



# Golden Gate Audubon Society

## 2018 Annual Report

July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2018



### **Our Centennial Celebrations**

The second half of our Centennial Year brought exciting and well attended events showcasing the legacy of Golden Gate Audubon's century of work in the Bay Area. The Tides Theatre Center at the Presidio, Lindsay Wildlife Experience, and Richmond City Hall displayed our stunning 14 panel traveling exhibit. Engaging activities involved local community members. At the Lindsay Wildlife Experience Centennial reception guests were treated to a close-up view of live raptors, Chalk Art at the Presidio was dubbed #SummerOfBirdLove and our Chalk it Up in Richmond event celebrated both our Centennial and the Year of the Bird, ending with the City of Richmond proclaiming the Osprey its official city bird.

**And we had a lot to celebrate...**

*Top: GGAS Centennial Panels. Photo by Jack Ryder*

*Left: Judy Irving at Presidio Centennial Event. Photo by Cindy Margulis*





## Volunteers

Janet Carpinelli

This year, 2,438 volunteers contributed their skills for birds. Accomplishments ranged from supporting Golden Gate Audubon's Centennial, restoring native habitat, public education on local birds, analyzing and commenting on local development proposals and wildlife management plans, and advocacy in support of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. Community science work was conducted in a variety of surveys including breeding and roosting fall shorebirds and Christmas Bird Counts. Docents and Field Trip Leaders shared local sites and birds with members and the public. Volunteers built fishing line recycling bins and worked with local land managers to have them installed. Artists rendered huge local birds with sidewalk chalk and photographers snapped stunning wild bird images. Office volunteers entered data, contact information, and prepared materials for events. All of these efforts contributed to GGAS's mission of connecting people with birds and inspiring the protection of birds and their habitats.

## Community Science

Through the painstaking efforts of volunteer community scientists, Golden Gate Audubon monitors several species of both resident and migratory Bay Area birds. Through the work of teams monitoring Brown Pelicans, Black Oystercatchers, Burrowing Owls, Cormorants, Ospreys, shorebirds, Least and Caspian Terns, Tree Swallows, Wood Ducks, Western Bluebirds, and Vaux Swifts, Golden Gate Audubon gathers data needed to advocate for bird-friendly policies throughout San Francisco, Alameda and West Contra Costa Counties. Additionally, over 500 volunteers participated in the annual Christmas Bird Counts in San Francisco and Oakland. In Oakland 384 field counters, plus 14 feeder watchers, counted 181 species for a total of 112,914 individual birds, having more participants in the field than any other count for the fourth year in a row. San Francisco had 128 field observers and counted 181 species for a total of 53,222 individual birds.



Rick Lewis

## Official City Bird

The nest cam that documents the daily life of ospreys "Richmond" and "Rosie" grew in scope and popularity. This year the cam site added a STEM and community science component for secondary school students.



The bird couple's popularity also led to the city of Richmond proclaiming the Osprey as the official city bird in honor of the Year of the Bird. The pairs' popularity inspired GGAS to host a well-attended evening of celebration, Sunset with our Ospreys, at Riggers Loft Wine Company, located beneath the nesting site.

## Awards



**Paul Covell Award for Education** was awarded to **Steve Lombardi** for his outstanding ongoing leadership of the GGAS field trips program.

**Elsie Roemer Conservation Award** was given to **Rusty Scalf, Michael Helm, Maureen Lahiff & Emilie Strauss** for their collaborative leadership of Vaux Swift monitoring.





Janet Carpinelli

## **Habitat Restoration**

Volunteers participated in hands on work for endangered and threatened species including the Least Tern, Ridgway's Rail, and Snowy Plover, as well as, resident and migrating bird species. Habitat restoration events were led monthly at Alameda Wildlife Reserve, Crissy Field, Heron's Head Park, Bison Paddock and North Lake in Golden Gate Park, Martin Luther King Jr. Shoreline Park, Pier 94 in San Francisco, and Treasure Island/Yerba Buena Island. During habitat restoration, volunteers installed native plants, removed weeds, trash and recyclable materials, and cleaned and relocated tree swallow and bluebird nest boxes in Golden Gate Park.

## **Youth Education**

Eco-Ed served 8 title-1 schools reaching 439 3rd through 5th grade students and 800 family members. Eco-Ed gave a total of 25 field trips and 40 in-class presentations. Students installed 250 native plants and shrubs, and removed over 50 – 13 gallon garbage bags of trash from our local parks. Eco-Ed consulted on the design of 16 insectivorous bird (including Bluebird) nestboxes in Richmond's emerging green belt alliance as part of an Integrated Pest Management Plan. Collaboration with two community organizations expanded nesting opportunities for insectivorous birds by creating a trail of more than 26 bird nest boxes in urban community gardens and parks.



Clay Anderson



## **Adult Education**

GGAS offered 23 modestly-priced classes with both a classroom component and a field component for adults, such as: Beginning Birding, Birds of the Bay Area, and Birding by Ear. 63 volunteer field trip leaders led 192 field trips over the past year including family-friendly, bicycle, pelagic and even multi-day field trips, plus three Centennial themed field trips. The GGAS speaker series has grown in popularity with our members and the public. Last year speakers presented on a variety of interesting avian topics and current challenges for birds and their habitats. 47 docents were trained to provide public education about Burrowing Owls, Birding the Bay Trail, and Lake Merritt. Docents in Oakland shared scope views of the nesting Double-crested Cormorants and information on herons, egrets, and other birds.

## **Conservation Advocacy**

Members of the East Bay Conservation Committee (EBCC), San Francisco Conservation Committee (SFCC), and Friends of the Alameda Wildlife Reserve (FAWR) devoted many hours attending municipal meetings, analyzing documents and drafting comments on a variety of environmental issues. FAWR members were actively engaged with Return of the Terns and Tern-Watch. SFCC worked with the Port of San Francisco to install a pole and bucket for Osprey nesting near Pier 94. GGAS worked with the Port of San Francisco to install solar powered speakers and decoys of Caspian Terns and at Agua Vista to try to bring these birds back. GGAS members also participated on the National Bird Safe Buildings Steering Committee, the California Tree Care for Birds and Other Wildlife Committee, and the Task Force for India Basin Shoreline Park in San Francisco. GGAS representatives met with the Superintendent of the GGNRA, BDCD Design Review Board, CalTrans, National Park Service, SF Rec and Parks Department, SF Planning, Richmond Planning Department, Boston Properties, and others for protections for Bay Area birds. Many members also submitted letters regarding biodiversity, street trees, Mt. Sutro, and the India Basin Draft EIR.



Rick Lewis



## Financials 2017 - 2018

### Statement of Revenue and Expenses Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2018

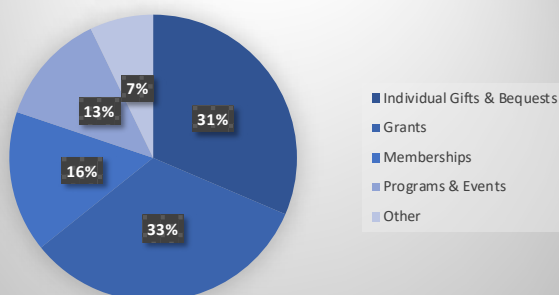
#### REVENUE

Individual Gifts & Bequests	\$206,823
Grants	215,694
Memberships	104,960
Programs & Events	83,405
Other	46,961

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<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$657,843</b>
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#### REVENUE



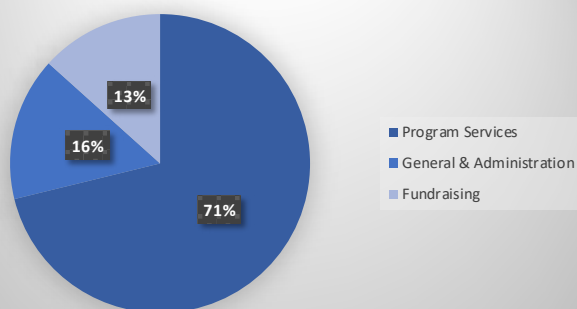
#### EXPENSES

Program Services	382,809
General & Administrative	83,476
Fundraising	71,633

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<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$537,918</b>
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#### EXPENSES



#### LIABILITIES

Total Liabilities	59,463
Net Assets	942,024

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<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; NET ASSETS</b>	<b>\$1,001,487</b>
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## Board Members

These 10 board members contributed over 2226 hours to help guide Golden Gate Audubon Society in Fiscal Year 2017 to 2018

President: Diane Bennett  
Vice-President: Carol Baird  
Treasurer: Bruce Mast  
Secretary: Linda Carloni  
Sharon Beals  
Jack Dumbacher  
William Hudson  
Jill Weader O'Brien  
Eric Schroeder  
Pam Young

## Staff Members

Cindy Margulis, Executive Director  
Clay Anderson, Youth Education  
Monica Moore, Office Manager  
Noreen Weeden, Volunteer Director  
Leslie Weir, Development & Communications

Join today and protect Bay Area wildlife! Golden Gate Audubon owes our success to people like you. If you are not yet a GGAS member, please join us. For as little as \$35, you can become part of our visionary work. Join at [www.goldengateaudubon.org](http://www.goldengateaudubon.org), call 510.843.2222, or mail your check to Golden Gate Audubon Society 2530 San Pablo Ave., Suite G, Berkeley CA 94702.

Although we are a National Audubon chapter, we are an independent organization that relies almost entirely on local contributions to support our work. Every dollar goes to support our local Bay Area conservation, education and birding programs. Golden Gate Audubon is a 501c3 non-profit, and donations are tax-deductible.

## Our Mission

The Golden Gate Audubon Society engages people to experience the wonder of birds and to translate that wonder into actions which protect native bird populations and their habitats.