Chica is and invite them to our free public tours or a town hall meeting. By giving a membership to a friend for a birthday or holiday gift. By sending us an email offering us good wishes. By volunteering at the next cleanup effort. By just being interested.

From your Amigos family, we wish you all a safe and wonderful holiday season. **THANK YOU!**

2005 CALIFORNIA COASTAL CLEANUP

Thanks to all the wonderful volunteers that came out for the Coastal Cleanup this year. Thanks to Julia Tafel, Barbara Delglaze, Anna Horner and Jennifer Robins at the Information, Sign-In and Merchandise tables; Phil Smith, Kevin McCarthy, Terry Dolton, Al Vari, and Ron Davis as Team Leaders for the employees from Shimano Resource Corp. and students from Cerritos and Mt. San Antonio Colleges.

We were faced with new challenges planning for the cleanup this year. Jim Robins and Alexia Swanepoel led the volunteers to a successful day that was evident from the overflowing dumpsters. The coordination with the Bolsa Chica Conservancy and the Bolsa Chica Land Trust helped overcome the logistic challenges faced by the on-going Restoration.

Donations from Trader Joe's, Starbuck's and Poseidon provided the volunteers with snacks, coffee and water.

IN RECOGNITION

Welcome to REI Bella Terra! Our board members were invited to their community reception in August to celebrate their arrival to Huntington Beach. We are enthused that at the core of their commitment to provide high quality outdoor recreation gear is their passion to protect valuable natural resources like the Bolsa Chica Wetlands. REI employees have already volunteered at Bolsa Chica by pulling ice plant. Thank you REI!

Anna Horner, an Amigos member and docent, responded with the Humane Society to Baton Rouge, LA as a representative of the Pet Care Team for HB CERT. Anna has also continued her work with our membership drive and has assisted Jennifer Robins with merchandise at the public tours and California Coastal Cleanup.



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 (714) 840-1575 (Phone/Fax)

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