

# *The CALIFORNIA CONDOR*

Ventura Audubon Society **MAY 2014** Volume 34 Number 9  
A Chapter of the National Audubon [www.VenturaAudubon.org](http://www.VenturaAudubon.org)



## *CALL NOTES ...Bruce Schoppe, President*

May marks the end of our program year and the last edition of the newsletter until September. But it will not be a summer off. With grants from TNC and NRG Energy, we will be monitoring Western Snowy Plovers and California Least Terns at Ormond and Hollywood Beaches. We plan to have volunteer docents on these and other Ventura County beaches to help educate the public and protect the nesting areas. And with grants from California Audubon and Southern California Edison, we will be working on the lower Ventura River to control the brown-headed cowbird so that Least Bell's Vireos return to the habitat that is being restored by Ventura Hillsides Conservancy.

The end of the program year is also a good time to thank all the people who make Ventura Audubon successful throughout the year. My thanks, especially, to the Board of Directors and committee members who plan the programs and the field trips and help take care of all the other details. Thanks also to the many volunteers who contribute time and energy to our many activities and conservation efforts.

One member of the current Board of Directors will be retiring. Nancy Schorsch has served on the Board for more than 25 years, including 15 years as Program Chair! She also served as Secretary, as a Sector Leader for the CBC and as a member of the Nominating Committee. She and Carl have led field trips to Arroyo Verde Park. Her role in our success cannot be overstated. We'll miss her sage advice and guidance.

Lastly, don't forget the Annual meeting and BBQ on May 18<sup>th</sup> (SUNDAY) at Soule Park in Ojai. Please see the announcement elsewhere in the newsletter. If you have not already done so, please make a reservation by sending your check (\$12.00 for adults; \$6.00 for children under 12) to Marianne at the post office box address. You may also make a reservation and pay at the event by calling Marianne or me.

## *(Final) NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING*

**The Annual Meeting and BBQ is scheduled for Sunday, May 18, 2014.** This is the official notice of that meeting. It will be held at Soule Park in Ojai in Picnic Area 6, just inside the entrance. There is a \$4 per vehicle parking fee on weekends; so, plan on carpooling! As usual, we shall do some birding beforehand starting around 9:00 am.

The price will again be \$12.00 per person (half price for children under 12). Please send your reservation with check to Marianne Slaughter at P.O. Box 24198, Ventura, CA 93002 by May 10th. Or, you may call Marianne or me with your reservation and pay at the BBQ.



The menu will include chicken, tri-tip, veggie beans, two salads, garlic bread and special steamed vegetables for our vegetarian members. Please bring your own plates and utensils (to reduce trash) and a dessert to share. You may also bring your own beverage including beer and wine. VAS will provide water.

The meeting will start at 11:00 am. **This is the meeting at which you, the members, elect the board of directors to lead VAS for the next program year. The Nominating Committee has prepared a slate of nominees, and nominations may also be made from the floor at the meeting.**

Also on the Agenda this year will be a recommendation to adopt Revised and Restated Bylaws. California law governing nonprofit organizations has changed and our current bylaws do not meet legal requirements. The Restated Bylaws have been written by an attorney specializing in nonprofit law.

## ***BEYOND BASICS ...Article and Photos by David Pereksta***

### ***Birding Etiquette and Ethics***

Most birders or photographers have had the following happen...you spend a considerable amount of time getting close to a bird you want to observe or photograph, you wait patiently, your bird is finally moving into view and then a fellow birder or photographer walks up and asks “what are you are taking pictures of?” My answer to this question is usually, “nothing, now that you scared it away.” Other times you witness someone behaving irresponsibly and causing excessive disturbance to birds. While there is no enforcement in the birding world, there is a standard of ethics and etiquette that birders should follow.

While we are excited to run into friends in the field or are anxious to see if someone has found the bird we are looking for, it is always best to assess the situation before approaching someone. It is rude to walk up and start a conversation while they are trying to photograph a bird. This is something that happens repeatedly and usually results in a flushed bird and an angry photographer. The same holds true for approaching birders without a camera. I usually approach very slowly and will often ask if it is OK to approach closer or I ask *quietly* what they are looking at.

Another etiquette violation that I witness regularly at some of our local migrant hotspots is birders not adequately parking off roads and then standing in the road, forcing traffic to divert around them or come to a halt. Birders in the road at the tamarisks and sod fields is an annual display of rude and arrogant behavior when little attempt is made to let cars pass. It is one thing to be in the road when there is not a car in sight, but you should be completely out of the roadway when cars are approaching. I have seen such atrocious birder behavior at these locations that I know myself and others refrain from posting some rare birds if we believe it is going to cause a traffic fiasco. Other people (landowners along Canada Larga and other rural roads; drivers on the Oxnard Plain, etc.) tolerate birders in their space, but we should always conduct ourselves in a manner that is sensitive to motorists. All it will take is one call to the Ventura County Sheriff to get them to start cracking down on birders parking poorly or blocking traffic.

There are a number of ethical issues that come up regularly while in the field. With the advent of smart-phones and the growing popularity of bird photography, the biggest issue today is excessive playing of recordings. Technology has made it so easy to have a world of bird songs in our pockets, but playing these vocalizations too much, especially during the breeding season, can negatively impact birds by stressing them, distracting them from guarding their nests and chicks, making them more susceptible to predation, and possibly resulting in them abandoning their territory. In addition, it is a violation of the Endangered Species Act to play the vocalizations of threatened and endangered species so practice constraint around Clapper Rails, Willow Flycatchers, Bell's Vireos, and California Gnatcatchers. Another issue is the use of bright lights. Nocturnal birds like owls and nightjars have extremely sensitive light gathering eyes and pointing powerful lights in their face can impact their vision. Take whatever light you are using and point it in your face and then try to imagine how a species with far more sensitive eyes would feel. Personally, while birding at night I use a light with a modest beam and avoid pointing it directly into a bird's face. Trespassing on private property is another problem that has resulted in a loss of birder access to some great local birding areas. If you are not sure whether an area is open to the public or it is posted “No Trespassing,” then do not enter without permission! Birders have known for years that the local sod fields and their road system are off-limits to birders, which is based on poor birder behavior in the past. Last fall, several local birders who knew better drove some of the sod roads to get better looks at longspurs and pipits, which is completely unacceptable.



**Bell's Vireo**

In a future article, I will expand on more ethical issues including behavior at a mega-rarity, birding on private/military property, and whether to report sensitive bird locations. Until then, many of the issues discussed here are addressed in the American Birding Association Code of Ethics. Download it at <http://www.aba.org/about/ethics.html> and familiarize yourself and others with proper conduct in the field while birding.



## ***MAY FIELD TRIPS ...Karin Kersteter***

### **Saturday, May 3, 9 a.m. Hedrick Ranch Nature Area.**

**Leader: Sandy Hedrick (805)340-0478.** A special day of birding at the ranch! **NOTE:** This is not a work day! We will look for Least Bell's Vireos in the willows, along with other spring specialties, such as Purple Finch, Common Yellowthroat and Phainopepla. After birding, we will remember our long-time friend Reed Smith as we dedicate the Reed Smith Memorial Trail. Bring water, hats, field guides and sun protection. Take Hwy 126 to Santa Paula, 10th St. Exit. Go under freeway, right on Harvard, right on 12th and cross the Santa Clara River Bridge. Go 3.7 miles to 20395 S. Mountain Rd. Turn left onto the dirt road & follow it to the end (approx. ½ mile).

### **Sunday, May 4, 8 a.m. Wheeler Gorge Campground.**

**Leaders: Kay Regester (805)258-1025 and Mary Hansen.** Join us on a special joint bird walk with Conejo Valley Audubon Society. Abundant insects and running water in Wheeler Gorge make for some excellent birding in this scenic area. Target species include: Western Wood Peewee, Black-headed Grosbeak, Bullock's and Hooded Orioles, Yellow Warblers, and Pac-Slope Flycatchers. Feeders at the nearby visitor's center give close-up views of Black-chinned Hummingbirds and Steller's Jays. Bring insect repellent, water, hat, sunscreen and your field guide. **Directions:** Car pool 7:00 a.m. from Ventura Museum, 100 E. Main (side parking lot). Car pool 7:30 a.m. from Nordoff H.S. in Ojai. **Directions:** From Ventura, take Hwy 33 towards Ojai. At the "Y" intersection, turn left on Hwy 33 and go past Matilija Springs through 2 tunnels (about 8 miles) & meet at the campground entrance.

### **Tuesday, May 6, 8:30 a.m. Foster Park & Ventura River Walk. Leader: Adele Fergusson (805) 415-4304.**

We will meet inside the entrance to the park and bird in the park and some of the Ventura Hillsides Conservancy land to the south. Bring a jacket, as it will be chilly until the sun hits us. Some expected species include egrets, herons, Oak Titmouse and Western Bluebird. **Directions:** Take Hwy 33 toward Ojai, exit at Casitas Vista Rd, go right & park under the freeway bridge. (Parking is also available inside Foster Park for \$4.)

### **Saturday, May 10, 8:30 a.m. Ojai Meadow Preserve.**

**Leader Allen Bertke (640-9037)** The Preserve is a birder's paradise, with restored, native plants, natural wetlands, cattail marshes and plenty of birds. Expected species include kingbirds, yellowthroats, Red-Winged Blackbirds, Bullock's Orioles, Ash Throated Flycatchers, Western Bluebirds and White Tailed Kite. We will meet at the entrance sign. **Directions:** Take Hwy 33 toward Ojai and turn left at the Y. The preserve is on the left side. Parking is available in front of the entrance and also at the nearby high school or church, if necessary. To carpool, meet at the Museum of Ventura Co., 100 E. Main St. (side parking lot) at 8:00 a.m.

**Sunday, May 18 – Picnic and Annual Meeting –** See Newsletter for details

### **Saturday, May 24, 8:30 a.m. – Arroyo Verde Park.**

**Leader Needed.** Arroyo Verde park is a fantastic place to view spring birds, such as Hooded and Bullock's Orioles, Western Tanager, and nesting hummingbirds. **Directions:** From Hwy 101, exit Victoria and go north toward the hills. Turn left on Foothill Rd. The park is on the right, at the intersection of Foothill and Day. Meet at the last parking lot with restrooms. **NOTE:** There is a \$2.00 parking fee on weekends.

### **Saturday, May 31, 8:30 a.m. Beginners' Bird Walk, Canada Larga Road. Leader: Allen Bertke (640-9037).**

Meet near the beginning of the road off Hwy 33. We will carpool from that location as we walk and drive this long county road. Target species will include Blue and Black-headed Grosbeak, Barn Owl, Bullock's and Hooded Orioles, Lark Sparrow, Roadrunner, Phainopepla, various species of swallows and possibly a Lazuli Bunting. **Directions:** Take Hwy. 33 toward Ojai. Exit Canada Larga Rd. Meet near the beginning of the road. Bring binoculars, a field guide, hat & water.

**Mark your calendars:**

**Summer birding with Allen Bertke, see Page 6.**

**Saturday, Sept 27, 8:15 a.m.- 6 p.m. – Santa Cruz Island, Channel Islands National Park** (advance purchase of boat ticket required through Island Packers)



## ***BEGINNERS' BIRD WALK ...Allen Bertke***

Our continuing search for birds led us to the Carpinteria Salt Marsh last month for our Beginners' Bird Walk. This is a particularly rare habitat, home to the equally rare Belding's Savannah Sparrow, which chooses to nest exclusively in the pickle weed that grows there. We were lucky enough to spot a couple of them right after arriving. Along with the indigenous pickle weed and saltbush plants, the marsh is also home to many mallow plants. Given the location in which they are growing, they are infamously known (to me at least) as marshmallow plants.

The pickings in the pickle weed were slim as far as numbers go, but we did still manage to uncover a decent amount of total species (45) thanks to the help of the 52 eyes and 52 ears of the attendees. Birding by ear takes a lot of practice. I still have a long way to go, but I am getting better every year. I once knew a guy who said he could play the piano by ear, but I didn't believe him. How could his ears be long enough to do that?

Among the species heard and seen were Green and Blue-winged Teal, Snowy Egrets, Great Egrets, Common Yellowthroat, Greater Yellowlegs, White-crowned Sparrows, a lone Bushtit gathering nesting material, Anna's and Rufous Hummingbirds, Cassin's and Western Kingbirds, dowitchers, a Red-shouldered Hawk, and a very distant perching Osprey.

One of the best shows was that of a White-tailed, black-shouldered, gray-backed, red-eyed, yellow-legged, UV-visioned, hovering, skydiving, rodent-killing Kite. It hovered with such precision that it stayed in the center of my scope long enough for several people to get a good look at it. As it hovered, it swept its head from side to side, while perfectly maintaining its position. It was probably scanning the urine trail of a mouse that can become fluorescent to the raptor via its UV vision. Since the sun is never directly overhead in the northern hemisphere, the hovering keeps its own shadow far away from its intended victim, so as not to alert the unsuspecting rodent to its impending doom. Then suddenly it dropped in a controlled free fall and disappeared into the weeds. Seconds later it was flying to a tree where it could eat its newly caught lunch in peace.

We were all having such a good time that it was 11:30 before I knew it. I can get so engrossed in bird watching that I often lose track of the time. That's why when birding I wear my special watch that just says "now". Time constraints are for the birds.

I'll be leading 7 birding trips this summer. **Cut out and save our summer birding dates on Page 6 and** come on out and join us!

Have a great summer....

## ***VENTURA COLLEGE FIELD TRIP ..John Connor***



On March 21, VAS partnered with the Ventura College Field Biology class for our 3<sup>rd</sup> annual field trip to the Carpinteria Salt Marsh. Associate Professor of Biology Kamelia Algiers led the field trip assisted by VAS members Estelle Ichino and John Connor. The Ventura College Field Biology class attracts an outstanding group of interested and enthusiastic students. The VAS Education Program was able to provide binoculars for these students to enhance their field trip experience. Birding highlights were a Greater Roadrunner and a White-tailed Kite "kiting" for several minutes. The students were also mightily impressed with Estelle's inspired interpretation of how a California Towhee kicks back with its two feet to uncover seeds and insects. The ongoing partnership of the Ventura College Field Biology class and VAS illustrates the value of the VAS Education Program.



## *NOTES FROM THE FIELD*

*...David Pereksta*

Spring migration continued to drive towards its peak during March with many early migrants arriving. Warblers, vireos, orioles, flycatchers, and other migrants were becoming evident as the month progressed and there were exceptional numbers of Rufous Hummingbirds reported throughout the county. Did the drought concentrate them at feeders and gardens?

A number of notable birds continued on the Oxnard Plain with a few new uncommon birds being found during March. Several new finds may have been wintering individuals that escaped earlier detection including a **Pacific Golden-Plover** on the sod fields along Casper Road on 2 Mar (TM) and a **Stilt Sandpiper** near Point Mugu on 15 Mar (DP). The **Stilt Sandpiper** may be the same bird that was seen on the Navy Base in late 2013. Twenty-two **American White Pelicans** were at Camarillo Regional Park on 28 Mar (AS). An unseasonal **Red-throated Pipit** continued on the sod fields through 3 Mar and another (or the same?) flew over calling near Point Mugu on 16 Mar (DP & TM). A colony of **Tricolored Blackbirds** was a rare find for the coast 9-21 Mar (DP). Continuing birds near Point Mugu included a **Ross's Goose** and four **Blue-winged Teal** through 15 Mar, two **American White Pelicans** and three **Yellow-headed Blackbirds** through 16 Mar, and the wintering **Sandhill Crane** through the end of March. Continuing birds at Point Mugu and the lagoon included eight **Blue-winged Teal**, eight **Greater Scaup**, a **Red-necked Grebe**, and at least three **Yellow-crowned Night-Herons** through 21 Mar. A pair of **Vermilion Flycatchers** continued at Point Mugu through the end of March and suggested the possibility that they may breed locally. New finds at Point Mugu included two **Black Skimmers** on 19 Mar (DP) and a **Common Gallinule** on 21 Mar (DP).

A few uncommon species were also reported in the Ventura River drainage during March. The **Bald Eagle** pair continued tending their nest at Lake Casitas through the end of the month. As many as 7 **Common Mergansers** continued at the lake through 27 Mar and 10 **American White Pelicans** were there on 1 Mar (DP & TM). Continuing birds at Canada Larga included a **Ferruginous Hawk** through 6 Mar and a **Red-naped Sapsucker** through 3 Mar. A **Prairie Falcon** was at Ojai Meadows on 16 Mar (JB).

The east county and Santa Monica Mountains produced several notable birds in March. A beautiful drake **Eurasian Wigeon** was at the Thousand Oaks Library 5-16 Mar (DC). Early **Common Poorwills** were at Camarillo Oak Grove County Park on 6 Mar (AS), Wildwood Park 11-28 Mar (BE), Newbury Park 25 Mar (DG), and Simi Valley on 20 Mar (DK). Two **Lewis's Woodpeckers** were in Upper Las Virgenes Canyon 6-9 Mar (DC) and two **Golden-crowned Kinglets** continued in Oak Park through 5 Mar. **Vesper Sparrow** reports included six at Upper Las Virgenes Canyon on 14 Mar (KD) and four at Rancho Sierra Vista on 25 Mar (JB).

A variety of uncommon birds persisted along the immediate coast and offshore. A **Blue-footed Booby** and a **Brown Booby** continued on Anacapa Island on 5 Mar and the **Blue-footed Booby** continued through 13 Mar. A pair of **Ancient Murrelets** was south of Anacapa Island on 5 Mar (DP & PG). A **Harris's Sparrow** and a **White-throated Sparrow** continued on Anacapa Island through 14 Mar. The number of **American White Pelicans** at the Santa Clara River Estuary got as high as 27 during March (DG). This species has been seen in higher than normal numbers locally over the last few months. In the Ventura Harbor, a hybrid **American x Black Oystercatcher** continued through 5 Mar, a **Black Skimmer** was at Marina Park on 14 Mar (KR), and a "**Large-billed**" **Savannah Sparrow** was at Marina Park on 1 Mar (TM). Nearby, as many as two **Common Gallinules** continued at the Ventura Wildlife Ponds through 15 Mar.

Elsewhere, eight **Common Mergansers** and an **American Dipper** were in Sespe Creek on 27 Mar (DM), and migrant **Lawrence's Goldfinches** were in backyards in Simi Valley on 8 Mar (MP) and Ventura on 26 Mar (DP).

Thank you to those who reported sightings during the last month. If you have any questions about local birds or have a good one to report (please no calls about nuisance birds), notify David Pereksta at [pereksta@pacbell](mailto:pereksta@pacbell) or call 659-5740

Observers: Joel Barrett, Dan Cooper, Keri Dearborn, Bill Eaton, Peter Gaede, Davis Garner, Don Klabunde, David Magney, Todd McGrath, Matthew Page, David Pereksta, Kay Regester, and Adam Searcy

Good birding,  
David Pereksta

## *SUMMER BIRDING TRIPS with Allen Bertke*



Plan to join us for 7 Mondays from 8:30-10:30. We will once again be led by the lively & knowledgeable Allen Bertke.

\*June 9-Ojai Meadow Preserve. If you want to car pool meet at the downtown museum (100 E. Main) rear parking lot at 8:00. Take HWY 33 toward Ojai & follow it to Nordoff H.S. Park in north part of lot.

\*June 16-Canada Larga. Take HWY 33 toward Ojai, exit Canada Larga Rd. Meet near the beginning of the road. We will walk & drive.

\*June 23-Arroyo Verde Park in Ventura-Day and Foothill Rd. Meet in the back area.

\*June 30-Carpinteria Salt Marsh. To car pool meet at the downtown museum back lot at 8:00. Take HWY 101 North to Carpinteria, exit Casitas Pass Rd., rt. on Carpinteria Ave., left on Linden & rt. on Sandylane Rd. to Ash. Park along Ash.

\*July 7-Surfer's Point. Meet across from Ventura Harbor.

\*July 14-Ennisbrook Nature Trail, Montecito. To car pool meet at 8:00 at the rear parking lot of the downtown museum (100 E. Main). Head north on US 101 and exit at San Ysidro Rd., turning right (north) towards the mountains. Turn rt. at San Leandro Lane, then follow San Leandro through a left/right jog & continue until you see a beige picket fence and a pump house on the left (north) side of the road. Park on both sides of the road.

\*July 21-Surprise destination. Meet at the Marina Village Center/Carrow's Restaurant parking lot, 2401 Harbor Blvd., Ventura. Park in left hand section in vicinity of Chase Bank-2497/2499. Look for people with binoculars. We will car pool to nearby private property for an unexpected treat. You must meet here & car pool in order to gain admittance.



This is the last newsletter for the VAS year 2013-2014. The new VAS year (2014-2015) and your next newsletter, will begin in September, with submissions for the September edition due August 1, 2014.

My deepest appreciation and thanks to regular contributors: David Pereksta; Bruce Schoppe; the Program Committee; Laura Gulovsen, Audrey Vincent, and Margaret Wilson; Allen Bertke, Karin Kersteter; and regular proofreaders Susie Williams and Marianne Slaughter! It takes a village....

Enjoy the summer!

Dee Press, Editor

## ***SCE GRANT TO HELP FUND BROWN-HEADED COWBIRD PROJECT***

Nancy Williams, Region Manager, Local Public Affairs for Southern California Edison and Karin Kersteter, VAS board member and SCE employee present a check for \$5,000 to Bruce Schoppe, VAS president. The money, a grant from SCE, will help control brown-headed cowbirds on the lower Ventura River where an effort is underway to restore a population of Least Bell's Vireo. VAS is working with The Ventura Hillside Conservancy on VHC property in the river bed near Main Street in Ventura



A big thank you to all who have donated to Birdathon 2014! Your donations are greatly appreciated!!

## ***VOLUNTEER DOCENTS NEEDED***

Ventura Audubon is seeking volunteer docents to assist with educational efforts on beaches in Ventura County where Snowy Plovers are beginning to nest right now. The beaches where docents can serve include Ormond, Hollywood, Mandalay and San Buenaventura State Beach. Training will be provided (see below) and docents are asked to commit to a minimum of two hours per week. The most critical times are early mornings, early evenings and weekends, especially holiday weekends.

Please join us for Western snowy plover docent training on Saturday April 26 from 9AM-12PM at the Channel Coast District Office conference room located at San Buenaventura State Beach. Address is 911 San Pedro Street in Ventura. Upon entrance please let the person in the kiosk know you will be attending the training and he/she will show you where to park if you have not been here before.

If you can help in this effort, please contact either:

Bruce Schoppe (805) 658-2396 [bschoppe6698@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bschoppe6698@sbcglobal.net)  
Alexis Frangis (805) 217-4833 [alexisraehamilton@gmail.com](mailto:alexisraehamilton@gmail.com)



## **VENTURA AUDUBON SOCIETY**

P.O. Box 24198  
Ventura, CA 93002

If you are not sure if your membership has expired, please **email** Jackie at [jbworden7@gmail.com](mailto:jbworden7@gmail.com) and she will check it out for you.

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### **REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

The Nominating Committee recommends the following for the Board of Directors for the program year 2014-2015:

Adele Fergusson	Joyce Schoppe
Alexis Frangis	Bruce Schoppe
John Connor	Marianne Slaughter
Judy Dugan	Janice Sussha
Laura Gulovsen	Jim Sussha
Sandy Hedrick	Jackie Worden
Karin Kersteter	Neil Ziegler

The Nominating Committee included John Connor, Nancy Schorsch, Laura Gulovsen and Sandy Hedrick.

Sandy Hedrick  
Chair, Nominating Committee

### **VAS OFFICERS AND CHAIRS**

President	Bruce Schoppe	658-2396
Vice-President	Neil Zeigler	983-7207
Secretary	Joyce Schoppe	658-2396
Treasurer	Marianne Slaughter	484-8415
Conservation	Sandy Hedrick	643-2408
Field Trips	Karin Kersteter	901-2203
Publicity	Jim Sussha	983-3929
Webmaster/Science	Alexis Frangis	217-4833
Membership	Jackie Worden	652-0577

At Large:	Adele Fergusson	415-4304
	John Connor	654-1805
	Nancy Schorsch	643-5825
	Janice Sussha	983-3929
	Judy Dugan	642-0842
Newsletter Editor	Dee Press	484-8415
Program Committee:	Laura Gulovsen	642-6544
	Margaret Wilson	647-7962
	Audrey Vincent	525-5826

720 N. Thousand Oaks Blvd.  
Thousand oaks, CA



**BOARD MEETING:** There will be a Board of Directors meeting May 6th at Dee & Marianne's house, 1656 Riente St, Camarillo. Call 805-484-8415 for more information.

**THE VENTURA AUDUBON SOCIETY** holds its regular meeting on the second Tuesday of the month at the Poinsettia Pavilion, 3451 Foothill Rd. in Ventura at 7:30 p.m., September through April. The May meeting is a barbecue. Call the President for information. Board Meetings are held bi-monthly on the first Tuesday of the month. A Membership Form is available on our web site.

**THE CALIFORNIA CONDOR** is published nine times per year (September-May). Members are encouraged to submit articles, announcements, letters and drawings, preferably in WORD format, or in the form of an e-mail message. *The deadline is noon on the **1st** of the month preceding the next issue.* E-mail to: [deepress2@gmail.com](mailto:deepress2@gmail.com). Call Editor Dee Press at 484-8415 for more information.