



ROADRUNNER

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**General Meeting October 1
7:30 pm Western Foundation**

**Kenya
Birds & Wildlife of the Gem of East Africa**

Join **Roy Poucher** and Bird Odysseys on a wild and wonderful photographic safari to Kenya..



Your virtual-reality tour will transport you to the expansive grasslands of the Masai Mara and to other scenic locations where exotic and comical-looking birds and the big game such as hippos, rhinos, zebra, elephant, giraffes and lions live out life's drama.

Bee-eaters & Rollers, Hamerkop & Fish Eagles, Weavers & Sunbirds, Hoopoes & Hornbills, Bustards & Lapwings, Longclaws & White-Eyes.....These magical birds and more are captured in stunning photos taken by our Sea & Sage trip participants.

Grasp the mind-boggling millions of Lesser Flamingoes blanketing Lake Nakuru. Enjoy the antics of the gangly Secretary Bird and of the male Kori Bustard, the largest flying bird in the world, as it displays for females.

Plus we visit beautiful and bird-rich Lakes Baringo and Naivasha, the verdant Kakamega Forest, and famous

Treetops Lodge, built above big game watering holes in Aberdares National Park.

Come to this fun presentation for the entire family! Experience why it's called "Magical Kenya".

Roy Poucher has been a Sea and Sage trip leader and field assistant in their introductory birding classes for 15 years. He has lead multi-day trips to the Eastern Sierra, Arizona and Texas. His birding Big Years were major accomplishments (472 species in CA in 1996; 677 in the ABA Area in 1998). His bird tour company, Bird Odysseys, has taken groups to North Dakota & the Great Lakes, Costa Rica, Ecuador and the Galapagos Islands. Trips to Thailand and Costa Rica are planned. His trip assistant, Linda Oberholtzer, will join Roy in presenting this program.

CVAS Newsletter via E-mail

Please reconsider receiving your newsletter by E-mail. Postage has gone up again and it also saves the cost of printing and reduces the usage of paper. Sign up to have your newsletter sent to you by E-mail. It will look the same as the printed version and you can even print it out if you wish. All you need to receive your newsletter is a computer with internet access, an E-Mail service capable of receiving attachments and Adobe Acrobat Reader 4.0 or later. If you do not have Acrobat Reader you can download it from www.adobe.com **FREE!**

To sign up, E-mail Cheryl Williamson, at newsletter@conejovalleyaudubon.org requesting your newsletter via E-mail. Include your full name and street address to help us avoid errors.

CALENDAR

October

1	7:30 pm	General meeting	Western Foundation
6	7:45 am	Field trip	Camino Real Park
11	9:00 am	Field trip	Beginners Bird Walk
13		Field trip	Bitter Creek Nat'l Wildlife Refuge
20	7:45 am	Field trip	Ventura Wildlife Ponds
26	7:30 am	Field trip	Point Mugu Naval Base

***** Pre meeting Dinner ***
Ottavio's in Camarillo at 5:15 pm**

Call Nobuko Mc Clure
for reservations
24 hours in advance of the monthly
general meeting (805) 482-0411.

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, October 6 Camino Real Park

Leave Las Posas Park and Ride at 8 am to carpool, or meet us at the park at 8:30 am. We will look for Fall warblers, many different species of vagrants, and the regulars. We have seen many wonderful birds in this Park over the years.

Bets Buchanan will lead this trip **(805) 482-0063.**

Thursday, October 11 Beginners 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, October 13 Bitter Creek National Wildlife Refuge

The Condors have moved to Bitter Creek National Wildlife Refuge, and they have said we can come in that day and watch them feed the ones in the pens. The others are attracted to the ones in the pens. This Refuge is way up by Mt. Pinos and the Pine Mt Club. **Thelma Williams** will coordinate **(805) 492-2796** so call to reserve your spot.

Sunday, October 20 Ventura Wildlife Ponds

Come see what ducks have come back! 1400 Spinnaker Road at Ventura Harbor. Leave Las Posas Park and Ride at 8 am or meet at the gate to the ponds at 8:30. **Kevin Pickard** will lead **(805) 492-6962.** We have seen Canvasback, Red-Head, Ring-neck, Scaup, Mallard, Ruddy, Goldeneye, Bufflehead, Shovelers, Green-winged, Cinnamon Teal and many different herons and egrets at these ponds.

Friday, October 26 Pt. Mugu Naval Base

As you know, this is our best birding site in Ventura

County. **Dave Pereksta** has agreed to lead, and that means we could see as many as 80 to 90 species! Maximum group size is 25 people, and those who sign up at our Sept meeting will have first dibs. Call **Don Williamson** at **(818) 889-4498** to see if trip is filled. We will meet at 8am at parking lot with your ID, or at 7:30 at Las Posas Park and Ride.

Bird Watching Etiquette

Lest we forget, when birding with a group, please keep conversations quiet and to the rear of the group. Keep behind the leader, so that when a bird is spotted, everyone can stop and get a chance to see the bird. Wear muted colors; no white (a danger signal to birds) or red or bright colors. When you spot a bird, please say clearly where the bird is, such as 2 o'clock in the big pine, or 10 feet down in the right hand willow. It's helpful if you can say robin-sized or acts like a kinglet or some distinguishing characteristic. Remember, if you disagree with the proposed ID of a bird, be respectful and say which field marks cause you to think it may be something else. Even experts disagree on IDs. When using a field scope, take a quick look at the bird, then move aside so everyone gets a look, then go back for a longer look.

No dogs please, but children are welcome if they can follow the rules. Carpool, if at all possible, and offer some gas money to the driver. Be at the meeting place before the time the trip starts. Bring water and snacks. Last, but not least, thank the leader for volunteering their time.

Bird Festivals

November 13 - 18, 2007

Bosque del Apache
National Wildlife Refuge
Sorro, New Mexico
(505) 835-2977

friendsofthebosque.org/crane

January 18 - 21, 2008

Morro Bay Winter Bird Festival
c/o Chamber of Commerce
PO Box 1175

Morro Bay, CA 93442

Call: (805)772-4467 or (800)231-0592

Fax: (805)772-6038

Email: birdfest@morrobaybirdfestival.org

February 6 - 11, 2008

San Diego Bird Festival
Keynote speaker Kenn Kaufman
(619) 682-7200

sandiegoaudubon.org

Field Trip Report

The Pantanal, Brazil

by Dee Lyon

300 of the signature birds of Brazil, plus Jaguar, Giant River Otters, lots of Caiman and Capybaras made an unforgettable introduction to South American birding.

The area is reminiscent of Africa, but the thousands of Caracaras, Snail Kites and Limpkins tell you differently. Great new sounds in the morning with Horneros and Chachalacas sounding off, Jabirus are often seen on their huge nests "747 coming in" We saw 5 different kingfishers daily, with the exotic Agami and Zigzag Herons finally. Undulated Tinamou, Sun Grebe and Sun Bittern were seen well, lots of varieties of ant birds, as well as many parrots and parakeets, Rheas, Seriemas, Bare-faced Curassows and Piping Guans.



We all were asked to name our top 5 birds, which was very difficult. The #1 bird was the Hyacinth Macaw. Ho hum, everyone has seen lots of pictures of it, but when they fly in 30 feet from you in perfect light in a palm tree, they take your breath away; they are so huge and in your face! I also loved the Dacnis sitting on the face of a waterfall guarding while his mate bathed on a ledge, the Scissor-tailed Nightjar was ethereal; the Helmeted Manikin was fun, and the Scarlet-headed Blackbird was terrific.

The trip also included 3 days in Chappada, which is the dry forest with quite different and wonderful birds, such as the Crowned Eagle and King Vultures. Actually Brazil was an eye-opener to me, while flying from the east in Sao Paulo to the west in Cuiaba, there were only fields and pasture below me with tiny fragments of forest! The place is all deforested as far as I could see.

FIELD TRIPS 2007-2008 MARK THEM ON YOUR CALENDAR BUT CHECK THE NEWSLETTER

I need trip leaders; please call Dee (805) 499-2165

We're alternating Sat and Sun.; Bring water, snacks, bug repellent, jacket, (lunch if all day trip), carpool money. We want to **LEAVE** the park and ride at the time indicated! **RAIN CANCELS**

Nov 3, Sat, Pt. Mugu Lagoon & Sycamore Canyon

Nov 11, Sun. Lake Sherwood

Nov 17, Sat, Ahmanson Ranch

Nov 25, Sun, Lake Piru & Fillmore Fish Hatchery

Dec 1, Sat, Canada Larga

Dec 9, Sun, LaJolla Canyon

Dec 15, Sat, Saticoy Ponds

Dec 29, Sat, Christmas Bird Count

Jan 5, Sat, Lake Casitas

Jan 11, Fri, Pt. Mugu

Jan 19, Sun, Santa Clara River Estuary

Jan 27, Sat, Simi Valley Hotspots

Feb 2, Sat Rustic Canyon/Happy Camp

Feb 10, Sun, Malibu Lagoon

Feb 16, Sat, Owling, limit of 10

Feb 24, Sun, Santa Barbara Hotspots

Mar 1, Sat, Hill Canyon

Mar 9, Sun, La Jolla Canyon

Mar 15, Sat, Plant/Birdwalk with Mary Ann

Mar 23, Sun, Private Property

Mar 29, Sat, Soule Park/Ojai Hotspots

April 5 Sat, Sisar Canyon

April 13, Sun, Wheeler Gorge & beyond

April 19, Sat, Thousand Oaks Botanic Garden

April 27, Sun, Santa Clara River Estuary

May 2,3,4 Fri, Sat/Sun, Arizona or Anacapa Island

May 10, Sat, Lake Piru

May 18, Sun, Malibu Creek State Park

May 24, Sat, Sepulveda Refuge

June 2 or 3, Annual Picnic

June 10, Sun, Pine Mt

June 16, Sat, Sierra Vista

June 23/24, Sat and Sun, Big Bear Lake

Shutterbugs

by Don Williamson

The October meeting will be in the multipurpose room at Leisure Village. The topic will be Photoshop Elements and picture theme is Butterflies - try to make it to Santa Barbara Natural History museum for the **Butterflies Alive!** exhibit.

If you are interested in attending the Shutterbugs meetings, contact Jerry Spector at (805) 384-9039 or jerbear007@yahoo.com to be put on the access list for Leisure Village.