



ROADRUNNER

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General Meeting October 6
7:30 pm Western Foundation

Conservation Corner
By Laurie Van Stee

California and Western Birds in Motion with Larry Arbanas



Videographer Larry Arbanas in Madera Canyon, *Photo by Ben Clock/CLO*

For the last three spring/summer sessions, **Larry Arbanas** has been in the field collecting high definition bird footage for the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. By agreement with CLO, Larry may

draw on this footage to create his own impressions.

In advance of this evening's exciting presentation, you can view some newly posted short videos of Larry's work on the Cornell Lab of Ornithology website: <http://www.livingbird.org/>. In the "Tundra Trek" article, you'll see the Red-throated Loon, the Short-Eared Owl and the Peregrine Falcon. In the "Unsafe Haven" article, Larry's short film, "Teshekpuk Lake Birds", features the Pacific Loon.

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Hi Everybody.

Hope you all had a great summer including lots of bird watching, whether you went far and wide or local, looking for our feathered friends. I am going to write a regular column this year but if anybody reading this would like to contribute please let me know.

There are so many positive things happening in the world today and that is what I am going to focus on in this part of the newsletter. I figure that since we all get enough of the negative news this column is going to be about positive things that we and people all over the world are doing to help not only birds but the environment as a whole.

I am looking forward to being your conservation chair for the 2008-2009 season and working on some projects that I have been thinking about and hoping to put into practice in the near future.

Until then, happy birding.

12th Annual Central Valley Birding Symposium **November 20-23 in Stockton, CA**

Field trips, workshops, evening programs, and informative ID panel with guest experts. For additional info check website at www.cvbs.org or contact Frances Oliver (209) 369-2010

CALENDAR

October

4	8:00 am	Field Trip	Malibu Lagoon
6	7:30 pm	General Meeting	Western Foundation
9	9:00 am	Field Trip	Beginner's Bird Walk
12	8:00 am	Field Trip	Canada Larga Road
18	8:00 am	Field Trip	Ormond Beach
26	7:45am	Field Trip	Ventura Ponds

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

Call **Nobuko McClure**
For reservations
24 hours in advance of the monthly
general meeting (805) 482-0411.

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.

Field Trips

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

Saturday, October 4 Malibu Lagoon

Meet at 8:00 am at Rancho Road Park & Ride or at 8:30 in the Malibu Lagoon parking lot (ocean side of Hwy 1). Shorebirds, herons, gulls, ducks, and marsh birds make this oasis a great spot. Rarities are often seen! **Thelma Williams** is the leader, (805) 492-2796.

Thursday, October 9 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 or temperatures above 90 cancels.

Sunday, October 12 Cañada Larga Road

Meet at the start of the road after the exit from Hwy 33 at 8:00 am. Bring water and lunch. Birds we will look for include: black-headed and blue grosbeaks, warblers, orioles, Costa's hummingbird, Lewis woodpeckers, lazuli buntings, western bluebirds, and barn owls. **Tom Halpin** leads, (805) 746-4598.

Saturday, October 18 Ormond Beach

Meet at 8:00 am at Las Posas Park and Ride or at Ormond Beach at 8:30 at the beach end of Edison Road to look for shorebirds and water birds. Our leader is **Linda Easter**, (805) 482-7537.

Sunday, October 26 Ventura Settling Ponds

Meet at 7:45 am at the Las Posas Park & Ride. These ponds are always good for many duck species plus gulls, sora, moorhens, grebes, herons, common yellowthroats, swallows, and wrens. A spotting scope is very helpful. The leader is **Rich Congersky (805) 558-2297**.

Shutterbugs

by *Don Williamson*

The October meeting will be in the multipurpose room at Leisure Village On October 13 at 7:30 pm. The topic will be Common Thread photos presented by Jerry Spector and Chrystal Klabunde and the picture theme is Vacation Photos. If you are interested in attending contact **Jerry Spector** at (805) 384-9039 or erbear00@yahoo.com to be put on the access list for Leisure Village.

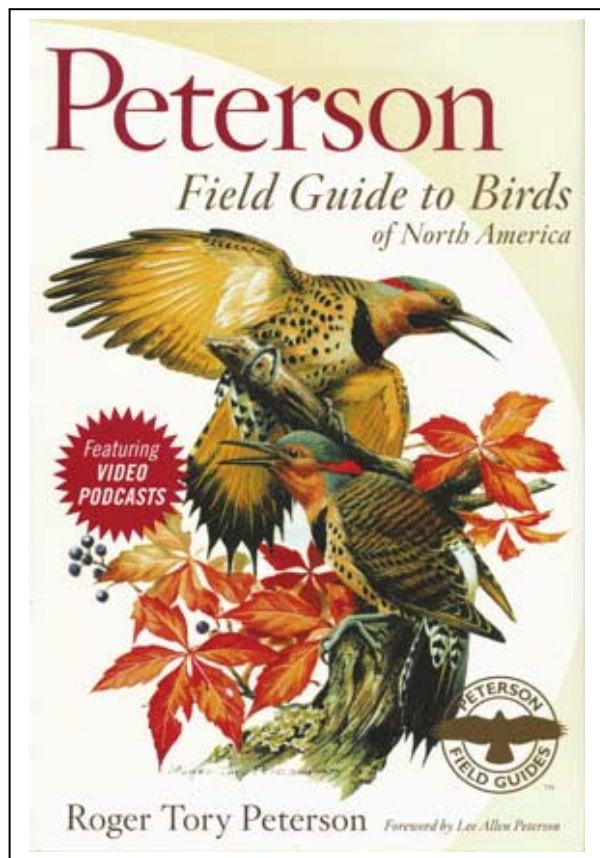
TREE Project

by *Thelma Williams*

Once again this school year we are privileged to participate in the TREE (Teens Restoring Endangered Ecosystems) program with Sequoia Middle School dedicated teacher Alan Saute and his students. We will also be working with staff of the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area. We will be birding with small student groups every other Thursday from September 2008 to June 2009 at Rancho Sierra Vista-Satwiwa. Our emphasis will be on plant-bird association, wildlife interaction with plants and the use of habitat. The commitment will be from 9am-1pm each time. Every student has binoculars and guide books and has been introduced to the area. They will also be doing restoration work, weeding, and planting the plants they have grown in the school nursery.

The section of the park they will be working in, coastal sage scrub and riparian habitats, is the home of the scarce grasshopper sparrow, as well as many other bird species. We know and love this birding environment.

This is a wonderful, exciting opportunity for our Audubon group to interact with the community, the youngsters, and the environment. Those who participated last year, birding at the school only, enjoyed it thoroughly. Please contact me, **Thelma Williams**, 805-492-2796, if you would be able to help out with this incredible program. I am counting on many of you to be involved in this education adventure.



Reviewed by Cheryl Williamson

For our recent anniversary, my husband surprised me with a copy of *Peterson Field Guide to Birds of North America*. This book was published to celebrate the centennial of his birth - August 28, 1908. It combines Peterson's guide to Eastern and Western birds in one volume. It has been completely updated; there are all new range maps; text has been rewritten; and there are digital enhancements to some of his original drawings. Kimball Garrett reviewed and revised some of the voice descriptions.

An added feature is that you get access to a web site with podcasts about the book and the birds. I was able to access the web site and navigate through it easily and I am a novice computer user.

The book is just beautiful. It is a 6" by 9" soft back book. The cover (see the cover image above) is Peterson's exceptional painting of a pair of Northern Flickers. The range maps are bigger, it is in the new taxonomy order, and the pictures are bigger. It is a must have for your bird library.

Larry Arbanas

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Larry Arbanas, a bird and nature filmmaker, lives in Bishop, California. His passion for filming birds began in 1989 and has now become a full-time profession. He's been fortunate enough to share these films at numerous California Audubon meetings and with other bird and nature-based groups.

As a research associate for the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, he's had access to the finest High-Definition television equipment to produce these bird movies. So the video shown on our screen will be vibrant, bright, and the birds, at times, will be seen very close up.

We will see birds filmed at Mono Lake, in Alaska and possibly birds of Florida, too...and we'll get some close-up looks at the White-tailed kite, for sure.

Membership Payments

The Board of Directors recently decided to change our membership from a rolling 12 month renewal to a fixed calendar. All memberships will match our activity year, so that the current membership year will run from July 2008 to June 2009. To be fair to members who renewed earlier in 2008, we have extended their memberships through June 2009. Multi-year memberships have been extended similarly. If you have questions about when your membership ends, please contact the membership secretary (membership@conejovalleyaudubon.org).

Elderhostel Birding Adventures

The Elderhostel US & Canada Winter 2008-2009 catalog invites you to grab your binoculars and field guide, and join Elderhostel on one of their many remarkable birding expeditions. They offer a series of exceptional programs led by birding professionals along flyways and migration corridors at U.S. locations both near (California, Arizona) and far (Florida and Puerto Rico) to name just a few of the U.S. states with programs. Further information is available at toll free (877) 426-8056 or at www.elderhostel.org.