



ROADRUNNER

Founded 1968

Published by the Conejo Valley Audubon Society

A Chapter of the National Audubon Society

Visit Us At: <http://www.ConejoValleyAudubon.org>

Or: <http://www.facebook.com/ConejoValleyAudubon>

VOL. 43

October, 2012

NO. 2

General Meeting October 1 7:30 pm Western Foundation

Six Legs Good with Robb Hamilton

When you think of flying creatures what comes to mind? I would guess that birds are right up there near the top, but don't leave out our insect friends. Though often overlooked due to their smaller size and lack of vocalization, they're tremendous flyers, and come in colors that make many a bird pale in comparison.

Join us as respected Orange County conservation advocate Robb Hamilton takes us on a pictorial tour of our local insect world. (See below: Variegated Meadowhawk / *photo by Hamilton.*)

President of Hamilton Biological, Inc., which has been providing biological consulting services in southern California since 1988, Robb is also a recognized authority on the status, distribution, and identification of birds in California.



Conservation Column By Dee Lyon

When people hear the phrase “Brazilian tropical rainforest”, the first place that usually comes to mind is the Amazon. However, Brazil has another rainforest that may be even more important for the country’s economy and the welfare of its population: the Atlantic Forest, a territory that once covered more than 500,000 square miles of the South American continent, a region larger than Peru.

The Atlantic Forest is among the world’s 35 biodiversity hotspots, Earth’s richest and most threatened biological regions, and therefore is undoubtedly a priority biome for biodiversity conservation. It contains many species found nowhere else on Earth, including 261 kinds of mammals, 688 birds, 200 reptiles, 280 amphibians, more than 20,000 plants and countless other species we have yet to discover.

The problem is the Atlantic Forest is also home to 70 percent of Brazilians and generates around 80 percent of Brazil’s GDP. Seven of the 10 most populous cities of Brazil depend on the remnants of the Atlantic Forest for their water supply and to generate most of the electricity they consume.

Surveys on land use in the Atlantic Forest indicate it is possible to recover the most important areas for critical environmental services (such as water provision and climate stability) without competing with food and raw materials production. Moreover, the activities required for forest restoration (seed collection, seedling production, planting and maintaining areas, driving and monitoring natural regeneration) require manpower and constitute a supply chain that can generate a positive

Continued on Page 3

CALENDAR

October

1	5:15 pm	Pre meeting Dinner: Ottavio’s
1	7:30 pm	General Meeting Western Foundation
6	8:30 am	Field Trip: Canada Larga Road
11	9:00 am	Field Trip: Beginner’s Bird Walk
13	6:30 am	Field Trip: Tejon Ranch
20	8:00 am	Field Trip: Rancho Sierra Vista
27	8:00 am	Field Trip: Laguna Tams and Sycamore Cyn.

Pre meeting Dinner

Ottavio’s in Camarillo at 5:15 pm

Call **Nobuko McClure**

For Reservations **(805) 482-0411**

Reservation Deadline: 9:00 am

Day of General Meeting

CVAS Events

Everyone is welcome to attend any CVAS meeting or field trip. CVAS assumes no responsibility for injuries, personal or otherwise, incurred while attending a society-sponsored activity and will not be held liable for such accidents. One attends at one's own risk.

Board Meeting Notice

The October Board Meeting will be held on Monday October 15. All CVAS members are invited to attend monthly CVAS Board Meetings. Meetings start at 7:00 pm and are held in the home of a board member with meeting locations varying monthly. Please contact CVAS Secretary, **Gary Evans** at (805) 231-5692 or GaryE@ConejoValleyAudubon.org for meeting location and directions.

Field Trips

The times specified are departure times – **be sure to arrive 15 min earlier**. Try to carpool whenever possible and don't forget to offer the driver gas money!
RAIN CANCELS!

Saturday, October 6 Cañada Larga Road

Meet at the start of the road after the exit from Hwy 33 at 8:30am. Bring water and lunch. Birds we will look for include warblers, sapsuckers, woodpeckers, raptors, western bluebirds, and barn owls. Leader is **John Pavelko (805) 640-9040**

Thursday, October 11 Beginner's Bird Walk

Second Thursday of each month. Call **Angie Kobabe (818) 991-4055** between 9:00 am and 9:00 pm to let her know you are coming and to find out where it will be held. Rain or temperatures above 90 degrees will cancel.

Saturday, October 13, Tejon Ranch

This trip for CVAS members only requires preregistration so please contact **Matthew Page (805) 990-6534** or fieldtrips@conejovalleyaudubon.org at least two weeks prior to the trip. "Walk-in" or "day-of" registration is not allowed. Meet at Janss Park & Ride at 6:30 am. We will drive up I-5 to 138 to the Tejon Ranch where we will be met by a conservancy docent. Plan for the possibility of cool windy weather. There are no facilities on the

property. Bring sunscreen, lunch, snack food and plenty of drinking water. Good walking/hiking shoes are recommended. Leader is **Matthew Page (805) 990-6534**.

Saturday, October 20 Rancho Sierra Vista

Sierra Vista / Satwiwa: Meet at Sierra Vista at 8:00 am in the main parking lot. Take Wendy to Lynn Road; turn right, go to the entrance to National Recreation Area / Sierra Vista and proceed to main parking lot. Leader is **Frank DeMartino (856) 906-8733**.

Saturday, October 27 Laguna Tams and Sycamore Canyon

Meet at the Las Posas Park and Ride at 8:00 am. We will scour the tams along Laguna Road for migrating warblers, vireos, and sparrows. The Laguna Tams have historically produced some of the most interesting fall migrants in the county. Yellow-rumped, Townsend's, Black-throated Gray, Yellow, and Wilson's Warblers are likely. Hopefuls include American Redstart, Blackpoll Warbler, and perhaps a rare vireo. Last year a Connecticut Warbler and Gray Vireo were seen here at the same time! Leader is **Dee Lyon (805) 499-2165**.

2013 Field Trips

Mark Them On Your Calendar

But Check The Newsletter To Be Sure

Sat, Jan 5, 2013	Saticoy Ponds
Sun, Jan 13, 2013	Santa Clara River Estuar
Sat, Jan 19, 2013	Salton Sea Weekend
Fri, Jan 25, 2013	Pt. Mugu – U.S. Navy Base
Sun, Jan 27, 2013	Carpinteria Salt Marsh
Sat, Feb 2, 2013	Carrizo Plain Weekend
Sun, Feb 10, 2013	Santa Barbara Hot Spots
Sat, Feb 16, 2013	Lake Casitas /Area Hot Spots
Sat, Mar 2, 2013	Private Property (Tentative)
Sun, Mar 10, 2013	Conejo Botanical Garden
Sat, Mar 16, 2013	Cañada Larga Road
Sun, Mar 24, 2013	Rustic Canyon / Happy Camp
Sat, Mar 30, 2013	Sisar Canyon
Sun, Apr 7, 2013	Rancho Sierra Vista
Sat, Apr 13, 2013	Big Morongo Weekend
Sun, Apr 21, 2013	Ojai Meadows
Sat, Apr 27, 2013	Tejon Ranch
Sun, May 5, 2013	Wheeler Gorge
Sat, May 11, 2013	Butterbredt Springs
Sun, May 19, 2013	Malibu Creek State Park
Sat, May 25, 2013	Mt Pinos

National Wildlife Refuge

By Carol Langford

What? A National Wildlife Refuge near Fillmore? I don't know anything about a Refuge near Fillmore. I'm a birder, surely I'd have heard about a Refuge in Ventura County. Those were my words a couple of years ago. It turns out I was wrong. The Hopper Mountain National Wildlife Refuge is northeast of Fillmore and the Bitter Creek National Wildlife Refuge is near Maricopa. Both are a part of the California Condor Recovery Project and both are currently closed to the public. They are a small part of a very large refuge system which started out with one small refuge.

During the late 1800s and early 1900s the market for bird feathers was such that plume feathers were worth more by weight than gold. So many Brown Pelicans, Egrets and Roseate Spoonbills were slaughtered that only one Brown Pelican rookery remained on the east coast of Florida. In 1903 Theodore Roosevelt responded to an appeal from well-known ornithologist Frank Chapman by signing an executive order setting aside all 5.5 acres of Pelican Island as a federal bird reservation. This was a very significant event as it was the first time our federal government set aside land for the purpose of protecting wildlife. Theodore Roosevelt cemented his conservation legacy by forming 55 bird reservations and game preserves before he left office. These lands were the forerunner of our National Wildlife Refuge System.

That system now has 556 refuges and wildlife management areas dedicated to the conservation and management of the fish, wildlife and plant resources and their habitats. The largest refuges are located in Alaska, the 5.5 acre Pelican Island Refuge has grown to 5,413 acres and our closest refuge open to the public is the Seal Beach National Wildlife Refuge 30 miles south of Los Angeles. This refuge has the distinction of being located inside a navy base so visitation is limited. CVAS members have the opportunity to participate in an in-depth tour of the refuge, and hopefully see a Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow as Michael Zarky will again organize a trip to the refuge on December 16th, 2012, 8AM to noon.

About 45 miles north of Bakersfield is the Pixley National Wildlife Refuge. Most of the Sandhill Cranes that used to frequent the Carrizo Plains now spend the winter at the Pixley Refuge with 3-5,000 Sandhills present in January. Visitation to the Pixley Refuge is by special arrangement but the cranes are visible by driving the surrounding roads.

Closer to home, only 100 miles north near the I-5 is the Kern National Wildlife Refuge. A six mile auto tour provides excellent views of the wintering waterfowl and water birds although it is a good idea to call ahead as the tour route is usually closed for hunting on Wednesday and Saturday, October to January.

Funding for bird reservations was very limited in the

early days as Congress did not appropriate funds to manage the Pelican Island Refuge. The Florida Audubon Society paid the first wardens a dollar a month. Starting in 1934 each duck and goose hunter was required to purchase a federal "Duck Stamp" in addition to a state-hunting license. The resulting funds have been used primarily to acquire, develop and maintain additional refuge lands. It is very important for birders to demonstrate a commitment to preserving our natural heritage. Celebrate National Wildlife Refuge week in October not only by visiting a refuge but also by purchasing a "Duck Stamp". Wear your "Duck Stamp" proudly and proclaim your support for our National Wildlife Refuges.

Conservation Column

Continued from Page 1

social impact, especially in economically disadvantaged regions.

To help develop a productive chain of forest restoration, Brazil designed and is implementing a program that teaches seedling producers sustainable farming techniques and business management skills. These initiatives aim to increase skills and the knowledge of people and small businesses associated with forest restoration activities and are one of the best ways to generate better incomes in rural areas. In the next 10 years, the goal is to restore almost 25,000 acres of forest, planting around 24 million native trees and creating more than 500 new jobs. That's what I call progress.

(Continued from Page 2)

2013 Field Trips

Mark Them On Your Calendar

<p>Note: Pt. Mugu U.S. Navy Base field trips have been confirmed for Friday Nov. 9, 2012 and Friday Jan. 25, 2013.</p>

<p>Note: CVAS will again host a trip to the Seal Beach National Wildlife Refuge. This winter's trip is scheduled for Sunday Dec 16, 2012, 8AM to noon. Interested birders must email Michael Zarky (mzarky@earthlink.net) to sign up and to receive further details.</p>

<p>Bed and Bugle</p>

<p>Tule Elk State Reserve – Site #207</p>

<p>Noon Sat. thru Sun. October 27/28, 2012</p>

<p>For the first time ever California State Parks is opening the Tule Elk SNR to camping and night time programs. Cost: \$8.00 per person (includes camping fee). Children 12 and under free. Limited space. Please RSVP by October 15, 2012. All funds raised will be used at the reserve. Bmoffat@parks.ca.gov or (661) 764.6881.</p>

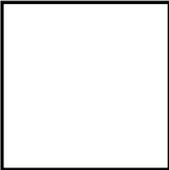
ROADRUNNER

Conejo Valley Audubon Society, Inc.

P.O. Box 4782

Thousand Oaks, CA 91359

October, 2012



Officers and Committee Chairs			Username
President			
Vice Pres			
Secretary	Gary Evans	805-231-5692	GaryE
Treasurer	Ron Barns	818-991-9967	rtbarns@netscape.net
Programs	Chrystal Klabunde	805-522-8023	chrystal
Conservation	Dee Lyon	805-499-2165	chickadee
Education	Thelma Williams	805-492-2796	thelma
Field trips	Matthew Page	805-990-6534	Fieldtrips
Publicity	Cory Taylor		publicity
Newsletter	Charlie Lucas	805-498-6447	newsletter
Membership	Bonnie Clarefield-Bylin	805-405-5632	membership
Historian	Bets Buchanan	805-482-0063	
Special Events			
Photographer	Don Klabunde	805-522-8023	photographer
Special Projects	Nobuko McClure	805-482-0411	nobuko
Webmaster	Frank DeMartino		webmaster
CVAS Web Site	http://www.ConejoValleyAudubon.org		
Send E-mail to	username@ConejoValleyAudubon.org		

Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed to staff officer positions currently open on the CVAS Board. For the term starting Fall 2012, both the President and Vice President positions will need to be filled in addition to the Special Events coordinator. We encourage you to discuss your interests in volunteering for any of these positions at our next General Meeting.

Regular meetings are held on the first Monday evening of each month at the Western Foundation of Vertebrate Zoology, 439 Calle San Pablo, Camarillo at 7:30 pm, unless otherwise noted. **Everyone is welcome.** Take Pleasant Valley Road or Lewis Road to where they cross south of the 101 Freeway. Go west to the second street, Calle San Pablo. Turn right. The Foundation is the fifth building on the left.

The Western Foundation of Vertebrate Zoology is a non-profit organization founded in 1956 to promote the study and conservation of birds and other vertebrates. The organization makes contributions in the areas of natural history collections, original research, and conservation.

The *Roadrunner* is published monthly except July and August by the Conejo Valley Audubon Society. It is sent to paid CVAS members only. Members are invited to submit articles, announcements, letters, photos, and drawings for publication consideration. Copy deadline is the 5th of the month. Send items to Charlie Lucas, 465 Havenside Ave., Newbury Park, CA 91320, or by E-mail: newsletter@ConejoValleyAudubon.org.

NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

C2ZC230Z

Please enroll me as a member of the National Audubon Society. I have enclosed \$20 (\$15 for seniors and students), payable to **National Audubon Society**, for an introductory membership.

Mail it to: National Audubon Society, P. O. Box 422250, Palm Coast, FL 32142-2250

Renewing memberships should be sent to National Audubon with the renewal form and envelope you receive.

For questions regarding national membership status call: National Audubon Customer Service 1-800-274-4201

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phone _____ E-mail address _____

CONEJO VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Please enroll me as a member of Conejo Valley Audubon Society. I have enclosed \$20 for a family membership.

Additional Gift: ___\$25.00 ___\$50.00 ___\$75.00 ___\$100.00 \$_____ Other

Membership \$ _____ Donation \$ _____ Total (check payable to CVAS) \$ _____

Mail to: CVAS, P.O. Box 4782, Thousand Oaks, CA 91359 Newsletter will be sent by E-mail.

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phone _____ E-mail address _____