

Lagoon Flyer

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



Jón Baldur Hlíöberg

June General Meeting

Thursday, June 26

Fourth Annual

Audubon Film Festival

on the Nature Center's Big Screen

featuring

“HOOT”

7 p.m. Social—7:30 p.m. Screening

Fourteen-year-old Roy has moved so often because of his father's job that he's lost count of the number of times he's had to change schools. Roy ought to be used to being the new kid at school by now, but making the switch from Montana's Big Sky to Florida's Coconut Cove proves tough. Targeted by the

Bring the kids!

We'll provide the popcorn, cookies, soft drinks, and some special give-aways.

school bully, Roy makes friends with two other school outcasts, Beatrice and her brother Mullet. They reveal their secret to Roy: a hidden hideaway they share with a flock of endangered Burrowing Owls. Unfortunately the hollow where the owls nest is slated for development by Mother Paula's All-American Pancake House chain. The executives of the restaurant chain are of course more interested in turning a profit than in protecting the birds. Roy, Beatrice and Mullet are determined to save the owls, AND they have a plan ...

Come see Roy and his friends take on greedy land developers, corrupt politicians, and clueless cops in a fight for the owls and their natural habitat.

Rated PG, the film is based on Carl Hiaasen's Newbery Honor-winning book for young adults. There's some great Jimmy Buffett music too!

—Dennis Huckabay



Burrowing Owl —M. Kameron

Buena Vista Audubon Annual Elections

The annual election of BVAS officers and directors will take place prior to our presentation of the movie “Hoot” at our June meeting. BVAS is a volunteer-run organization, with talented, dedicated, and hard-working individuals pitching in to hold office, sit on the board, chair our various committees, and serve as hosts, nature guides, trip leaders, and committee members. Please contact BVAS President Dennis Huckabay or Volunteer Coordinator Mary Ellen Marquand if you would like to become more involved at Buena Vista Audubon, or if you would like to nominate a member for “higher office”.

New Exhibit Takes Shape

Mastodon Discovery Exhibit at the Nature Center

In June 2007 a fabulous discovery was made at a construction site near Calavera Park in Carlsbad. Digging deep into dark, loamy soil that was probably part of a river or lake bottom thousands of years ago, the construction crew spotted some BIG bones. A team called in from the San Diego Natural History Museum uncovered what turned out to be the tusks and jawbone of a mastodon, the prehistoric ancestor of the elephant.

Buena Vista Audubon Society volunteers Doug Schanzenbach, Lucille Davis and Bastien Atterbury spearheaded an effort to present this fascinating bit of local history in a new exhibit for the nearly 3,000 local schoolchildren who visit the Nature Center each year. They researched and produced a colorful, informative narration of the event, and called upon two retired art teachers to create some outstanding models. Carolyn Lundgren, a long-time volunteer and former board member, funded the project.

It is believed mastodons became extinct in part because of the impact of early man's hunting of the species.

At the annual BVAS Open House on April 26, Audubon president Dennis Huckabay dedicated the new exhibit and honored the artists and volunteers who made it happen.

Artist Sondra Parks, though retired from the public school system, still teaches art instruction for the University of Phoenix. After "a lot of research" and with a bit of help from her husband David and granddaughter Gillian, she created the huge papier mache replica of a mastodon skull, complete with five-foot long tusks, that now hangs in the main lobby of the Nature Center. Randi McDonnell (not pictured), a retired elementary teacher with extensive experience in crafts media, constructed a model of the excavation site. The "sedimentary rock" with exposed "tusks" is surrounded by the typical wooden barrier used to protect a "dig" containing fossils.

The project, titled "**Discovering Mastodons in the Backyard**", is now an impressive part of the Nature Center's exhibition hall. For a glimpse into the past at creatures that roamed Carlsbad and Oceanside over 10,000 years ago, come by the BVAS Nature Center.



(Left to right) Bastien Atterbury, Lucille Davis, Carolyn Lundgren, BVAS President Dennis Huckabay, artist Sondra Parks and her granddaughter Gillian gather to dedicate the Mastodon Project. —J. Wilson

Tejon Ranch—A California Treasure

Up to 240,000 contiguous acres of spectacular and ecologically significant California wildlands will be protected under a precedent-setting agreement brokered by Audubon California and five other environmental groups with the Tejon Ranch Company. The agreement will protect approximately 90 percent of Tejon's rich natural habitat from development and open new opportunities for Californians to enjoy this tremendous landscape firsthand. Visit <http://ca.audubon.org> for more information.

Diane Nygaard Wins National Wetlands Award



Diane Nygaard, widely respected North County conservationist and a friend of BVAS, recently received national recognition by the Environmental Law Institute for her on-the-ground wetland conservation efforts and decades-long dedication to protecting these important natural resources. Diane has worked tirelessly on land use and planning issues affecting the Buena Vista Lagoon. For more information on the award go to www.nationalwetlandsawards.org.

Congratulations, Diane!

Summer Birding Field Trips

Sat.—June 7, July 5, and August 2 —8 a.m.—Whelan Lake Monthly Bird Count. *(Note: Three month schedule)* Freshwater lake and riparian edge habitat. Directions: I-5 to Hwy. 76. East on Hwy. 76. Turn left at Douglas and continue to light at North River Rd. Turn left and meet at the cul-de-sac at the end of the road by the entrance gate. Leader: John Haddock, 760-941-7824.

Sat.—June 14, July 12, and August 9—9 a.m.—San Elijo Lagoon. *(Note: Three month schedule)* Join BVAS members and San Elijo Lagoon docents on the regular monthly nature hike at this ecological reserve featuring tidal mudflats, coastal wetlands, and five other distinct plant and animal communities. Directions: I-5 to Lomas Santa Fe. West to N. Rios Ave. Right to cul-de-sac at end of road. No facilities.

Sat.—June 21—8 a.m.—Kit Carson Park. Woodland, riparian and open-area habitats make for a nice variety of birds. Meet at the Amphitheater parking lot. Directions: Take I-78 to I-15 go south to Via Rancho Parkway. Go east about 1 mile to Park Road. Go north on Park road 3/4 mile to Amphitheater parking lot. Leader: Steve Brad, 760-633-1639.

Sat.—June 28, July 26, and August 30—8 a.m.—Buena Vista Lagoon Monthly Bird Count. *(Note: Three month schedule)* Freshwater coastal lagoon. Directions: I-5 to 78 East. Exit Jefferson. Turn right and take another immediate right onto Lagoon View Dr. Go to end of road. Leader: Joan Fountain, 760-729-1379.

Sat.—June 28, July 26, and August 30—8:30-10:30 a.m.—Basic Birding Class at the Buena Vista Lagoon Landing. *(Note: Three month schedule)* Directions: I-5 to Hwy. 78. Exit Jefferson. Turn right and go to stoplight. Turn right and park in Landing parking lot on the right hand side of road. Contact person: Tom Troy, 760-967-6915.

Summer Birding at Mammoth Lakes

July 30-August 3—I've had a second home in Mammoth Lakes since 1999, and will be at my cabin Wednesday July 30 thru Sunday August 3. I am inviting BVAS members to join me on half-day birding trips from my cabin to different birding habitats in the Eastern Sierra. People are invited for as many days as they would like within the time framework. Trips will involve driving to different areas and maybe walking on good trails for a mile or so.

In the afternoons and evenings, people will be on their own for activities like scenic car drives, hiking trails, mountain bike trails, hot pools, golf, and fishing lakes and streams. There are plenty of restaurants and lodging choices.

If you are interested in carpooling let me know and I will get you in touch with others. The trip will have a limit of 15 people. Those interested should call me at 760-633-1639 or (better yet) e-mail me at stevebrad1@earthlink.net.

The Eastern Sierra is a place full of wonder—come and discover!

Websites for information: *Where to stay and what to do in the Mammoth Lakes area: www.visitmammoth.com.

*Camping sites: www.cityconcierge.com/mammoth-lakes/summer/campgrounds-mammoth.asp.

—Steve Brad

Baja Birding Trip Report



California Condors in Baja

BVAS went south of the border in early May in search of California condors. Nineteen participants were treated to the sight of these majestic endangered birds free-flying in the wild and



Photos by David Lingner

roosting in pines above the Sierra San Pedro Martir mountains. What an incredible thrill to see the condors making such a strong comeback. Birding the historic Meling Ranch and at increasingly higher elevations as we made our way up to the mountain ridge, we were able to compile an impressive bird list of 91 species.

—Andy Brumbaugh

Who ya gonna call?

BVAS Field Trip Hotline



Starting in June, BVAS will be initiating a phone-in service to provide last-minute information about scheduled field trips. Call the hotline number to hear a recorded message giving the latest information about dates, locations, directions, and times for upcoming field trips.

760-688-0660

Pelagic Birding from San Diego



Learn all about ocean birding in San Diego's near offshore waters, including dates and prices of scheduled trips, expected sightings and identification tips. Check out Terry Hunefeld's "So. Cal. Birding" website at: www.socalbirding.com/home.

Preschool Nature Storytime

What animal carries its house on its back? That's an easy one—it's a turtle! Bring the little ones on Monday, June 23rd, at 10 a.m. We'll explore a turtle shell, read a story or two about some cute little turtles and their families,



make some turtle art, and maybe even learn a special song.
—Mary Ellen, 760-918-6622

Note: This will be our last Preschool Nature Storytime before the summer break. We'll resume in September.

Volunteer at BVAS

"It is one of the most beautiful compensations of life, that no man can sincerely try to help another without helping himself."

—Ralph Waldo Emerson

BVAS OFFICERS, BOARD* AND CHAIRS

President	Dennis Huckabay*	757-6437
Vice-President	Bill Jones*	944-1775
Secretary	Mary Jane Roberts*	231-8148
Treasurer	Douglas Schanzenbach*	390-8494

Audubon Adventures	JoAnne Schontzler	431-0953
Center Manager	Annette Schneider	945-8891
Christmas Bird Count	Terry Hunefeld*	908-3453
Conservation Co-Chair	Danny DiMento*	858-688-6891
Conservation Co-Chair	Andy Mauro*	753-1266
Circulation	Mary Jane Roberts*	231-8148
Education Co-Chair	Renee Racine	635-0867
Education Co-Chair	Nancy Miller	929-2869
Field Trips	Andy Brumbaugh*	434-3334
Field Trip Leader	Steve Brad*	633-1639
Gift Shop	Rosalyn Dong*	806-1430
Library	Norma Handy	634-2120
Membership	Sandy McMullen	944-5690
Native Plant Club	Joan Bockman*	433-9401
Native Plant Garden	Joan Bockman*	433-9401
Newsletter	Andy Mauro*	753-1266

E-mail: akamauro@cox.net

Programs	Dennis Huckabay*	757-6437
Publicity	Judi Wilson*	439-3649
Ruddy Duck Club	Tom Troy*	967-6915
Taxidermy	Joyce Anderson	746-3995
Volunteers	Mary Ellen Marquand*	918-6622
Webmaster	Larry Spann: E-mail: larry@spannweb.net	

Join Our "Quacker" Support Team!

Ruddy Duck Club



This month we thank a few more local businesses for their recent Ruddy Duck Club renewals. These three businesses are all charter members of the RDC and we appreciate their continued support of our programs.

Audubon members might like to check out **Bob Baker Volkswagen-Subaru's** new line of Outbacks and Vanagons before taking off on their next camping trip. Common lore among the camping set is that Volkswagen and Subaru have always made fuel-efficient vehicles with a special appeal to campers and outdoor enthusiasts.

Of course, if you have friends or family who want to visit and camping just isn't their thing, have them check in at the **Carlsbad Inn Beach Resort**. It's located in the heart of Carlsbad less than a mile south of the Nature Center on Highway 101. And the resort's concierge gives guests up-to-date information on all upcoming events at BVAS!



Finally, maybe your dream summer involves just relaxing in your own backyard. BVAS would like to thank Howard Bishop of **Wild Birds Unlimited** for his excellent presentation at our April Open House. We all learned how a few well-chosen feeders, seed mixes, and bird baths can help keep us in touch with nature as we entice the birds to "camp out"

at OUR place this summer.

For more info. about how your business can become a Ruddy Duck Club member, call Tom Troy at 967-6915.

Buena Vista Audubon Nature Center

Tue.-Sat. 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Sunday 1 p.m.-4 p.m.

Closed Monday

760-439-2473

2202 South Coast Hwy., Oceanside, CA
East side of street just north of lagoon crossing

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 480
Oceanside, CA 92049-0480

Website: www.bvaudubon.org

E-mail: bvaudubon@sbcglobal.net

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 ___ \$50 ___ \$ 100 ___ Other: ___

Friends Membership: New ___ Renewal ___

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____

Please bill my VISA or MC

Card # _____ CRN # _____

Create A Legacy

I am interested in learning more about how I might be able to help ensure the future of the BVAS Nature Center and our local Audubon programs and our local Audubon programs by becoming a legacy donor.

Make Checks Payable to:
Buena Vista Audubon Society
P.O. Box 480
Oceanside, CA 92049

Thank You!

All Summer Long

BUENA VISTA NATIVE PLANT CLUB

**Buena Vista Native Plant Club
Meeting on the 3rd Sunday of Every Month
2 p.m. at the Nature Center**

June 15—Plant Photos—Everyone Say “Cheesweed”!
Come see the blooms! We have a fantastic collection of native plant slides. We'll go through the archives and pull out the photos of all the plants you want to see.

July 20—Native Plant Gardens and Wildfire—Oh My!
Rain is only a memory and fire season is in full swing. A firefighter who loves native plants will help us learn how to protect our homes and gardens from fire. We'll watch the Rick Halsey chaparral video and then discuss the ideas in his popular and timely book "Fire, Chaparral, and Survival in Southern California" (2005), published by Sunbelt.

Aug. 17—It's Dormant—What's a Gardener to Do?
Extra! Extra! Winter is in August in Southern California! If you are still thinking like an Easterner, it is time to learn the true seasons. Plants are going dormant and we need to start pruning. Bring gloves and tools.

For more information, contact the Buena Vista Native Plant Club at BVNPC@sbcglobal.net or call 760-439-2473.

Monthly Nature Center Grounds Cleanup

Join us on the first Saturday of the month during the summer from 8-10 a.m. as we tend the gardens at the Nature Center. Bring work gloves and gardening tools.

Saturdays
June 7, July 5, August 2



June 3rd Election

Support the Environment Vote YES on Prop. 99 Vote NO on Prop. 98

There are only two propositions on the June 3rd statewide ballot, and both deal with eminent domain. Prop. 98 would destroy important laws and regulations that protect California's environment. California Audubon feels that real reform is contained in Prop 99, which will provide constitutional protections for homeowners without the hidden agendas and adverse consequences of Prop 98.



BVAS Volunteers Needed

Buena Vista Creek Restoration

Remember when we all pitched in to help purchase the old Sherman Property? Well now it's time to help restore the native habitat of that land, newly preserved as the Buena Vista Creek Ecological Reserve. Nearly 80 new willow saplings have already been planted on the site. As these saplings take root, they will help restore the valley, improve the watershed, and provide habitat for endangered wildlife. With the hot summer months coming, **volunteers are needed to assist in weekly watering of these willows.** The watering schedule is flexible, and you can sign up for as often or as little as you like. Volunteers must be able to carry 10-15 gallons of water to the site. Other volunteer opportunities are also available. If interested, please contact Michael with Preserve Calaverita at Michael@mjlclinical.com or 760-579-1729.

Lagoon Flyer



BUENA VISTA AUDUBON SOCIETY
P. O. BOX 480
OCEANSIDE, CA 92049-0480

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Please Deliver Promptly

Change Service Requested

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CA 92054

SUMMER CALENDAR

- Mon. June 2—Nature Guides—10 a.m.
Fri. June 6—Board Meeting—9 a.m.
Sat. June 7—Whelan Lake Count—8 a.m.
(Repeats July 5 and August 2)
Sat. June 7—Nature Center Garden Clean-up—8 a.m.
(Repeats July 5 and August 2)
Sat. June 14—San Elijo Lagoon Nature Walk—9 a.m.
(Repeats July 12 and August 9)
Sun. June 15—Native Plant Club—2 p.m.
(Repeats July 20 and August 17)
Mon. June 23—Preschool Nature Storytime—10 a.m.
(Last Storytime until September)
Thur. June 26—General Meeting—7 p.m.
(Last General Meeting until September)
Sat. June 28—Buena Vista Lagoon Count—8 a.m.
(Repeats July 26 and August 30)
Sat. June 28—Basic Birding at BVL Landing—8:30 a.m.
(Repeats July 26 and August 30)
June 30-August 3—Birding at Mammoth Lakes

Still Time to Register for Summer Fun—July 14-18

Kids Art & Nature Camp 2008

Camp Ruddy Duck: Ages 5-6; July 14-18, 9:30-11:30 a.m.

Camp Crawdad: Ages 7-9; July 14-18, 12:30-3:00 p.m.

All camps are taught at the BVAS Nature Center.

Neat stuff to do, like cork
snakes, nature weavings,
leather nature journals,
animal masks,
docent-led nature walks ...



Information and registration
forms are available at:
www.bvaudubon.org

For fees and more info, call the
Nature Center at 439-2473,

or e-mail: kids.art.nature.camp@gmail.com