

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

October General Meeting

Thursday, October 30

CREEPY CRITTERS!

A "Hands-On" Halloween Program

with Darwin Sinram

7 p.m. Social—7:30 p.m. Program

Featuring animals of special interest, Halloween treats, and a gently creepy take-home prize for the kids



Tarantula

Our October General Meeting promises plenty of Halloween chills and thrills for the whole family. Learn a little more about some fascinating creatures from the relative safety of your seat in the audience, and then decide if you want to take the opportunity to touch one of our live "creepy critters."

Darwin Sinram has owned and operated Darwin's Programs since 1982. It started when Darwin was assigned to operate the City of San Diego Public Library bookmobile. The bookmobile was only averaging about ten children per stop when Darwin started. He told the small group of kids that he would bring a live snake for them to see and pet if they checked out a few books about reptiles and could answer some questions about what they had read when he came back on his next trip. That proved an irresistible offer, and soon word began to spread. When Darwin left the bookmobile it was averaging over 100 children per stop. Libraries and schools heard about the popular program and asked if Darwin could visit them too, and "Darwin's Programs" was born. The first year it featured Darwin's one pet snake, big Bertha. But as Darwin himself got more and more excited about his popular program he began to collect a larger variety of interesting



Hissing cockroach

reptiles and insects for his shows. Come see live snakes, lizards, spiders, scorpions, millipedes, frogs, and cockroaches. If that's not enough to make everyone a little jumpy, we'll even supply some high-energy treats! Costumes welcome, of course.

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Scorpion



HAPPY HALLOWEEN!

Remembering Petey

by Dennis Huckabay

"I was that old lady who was at the Audubon Nature Center forever."

—Petey Tade, describing herself in a 2006 interview

Pearl Tade, known to all as Petey, passed away peacefully in her sleep early in the morning on the first day of September this year. She was 93. Petey was present to welcome the dignitaries and guests on that day twenty years ago this month when the doors to our new Nature Center were first opened. At that time she was already a ten-year veteran of the organization, having joined BVAS in 1977 after retiring from a 42-year nursing career. Her beloved husband, Bill, passed away many years ago after a long military career. Petey may not have been at the Nature Center forever, but the countless hours she logged at the Center over the years are the stuff of legend.

At the second BVAS meeting she attended they made her Conservation Chairperson. Thereafter she took on every job in the chapter except president and secretary, serving as vice-president at least six different times. For many years she edited the monthly *Lagoon Flyer*. She organized the first volunteer luncheon, and many thereafter. She convinced the retired librarian standing behind her in the supermarket checkout line to join BVAS and start up our excellent library. When our Nature Center opened in 1988, she became Manager, a responsibility she continued to carry out until just a few years ago. She furnished the Nature Center. She was the one who got rid of the rancid raccoon (and its lingering smell) that had been left in the

fridge in hopes of taxidermic immortality. She mentored many of us volunteer Nature Guides and Hosts at the Nature Center. Petey was often the one keeping the Nature Center open for visitors. Some of her happiest memories were of the "return kids", some of the thousands of schoolchildren who come to the Center every year for nature education programs. Petey glowed when she told about one second grader who brought her father, who didn't speak English, for a nature walk. She showed him a bushtit's nest that the Nature Guides didn't know was there and identified a coot-like bird with a red bill (a moorhen) that didn't look quite like the coots she'd seen with her class. Her impressed father wrote out a \$3 check as a donation to the Nature Center.

Petey devoted a lot of time and energy to Buena Vista Audubon but she still had time and energy left for other volunteer efforts. Long active in Carlsbad Community Church, she was also an active member for many years in League of Women Voters, Buena Vista Lagoon Foundation, Carlsbad Arboretum Foundation and California Vocational Nurse Educator's Association (she was a founder member of each of the last three organizations). She received the Daughters of the American Revolution Conservation Award in 1995 and was honored as Carlsbad's Citizen of the Year in 1997.

Whenever we tried to honor Petey for all she'd done for us she always resisted, insisting she was only one volunteer among many. But all the volunteers at BVAS who were inspired by Petey know BVAS would not be the effective advocate and educator for nature we are today if it hadn't been for her dedicated leadership.

Thank you, Petey, from all your loving friends and volunteers at Buena Vista Audubon.

Conservation Corner

Sewage Spill Fine—Following testimony from BVAS and others, the Water Quality Control Board in September approved charging Vista and Carlsbad nearly \$1.1 million for the 2007 sewage spill at Buena Vista Lagoon. The bulk of the fine will be used to fund two key projects to benefit the lagoon and its watershed. In addition to funding the final engineering studies needed to proceed with the lagoon restoration, nearly \$400,000 will be used to restore native habitat in the new Buena Vista Creek Ecological Reserve upstream from the lagoon. At the hearing, the Friends of Buena Vista Lagoon presented a paper chain representing the more than 1,000 fish, birds, and amphibians killed during the sewage spill, one of the largest spills in county history. BVAS strongly favored this settlement outcome.

Plastic Bag Ban—The Encinitas council voted 3-2 in September to ban the use of plastic bags within the city.

El Salto Falls—The Oceanside council voted 3-2 to direct staff to designate and preserve four acres of land next to El Salto Falls on Buena Vista Creek for parkland.

Salton Sea—BVAS sent a letter to Gov. Schwarzenegger urging his signing of SB 187, a measure designed to help restore the Salton Sea ecosystem.

Oil Drilling Off Our Coast and the Arctic

High gas prices and short-sighted energy policies have once again raised the specter of drilling for oil in America's most environmentally sensitive places. For a more comprehensive approach to reducing our dependence on foreign oil, visit: <http://audubonaction.org>.



Upcoming Trips

Sat.—Oct. 4—8 a.m.—Whelan Lake Monthly Bird Count. 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: Bill Jones, 760-944-1775.

Sat.—Oct. 4—6:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.—Pelagic Trip: Nine-Mile Bank/Los Coronados Islands. Join us for a 3/4 day pelagic trip to hunt boobies, storm petrels and shearwaters in ABA waters, then into Mexico to the Los Coronados Islands to see the brown booby colony, up to two species of oystercatchers and maybe, just maybe, a blue-footed or masked booby. \$75 fee. Boat departs from Point Loma Sportfishing. Call 619-223-1627 for reservations. Visit www.socalbirding.com for more information.

Sat.—Oct. 11—9 a.m.—San Elijo Lagoon. 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.—Oct. 18—8 a.m.-12 p.m.—Pt. Loma Nazarene University and Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery. A hotspot for interesting western migrants. We'll start by visiting several sites on the Point Loma Nazarene campus, and then take a short drive over to Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery. Time and interest permitting we'll finish off the morning checking out waterbirds at the San Diego River channel. Directions: Heading south on Catalina Blvd. on Point Loma, turn right (west) on Lomaland Drive. Drive through the entrance kiosk at the university and park in the Alumni Building parking lot. Car pooling: Meet at La Costa Avenue Park and Ride at 7 a.m. Leader: Steve Brad, 760-633-1639. Check the BVAS Field Trip Info Line (760-688-0660) for any last minute changes.

Sat.—Oct. 25—8 a.m.—Buena Vista Lagoon Monthly Bird Count. Freshwater coastal lagoon. Directions: I-5 to 78 East. Exit Jefferson. Turn right and take another right onto Lagoon View Dr. Go to end of road. Leader: Joan Fountain, 760-729-1379.

Sat.—Oct. 25—8:30-10:30 a.m.—Basic Birding Class at the Buena Vista Lagoon Landing. 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. Leader: Tom Troy, 760-967-6915.

Pelagic Birding

For up-to-the-minute information and schedules of winter and spring BVAS pelagic birding trips out of San Diego go to: www.socalbirding.com.



Birding in Jalisco, Mexico—April 1-7, 2009

Russet-crowned motmot, anyone? Maybe a citreoline trogon? Join Buena Vista Audubon's trip to an avifauna rich area of Western Mexico. Rancho Primavera, a guest ranch located 30 miles south of Puerto Vallarta, will be our base for the entire 6-night/7-day trip. The ranch offers comfortable accommodations with breakfast and evening meals prepared by our hosts Pat and her daughter Bonnie (a nutritionist). The ranch is quiet and relaxing and offers excellent birding. Each day we'll venture out to diverse habitats, including coast, mangrove, lowland thorn scrub, arid and moist deciduous forests, and pine-oak woodland, with good chances for many endemic species.



Orange-breasted bunting

Larry Liese, a Tucson based birding guide, will be leading the trip. Larry has led 11 trips to Jalisco in addition to numerous Copper Canyon trips and recent trips to Belize. The trip is limited to eight participants. Cost for the trip is \$1,500 (single occupancy add \$150) with \$100 of this being a tax-deductible donation to BVAS. The trip includes six nights' lodging, breakfast and evening meals at the ranch, lunches at local restaurants, snacks, and all transportation once we arrive in Puerto Vallarta. A \$500 deposit is required to lock in your spot.

A complete description is posted on the BVAS web-site: www.bvaudubon.org. For further info, a bird list from previous trips, or to sign up for the trip, contact Andy Brumbaugh at 760-434-3334 or by e-mail: andybbirder@yahoo.com.

Field Trip Report: September Birding at San Elijo Lagoon

Over 20 people joined us for last month's sandpiper ID walk at San Elijo Lagoon, including several members of Sea and Sage Audubon. We identified eight different species of sandpipers, learning how to tell juveniles from adults, especially important in helping differentiate least from western sandpipers, and these common "peeps" from their rarer cousins.



Other interesting sightings included more than six clapper rails out and about in the shallow water next to the trail, a perched osprey brunching on a freshly caught fish, and a group of 20 whimbrels foraging together around the lagoon. Special thanks to Andy Mauro and well known San Diego birder Sue Smith for their help. A special day in a special place. —Steve Brad

BVAS Field Trip Info Line

Call the new BVAS recorded line for last-minute changes or special information about scheduled field trips.

760-688-0660

Preschool Nature Storytime

With Halloween approaching this month, we will be finding out about some of our nighttime (nocturnal) friends who may be watching the trick-or-treaters.

"Whoooo"...do you think our nighttime bird friend will be? Come join us at 10:00 a.m. on Mon., Oct. 27 and find out.

—Mary Ellen—760-918-6622



Join Our "Quacker" Support Team!

Ruddy Duck Club



Keeping Up Appearances

Buena Vista Audubon would like to welcome Rodger Reese of **Cleanpoint Professional Cleaning and Janitorial Services** to the Ruddy Duck Club. Rodger and his crew have been working hard on the Nature Center carpets trying to get them ready for the thousands of feet that will enter our doors during the school year. Cleanpoint is also available for residential cleaning so please think of them the next time you have a big project.

The Ruddy Duck Club would also like to thank long time member **I Love Life Window Cleaning** for volunteering their services to keep our windows sparkling clean over the years. They are also available for domestic projects. For more information about joining our local business "Friends" group and becoming a Ruddy Duck Club member, please contact Tom Troy at 760-967-6915.

The Volunteers are Coming!

We're pleased to welcome three new volunteer hosts to our Nature Center: Bob Crowell, Ann Hannon, and Jerri Sober. Anyone interested in being a volunteer Nature Guide or Host call Renee Racine, 760-635-0867, or Mary Ellen Marquand, 760-918-6622. We'd love to hear from you.



Paul Revere earned his living as a silversmith. But what do we remember him for? His volunteer work.

—Susan J. Ellis

BVAS OFFICERS, BOARD* AND CHAIRS

President	Dennis Huckabay*	757-6437
Vice-President	Bill Jones*	944-1775
Secretary	Kathy Billings*	753-7925
Treasurer	Sandy McMullen*	944-5690

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	Joan Herskowitz*	942-5167
Circulation	Mary Jane Roberts*	231-8148
Education Co-Chair	Renee Racine	635-0867
Education Co-Chair	Nancy Miller	704-6479
Facilities/Exhibits	Doug Schanzenbach*	390-8494
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	Alice Brzovic	721-6327
Native Plant Club	Joan Bockman*	433-9401
Native Plant Garden	Joan Bockman*	433-9401
Newsletter	Andy Mauro*	753-1266

E-mail: akamauro@cox.net

Pelagic Birding	Terry Hunefeld*	908-3453
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	

BVAS Fills Key Positions

The BVAS Board of Directors appointed four members to key positions at its September meeting. New officers include Sandy McMullen as Treasurer and Kathy Billings as Secretary. Joan Herskowitz joined the board as Conservation Co-Chair and Alice Brzovic took over responsibilities of Membership Chair. (See the full listing of BVAS officers, board members and committee chairs in the table on this page). We welcome our new officers and directors, and thank all our dedicated volunteers for their hard work on behalf of the Chapter.

Buena Vista Audubon Nature Center

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

Sun. 1 p.m.-4 p.m.

Closed Mon.

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: \$25.

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

Friends Membership: New ___ Renewal ___

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

I'd like to get my *Lagoon Flyer* a week earlier, in full color, and save BVAS the cost of printing and postage. Please e-mail me the monthly digital edition of the newsletter.

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

Please bill my VISA or MC: Card # _____ CRN # _____

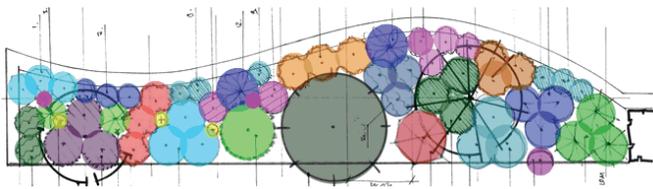
Thank You!

BUENA VISTA NATIVE PLANT CLUB
October 19—2 p.m.—Nature Center

Are you ready for a little “hands-on” garden designing? Bring a layout of your property and we'll help you come up with a plan. We'll discuss sun and shade, dry and wet, high use and low use situations, and any other conundrums you can come up with. This will be fun!

We also remind you that BVAS maintains an extensive native plant gardening library. Members looking for ideas or help are always welcome to check out our books.

The Native Plant Club meets on the third Sunday of every month. Everyone is welcome, whether or not you have a green thumb. For more information about native plant gardening check our website at www.bvaudubon.org.



Monday Mornings with the Natives

Joan Bockman and Debra Barrows invite any gardeners interested to join them on Monday mornings at 9 a.m. for some casual gardening and friendly chatter at the Center.

Monthly Nature Center Grounds Cleanup

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

Saturday, October 4



Get the *Lagoon Flyer*, Digital Edition

This month marks the official launch of our digital edition of the *Lagoon Flyer*. Thank you all who have already opted for e-delivery of the newsletter. Our digital deliveries come to you a week earlier and in full color. You'll use less paper, reduce carbon emissions, and also save us the cost to print and mail your flyer. Contact Andy at akamauro@cox.net for your digital subscription.

Nature Art Sale

Saturday, December 6, 2008
8 a.m.-noon—BVAS Nature Center



BVAS will hold a special nature art sale to benefit the Center on the first Saturday of December. The idea grew from a meeting with longtime member Paul Grigsby, and his donation of a large collection of nature art in many forms. Additional items in all media are now being sought. Please contact co-chairs Annette Schneider or Doug Schanzenbach for more information. Save the date!

Naturalist Training at San Elijo

Are you a current docent looking for more training, or maybe a beginning naturalist interested in learning more and sharing your knowledge with others? Come learn from experts about the history, flora, and fauna of the San Elijo Lagoon. This 7-week docent training course also teaches interpretive skills and offers practical tips in leading groups of students and adults on nature walks.

Participants will meet on seven consecutive Wednesdays from 9 a.m.-noon, beginning on October 8. We'll meet at Cardiff Public Library for the first part of each class, and then go out on lagoon trails for our weekly field trip.

For more information, call Tara at 760-436-3944, or email: tara@SanElijo.org. \$35 fee includes guidebook.



CREEPY CRITTERS



October General Meeting

See page 1

Lagoon Flyer



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

DATED MATERIAL
Please Deliver Promptly

Change Service Requested

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U.S. POSTAGE
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OCEANSIDE,
CA 92054

QUICK CALENDAR

- Fri. Oct. 3—Board Meeting—9 a.m.
- Sat. Oct. 4—Whelan Lake—8 a.m.
- Sat. Oct. 4—Nature Center Garden Clean-up—8 a.m.
- Sat. Oct. 4—Los Coronados Pelagic Birding—6:30 a.m.
- Mon. Oct. 6—Nature Guides—10 a.m.
- Sat. Oct. 11—San Elijo Lagoon Bird Walk—9 a.m.
- Sat. Oct. 18—Point Loma Bird Walk—8 a.m.
- Sun. Oct. 19—Native Plant Club—2 p.m.
- Sat. Oct. 25—Buena Vista Lagoon Count—8 a.m.
- Sat. Oct. 25—Bird Basics at BVL Landing—8:30 a.m.
- Sat. Oct. 25—BVAS Volunteer Luncheon—11:30 a.m.
- Mon. Oct. 27—Preschool Nature Storytime—10 a.m.
- Thur. Oct. 30—General Meeting—7 p.m.

Tues. Nov. 4—Vote for the Environment!

The League of Conservation Voters Endorsements:

- Prop. 1A—YES Prop. 7—NO
- Prop. 10—NO Prop. 11—NO

www.ecovote.org

White-eyed Vireo Spotted at Fort Rosecrans



—photos by Trent Stanley

The white-eyed vireo breeds in southeastern U.S. and is a rare vagrant to California. It was first sighted in Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery on Point Loma on September 11 and was still present two weeks later as we went to press. The S.D. County Bird Atlas cites only five previous county records.

