

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Function Statement

August 2016

Scope:

The Education Committee is responsible for a large variety of efforts in reaching out to both adults and children. Examples of these activities include community outreach, instruction and presentations, beginning birder activities, and family friendly and youth activities.

Composition:

Chair

The committee chair is a volunteer position that coordinates the efforts of lead volunteers in each area, and provides support if needed or requested. The Chair will serve as the primary contact to the general public by fielding inquiries and directing the inquirer to the appropriate lead volunteer (s). The chair is not responsible for any specific area, but may coordinate education related activities as requested by the board, or conduct targeted outreach to organizations and community groups to stimulate an interest in birding and SAS.

Lead Volunteer

The lead volunteer coordinates all activities related to their respective area, including forming an assistant volunteer team that provides educational programs and activities to SAS members and the general community.

Key Functional Areas and Lead Volunteers:

Beginning Birder Activities – Cathie Lazier

Organizes assistant volunteers to lead field activities for beginning birders.

Family Friendly/Kids' Trips and Kids Christmas Bird Count – Maureen Geiger

Organizes assistant volunteers to lead field activities for family and youth activities.

Family Nature Walks at Effie Yeaw Nature Center (EYNC) – Maureen Geiger

Organizes assistant volunteers to lead nature walks at EYNC.

Liaison to EYNC – Maureen Geiger and Cathie Lazier (this function may transition to the Chair in the future)

Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC)- Maureen Geiger and Cathie LaZier

Schedules as many field trips as possible over the 4-day period and enter results in the GBBC database.

Community Outreach – Bill Bianco

Organizes assistant volunteers for SAS booths and tables at several community events throughout the year.

Presentations/Class Instruction and Speakers – Subhash Chand

The lead volunteer;

- Arranges talks and presentations in elementary schools, community centers, garden clubs, and other organizations and groups, intended to educate and build enthusiasm for birding for youth and adults in the Sacramento region.
- Develops presentations* about birds and birding, as represented in examples below;
 - Common Birds around Sacramento

- Cool things that birds do
- Birds' courtship behavior
- Parenting Strategies among birds
- Why birds do that

This list of presentations* were developed by lead volunteer Subhash Chand and are available by download or CD for the programs to all volunteers.

- Conducts outreach to membership for recommendations on other topics they are willing to speak on
- Maintains a list of volunteers willing to speak at schools (in the absence of the lead volunteer) and to groups, and train new volunteer speakers as needed.
- The chair assists the lead volunteer by identifying schools for presentations, and works with SAS members with proposals to instruct classes on birding, or other opportunities to educate the community on birds and birding.