



ROADRUNNER

Founded 1968

Published by the Conejo Valley Audubon Society

A Chapter of the National Audubon Society

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VOL. 43

March 2012

NO. 7

General Meeting March 5 7:30 pm Western Foundation

Banning Ranch, a gem worth preserving

Banning Ranch is a 400 acre parcel of coastal bluffs and adjacent wetlands located in the vicinity of West Newport Beach, close to where the Santa Ana River enters the Pacific Ocean. It is home to southern coastal bluff scrub and vernal pool habitats, as well as protected species such as the California Gnatcatcher, Coastal Cactus Wren, California Least Tern and Belding's Savannah Sparrow. Remarkably, the property has thus far escaped the high-density development that is characteristic of most of Newport Beach, Costa Mesa, and Huntington Beach – thanks in part to its status as a working oil field. But now a proposed development at Banning Ranch is the absolute largest allowed under the Newport Beach General Plan, twice as large and six times as dense as anything built along the Orange County coast in recent memory.

Join us to hear from a representative of the Banning Ranch Conservancy about what is being done and what can be done, since Banning Ranch is truly a gem worth preserving.



Banning / Cactus Wren

Conservation Column by Dee Lyon

CLIMATE CHANGE – NOT POPULAR WITH THE MEDIA

The economy and the environment are inextricably intertwined even if our political process would seem to ignore that at times.

Seventy percent of Mexico is experiencing its worst drought in 70 years. Australia floods cost their economy \$5 billion. Some plants in the Western US are severely stressed: death rates of white-bark and limber pines are as high as 90 percent.

So why has the media not focused on solutions? Americans have the highest concentration of brainpower in its colleges compared to any other nation.

Appallingly, at the \$17 trillion Albertan oil sands, workers spend carbon energy and freshwater to separate the oil from the sand. By burning this petroleum, we will knowingly raise atmospheric CO2 levels by an astounding 150 parts per million and Earth will become uninhabitable.

Australia has ratified a carbon tax, and we must set a low-carbon standard that China and India will follow. We are running out of time.

CALENDAR

March

4	8:00 am	Field Trip: Antelope Valley Raptors
5	5:15 pm	Pre meeting Dinner: Ottavio's
5	7:30 pm	General Meeting Western Foundation
10	8:00 am	Field Trip: Rancho Sierra Vista
18	8:00 am	Field Trip: Rustic Canyon / Happy Camp
25	7:30 am	Field Trip: Private Property
31	8:30 am	Field Trip: Tom Halpin Memorial Bird Walk

Pre meeting Dinner

Ottavio's in Camarillo at 5:15 pm

Call **Nobuko McClure**

For Reservations (805) 482-0411

Reservation Deadline: 9:00 am

Day of General Meeting

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 March Board Meeting will be held on Monday, March 19. 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 locations varying monthly. Please contact CVAS Secretary, **Gary Evans** at (805) 231-5692 or GaryE@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!

Sunday March 4th Antelope Valley Raptors

Join us as we explore the Antelope Valley in search of raptors and other interesting birds. Email **Carol Langford** at berry50@yahoo.com for information. Space is limited.

Thursday, March 8th Beginner's Bird Walk

Call **Angie Kobabe** (818) 991-4055 between 9:00 am and 9:00 pm to let her know you are coming and to find out where it will be held. Rain will cancel.

Saturday, March 10th Plant / Bird Walk at Rancho Sierra Vista

Meet at 8:00 am at the main parking lot; rain cancels. The trip will emphasize the native plants of RSV while enjoying the birds found in this habitat. South on Wendy to Lynn Road. Rt. On Lynn past Reino to Park Entrance on left of Lynn (which becomes Potrero). Leader is **Mary Ann Campbell** (805) 522-2354.

Sunday, March 18th Happy Camp Cyn./Rustic Cyn. Golf Course

From Hwy 118 in Moorpark, turn north on Princeton Ave., then left on Campus Park Dr. Meet at the gate at 8:00am. You may bird a few hours or continue with the leader for a long, mostly flat hike back to oaks burned by previous year's fire. Bring lunch and

water for longer version. **Leader is Matthew Page** (805) 990-6534.

Sunday, March 25th Private Property

Carpool from Las Posas Park and Ride at 7:30 am (bring gas money). Meet at the Private Property to walk in. There will be lots of shore birds; should still be some ducks, hawks, herons, black birds; possible American Bittern and Sora. Leader is **Ron Barns** (818) 991-9967.

Saturday, March 31st Conejo Creek / Tom Halpin Memorial Hike

Take 101 to Rancho Conejo Blvd; go north almost to the end and turn left on Conejo Center Dr., about 200 yards to the locked gate on the right. We'll meet at the trailhead at 8:00 am. We'll start in Thousand Oaks and hike down along Conejo Creek on the So. Ca. Edison dirt road, down to the water treatment plant. We'll have a picnic down in the oaks and then head back up. Leader is **Dee Lyon** (805) 499-2165.

Help For Injured Birds

By Carol Langford

Spring is almost here and with it comes telephone calls reporting injured birds. Young birds not with a parent may or may not be abandoned. It is always best to watch and listen a bit before presuming a bird has been abandoned. When birds need rehab or rescue, the Ojai Raptor Center has dedicated, expert volunteers and staff to provide nurturing assistance. Their hotline number is (805) 649-6884. Their website ojairaptorcenter.org has additional information on how to assess whether a bird needs your help. For other wildlife call: Wildlife Care of Ventura County (805) 498-2794; Camarillo Wildlife Rehabilitation (805) 482-7617; Ventura Animal Regulation (805) 388-4341; Humane Society of Ventura County (805) 646-6505; and for hummingbirds call Beth Garcia (805) 320-2438.

Field Trip Do's and Don'ts

1. Please wear drab colors; white and red alarm some birds.
2. Please keep conversation to a minimum and at the back of the group.
3. Please do not wander out in front of the leader; you will scare off the birds.
4. Please let us know when you see a bird and where it is.
5. Please look through the scope, and then let the next person have a look.

You are cordially invited to join
Conejo Valley Audubon Society

on

Friday, March 16, 2012

at

Sterling Hills Golf Club
901 Sterling Hills Drive
Camarillo, CA 93010

Exit the Ventura Freeway (101) at Central Avenue in Camarillo.
Go north on Central (0.8 mi) to Beardsley Road and turn RIGHT.
Continue on Beardsley (0.75 mi) until you reach Sterling Hills Drive and turn RIGHT.
On the left you will see the golf course parking lot.

For

Cocktails, Dinner and Auction

No-host cocktails 5:30 PM - Dinner 6:30 PM

Ticket price per person \$40.00 (early-bird special \$35.00 - before 3/2/12)

5-FREE raffle tickets for each 1st time guest

We ask that everyone kindly bring an item for the raffles.

All types of donation items are acceptable and are not limited to those with an avian theme.

Anyone interested in donating items for the silent or live auctions please contact Carrol Langford at:

(805) 987-2721 or president@ConejoValleyAudubon.org

All are tax deductible!

Dinner selections: All served with Tossed Green Salad, Fresh Vegetable, Chef's Choice Starch, Freshly Baked Breads & Butter, and Chef's Choice Dessert and Beverage.

(1) Duet Plate: Petite Filet Mignon & Baked Salmon Filet

(2) Hot Vegetable Plate

Please fill out this reservation form, tear it off, and mail it with your check (payable to CVAS) to:

CVAS, P.O. Box 4782, Thousand Oaks, CA 91359

Print your name(s) as you would like it to appear on your place card and select an entrée by number

Name _____ Dinner # ____ Phone # _____
Name _____ Dinner # ____
Name _____ Dinner # ____
Name _____ Dinner # ____
Name _____ Dinner # ____

Thanks for your support!!!

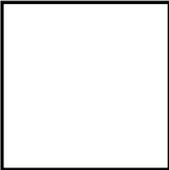
ROADRUNNER

Conejo Valley Audubon Society, Inc.

P.O. Box 4782

Thousand Oaks, CA 91359

March, 2012



Officers and Committee Chairs			Username
President	Carol Langford	805-987-2721	president
Vice Pres			
Secretary	Gary Evans	805-231-5692	GaryE
Treasurer	Ron Barns	818-991-9967	rtbarns@netscape.net
Programs	Chrystal Klabunde	805-522-8023	chrystal
Conservation	Dee Lyon	805-499-2165	chickadee
Education	Thelma Williams	805-492-2796	thelma
Field trip: Co	Dee Lyon	805-499-2165	chickadee
Field trip: Co	Charlie Lucas	805-498-6447	newsletter
Publicity	Cory Taylor		publicity
Newsletter	Charlie Lucas	805-498-6447	newsletter
Membership	Barbara Hopkins		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		



Snowy Egret/C & D Williamson
Carpinteria Salt Marsh

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

C2ZC230Z

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 for a family membership.

Additional Gift: ___\$25.00 ___\$50.00 ___\$75.00 ___\$100.00 \$_____ Other

Membership \$ _____ Donation \$ _____ Total (check payable to CVAS) \$ _____

Mail to: CVAS, P.O. Box 4782, Thousand Oaks, CA 91359 Newsletter will be sent by E-mail.

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phone _____ E-mail address _____