

# Elsie B. Roemer Bird Sanctuary



Elsie Roemer 1892-1991, Alameda resident and conservationist. Elsie led the effort to preserve this salt marsh.

brown pelican



willet



great blue heron



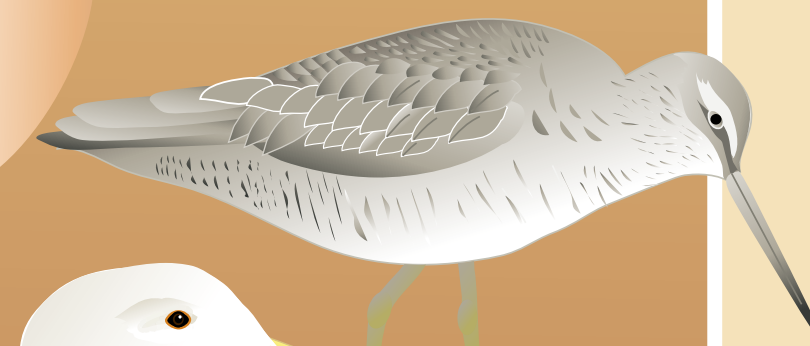
American avocet



marbled godwit



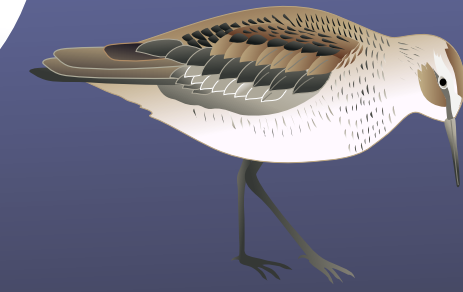
dowitcher



California gull



western sandpiper



Before you is one of the few remnant salt marshes in the San Francisco Bay. As important and delicate ecosystems, salt marshes serve as nurseries for crab and fish species, provide critical habitat for endangered plants and birds, and protect coastlines from flooding.

When this marshland was slated for development in the 1970s, Elsie Roemer spoke up for the thousands of birds that fed and nested here, especially the endangered California Clapper Rail. For decades, Elsie conducted bird surveys along Alameda and Oakland shorelines. Her careful records, along with her organizing skills and diplomacy, inspired the preservation of local marshland.

Elsie Roemer's friends convinced the East Bay Regional Park District to name the bird sanctuary after Elsie in 1979, to honor her lifelong dedication to saving wildlife and wetlands in Alameda. As we follow in Elsie's footsteps along the shore, may we also follow her legacy of caring for this precious natural resource.

Elsie Roemer photo: Alameda Times Star (Padovan) 2/21/79



Elsie Roemer Bird Sanctuary

snowy egret



double-crested cormorant



greater yellowlegs



song sparrow



marsh wren



California clapper rail (endangered)

