

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

Birdathon 2005!

April 23, 2005

Plans are underway for our annual fundraiser birdathon. We are scheduling it to coincide with the America's Birdiest City and County Competitions. Watch for details in the April newsletter, but be sure to reserve the date – April 23rd. We will be calling on all birders, beginners to experts, to help us raise funds to support our local programs and to put Oceanside on the map as America's Birdiest City!

NATURE STORYTIME

Free Program for Preschoolers!

Story and craft time for preschoolers continues on the 4th Monday of each month.

In January, our story was about a bear cub hibernating with his mother in a cave. After the story, and discussing that big word "hibernation", we put a teddy bear into a home-made cave for his long winter's sleep. You will find our hibernating bear in his cave atop the bulletin board in the meeting room at the Nature Center with a "Shhh...bear sleeping" sign by his cave. (We plan to wake him up during one of our Spring storytimes.

All preschoolers are invited to join us on March 28th at 10:00 am. Call the Nature Center for more information. 760-439-2473.

Mary Ellen Marquand

General Meeting

Wednesday, March 23rd, 2005

Social 7pm Lecture 730pm

Speaker: **Dr. Mike Wallace**

Topic: **Reintroduction of the California Condor into the Wild**



Mike, as the leader for the US Fish & Wildlife Service's California Condor Recovery Team, is responsible for the overall condor program. He has been with the Wild Animal Park since 1998; previously he was curator of conservation and science at the Los Angeles Zoo (the condor breeding programs at the LA Zoo and the Wild Animal Park are to thank for

the dramatic increase in condor numbers). Mike's main concern currently is the reintroduction of California Condors into the Sierra San Pedro Martir in northern Baja California, Mexico. In addition to his work on the condor recovery program, Mike is also responsible for coordinating the reintroduction of the Chacoan peccary in South America and the loggerhead shrike on San Clemente Island off our coast.

Dr. Mike Wallace is the Wildlife Scientist, Center for the Reproduction of Endangered Species (CRES), Zoological Society of San Diego

Dennis Huckabay

Bird Big Morongo Canyon Preserve

April 8 - 9, 2005

On April 8 and 9 we are scheduling a birding trip to the Big Morongo Canyon Preserve, which is one half mile east of Morongo Valley in the Little San Bernardino Mountains. The elevation is about 2500' and the temperature should be in the low 70's. Walking is flat and easy. We can expect about 45 species and a lot of fun. This is a two day trip to accommodate the 7:00 AM start of the bird walk on the 9th and the 2.5 hour drive from North County. We strongly recommend that you avoid the evening commute times on the 8th. The driving route is I-15 north to I-215 north to Ca-60 east to I-10 east to Ca-62 north to Morongo Valley. Hotels are in Yucca Valley, which is 12 miles northeast of Morongo Valley. We will be happy to make reservations for you and maybe we can set up car-pools for those interested. Put this one on your calendar and check the April newsletter for more detail. Contact Person: Bill Jones 760-944-1775

INVASIVE PLANTS

by Carolyn Martus

Scientific name: *Vinca major*

Common name: Periwinkle, Bigleaf Periwinkle



What does it look like? Apocynaceae family (Dogbane). Perennial vine, dark green leaves with waxy cuticle, purplish-blue flowers. Commonly sold in nurseries, it can be found growing wild in most creeks and drainages, especially under oak woodlands or riparian willow trees.

Where did it come from and how does it spread? Originally from North Africa and Europe, introduced to the United States as an ornamental groundcover. Spreads vegetatively, not known to produce seed in California. Water carries fragments throughout local creeks and drainages where they can easily resprout and grow.

What problems does it cause? Periwinkle grows quickly once it is established and smothers other native perennials and annuals by forming a dense carpet. Alters natural erosion processes when established on creek banks and promotes deepening and scouring of local creeks, changes natural hydrology processes and disrupts native plant populations.

How can it be controlled? Periwinkle can be controlled by either chemical or mechanical means. When pulling out the plant it is important to get as much of the root fragments as possible because of its ability to easily resprout. For dense infestations, start at the edge of your patch and work your way in. Periwinkle does not tolerate dry conditions or excessive direct sunlight so if you have it in your landscape, your job of getting rid of it will be easier if you turn off the water and can increase the amount of sunlight it receives. Perhaps prune any trees that might be providing excessive shade. Mowing is fruitless and the Periwinkle will vigorously resprout and

continue to dominate your landscape. When removing invasive plants, it is recommended to either put them in the regular trash or green waste them on site where you can monitor any regrowth. I do not recommend putting any invasive plants in your curbside green waste because you will most likely end up spreading the problem to your neighbor's garden. If you have a large patch, try establishing a clear zone, one yard around the patch to first keep it from expanding. Glyphosate based herbicides such as Roundup® have been used successfully to control Periwinkle. For specific details on recommended herbicide concentrations, http://groups.ucanr.org/ceppc/Publications/Invasive_Plants_of_California_Wildlands.htm. has a chapter on how to control Periwinkle. Or you can look for *Invasive Plants of California's Wildlands* at your local library or bookstore.

What can I plant instead? There are many non-invasive groundcovers and vines including Wall Germander (*Teucrium chamaedrys*), San Diego marsh elder (*Iva hayesiana*), Ivy Geranium (*Pelargonium peltatum*), Elija Blue Fescue (*Festuca cinera 'elija'*), Wild Lilac cultivars (*Ceanothus* spp.), and Manzanita cultivars (*Arctostaphylos* spp.).

What can you do? Don't plant Periwinkle and remove it from your landscape. In addition, educate your friends and neighbors about the problems caused by Periwinkle and other invasive plants. Join one of the many volunteer restoration efforts to clean up our natural lands and eradicate invasive non-native plants, contact author for more information.

For more information about invasive non-native plants please feel free to contact the author or visit www.cal-ipc.org. Carolyn Martus, author, is a local restoration biologist, working to restore natural lands in San Diego County, and a board member of the San Diego chapter of the California Native Plant Society (www.cnpsd.org). carolynmartus@adelphia.net. This article was written in part by a Prop 13 grant from the California State Water Resources Control Board to the Carlsbad Watershed Network, www.carlsbadwatershednetwork.org.

Carolyn Martus, author. Carolyn works to remove invasive plants from natural areas and restore them with native plants. She is also on the board of the San Diego Chapter of the California Native Plant Society, www.cnpsd.org. Feel free to get in touch if you have questions or would like to know more about invasive plants.

March Field Trips

Sat - Mar 5 - 8:00 am - Whelan Lake Monthly Bird Count. A wonderful chance to see many species. East on 78 to Douglas. Turn left and continue to North River Rd. Turn left and meet at end of cu-de-sac by the entrance gate. Leader: John Haddock 760-941-7824

Sat - Mar 12- – 9am - Anza-Borrego Bird/Plant Walk. We will meet Larry Henrickson, the Park's botanist, at Christmas Circle in Borrego Springs at 9:00am. He will be taking us on a walk through Hell Hole Canyon in search of a variety of plants and birds. Those attending need to pack a lunch, bring water, sun screen, hat, and hiking shoes. For those wanting to spend either Fri. or Sat. night in Borrego Springs, two AAA motels are listed below for you to make your own arrangements. Please contact the BVAS Center 760-439-BIRD or Mary Ellen Marquand 760-918-6622 if you are planning to attend or if you want to carpool or caravan. S22 empties into Christmas Circle Palm Canyon Resort 760-767-5341 or Borrego Springs Resort 760-767-5700. Campground facilities at Palm Canyon Resort

Sat - Mar 12 – 9:00 am - San Elijo Lagoon. I-5 to Lomas Santa Fe, west less than one mile to Rios Ave. Turn right and proceed to end of road. Andy Mauro, Leader 760-753-1266

Sat - Mar 19 - 8:00 am - Mast Park, Santee. Hwy 52 East. Exit to Mission Gorge Rd. Turn left on Mission Gorge and continue to Carlton Hills Blvd. Turn left and Mast Park is on right just beyond the river that runs through Santee. Restrooms available. Wheelchair accessible. Mary Ellen Marquand 760-918-6622

Sat - Mar 26 - 8:00 am - Buena Vista Lagoon Count. Take I-5 to Jefferson exit. Turn right and take immediate right on to Lagoon View Way where we meet. Leader: Joan Fountain 760-729-1379

FIELD NOTES...



Five members of BVAS were among those attending the Ramona Hawk Watch on Jan. 15. Among the raptors we saw were Red-Tailed Hawks, Red-Shouldered Hawks, Ferruginous Hawks, Prairie Falcon, a pair of

Golden Eagles, a first year American Bald Eagle, and two nesting Barn Owls.

Our walk at San Elijo Lagoon on Jan.22 was led by John Hazard of the Fish and Wildlife Department. We enjoyed an outdoor lesson on shore birds and ducks. John's knowledge of the behaviors and interesting tidbits of information about these birds was very entertaining.

Whelan Lake on Feb. 2 yielded the usual variety of 40 and above species we see each month. During migratory and nesting season, there is quite a bit of activity. The most interesting this month was an up close and personal observation of a Green Heron wandering the branches of a watery inlet, and the quick mating ritual of two White-Tailed Kites.

Mary Ellen Marquand

In Memory of Jane Alexander

Buena Vista Audubon gratefully acknowledges the generous donation made by Ken Alexander in memory of Jane Alexander.

Education Committee

The Nature Guides have been busy during recent months. If you like working with kids and nature, maybe you can help with our tours, which cover habitat, birds, neighborhood animals, etc. Most of our groups are from Kindergarten-Third Grade. Call Sue at 757-6461 for details.

The March Nature Guide meeting will be held on February 28 instead of the 1st Monday of March.



The Education Committee's Holiday Get-together at the Jolly Roger in Oceanside was enjoyed by all.

BUENA VISTA NATIVE PLANT CLUB**Anza Borrego Trip**

The Buena Vista Native Plant Club will join the BV Audubon birders on a field trip to Anza Borrego on Saturday, March 12th. For more details, see the field trip schedule on page 3.

BVNPC Oceanside Garden Tour

The native plant garden tour is scheduled for Sunday, April 17 th. We will meet at St. Mary's School at 2 pm

CNPS Plant Sale

The California Native Plant Society plant sale will be at the Tree of Life Nursery on Saturday, March 5, 2005 at 9 AM - 4 PM. Tree of Life Nursery is located north of San Diego at 33201 Ortega Highway, 7 miles east of San Juan Capistrano. For additional information: www.treeoflifenyursery.com, or 949-728-0685 or CNPSSD.org

Monthly cleanup with Carolyn Martus

WHEN: Saturday Feb 5th, 2005 8am-10am
WHERE: Buena Vista Audubon Nature Center
WHAT: Maintenance, trash removal and weeding
BRING: Yourself, hand gardening tools

Tuesday Gardening

Join us at the Nature Center every Tuesday at 1:30 in the afternoon for some light gardening

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

Adult Research Camps at Starr Ranch

Experience nature hands-on as a wildlife researcher for a weekend. Audubon California's Starr Ranch Sanctuary invites you to our first overnight camps for adults. Join staff biologists for a weekend at beautiful 4000 acre Starr Ranch in Orange County. Stay in our historic bunkhouse or camp. Two camps will be offered this year:

Bird Research Camp - Apr 29-May 1

- Evening owl survey
- Saturday morning bird walk
- Drive to Bell Canyon to survey/map hawk nests
- Evening Barbeque
- Owl banding
- Examine effects of coastal sage restoration on birds
- and more

Cost - \$100 bunkhouse/\$90 camping

Wildlife Research Camp - June 4 - 5

- Learn to identify tracks/scat of large mammals
- Research effects of restoration on invertebrates and small mammals
- Bell Canyon at night to call for owls and coyotes
- Observe Common Poorwills, small mammals, tarantulas
- and more

Cost - \$80 bunkhouse/\$75 camping

Breakfast and dinner provided for both camps Group size is limited to 15 for each camp.

Reservations: 949-858-0131

Questions: 949-858-0309

BVAS OFFICERS, BOARD AND CHAIRS

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Vice-President	Dennis Huckabay	757-6437
Secretary	Suzann Spann	231-9709
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Education	Nancy Miller	929-2869
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Field Trips	Mary Ellen Marquand*	918-6622
Native Plant Club and Garden	Joan Bockman*	433-9401
Gift Shop	Carol Wysong	754-1264

Library	Norma Handy	634-2120
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Publicity	Carol Roberts	439-6244
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Webmaster	Dana Fore*	721-9579
Audubon Adventures	JoAnne Schontzler	431-0953
Flyer Editor	Suzann Spann	231-9709
	email: suzann@cox.net	
Nature Center		439-2473

Tue - Sat 10 am - 4 pm

Sun 1pm - 4 pm

Closed Monday

2202 S. Coast Hwy, Oceanside CA

East side of street just north of lagoon bridge

www.bvaudubon.org

* Board Members

RARE BIRD ALERT 619-688-2473

FRIENDS OF BVAS – 2005

The following people have joined the Friends of BVAS for 2005. 100% of your donation goes to support local nature programs. Thanks for your support - we couldn't do it without you!

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|
| Pat Katon | Gervais Pimentel |
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| Jean & Craig Olson | Scott Woods |
| Kathleen Dickey | Ken Alexander |
| Audrey Elliott | Rosalyn Dong |
| Gerda Meurs | (To be cont'd in April Flyer) |

Highlights of the February BVAS Board Meeting

- Suggestion was made to use remaining grant funds to purchase storage cabinets (to replace computer desks currently used as 'touch table') in auditorium. Committee was formed to evaluate storage needs.
- Beginning birding class to be held in September 2005. Birding by ear class to be scheduled.
- Art Nature Camp to be held in July
- Open House/Family day to be held in November 2005
- Buena Vista Audubon will apply for 2005-2006 Community Enhancement Grant from the County of San Diego
- New Displays are being added to the Nature Center – Pelican, Crow, Heron. Thanks to Joyce Anderson for donating taxidermy services! Blinds in auditorium have been repaired.
- Dana Fore, BVAS chapter webmaster, is reworking our website (www.bvadubon.org) and asked for inputs as to what additional content should be added.
- Nestor Ramos has joined the BVAS Board of Directors. Nestor has been a frequent volunteer at the Nature Center. We look forward to his participation on the board.

BVAS Library - A Great Resource!

Be sure to check out the library at the Nature Center for answers to your questions concerning San Diego County birds and native plants. The library has recently added many wonderful new books.

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 \$ 20 _____ \$ 40 _____ \$ 50 _____ \$ 100 _____ Other _____:

Name _____

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Telephone _____

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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

- Feb 28 Nature Guides Meeting 10 am
Mar 4 Board Meeting 9 am
Mar 5 Garden Clean-up Day 8 am
Mar 5 Whelan Bird Count 8 am
Mar 12 San Elijo Lagoon Walk 9 am
Mar 12 Anza Borrego Bird/Plant Walk 9 am
Mar 19 Mast Park 8 am
Mar 23 General Membership Meeting
Social 7 pm / Lecture 7:30 pm
Mar 26 Buena Vista Lagoon Count 8:00 am
Mar 28 Nature Story Time 10:00 am

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

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UPCOMING FESTIVALS

Aleutian Goose Festival
Crescent City, CA
April 1-3, 2005
1-800-343-8300

Yuma Birding & Nature Festival
Yuma, AZ
April 13-17, 2005
1-800-783-3061

Wild on Wetlands Weekend
(Ross's Geese, Sandhill Cranes by the thousand! Plus
many more species)
Los Banos - CA
April 15-16, 2005
1-800-336-6354

Buena Vista Audubon online
www.bvaudubon.org