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

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<th>November</th>
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<tr>
<td>2   5:15 pm</td>
<td>Pre meeting Dinner: Ottavio’s</td>
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<td>2   7:30 pm</td>
<td>General Meeting Western Foundation</td>
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<tr>
<td>7   8:30 am</td>
<td>Field Trip  Lake Casitas</td>
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<td>12  9:00 am</td>
<td>Field Trip  Beginner’s Birdwalk</td>
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<td>15  8:00 am</td>
<td>Field Trip  Ahmanson Ranch</td>
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<td>21  8:00 am</td>
<td>Field Trip  Sepulveda Wildlife Refuge</td>
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<td>28  8:00 am</td>
<td>Field Trip  Thousand Oaks Botanic Garden</td>
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*** 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 Virginis 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 (Jeanine 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.
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 area 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.
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, 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 __________________

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.