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Www.bvaudubon.org

Buena Vista Audubon Society

Lagoon Flyer



BVAS Annual Christmas Bird Count

The Buena Vista Audubon Society's annual Christmas Bird Count will be conducted this year on Thursday, December 30. This count of bird species and individual bird numbers covers the same 15 mile diameter circle every year. This circle is divided up into about 25 areas to facilitate organizing. Each area is assigned a leader who usually recruits others to help with the task.

If you would like to participate, phone the compiler: Dennis Wysong (760) 754-1264. Most area leaders begin their count around 7:30 a.m. The entire group of counters is invited to gather at the Center at about noon for a lunch and countdown of the species found.

A Winter's Weekend Wander

SPECIAL BIRDING EVENT

We invite you to join us on a trip to bird the Salton Sea and surrounding area Nov. 20-21. Bob Miller, a long time resident and birder of Imperial Valley, and founder of Southwest Birding, will be our guide. We will meet at 9:30AM at Cattle Call Park in Brawley where we can bird while people arrive before proceeding to the wetlands and Salton Sea area. A block of rooms have been reserved at the Brawley Inn the night of the 20th. Non-smoking single king rms. and double queen rms. will be available plus a complimentary continental breakfast Sun. morning. We will bird part of the day Sun. and leave whenever necessary to drive home. This is a wonderful opportunity to see many migrating birds who use this Fly Way in addition to the regulars found in the area. Approximate travel time from San Diego is 2 hours. from the I-5 or 805 and I-8 junction. Directions: I-5 or 805 to I-8 East to Imperial Valley. Exit Forester Rd. North (left) <Forester Rd. is the next exit after Sun Beam Lake Rest Area> Forester to Keystone Rd. East (right). Hwy. 86 North(left) to Cattle Call Dr. in Brawley. Turn left and proceed to Park at end. When you see the arena, go straight then fork right. Go downhill and park at trees on left at end. For information or carpooling call Mary Ellen Marquand at (760) 918-6622 or EMail memarquand@earthlink.net

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Buena Vista Fall 2004 Lagoon Cleanup



Before Coastal Cleanup Day, September 18, 2004, note the trash in the reeds.



After Coastal Cleanup Day, September 18, 2004, note the trash in the reeds is all gone!

Thanks to the City of Oceanside's clean water program, Buena Vista Audubon Nature Center www.bvaudubon.org, the California Department of Fish and Game, Carlsbad Paddle Sports www.carlsbadpaddle.com, and over 50 volunteers, the waters of Buena Vista Lagoon never looked cleaner.

This year for the first time, we were given permission to use watercrafts in our attempts to keep our lagoon free of unsightly debris. The above pictures illustrates what we can do when we work together for a common goal. A special thanks goes to **Dan Carey** of **Carlsbad Paddle Sports** on Coast Highway in Carlsbad, for donating the use of several kayaks with the relevant equipment and instructions for this special trial cleanup event.

As required, the event was sanctioned by the Required agencies as an experiment. **Buena Vista Lagoon** is a **National Wildlife Sanctuary** with restrictions **prohibiting** swimming and the use of **any** types of boats or floatation devices . It was and is our hope to determine whether the cleanup attempts will be significant enough to warrant any resulting intrusion and disturbance to the environment. As always, your thoughts, comments and participation are encouraged.

Cleanups dates still left in 2004, come join the fun!!!!

Saturday, November 6th, and Saturday December 4th.



Upcoming Events

Field notes from the edges...

FIELD NOTES - Our birding experiences last month revealed some of our Fall migratory birds arriving already. At KIT CARSON PARK we saw WHITE CROWN SPARROW s are back. There were quite a few WESTERN BLUEBIRDS, and the ever-present ACORN WOODPECKERS. As always at CABRILLO MONUMENT there was a variety of birds in and around "the drip".... WESTERN WOOD PEEWEE, FOX SPARROW, WHITE-WINGED DOVE, WESTERN Tanager, and GREEN-TAILED TOWHEE. Our visit to WHELAN LAKE showed us that many of the ducks and shore birds are arriving to join the regulars. We were most surprised to spot a tree with 12 WHITE-TAILED KITES sitting in it!!

Chapter Events

NOV./ DEC. BIRDING OPPORTUNITIES

SAT. NOV.6 - WHELAN LAKE, 8:00AM -76 to Douglas turn North (left). Turn left again at North River Rd.Go to gate at end.

Leader: John Haddock (760)941-7824

SAT.NOV 13 - SAN ELIJO LAGOON , 9:00AM - I-5 to Lomas Santa Fe West. Right on Rios Ave. to end of street.

Leader: Andy Mauro (760)753-1266

SAT.-SUN,NOV 20-21 - SALTON SEA AND SURROUNDING AREA (See Special Event article)

SAT.NOV 27 - BUENA VISTA LAGOON COUNT - I-5 to 78. Exit Jefferson right and take an immediate right onto Lagoon View Dr.

Leader: Joan Fountain (760)729-1379

SAT.DEC.4 - WHELAN LAKE, 8;00AM (Directions above)

SAT.DEC11 - SAN ELIJO LAGOON, 9:00AM (Directions above)



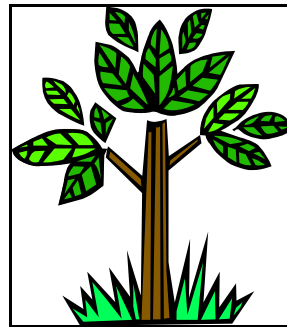
Upcoming Events

Greg Rubin to speak on Native Plant Landscaping

Year round color, low maintenance and a sense of place are key to the wonderful landscape designs of Greg Rubin (www.calown.com). Come see beautiful photos of how California Native Plants can be used to create many types of gardens. Greg's designs have been featured in Sunset Magazine.

He will discuss how to plant and care for natives, best practices and his personal list of favorites. Wednesday, November 17th, 7pm. At the Buena Vista Nature Center, 2202 South Coast Hwy, Oceanside.

- 760-439-2473 -



An Apology from the BVAS President

In my "Letter from the President" in the last Lagoon Flyer, I laid out my concerns over what I characterized as a national political agenda that pays too little attention to the cause of environmental conservation in America. I need to point out that I was presenting my own thoughts on this issue, and not speaking on behalf of BVAS or its members. I realize there are other issues of great concern during this presidential election year, and the country has been almost equally divided on who they feel would best lead us during these troubling times. I apologize to any who may have felt my message was too partisan, or who, for any reason, might have been offended.

One of the strengths of BVAS and National Audubon has always been its ability to draw support and membership from all segments of society. We all share a common interest in learning more about the natural world around us, and helping preserve this wonderful natural heritage for future generations.

To quote from a recent National Audubon newsletter: "*Audubon maintains that healthy populations of birds and other wildlife, a healthy environment, and natural beauty are among the core values of our democracy. They are values which transcend liberal or conservative ideology.*" At BVAS, we encourage everyone to come together to share in the beauty and wonder of our natural world.

--Dennis Wysong, President
BVAS