



ROADRUNNER

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General Meeting September 11th 7:30 pm Western Foundation

Each year our opening meeting is a "Show and Tell" event. If you have photos, slides, or a video presentation—call Chrystal Klabunde at (805) 522-8023 as soon as possible so she can organize our evening's entertainment. We have some really talented photographers in our group who travel all over and get some great shots! So we get to see birds from many different locations. We'll be looking forward to seeing you on Monday, Sept 11th.

Yes on Prop 84!!! \$5.4 Billion Conservation and Water Quality Bond

Help Audubon and other conservation groups pass Prop 84, the \$5.4 billion conservation and water quality bond on the November ballot!!

Prop 84 is critical to renew funding for the Wildlife Conservation Board, the Coastal Conservancy, numerous regional conservancies, and other important restoration and acquisition programs. Without Prop 84, many of the State's conservation dollars will dry up within the next one to two years, a risk we cannot afford to take.

In addition to the general funding categories, Prop 84 includes specific amounts for many Audubon priorities, including the Salton Sea area; San Francisco, Santa Monica and Monterey Bays; the Los Angeles, San Gabriel and Santa Ana Rivers; Lake Tahoe and the Sierra Nevada; the Delta and San Joaquin River; and farmland and working landscapes.

CRP Opening by Dee Lyon

We counted about 125 people attending the Camarillo Regional Park Nature Awareness Day. They included some of our friends, San Fernando and Ventura Audubon members, a reporter from the Star, someone from Linda Park's office (she won), a representative from the National Park Service and Steve Norris from California State University Channel Islands.



CRP committee members

Lots of birds were out and Tom Halpin had about 40 people start on his walk. Mary Ann Campbell and Sharon Hardee both had large groups for the plant walks. Carol Langford talked about the history of the Park, and we had a ribbon cutting to symbolize the opening of the Park. Nobuko McClure donated funds for Dixie Anderson to buy terrific blue tee shirts with a Roadrunner logo designed by Chrystal Klabunde and were ironed on by Dixie. The Condors (model airplane club) were very welcoming and helped us park cars, and even had free soft drinks and let us use their portapotties. We put out the wonderful signs that Chrystal made and we had plant lists, bird lists and maps that she made. Dr. Hall was quite enthusiastic about the Park and wants to have a bird-banding station there. All in all, quite a stupendous out-

CALENDAR

September

2	8:00 am	Field trip	Santa Clara River Mouth
10	7:45 am	Field trip	Tamarisk Trees/Sod Farms
11	7:30 pm	General meeting	Western Foundation
14		Field trip	Beginner's Bird Walk
17	7:30 am	Field trip	Private Property
18	7:00 pm	Board meeting	TBA
23	8:45 am	Field trip	Santa Cruz Island

West Nile Virus Information

West Nile Virus has been found in our birding areas, so **please** be sure to wear long sleeve shirts and long pants and use insect repellent.

West Nile contact information:

1-887-WNV-BIRD

or

www.westnile.ca.gov



CVAS Events

The public 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. Please call the trip leader in advance to learn of any changes to the field trip plans.

Field Trips

The times specified are departure times - **be sure to arrive 15 min earlier.** Try to car pool when ever possible and don't forget to give the driver gas money!

RAIN CANCELS!

Saturday, September 2 Santa Clara River Mouth

Leave Las Posas Park & Ride at 8:00 a.m. Look for ducks, herons, sandpipers, terns, plovers, phalaropes, turnstones, moorhens, pipits, ospreys, etc. A spotting scope is very helpful. The leader is **Oscar Johnson** call **Dee** at (805) 499-2165.

Sunday, September 10 Tamarisk Trees & Sod Farms

Leave Las Posas Park & Ride at 7:45 a.m. The Hueneme and Laguna "tams" are some of the best local places to see **migrating warblers**. Past Septembers have yielded Yellow, Townsend's, Black-throated Gray, MacGillivray's, and Wilson's warblers, and even rarities like Prairie Warblers and redstarts, as well as many warbling vireos. At the nearby sod farms we will look for various plovers, pipits, and possibly Horned Larks. The leader is **Bets Buchanan** (805) 482-0063.

Thursday, September 14 Beginner's Bird Walk

Second Thursday of each month. Call **Angie Kobabe** between 9 am and 9 pm to let her know you are coming and find out where it will be (818) 991-4055. Rain cancels.

Saturday, September 17 Private Property

This trip will be limited to 25 people. Meet at Las Posas Park & Ride at 7:30 a.m., or at the end of Casper Road at 8:00. This is usually one of our most productive locations. Expect numerous waterfowl, shorebirds, raptors, and also passerines. We hope to see Baird's Sandpiper, Pectoral Sandpiper, and maybe even a Ruff. The leader is **Tom Halpin** (805) 746-4598.

Saturday, September 23 Santa Cruz Island

The Island Jay will take us to Prisoner's Cove on Santa

Cruz Island. Boat leaves Ventura Harbor (1/4 mile south of the Channel Islands National Park Headquarters) at 9 am and will return at 5 pm, so bring water, lunch, snacks, jacket, and sea sickness patch if needed (but this should be calmest time of year). We will look for other species that may attain full species recognition in the future.

Call ISLAND PACKERS at 805-642-1393 immediately to reserve your spot! Cost is \$46. per person, \$42. for seniors. If we have 20 we will all get the \$42. rate. We will look for pelagic species to and from the island; shearwaters, alcids, jaegers, Arctic Terns, as well as whales and dolphins. Leader be David Pereksta. If you are going call **Dee Lyon** (805) 499-2165 or Judy Dugan (805) 642-0842.

2006-2007 FIELD TRIPS MARK THEM ON YOUR CALENDAR BUT CHECK THE NEWSLETTER

Trip leader volunteers needed; please call Dee Lyon (805) 499-2165.

Oct 1, Sun	Malibu Lagoon
Oct 7, Sat	Camino Real Park
Oct 15, Sun	Hopper Mt. Condor Refuge
Oct 21, Sat	Ventura Ponds
Oct 27, Fri	Pt. Mugu (must reserve)
Nov 5, Sun	Mugu Lagoon & Sycamore Canyon
Nov 18, Sat	Ahmanson Ranch
Nov 26, Sun	Lake Piru & Fillmore Fish Hatchery
Dec 2, Sat	Canada Larga
Dec 10, Sun	LaJolla Canyon
Dec 16, Sat	Saticoy Ponds
Dec 31, Sun	Christmas Bird Count
Jan 6, Sat	Lake Casitas
Jan 12, Fri	Pt. Mugu
Jan 21, Sun	Santa Clara River Estuary
Jan 27, Sat	Simi Valley Hotspots
Feb 4, Sun	Malibu Lagoon
Feb 17, Sat	Owling, limit of 10
Feb 25, Sun	Santa Barbara Hotspots
Mar 3, Sat	Hill Canyon
Mar 11, Sun	Descanso Gardens
Mar 17, Sat	Rustic Canyon/Happy Camp
Mar 25, Sun	Private Property
Mar 31, Sat	Soule Park/Ojai Hotspots
April 8, Sun	Sisar Canyon
April 14, Sat	Wheeler Gorge & beyond
April 22, Sun	Thousand Oaks Botanic Garden
April 28, Sat	Santa Clara River Estuary
May 5/6	Morongo
May 12, Sat	Lake Piru
May 20, Sun	Malibu Creek State Park
May 26, Sat	Sepulveda Refuge
June 2or 3	Annual Picnic
June 10, Sun	Pine Mt
June 16, Sat	Sierra Vista
June 23/24	Big Bear Lake

Field Trip Reports



Mt Everest from plane window by Dee Lyon

Bhutan or bust!

by Dee Lyon

My sister-in-law and I went with Field Guides to India and Bhutan, and there were 5 of us with a guide, Richard Webster (retired attorney from around here). We had a support staff of seven with great food and of course wonderful birds; about 300 in Bhutan and 118 in India, almost all new to me. Loved the Blood Pheasants, Monal, Kalij Pheasants, Barbets, Cuckoos, Minivets, Verditer, Drongos, Parrotbills, Sunbirds, Tits, Eagles, a flock of about 40 Himalayan Griffons on a carcass, and of course, the Rufous-necked, Great and Indian hornbills.

This was a 3 week trip; we had a direct flight from Chicago to Delhi (pretty tough 14 hours). Mary Lou and I took the train down to Agra to see the Taj Mahal; then on to Paro, the only airport in Bhutan. Did not see a cigarette (they're illegal in Bhutan) or another airplane for 3 weeks! I really consider Bhutan to be the most beautiful country I've ever been to. All their houses and buildings are in the traditional painted manner, the people generally are dressed in their traditional dress, everyone is friendly (the children all wave and say "hello") and 70% of their forest is still intact. There were 50 foot rhododendrons in the forests and huge magnolia trees; we saw monkeys nearly every day.

The road is not wonderful (only one going east to west, and only about 10 feet wide), fortunately the drivers are very courteous and each vehicle puts his left wheels onto the shoulder (they drive on the left). Everybody honks. I don't recommend driving there. We camped 5 nights, with nice tents with cots. All the birding companies go in April; summer is monsoon, but apparently the festivals and clear weather are in the Fall; bring lots of layers; we hit a snow storm.

Bird Festivals

September 8 - 10, 2006
Oregon Shorebirds Festival
Charleston, Oregon
(541) 867 - 4550

September 22 - 24, 2006
Monterey Bay Birding Festival
Watsonville, California
(831) 763 - 5600
www.montereybaybirding.org

Roadrunner wins Prize!



Cheryl and Don Williamson are proud to announce that our newsletter won first place in the 550 - 800 chapter member category in the Audubon 2006 chapter newsletter contest. This is a biennial contest with seven divisions determined by chapter size and competing entries come from all over the US.

The award and judges comments will be at the September and October general meetings for viewing.

We congratulate Santa Barbara Audubon and their newsletter the *El Tecolote* for winning in the 800 - 1000 chapter member category!

Thank you to all from our chapter who contribute articles, pictures, and ideas. This is indeed a team effort. Please keep your articles and pictures coming in. Keep in mind that our newsletter is only four pages so articles must be short. We prefer articles and pictures in electronic format.

This is our fifth year doing the newsletter, if anyone is interested in trying their hand at editing the newsletter, any assistance would be greatly appreciated.