



ROADRUNNER

Founded 1968

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A Chapter of the National Audubon Society

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November 2009

NO. 3

General Meeting November 2 7:30 pm Western Foundation

Ron Bottorff to Discuss Latest Happenings on the Santa Clara River

Join us as Ron Bottorff gives us an update on the activities of Friends of the Santa Clara River. Friends of the Santa Clara River is a nonprofit, public interest organization dedicated to the protection, enhancement, and management of the resources of the Santa Clara River, which flows approximately 100 miles from Acton, California to the Pacific Ocean. The Santa Clara River is one of only two natural river systems remaining in Southern California, and was selected by American Rivers as one of the nation's most endangered rivers in 2005.

The Friends of the Santa Clara River has acquired the Hedrick Ranch Nature area and is currently working on a major habitat restoration project on its 230 acres, including a mile of river front property between Santa Paula and Fillmore.

Ron Bottorff has lived in Ventura County since 1957. He retired from the aerospace industry in 1992, started Friends of the Santa Clara River in 1993, and has been its chairman ever since. He is also currently serving as co-chair of the Compact for a Sustainable Ventura County, a project of the Ventura County Civic Alliance.

He will discuss the latest happenings on the Santa

Clara River (photo below), including the re-emerging Newhall Ranch project and current status of the Freeman Diversion controversy. He will also give a quick overview of the Compact for a Sustainable Ventura County project.

CVAS supports Friends of the Santa Clara River.



Photo by Lynne Plambeck

Conservation Column By Dee Lyon

CONSERVATION WEBSITES: As you know, there are hundreds of birding sites, but the web has vast amounts of information on conservation, some of it very useful. Lots of statistics to use when you discover someone who doesn't believe in global warming! When you are surfing, try some of the following sites starting with:

Earth911.com

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CALENDAR

November

2	5:15 pm	Pre meeting Dinner: Ottavio's
2	7:30 pm	General Meeting Western Foundation
7	8:30 am	Field Trip Lake Casitas
12	9:00 am	Field Trip Beginner's Birdwalk
15	8:00 am	Field Trip Ahmanson Ranch
21	8:00 am	Field Trip Sepulveda Wildlife Refuge
28	8:00 am	Field Trip Thousand Oaks Botanic Garden

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

Call Nobuko McClure
For Reservations
24 hours in advance of 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 November Board meeting will be held on Monday, November 16. 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, November 7 Lake Casitas

Meet at Lake Casitas parking lot at 8:30 am. Lots of duck, grebes, sparrows, hawks and woodpeckers. Leader is **John Pavelko (805) 640-9040**.

Thursday, November 12 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 to find out where it will be held. Rain will cancel.

Sunday, November 15 Ahmanson Ranch

Meet at north end of Las Virgins Road at 8 am. Possible Lewis Woodpeckers. Leader is **Ron Barns (818) 991-9967**.

Saturday, November 21 Sepulveda Wildlife Refuge

Meet at the Wildlife Refuge at 8 am. 101 east to Balboa, left on Balboa, right on Burbank, left on Woodley, right at entrance for Japanese Garden, take drive all the way to the end parking lot. Leader is **Rich Congersky (805) 588-2297**.

Saturday, November 28 Thousand Oaks Botanic Garden (aka Conejo Valley Botanic Garden)

Meet in the ball field parking lot off of Gainsborough Rd (Jeannine Ct) at 8 am. Lots of chaparral birds. Leader is **David Person (805) 469-6806**.

Shutterbugs by Don Williamson

The November 9th meeting will be in the multipurpose room at Leisure Village at 7:30 PM. The program has yet to be determined.

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.

Message from the Editor

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

Annual CVAS Membership Dues Reminder

As a reminder to all members, CVAS membership dues now match our activity year. The current membership year runs from July 2009 to June 2010. Please use the CVAS Membership Application form on page four of this newsletter when submitting your dues for this activity year.

Do We Have Your Correct Email Address?

We recently tried to contact all Newsletter subscribers to correct an error in the October issue. We discovered that we did not have email addresses for a significant number of subscribers who receive their Newsletter via US mail. To ensure that you receive important CVAS information in the future in a timely manner, we ask that you send an email that includes your name to:

membership@ConejoValleyAudubon.org

to enable us to complete our membership files.

Conservation Column
(Continued from page 1)

Earth911.com

Guide to local resources including recycling centers, how to recycle, pollution prevention and how to help protect the environment. Full of suggestions for everyone on how to go green.

Conservation.org

Nonprofit applies innovations in science, economics, policy and community participation to protect the Earth's biodiversity around the world.

Dsireusa.org

The Database of State Incentives for Renewable Energy (DSIRE)

American Birding Association:

The American Birding Association represents the North American birding community and supports birders through publications, conferences, workshops, tours, partnerships, and networks. The ABA's education programs promote birding skills, ornithological knowledge, and the development of a conservation ethic. The ABA encourages birders to apply their skills to help conserve birds and their habitats, and represent the interests of birders in planning and legislative arenas.

National Audubon Society:

Audubon's mission is to conserve and restore natural ecosystems, focusing on birds, other wildlife, and their habitats for the benefit of humanity and the earth's biological diversity. Its national network of community-based nature centers and chapters, scientific and educational programs, and advocacy on behalf of areas sustaining important bird populations, engages millions of people of all ages and backgrounds in positive conservation experiences.

Additional Sites of Interest:

For additional conservation oriented information Google some of the following organizations:

California Native Plant Society
Ecotip Product Service Systems

Friends of the Forest

Tree Hugger

Mother Jones & Zaadz

Power from the Sun

So Calif Wetlands Recovery Project

Take Action - Birds and Climate Change

Conservation Resources International

How to go Green Index - Planet Green
Red light, Green Light - Conservation
Magazine

8 Ways to Go Green

Wild Suburbia

Lawn-free, low water landscaping.

Field Trip Reports

Mt. Pinos, Saturday, September 19

By David Person

On Saturday, September 19th, ten of us gathered for a drive up to Mt. Pinos. While quite warm in the lower elevations, the weather at the top of the mountain was sunny and 73 degrees. The birding began slow but picked up with several spots turning up several species. The Mountain Chickadees and Western Bluebirds were very abundant, as well as Yellow-rumped Warblers. We had all three species of nuthatches as well as White-headed Woodpeckers and Clark's Nutcrackers. In all, a total of 17 species with a Condor flyby at lunch to top it off!

Carpinteria Salt Marsh, Sunday September 27

By Linda Easter

On a foggy morning in late September, about 20 birders met at the Carpinteria Salt Marsh Nature Park for an interesting field trip. We were fortunate to be met at the park by a park docent, Rob Denholtz, who gave us some background on the development of the park and the species to be found there. He told us that 15 years ago, the park was an unvegetated wasteland full of trash and discarded refrigerators. But since the area is actually a natural salt marsh, several groups joined forces to restore it to its current condition, which is a lovely area planted with native plants and full of birds and other species. Although the birding part of the day started slowly, we were rewarded with a total of 39 species -- not at all bad for such a foggy morning! Highlights included an osprey, a small group of flying long-billed dowitchers (who clearly showed us the white patch down their backs), the first white-crowned sparrows of the season for several observers, and first-of-the-season blue-winged teal. All agreed that the park is a treasure worth returning to again and again.

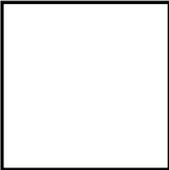
ROADRUNNER

Conejo Valley Audubon Society, Inc.

P.O. Box 4782

Thousand Oaks, CA 91359

November, 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	Dee Lyon	805-492-2165	chickadee
Education	Thelma Williams	805-492-2796	thelma
Field trips	David Pearson	805-496-9587	fieldtrips
Publicity	Ron Barns	818-991-9967	rtbarns@netscape.net
Newsletter	Charlie Lucas	805-498-6447	newsletter
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	photographer
Special Projects	Nobuko McClure	805-482-0411	nobuko
Webmaster	Frank DeMartino		webmaster
CVAS Web Site	http://www.ConejoValleyAudubon.org		
Send E-mail to	username@ConejoValleyAudubon.org		



Photo by Jean Hulberg

CVAS member Jean Hulberg submitted this striking photo of a **WOOD DUCK** displaying its bright colors. The Peterson Field Guide calls our attention to “the bizarre face patterns, swept-back crest, and rainbow iridescence” of the male.

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

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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, P. O. Box 422250, Palm Coast, FL 32142-2250

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 _____

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 _____