

Lagoon Flyer



Jón Baldur Hlíöberg

B u e n a V i s t a A u d u b o n S o c i e t y

New Program!

Basic Birding at Buena Vista Lagoon Landing

The BVAS Board of Directors is committed to opening the Lagoon Landing at least one Saturday each month for bird study and observation. This program is designed for beginning birders who want to learn birding basics one step at a time. Emphasis will be on how to use binoculars, field guides, spotting scopes, checklists, and local resources to identify unknown species.

Audubon board member Tom Troy will be our leader for this new program. It will start on Saturday, November 5th, with a joint outing with the Sierra Club. We will birdwatch at the Landing from 9-11 am and then return to the Nature Center for light refreshments and an open house from noon until 1pm. The Nature Center session will focus on current activities of BV Audubon and ways that interested individuals could become more involved.

On Saturday, December 3rd, we will repeat this same basic program. Participation in these basic birding sessions is an ideal way of getting ready for our Christmas Bird Count or our more advanced monthly bird counts, and is an excellent way to acquire basic birding skills without having to hike or walk very far. Meet at the Landing parking lot at 9am. If the lot is full, additional parking is available across the street in the Hosp Grove parking lot. Bring hats, sunscreen, a folding chair, and binoculars if you have them. Some loaner binoculars and field guides will be available. A thermos of coffee or tea and a snack might be a good idea.

Please remember that the California Department of Fish and Game is allowing us to open the Landing for bird study and observation only. This is an ecological reserve, and human feeding of the birds is not allowed. There is plenty of natural food available for the birds, and from a nutritional standpoint, this is their best source of nutrients. For more information call Tom Troy at 967-6915 or call the Nature Center. (Directions: from 78, take the Jefferson exit. Go south toward Carlsbad. Go right on Jefferson at the light. Go right into Duck Landing parking lot, or take next left into Hosp Grove parking lot.)

General Meeting

Birding Ecuador

Speaker: Roy Poucher

Wednesday, November 16, 2005

Social 7pm, Lecture 730 pm

Roy Poucher will transport you on a birding odyssey from high in the Andes of Ecuador down to the steamy lowland jungles of the Amazon. You will feel like you are sitting in a dugout canoe with Roy as he searches for birds while paddling on rainforest streams with local Indian guides. His photographs of Ecuador's spectacular birds in their awesome diversity of colors, shapes and behavior will delight you. Walking next to Roy on the high steep slopes of Yanacocha you will see a wonderful variety of hummingbirds.

These are just a few of the treats Roy has in store for you on this journey.

Some of you will remember Roy's presentation to us in April 2004 on birding in Alaska. Roy comes to us from Sea and Sage Audubon in Orange County, where he has been a trip leader for 14 years. He has led multi-day birding trips to the Eastern Sierra, Santa Barbara, Yosemite, Arizona, Texas, the Great Lakes, and the East Coast. His bird tour company, Bird Odysseys, has recently taken groups to Costa Rica, Ecuador and the Galapagos Islands. Trips to Africa and Costa Rica are in the planning stage.

Open House

BVAS Nature Center

December 3rd, 12 - 1 pm

This is a great opportunity for new members to explore the Nature Center and learn about the many opportunities available there. Audubon chapter leaders will provide a brief overview of ongoing programs and upcoming special events. This will be followed by an informal question and answer session. Light refreshments will be provided.

Christmas Bird Count

December 28 - Details on page 2

Christmas Bird Count December 28, 2005

It's time to make plans to join Buena Vista Audubon, as well as counters across North America, for the annual Christmas Bird Count. Participants will tally all the birds they hear and see in their designated areas and report data collected to Dennis Wysong, the organizer and compiler for BVAS. After the count, everybody will meet at the Nature Center for some of Annette's famous chili.

This is one of the most important bird census events. The data collected by observers over the past century allow researchers, conservation biologists, and interested individuals to study the long-term health and status of bird populations across North America. In the 1980's CBC data were used to document the decline of winter populations of American Black Duck, after which conservation measures were put into effect to reduce hunting pressure on this species.

The first CBC was done on Christmas Day of 1900 as an alternative activity to an event called the "side hunt" where people chose sides, then went out and shot as many birds as they could. The group that came in with the largest number of dead birds won the event. Frank Chapman, a famed ornithologist at the American Museum of Natural History and the editor of Bird Lore (which became the publication of the National Association of Audubon Societies when that organization formed in 1905) recognized that declining bird populations could not withstand wanton over-hunting, and proposed to count birds on Christmas Day rather than shoot them.

Please join us as we continue this tradition. If you are interested in participating in the count, contact Dennis Wysong at 760-754-1264. Volunteers are also needed to help with the chili luncheon following the count. If you can help serve, please call 760-439-2473 and leave a message for Annette.



There is always something to do at the Nature Center.
A young visitor enjoys the books and activities in the Tadpole Corner.

Education Committee

The Nature Guides will have meetings in both November and December on the first Monday of the month. They are still looking for donations of any type of Native American artifacts for their new lesson, "Native Americans – Living by the Lagoon".

The Nature Guides would also like to remind members that they offer free 1 ¼ hour guided tours for school kids, scouts, neighborhood groups, etc. There is a wide range of topics to choose from – Wetland Habitat, Lagoon History, Insects, Predator – Prey (hawks, owls, etc.) – just to name a few. All tours include indoor lesson, touching tables, lagoon walk.

For more information about the Nature Guides programs, visit the website at www.bvaudubon.org Education page. To schedule tours, donate artifacts, or discuss volunteer opportunities, contact Sue at 760-757-6461.

Gift Shop

As the holiday season rapidly approaches, don't forget the BVAS gift shop. We have a good assortment of field guides, native plant books, stuffed Audubon birds, children's books, t-shirts, note cards, small toys. New items will be coming in soon!

BVAS Officer Changes

It is with much regret that we announce that Nestor Ramos has resigned his position as Treasurer of BVAS. While Nestor will not be able to continue as Treasurer, he will continue to host the Nature Center as his schedule permits. Andy Mauro, our previous treasurer, has graciously agreed to step back into that position. Our thanks go to both Nestor and Andy.

Petey Tade and Peggy Dyer, both long time BVAS volunteers, are leaving their positions as Volunteer Coordinator and Circulation Committee Chair respectively. The board extends its sincere appreciation for the hard work these ladies have contributed over the years. We will miss having you in these important positions, but look forward to seeing you soon. We aren't letting you off the hook, so don't be surprised if we give you a call!

Judy Wilson has accepted the position of Volunteer Coordinator and will be responsible for scheduling volunteers to host the Nature Center. Mary Ann Roberts is our new Circulation Chair and will oversee newsletter and other mailings.

November & December Field Trips



Sat - Nov 5 - 8:00 am - Whelan Lake Monthly Bird Count. Fall migrants arriving! East on 76 to Douglas. Turn left and continue to North River Rd. Turn left again and meet at end at cul-de-sac by gate. Leader: John Haddock, 760 941-7824

Sat - Nov 5 - 9:00 am - Basic Birding at Buena Vista Lagoon Landing. Join Tom Troy for a lesson in basic birding. See Page 1 for additional information.

Sat - Nov 12 - 9:00 am - San Elijo Lagoon. I-5 to Lomas Santa Fe, west to N. Rios Ave. Turn right and proceed to end of road to meet. Leader: Andy Mauro, 760 753-1266

Sat - Nov 19 - 8:00 am - Blue Sky Canyon Reserve - I-15 to Rancho Bernardo Rd, Exit and go east. Rancho Bernardo Rd. becomes Espola Rd. after crossing Pomerado Rd. Continue on Espola Rd. which eventually curves right. After curving right look for Blue Sky Canyon Reserve parking lot on left. We will meet there. Portable restrooms along trail. Considerable hiking on level trail. For carpooling or more information contact Mary Ellen. 760 918-6622

Sat - Nov 26 - 8:00 am - Buena Vista Lagoon Count. Exit Jefferson and turn right. Take another immediate right onto Lagoon View Dr. where we meet. The white pelicans are back. Leader: Joan Fountain 760 729-1379

Sat - Dec 3 - 8:00 am - Whelan Lake Monthly Bird Count. The lake should be loaded with migrating water fowl, and the shoreline and fields sheltering others passing through. East on 76 to Douglas. Turn left on North River Rd. and continue to cul-de-sac at end entrance gate. Leader: John Haddock, 760 941-7824

Sat - Dec 3 - 9:00 am - Basic Birding at the Buena Vista Lagoon Landing. Details on Page 1.

Sat - Dec 10 - 9:00 am - San Elijo Lagoon. I-5 to Lomas Santa Fe, west to N. Rios Ave. Turn right and proceed to end of road to meet. Leader: Andy Mauro, 760 753-1266

Sat - Dec 17 - 8: am - Kit Carson Park Always a good variety of birds to see here. 78 east to I-15 south. Exit Via Rancho Parkway and go east past North County Fair where road becomes Bear Valley Parkway. Go to second entrance to the park on left (stoplight & fire station). Turn left and go straight to end of rd. and turn right proceeding to park by 1st picnic area and restrooms. For carpooling contact Mary Ellen 760 918-6622.

Wed - Dec 28 - Christmas Bird Count - Join BVAS birders for this important yearly count of birds in the Oceanside area. For count assignment, call Dennis Wysong. 760 754-1264

Field Notes -

October 1 - Whelan Lake Bird Count. Mary Jane Roberts and I were joined by Ken and Ruth Metzner from the Palomar Audubon for what turned out to be very pretty morning after the early fog burned off. Bird of the day was a Wilson's snipe, spotted by Ruth and identified by Ken. I was baffled having not seen one of these guys before. We all got an excellent scope view of the snipe. Saw a total of 30 different species including a flock of American White Pelicans in flight cruising in for a landing. John will be back for the Nov. 5th count-get out there for some great birding! -*Andy Brumbaugh*

September 17 -Santee Lakes. Seven intrepid birders walked five of the seven Santee Lakes this morning, had a good time and saw some good birds. The park facilities

are impressive and many people were out enjoying a nice morning. We saw 28 species. Many were the usual, some were unexpected and some were entertaining. Belted Kingfishers were plentiful and noisy. One was chased by a number of crows and got away easily. A first summer Green Heron worked the north bank of Lake 1 just a few yards in front of us. He was not at all intimidated by birders, scopes or binoculars. The only warbler was a first year female Wilson's Warbler that accommodated our curiosity while we worked to identify her. The famous Wood Ducks of Santee Lakes were beautiful! We had a nice close look at a female which is a very striking duck. A Cassin's Kingbird picked up a green grape and we watched as he struggled to eat it. It was not easy but he succeeded. -*Bill Jones*

BUENA VISTA NATIVE PLANT CLUB

Join the Buena Vista Native Plant Club on Sunday, November 20, at 2pm to find out what plants survived the summer and the Santa Ana winds. We'll talk about watering during the summer versus winter months. We'll also compare drip, sprayers and Beer Watering techniques.

The Buena Vista Native Plant Club will meet on Sunday, December 18, at 2pm. At the December meeting, we will discuss what you should plant now to enjoy the bloom in the spring

Monthly Nature Center Grounds Cleanup

Join us on the first Saturday of every month from 8-10am. We do some hand weeding and pick up trash around the nature Center and along the trail. Bring your hat, gloves, sunscreen and hand gardening tools. We'll look forward to seeing you on November 5th and December 3rd.

For more information on any Native Plant Club events, call the Nature Center and leave a message for Joan Bockman 760-439-2473.

Helpers Needed for Newsletter Prep

Mary Jane Roberts, our new Circulation Chair, invites all interested to a monthly party – a folding party. There is a lot of work involved with mailing the newsletter – stuffing, folding, sealing, labeling. Join Mary Jane and turn this job into a fun time! If you are interested in helping, call Mary Jane at 760-231-8148.

Abundance of Information Available at the Nature Center

If you find yourself wondering which plants to put in your yard or patio or the best methods of pest control, you can probably find the answers at the Nature Center. In addition to the excellent selection of reference material in the library, we have a wide assortment of free handouts. Examples:

- Don't Plant a Pest! This California Invasive Plant Council brochure provides suggested alternative for commonly used invasive garden plants – ground cover, palms, shrubs, ornamental grasses.
- Healthier Choices – The Audubon At Home Guide to Healthier Pest Control. Brochure lists 3 simple steps for healthier pest control.

FRIENDS OF BVAS

BVAS welcomes the following new Friends and extends our sincere appreciation for their recent contributions in support of our nature center and programs. We couldn't do it without you! Thanks for your support!

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| Susan Sharon | Andy Brumbaugh |
| Dennis Huckabay | Julie Sypher |
| Ruth Herman | Dorothy Paterson |
| Paul & Barbara Grigsby | Audrey Elliott |
| Carol Roberts | Margaret Dyer |
| Knud Pederson | J.E. Goedert |
| Kathleen Coogan | Renee & Craig Racine |

BVAS OFFICERS, BOARD AND CHAIRS					
President	Dennis Huckabay	757-6437	Webmaster	Larry Spann	231-9709
Vice-President	Andy Mauro	753-1266	Audubon Adventures	JoAnne Schontzler	431-0953
Secretary	Susan Fischer	435-0046	Christmas Bird Ct	Dennis Wysong	754-1264
Treasurer	Andy Mauro	753-1266	Flyer Editor &	Suzann Spann*	231-9709
Director	Bill Fischer	435-0046	Membership	email: suzann@cox.net	
Director	Bill Jones	944-1775	Nature Center	439-2473	
Director	Tom Troy	967-6915	Tue - Sat 10 am - 4 pm		
Director	Andy Brumbaugh	434-3334	Sun 1pm - 4 pm		
Center Manager	Annette Schneider	945-8891	Closed Monday		
Conservation	Andy Mauro	753-1266	2202 S. Coast Hwy, Oceanside CA		
Circulation	Mary Jane Roberts*	231-8148	East side of street just north of lagoon bridge		
Education	Sue Sharon	757-6461	Mailing Address:		
Education	Nancy Miller	929-2869	PO Box 480		
Field Trips	Doug Dunn*	781-1227	Oceanside CA 92049-0480		
Field Trips	Mary Ellen Marquand*	918-6622	www.bvaudubon.org		
Native Plant Club and Garden	Joan Bockman*	433-9401	RARE BIRD ALERT 619-688-2473		
Gift Shop	Rosalyn Dong*	806-1430	* Board Members		
Library	Norma Handy	634-2120			
Publicity	Carol Roberts	439-6244			
Taxidermy	Joyce Anderson	746-3995			
Volunteers	Judy Wilson	439-2473			

Conservation Corner

BVAS weighs in on numerous local conservation issues throughout the year. Oftentimes, our position is communicated by means of comment letters to governing officials and/or permitting authorities. Sometimes it's easy to determine the appropriate position to take, and sometimes it's difficult. BVAS recently urged planners with the US Fish & Wildlife Service to include preservation of a very unique habitat, the old salt works ponds and dikes of South San Diego Bay, as an important component of the Draft Conservation Plan for the new SD Bay National Wildlife Reserve. While the impulse tendency might be to favor a restoration of a more natural habitat, these artificially created salt ponds and earthen dikes have become important breeding and wintering habitat to thousands of terns and shorebirds. You will soon be able to review a selection of current conservation position papers on the BVAS website at www.bvaudubon.org.

We would love to have more BVAS members become involved in this effort to identify local conservation issues of concern, and help us draft and present reasoned, practical positions on these issues. Look for a new "Conservation Corner" display soon in the Nature Center, where members will be able to learn more about issues, pick up some information, and perhaps give us some feedback. Look also for notice of a series of special meetings to be held next year at the Nature Center. Beginning in January, we plan to hold special Conservation meetings periodically at the Nature Center, where everyone will be invited to discuss a local conservation issue.

--Andy Mauro, Conservation Chair

San Diego Area Environment Events Calendar

View the calendar online or sign up for email.

www.sdeln.org

Nature Storytime for Preschoolers

We had an excited group of preschoolers attend our storytime on Oct. 24th. To continue with our fall woodland creatures theme, we talked about the owl. The children are always eager to try new words, and we added "nocturnal" to our vocabulary. We discussed different nocturnal animals before having a story about baby owls. Each child completed an owl craft to take home along with learning a fun owl finger play. Next month on Nov.28 we will talk about wild turkeys and other woodland animals.

Due to the holiday season falling during our usual 4th Monday storytime, we will not have storytime for preschoolers in December. We hope to see you all again in the New Year 2006 when we will continue with our regular scheduled time on Mon., Jan. 23rd. For more information call Mary Ellen at 760 918-6622



All eyes and ears are on Mary Ellen during a recent storytime. Preschoolers Nature Storytime is a free program offered on the 4th Monday of most months.

FRIENDS OF BUENA VISTA AUDUBON MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

As a Friend of BVAS, I will receive the chapter newsletter, be invited to special events just for Friends and receive a discount on BVAS Gift Shop purchases. 100% of my contribution will go to support the BVAS Nature Center and its educational programs. Minimum donation required - \$20

I would like to donate \$ 25 _____ \$ 40 _____ \$ 50 _____ \$ 100 _____ Other: _____

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Telephone _____

Please bill my VISA card

Card Number _____

Expiration Date _____

Make Checks Payable to:

**Buena Vista Audubon Society
P.O. Box 480
Oceanside, CA 92054**

Lagoon Flyer



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QUICK CALENDAR

Nov 4	Board Meeting 9 am
Nov 5	Garden Clean-up Day 8 am
Nov 5	Whelan Bird Count 8 am
Nov 5	Basic Birding at the Landing 9 am
Nov 7	Nature Guides 10 am
Nov 12	San Elijo Lagoon Walk 9 am
Nov 16	General Membership Meeting Social 7 pm / Lecture 7:30 pm
Nov 19	Big Sky Canyon Bird Walk 8 am
Nov 20	Native Plant Club 2 pm
Nov 26	Buena Vista Lagoon Count 8:00 am
Nov 28	Nature Story Time 10:00 am
Dec 2	Board Meeting 9 am
Dec 3	Basic Birding at the Landing 9 am
Dec 3	Open House-Nature Center 12-1 pm
Dec 3	Garden Clean-up Day 8 am
Dec 3	Whelan Bird Count 8 am
Dec 5	Nature Guides 10 am
Dec 10	San Elijo Lagoon Walk 9 am
Dec 17	Kit Carson Bird Walk 8 am
Dec 18	Native Plant Club 2 pm
Dec 28	Christmas Bird Count

(Note - Due to holidays, Nov General Meeting will be on the 3rd Wed. and no General Meeting, Storytime, BV Lagoon Count or newsletter in Dec.)

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...and much more

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Moving?

Notify Suzann Spann for address changes
760-231-9709 Or email bvaudubon@cox.net

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www.bvaudubon.org

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