

## Important Numbers

**Nature Center**  
760-931-0800

**Carlsbad City Police**  
(for trails and surrounding lagoon)  
760-931-2197 (business line)  
760-937-2115 (watch commander)

**Calif. Dept. of Fish & Game**  
(shoreline or water issues)  
858-467-4201 (Regional Office)  
888-334-2258 (CALTIPS)

## Addresses

**Mail**  
P.O. Box 130491  
Carlsbad, CA 92013

**E-mail**  
info@batiquitosfoundation.org  
member@batiquitosfoundation.org

**Website**  
www.batiquitosfoundation.org

**Nature Center Location:**  
7380 Gabbiano Ln., Carlsbad  
(not mailing address)

**Nature Center Hours:**  
Wednesday noon - 4 pm  
Thursday noon - 4 pm  
Friday noon - 4 pm  
Saturday 10 am - 2 pm  
Sunday 10 am - 2 pm

## Board of Directors

Seth Schulberg - President  
John Burns - Chairman of the Board  
Fred Sandquist - Exec. Vice Pres.  
Mona Baumgartel - Senior Vice Pres.  
Rick Ransburg - Treasurer  
Sheila Locko - Secretary  
Don Connors  
Khevin Barnes  
John Stires

## The Meaning of "Water Quality"

The term "water quality" comes up often in discussions of Batiquitos Lagoon and its watershed. What do we mean in talking about the water quality of water that comes in to the lagoon from San Marcos Creek, for example??

Everybody knows what pure water is. We almost never come into contact with it, however. Distilled water is pure water, but those of you who have tasted distilled water know how tasteless it is. Drinking water has a tiny bit of added chemicals and tastes better. But there are governmental standards for just how much and which of these chemicals are allowed in drinking water (Your water district should send you information on these.).

There are also determinations for other water, such as water in the ocean or streams and lakes. This is already done by most cities, and we are starting a program for monitoring water quality for water entering the lagoon. The focus of that monitoring is San Marcos Creek because the water from that creek enters the lagoon under a bridge on El Camino Real.

We have tested the water from two sites along San Marcos Creek for some chemicals that are contained in fertilizers and in detergents, as well as for acid levels and temperature. We have also collected some of those tiny insects, worms and shrimp-like animals that live at the bottom of the stream. These critters serve as biological indicators of stream health. That is, a healthy stream has a certain number of various critters while too many critters, or too many of one type, might tip us off that the stream has an elevated level of some pollutant. Similarly, too few critters might also let us know that the stream is not healthy.

We have been getting guidance and assistance from the San Diego Stream Team, a citizen stream monitoring group whose data is recognized as valid by local, state, and federal government agencies. We have also had help from UCSD, Cal. State San Marcos, and our invaluable volunteers. Our goals are to establish baseline data for levels of stream health so we can monitor the streams for any changes and to make this data available to the public. Another goal of ours is to educate volunteers about stream health while having fun in the field and in the laboratory.

We will be testing San Marcos Creek and, perhaps, Encinitas Creek sometime in October. If you would like to find out more about our water quality monitoring project and how you can participate, please email John Stires at [jstires@ucsd.edu](mailto:jstires@ucsd.edu) or call him during business hours at (858) 822-2477.

... John Stires/Mona Baumgartel

## CONDOLENCES TO LIZ PAEGEL AND HER FAMILY

Liz Paegel's husband, Skip, passed away at their home on Friday, July 16, 2004, after a long battle with cancer. Our thoughts go out to Liz, the BLF Education Coordinator and docent meeting chair, a former member of our Board of Directors, and supporter of the Batiquitos Lagoon Foundation, and to her family during these very difficult of times.

... Fred Sandquist

## Permanent Nature Center

Planning for the permanent nature center is moving forward, if slowly. Attention to three main objectives continues to be: site location, funding sources, and center design. All three are critical: require the attention of all BLF members for the best planning.

Since the future site needs to be close to the North Shore Trail, the candidate sites are limited. Two of the most promising sites are at the east end. Both are privately owned, are on difficult terrain and would require engineering and site development to be usable but are highly desirable and in ideal locations. They are very attractive, so planning for their availability is being studied. An agreement with a real estate broker who specializes in environmental acquisition and funding is being negotiated. These discussions are complicated and need thorough examination during negotiations. Participation by BLF members is invited to ensure that all possibilities are explored.

We are emphasizing education and service as the major points of interest in the design of the new nature center. We are gathering suggestions and comments so it will include the most desirable features and educational concepts to present to the visiting public. There are many advanced technical tools that will enhance the center's attraction to the greatest number of visitors. Other interests are accessibility, convenience, flexibility, style, and cost. Members and the public are invited to submit their ideas for design to **Don Connors**, at (760) 931-0200 or e-mail: [primussystems@earthlink.net](mailto:primussystems@earthlink.net).

Let's make our nature center the best on the coast - it is already much used and appreciated.

... Don Connors

## LEAST TERN *Sterna antillarum*

**STATUS:** Batiquitos Lagoon has 4 fenced (*plus one unfenced island*) Natural Preserves, which the Least Terns use for nesting from May through August each year. These small birds are on the U.S. Endangered Species list because many of their nesting and feeding spots have been disturbed. Visitors are asked to stay 15 ft. from the fence.

### DESCRIPTION:

**SIZE:** One of smallest terns, 9 inch length, 20 inch wingspan  
Black-lipped yellow bill, yellow feet  
White with blackcap, white patch on forehead  
Pale gray back and wings, forked tail, dark outer two primaries  
Wingbeats are uniquely rapid  
Most often seen hovering over the water, peering downward in search of small fish

### LIFE CYCLE:

They migrate from Mexico & So. America in late April  
Pairs form after arriving in nesting area  
Pair formation intimately associated with Fish Flight Display  
Courtship period is usually 2-3 weeks

### NESTING:

The nest is a shallow scrape in the sand, lined with bits of shell  
Two beige, brown spotted eggs, are commonly laid  
Incubation period is 19-25 days, chicks fledge in 19-20 days  
Chicks use vegetation and roof tiles for shelter  
Both sexes feed young, bringing small fish to chicks



... Sharon Anthony

(Be sure to see this photo in color and Sharon's other photos at the Nature Center!)

## Calendar

### Regular Events

**Lagoon Clean-up**—first Saturday of each month; meet at the Nature Center at 9:00 a.m.; bring gloves and water.

**Board Meeting**—third Tuesday of each month; call for meeting details.

### Special Events

**Annual Meeting**—October, 2004

## Lagoon Access

Batiquitos Lagoon is located in South Carlsbad. Most access points are on the north side of the lagoon off of Batiquitos Drive:

**Nature Center**—Parking lot and trail access is at the end of Gabbiano Lane (just east of I-5). Be nice to our neighbors: DO NOT block driveways or park in front of mailboxes.

**Bella Lago**—Parking lot and trail access is off Batiquitos Dr. east of Gabbiano.

**Aviara Cove**—Parking lot and trail access is on Batiquitos Dr. east of Bella Lago and just west of the Aviara Golf Course.

**East Parking Lot**—Parking lot and trail access is on Batiquitos Dr. east of the Aviara Clubhouse and Golf Course.

**Arenal Road**—Off El Camino Real south of Aviara Blvd.; park on the street.

**VOLUNTEER OF THE QUARTER**



Paula Kirpalani has been selected to be honored as our Volunteer of the Quarter. Paula joined the ranks of Batiquitos Lagoon Foundation volunteers in July 2003. A very *get-involved* and active person, she has brought us some very key skills. These include: leadership, administration organization, fund-raising, know-how in the inner workings of how to successfully create and run a non-profit organization, and how to interact with the public and our pool of volunteers.

From the very first day she joined us, she made and continues to make her mark in many of our Foundation activities. A true team player, she strives to achieve success through working with others, consensus building, and leadership. She has served many hours in support of our many projects and ongoing activities.

Paula came to us with an already established track record from working at Quail Gardens in Encinitas. She resides in the Skyloft community overlooking our lagoon with her husband, Hiroo. She recently accepted a very challenging position as Program Manager for the Leucadia 101 Main Street Downtown Association.

Please join in thanking Paula for her faithful and dedicated service to the Batiquitos Lagoon Foundation!

... Fred Sandquist

REMINDER TO MEMBERS:  
Check the expiration date on  
your mailing label to find out  
when you need to renew your  
membership.

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Batiquitos Lagoon Foundation  
P.O. Box 130491  
Carlsbad, CA 92013



**BATIQUITOS LAGOON FOUNDATION  
NEWSLETTER**

*A public benefit corporation dedicated to the preservation, protection, and enhancement of Batiquitos Lagoon*

**SUMMER 2004**

**CLUB PELICAN ANOTHER SUCCESS!**

Each year, the Batiquitos Lagoon Foundation, in partnership with the City of Carlsbad's Arts Council, sponsors a series of day camps for elementary school age children. This program combines education in the environment, plants, animals, aquatic life, geology, and Native Americans in our ecological reserve with a creative arts flair. This year was no exception, with three classes of thirty students each.

A special thanks to Joyce Page who took the lead for the BLF, planned this year's classes, and taught during each class, so that we again had a success. Docents Cheryl Brin, Dave Dyer, Joan Lubowe, Martha Murphy-George, Dudney O'Dell, Kate Troup, and Cecil Wadley also supported our three classes and provided instruction, demonstrations and nature walks which made our classes truly memorable. The Arts Council provided art instructors and support people to round out the staff. Additional thanks to Don Connors, Barbara Farley, and Russ Whitman for getting the Nature Center area ready for the classes and for supporting our team.



Please note the very happy faces of our latest Club Pelican attendees!

... Fred Sandquist



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**Membership**

Membership in Batiquitos Lagoon Foundation is a great way to support our efforts to maintain and improve this beautiful natural resource.

Annual memberships are available in the following categories:

Student/Sr Citizen	\$10
Individual	\$15
Family	\$25
Sponsor	\$50
Patron	\$100
Corporate	\$250



*From the Desk of the Executive Vice President . . .*

## Foundation Tidbits

Thanks again to the very hard work of our many volunteers, the Batiquitos Lagoon Foundation continues to make significant progress in *Preserving, Protecting and Enhancing* the Batiquitos Lagoon Ecological Reserve and its' associated watershed. From our public education and water quality monitoring programs, to our work to find a permanent home for our nature center, we are making our mark in North San Diego County!

We have made significant progress in improving our lines of communications with key organizations that we must deal with on a regular basis. These include: Aviara Master Association which owns the property where our nature center stands and along the North Shore Trail; Four Seasons Resort and Spa – Aviara which also owns North Shore Trail property; California Department of Fish and Game which manages the Batiquitos Lagoon Ecological Reserve; the City of Carlsbad which issues various permits and oversees a lot of the activities that we support; California State University – San Marcos which is supporting laboratory testing associated with our water quality monitoring program; the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) and their I-5 widening and Los Angeles to San Diego railway bridge replacement and trail (LOSAN) program; and the Cities of Carlsbad and Encinitas in water quality monitoring and other projects. Through these improved communications, we are able to more effectively advance our various project and plans for the betterment of the Batiquitos Lagoon watershed.

Another exciting area concerns Eagle Scout projects with the Boy Scouts of America. We currently have three projects that are nearly ready to get underway. An additional three are in the wings. Projects like these afford us the opportunity to partner with local organizations that result in significant improvement to the lagoon. These include: installing more rope fencing along the North Shore Trail to limit off-trail excursions by the public that destroys sensitive habitat; building a bird observation platform to achieve a balance between protecting the habitat and affording better public viewing of our bird population; replacement, expansion and update of our North Shore Interpretive Nature Trail and guide; installation of bat houses to help expand our bat colonies and control our mosquito population, including helping to prevent the spread of the West Nile virus; and various trail improvements to control erosion and enhance proper public access.

We also conducted our annual *Club Pelican* summer day camp, hosting 90 children over three five-day sessions. Thanks to the very strong support from our docent volunteers and the Carlsbad Arts Council, it was again a re-

sounding success. A special thanks goes out to Joyce Page who provided the overall leadership and managed all three classes for the Batiquitos Lagoon Foundation. Well done to Joyce and all who supported her!

We are working with the California Coastal Conservancy on an exciting opportunity to develop an expanded and more comprehensive restoration and enhancement plan for Batiquitos Lagoon and its associated watershed. This effort is expected to lead to the opportunity to access grant funding for a number of important programs for the foundation. Through a partnership with Aviara Master Association, Four Seasons Resort – Aviara, La Costa Resort and Spa, the State of California, California Department of Fish and Game, and the cities of Carlsbad and Encinitas, our restoration prospects are very exciting.

Planning is underway for our next Volunteer Training Program. Each year in the February-March timeframe, we conduct a series of eight classes designed to provide a sampling of various aspects of our lagoon to the general public. Over the years, this program has resulted in a significant increase to our volunteer ranks – a critical success factor for any volunteer-based organization like ours. We envision that our success will continue and that we will again have another large graduating class, increasing our pool of volunteers. More on our 2005 Volunteer Training Program will be provided in the fall.

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**Barbara Farley** - This is a photo of the BLF Volunteer who was highlighted in the last newsletter but her picture was inexplicably missing from printed version.





With these very significant achievements also comes a recurring problem that befalls most non-profit organizations – our financial health. Last year the Foundation turned the corner and was able to continue to move forward financially. This fall, our expenses versus income situation is again expected to *go critical*. Accordingly, the BLF Board of Directors has imposed a new spending freeze to slow our negative cash flow. We are also planning to hold two fund-raising events: one in the late October early November timeframe; and another larger event in the March 2005 timeframe. The earlier event is expected to get us through and into the next calendar year. The second one should enable us to sustain our programs well into our next fiscal year (July 1<sup>st</sup> through June 30<sup>th</sup>). We are also taking measures

to increase our membership base, both individual/family/senior/student and at higher contribution levels: sponsor/patron and corporate/business. More information concerning our plans will be provided in the very near future. If you have any thoughts or ideas, or want to help with our fund-raising activities, please contact me at (760) 931-0800 or e-mail me through [volunteers@batiquitosfoundation.org](mailto:volunteers@batiquitosfoundation.org).

Thanks again to all of you – our members and volunteers for making the Batiquitos Lagoon Foundation an organization we can all be proud of!

*. . . Fred C. Sandquist*

## **BATIQUITOS LAGOON**

### **A Descriptive Poem by Doug Strong**

*Glaciers melted long ago,  
ocean levels rising,  
salty currents made their way  
to fill a coastal canyon.*

*Waters fresh and salt  
attract many species,  
native plants take hold,  
exotics to follow.*

*Birds in abundance  
nesting sites in view,  
nature's vibrancy  
in this breeding ground.*

*Here coastal fishes  
school in profusion,  
shallow and open waters,  
a varied habitat.*

*When the tide goes out,  
worms and clams exposed,  
many creatures feeding,  
a food chain's appetite.*

*Fragments of shellfish,  
collect in hidden places,  
evidence that Indians  
camped here and stayed.*



*Trail on northern shore,  
a nature preserve,  
a welcome retreat  
in the urban sprawl.*

*Dogs on leashes are allowed,  
older folks and joggers,  
wooden benches here and there  
provide a place to rest.*

*Many who use the trail  
work for its protection,  
testimony that those who come  
care for nature's ways.*

