



ROADRUNNER

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General Meeting May 5 7:30 pm Western Foundation

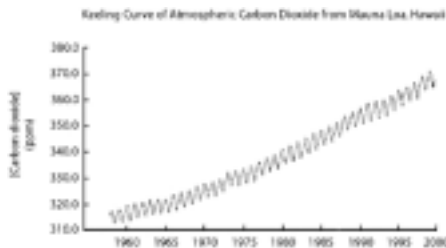
The Carbon Diet



There's no longer any doubt that the Earth's climate is changing. Spring is coming earlier every year, leaving migratory birds out of sync with their food sources. Ice caps and glaciers are melting away, stranding polar bears and penguins and threatening our water supplies. And the sea level

is starting to rise, which threatens to inundate low-lying cities. The IPCC (the Nobel Peace Prize winning Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) has concluded that it's largely down to the burning of fossil fuel which releases carbon dioxide (CO₂) into the atmosphere. They recommend that we humans reduce our carbon emissions by 80% by the year 2050 to avert global disaster. For that to happen, we can't simply rely on government agencies and big corporations to do the job. Everyone will need to chip in. Come join **Elzbet Diaz de Leon**, from Ventura College, to learn what YOU can do for your planet.

The Carbon Diet is a group activity, and it really sounds like it'll be fun.



Conservation Corner by Cheryl Williamson

Many CVAS members have traveled to see our California Condors. I thought you might be interested to know that Audubon California recently honored Santa Barbara Assemblyman Pedro Nava and three others for their efforts to protect and restore the **California Condor**. Nava recently pushed through important legislation that creates vital new protections for the California Condor, ensuring the continued recovery of one of the state's signature species from the brink of extinction.



"With AB 821, Assemblyman Nava told the rest of the world that California is not going to stand by and watch this glorious bird fall back to the brink of extinction," said Glenn Olson, executive director of Audubon California. "Through his advocacy, he raised awareness of the Condor's plight to new levels and returned California to the forefront of the conservation movement."

The Ridley-Tree Condor Conservation Act (AB 821), authored by Nava, effectively bans the use of lead ammunition in areas inhabited by the California Condor. Condors frequently feed on animal carcasses left behind by hunters, and ingest dangerously high levels of lead from ammunition. It is estimated that roughly 30 Condors have perished in this manner in the last 10 years.

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CALENDAR

May

2-4	Field trip	S.E. Arizona
5 7:30 pm	General meeting	Western Foundation
8 9:00 am	Field trip	Beginner's Bird Walk
11 8:00 am	Field trip	Rancho Sierra Vista
17 7:45 am	Field trip	Malibu Creek State Park
25 7:15 am	Field trip	Wheeler Gorge
31 12:00 pm	Event	Bio Blitz

*** 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!

May 2, 3 and 4 Southeast Arizona

Meet Friday night at dusk at the main parking in Madera Canyon, Arizona, to watch the Elf Owl come out of his hole. Next morning in Madera Canyon to find Red-faced Warbler, Painted Redstart, Bridled Titmouse, Mexican Jay and Greater Peewee. Then on to Patagonia to look for Thick-billed Kingbird, Sage Thrasher, Vermillion Flycatcher etc. Sunday on to Ramsey Canyon or Ft. Huachuca to look for Elegant Trogon, Buff Breasted Flycatcher, Spotted Owl, Olive Warbler, Cassin's and Bottieri Sparrows. There are B&B's in Madera Canyon, motels in Green Valley, Patagonia and Sierra Vista. You need to make your hotel/campground reservations ASAP, (Wyatt Earp Days are going on at the same time.) Please call **Dee Lyon (805) 499-2165** the trip coordinator so she knows who to expect. Be sure to bring water, layered clothing, hat, and sun block.

Thursday, May 8 Beginner's Bird Walk

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

Rain cancels.

Sunday, May 11 Rancho Sierra Vista

Meet at the Santa Monica Mts Recreation area at 8 am Take the 101 to Wendy; go south to Lynn Road; turn right and go to the sign to turn left into Sierra Vista/ Santa Monica Mts Recreation area. Lazuli Bunting, Blue Grosbeak, White-tailed Kite, sparrows, Meadowlark, Roadrunner and many other species.

Leader is **Thelma Williams (805) 492-2796.**

Saturday, May 17 Malibu Creek State Park

Leave Rancho Park and Ride at 8 am for carpooling (fee at Park; bring money for gas and fee) Hawks, sparrows, woodpeckers, bluebirds and Orioles.

Leader is **Rich Congersky (805) 381-2691.**

Sunday, May 25 Wheeler Gorge and Beyond

Leave Las Posas Park and Ride at 7:30 am for carpooling. Or meet at Wheeler Gorge State Park at 8 We will look for returning neo-tropical migrants, then go on up to Rose Valley to see what is there and have a picnic lunch.

Leader is **Tom Halpin (805) 746-4598.**

May 31 - June 1 BIOBLITZ

Register online at BioBlitz@ngs.org Starts Fri at 12 noon and goes to Sat 12 noon. See April newsletter for more information.

Shutterbugs by Don Williamson

The May 12th meeting will be in the multipurpose room at Leisure Village at 7:30 PM. The topic will be image manipulation and filters presented by Jerry Spector. The picture theme for May will be flowers.

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.

Mark the Date

*** Sunday, June 1, 2008 ***
CVAS Annual Picnic
Los Robles Trail

Message from the Editor

The Editor would appreciate any articles of interest, photographs, or field trip reports from members. Please get them to me by the 5th of the month. I prefer them in electronic form. Articles in plain text or rich text format (RTF) and pictures in jpeg format.

Fieldtrip Reports

Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Refuge

by Dee Lyon

Eight CVAS folks ventured down to the Sepulveda Wildlife Refuge on Sun, March 9, and enjoyed a special hummingbird day, with 4 females on 4 different nests! There were the usual waterfowl, one Harrier, one Red-tail Hawk, pippits and egrets and Least Sandpipers in the LA River, with Yellow-rumps, and White-crowns still around. A few Hooded Mergansers, a Kingfisher and even a few Western Bluebirds made an enjoyable outing.

Rancho Sierra Vista

by Mary Ann Campbell

Fifteen native plant enthusiasts/birders gathered on a chilly morning for a two-for-one combination walk. A white-tailed kite greeted the early arrivals along with lots of **fiddlenecks**. Brown & spotted towhees, a Say's phoebe, and yellow rumps were at the start of the trail. In the willow wetlands there were bushtits, Anna's hummingbird and a red-shouldered hawk was spotted. The poison oak was very lush.

At the Satiwa Native Plant Garden was blooming golden currant, **bladderpod**, nightshade and vervain. Giant rye, deergrass, purple needlegrass (our state grass),



skunkbush, purple, black & white sage, toyon, and native sycamore, oaks & white alder were also seen. At the pond area were golden-crowned sparrows, a red-winged blackbird and coyote



brush were observed. Wild hyacinths, yellow johnny-jump-ups, several members of the celery family, wild radish, and vetch were on the hill above. Those who hiked toward the creek were rewarded with colorful wishbone bush, Parry's phacelia & **California sunflower**. It was a beautiful morning for being outdoors.

Soule Park

by Dee Lyon

Thelma, Bob, Christina, Tom, Dee and Linda enjoyed a beautiful day at Soule Park on March 29th with White-breasted Nuthatches singing so that we now know that song forever! Lots of Western Bluebirds, Golden-crowned and White-crowned and Chipping Sparrows, Yellow-rump Warblers, Ruby-crown Kinglets, Downey and Acorn Woodpeckers, Ca and Spotted Towhees, Northern Rough-Winged, Violet-green and Tree Swallows, Scrub Jay, Oak Titmouse, Band-tailed Pigeons, House and Gold Finches, Hooded and Bullock's Orioles, Song Sparrows and Robins, Anna's Hummingbirds, Black Phoebe and Kingbird, Red-tail Hawk, Turkey Vulture, and Red-shouldered Hawk on the nest. Lovely day (they do charge \$5. to come in)

Conservation Corner

(continued from page 1)

"The Condor is an integral part of California's natural heritage," said Nava, whose legislation was approved by the Legislature in September of 2007, and signed by the governor in October. "I am deeply thankful to Audubon California not only for this recognition, but also for all of the work it put into assuring passage of this vital legislation."

Article Courtesy of Audubon California, photo of # 7 by Don Klabunde

Good bye

Don and I are resigning from the CVAS Board of Directors (membership and newsletter) in June. We have thoroughly enjoyed being on the board and doing the newsletter for the chapter (60 issues!) But exhaustion and wanderlust have set in and it is time to move on.



The newsletter is the glue that holds us together as a chapter. It is a great way to express your creativity while entertaining and informing others. We will be available for a while to assist the new editor and membership chair if needed.

Roadrunners forever!
Cheers and good birding,

Cheryl