



ROADRUNNER

Founded 1968

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NO. 9

General Meeting May 4 7:30 pm Western Foundation

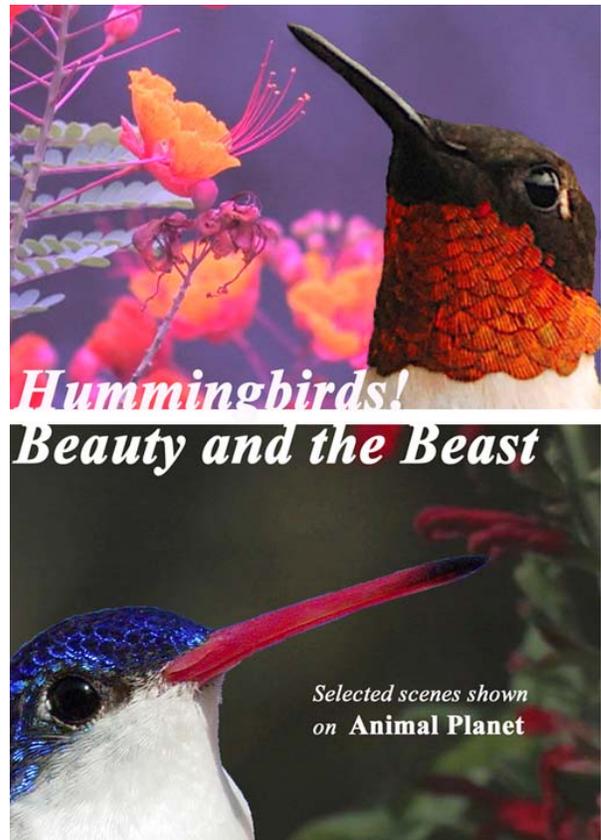
Tom Kaminski's Latest DVD Just Released: Hummingbirds! Beauty and the Beast

Many may recall that Tom Kaminski has previously presented two programs to our chapter: "Hooked on Hummingbirds" and "Hooked on Galapagos Birds." Now he has just released a new DVD called "Hummingbirds! Beauty and the Beast", some scenes of which were shown on "Animal Planet". It shows 57 hummer species -- including all 16 that breed in the US -- plus 13 other bird species (including the 3-wattled Bellbird).

This program provides a new perspective on the hummingbird and sets the stage with the opening statement: "It's a great story, but it just isn't true that hummingbird beauty is more than feather deep ...[T]hey are little beasts that live by the law of the jungle." It goes on to portray them as single moms, deadbeat dads and teenage chicks, then moves to subjects such as the rules of competitive engagement; what hummingbirds want and how they get it; their incredible water management and other capabilities; flower mites they ferry in their nostrils; and other topics.

Tom just returned from Isla Robinson Crusoe, a Chilean possession 435 miles off the coast, where The Hummingbird Society sponsored him to film the endemic and critically endangered Juan

Fernandez Firecrown hummingbird. The call of the male Firecrown would strike terror into the hearts of any hummer found in the US. And the male and female are so different in size and color that, for many years, it was thought they were two different species. Firecrown "bonus material" will be included in the evening's program.



CALENDAR

May			
2&3	7:00 am	Field Trip	Butterbredt Springs
4	5:15 pm	Dinner	Premeeting Dinner: Ottavio's
4	7:30 pm	General Meeting	Western Foundation
9	7:30 am	Field Trip	Wheeler Gorge
14	9:00 am	Field Trip	Beginner's Bird Walk
17	8:00 am	Field Trip	Malibu Creek State Park
23	8:00 am	Field Trip	Conejo Creek
30	7:00 am	Field Trip	Wind Wolves Preserve

*** 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.

Board Meeting Notice

The May Board meeting will be held on Monday, May 11. 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 location varying monthly. Please contact CVAS Secretary, **Linda Reynolds** at **805-386-4062** or secretary@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 & Sunday, May 2 & 3 Butterbredt Springs

Primitive camping; incredible migrant trap! Sometimes unbelievable flowers. Sometimes great numbers of warblers, flycatchers, and other migrants; usually Scott's Orioles, could be Chukars, Mt Quail. We camp in the dirt road and a high clearance vehicle is recommended; so bring your chair. Meet at Rancho Park and Ride at 7 am on Saturday or at the Springs. Call **Dee Lyon (805)-499-2165** for directions.

Saturday, May 9 Wheeler Gorge

Come see the Western Tanagers and possible Dipper! Bring lunch if you intend to come with us up to Rose Campground. Meet at Las Posas Park and Ride at 7:30 or at the Wheeler Gorge Campground at 8. Leader is **Tom Halpin (805)746-4598**

Thursday, May 14 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 find out where it will be. Rain cancels.

Sunday, May 17 Malibu Creek State Park

Meet at Rancho Park and Ride at 8 am for carpooling. (There is a fee at the Park; bring money for gas and fee.) Hawks, sparrows, woodpeckers, bluebirds and Orioles. Leader is **Thelma Williams (805)-492-2796**.

Saturday, May 23 Conejo Creek

Riparian habitat – warblers, hawks, Hutton's Vireo, migrants. Meet at 8 am at North end of Calle Yucca in Lynn Ranch (101 to Lynn Road; go north to Camino Dos Rios; turn left; go one block to Calle Yucca and turn right.) Bring hiking boots and water. Leader is **David Person (805)-496-9587**.

Saturday, May 30 Wind Wolves Preserve

Meet at Rancho Park and Ride at 7 am for 2 hour, 113 mile, drive up to the Preserve. It's up I-5 to 166/Maricopa Hwy and has 97,000 acres. Has great flowers this year. Bring jacket and lunch. Leaders are **Bill and Carol Langford (805)-987-2721**. Those who wish to camp at Wind Wolves on Saturday night must **first call Carol** who will set up camping arrangements in advance.

Shutterbugs *by Don Williamson*

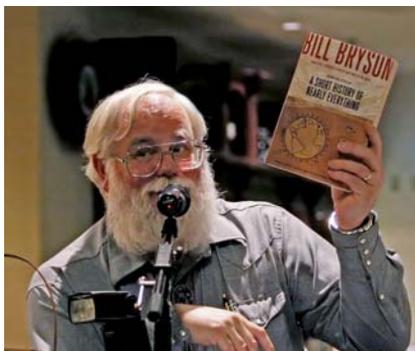
The May 11th meeting will be in the multi-purpose room at Leisure Village at 7:30 pm. The picture theme is "Unusual Point of View", the educational topic will be "Leading Lines" presented by Jerry Spector, and the Common Thread Photography presentation will be by Don Klabunde.

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.

VENTURA COUNTY SCIENCE FAIR, 2009

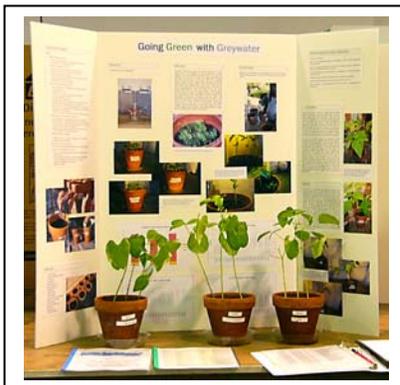
CVAS Dinner & Auction by *Charlie Lucas*

**Going Once!
Going Twice!
Sold to Number 37!**



Every auction needs an auctioneer and once again this year Don Klabunde (see photo above) graciously agreed to perform in that vital role for the CVAS Annual Dinner & Auction which was held at the Sterling Hills Golf Club in Camarillo on Saturday, March 21st. Our thanks to Rich Congersky for organizing this years dinner and for coordinating contributions of other members.

CVAS members and invited guests had the opportunity of participating in several different fund raising activities that included both a formal auction that was coordinated by Don Klabunde and a silent auction that accepted bids for several wonderful prizes including a weekend getaway in the local mountains, a week-long stay at a Maui condo and "A Day of Birding With" one of CVAS' expert birders. Raffle tickets were also available which allowed the lucky winners – there must have been four winners at every table of eight – to select what ever gift they wished from a raffle table.



"Going Green with Greywater"



"Bye, Bye Red Ants"

Photos by Linda Reynolds

CVAS Annual Elliot McClure Award Presented At Ventura County Science Fair, 2009 by *Linda Reynolds*

The annual Ventura County Science Fair was held at Ventura County Fairgrounds on March 25, 2009, with awards given the following evening. Chrystal Klabunde and Linda Reynolds had their work cut out for them this year as there were many excellent entries, especially in the Environmental Sciences and Management category.

Alicia Sadowski, Pinecrest School, Thousand Oaks, was a winner with her entry entitled "Going Green with Greywater". Using seeds of foxgloves, marigolds, and beans, Alicia found that plants grow better in most cases using the greywater from an eco-friendly detergent. Her other two greywaters were tap water and Tide detergent.

Amanda Forest, Simi Elementary School, Simi Valley, impressed the judges with her experiment "Bye, Bye Red Ants". She explained that after an ant invasion in their home, she wanted to find a repellent that was non-toxic. Her trials used sandpaper, salt, baby powder, and cinnamon as potential solutions. Cinnamon was the most effective.

Linda and Chrystal were looking for proper scientific procedure, and a good visual presentation following state standards. After speaking with both of the girls, they determined Alicia and Amanda had indeed done their own work and write-up, and used topics which could easily be adapted by many people to their own home situations.

Nobuko McClure accompanied Linda to the awards ceremony, where both girls happily accepted the Conejo Valley Audubon Society's annual Elliot McClure awards of a plaque and \$100 each. It was the first Science Fair attempt for both of them!

ROADRUNNER

Conejo Valley Audubon Society, Inc.

P.O. Box 4782

Thousand Oaks, CA 91359

May, 2009



Officers and Committee Chairs			Username
President	Carol Langford	805-987-2721	president
Vice Pres	Rich Congersky	805-558-2297	rcongersky
Secretary	Linda Reynolds	805-386-4062	secretary
Treasurer	Dixie Anderson	805-484-3985	
Programs	Chrystal Klabunde	805-522-8023	chrystal
Conservation	Laurie Van Stee	805-861-0988	sunnyinsamo@yahoo.com
Education	Thelma Williams	805-492-2796	thelma
Field trips	Dee Lyon	805-499-2165	chickadee
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Hospitality	Patricia Turner	805-987-9147	hospitality
Membership	Bob Parker	805-446-2701	membership
Historian	Bets Buchanan	805-482-0063	
Special Events			
Photographer	Don Klabunde	805-522-8023	
Special Projects	Nobuko McClure	805-482-0411	nobuko
Webmaster	Bob Sakamoto		rsakamoto
CVAS Web Site	http://www.ConejoValleyAudubon.org		
Send E-mail to	username@ConejoValleyAudubon.org		



Photo by Don Klabunde

This engaging photo is entitled "Western Bluebirds Eating Palm Nuts." It was taken by Don Klabunde using a Canon EOS 40D camera an hour or so after mid-day in late November 2008.

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

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, Membership Data Center, P. O. Box 52529, Boulder, CO 80322-2529

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 _____

**C23
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CONEJO VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Please enroll me as a member of Conejo Valley Audubon Society. I have enclosed \$20, payable to CVAS, for a family membership. Mail to: CVAS, P.O. Box 4782, Thousand Oaks, CA 91359 __ Please send my newsletter by E-mail.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail address _____