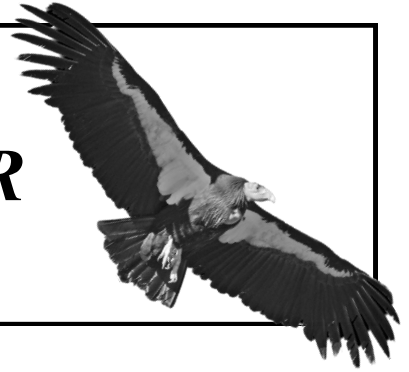


The **CALIFORNIA CONDOR**

Ventura Audubon Society **October 2017** Volume 42, Number 2
A Chapter of the National Audubon www.VenturaAudubon.org



CALL NOTES ...Bruce Schoppe, President

It is exciting to see CSUCI students adding their energy to protecting birds and their habitat! And, it is great to have them involved with Ventura Audubon bringing new ideas and possibilities to our outreach program.

Largely through the work of Cynthia Hartley, VAS Vice President and Shorebird Recovery Program Leader, ESRM 200 (Environmental Science and Resource Management) students at CSUCI have each provided 15 hours of community service in the spring semester, all of it spent at Ormond Beach. This year, several students went way beyond the 15 hours and have become serious advocates for the nesting Western Snowy Plovers and California Least Terns.

CSUCI students Kaitlyn (Kat) O'Dea, Jessica Ventrone, Rachael Cavanagh and Timothy (TJ) Sullivan have had a busy summer interning for VAS learning nest monitoring, patrolling the beach, collecting data, talking to beach visitors and improving VAS outreach. Now VAS has a presence on Instagram and Twitter -- where the younger population dwells!

Even more exciting, students (led by Kat O'Dea) are in the process of forming an Audubon Club at CSUCI which, as it happens, fits in nicely with where National Audubon is currently headed. National Audubon has hired an Intern to develop a plan and a template for Audubon Clubs on college campuses across the country. Channel Islands Audubon will be one of the first. Please see the article elsewhere in this newsletter written by Kat O'Dea.

(Continued on Page 4..)

OCTOBER PROGRAM

7:30 p.m. Tuesday, October 10 Poinsettia Pavilion, 3451 Foothill Road, Ventura

Sustainable Groundwater Management Act Implementation in Ventura County

By: Arne Anselm



Ventura County faces water resource challenges of groundwater sustainability, local water security, and polluted storm water runoff. The ongoing drought, and new regulations governing groundwater and storm drain runoff have created an opportunity to address these issues through integrated solutions. Learn more about these challenges, what Ventura County is doing to solve these issues, and how, through collaboration, solution can be found that provide multiple benefits for water resources, habitat and recreation.

Arne Anselm is a self-described bureaucrat and proud of it. He has a B.S. in Biological Sciences from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, and a Master of Public Policy and Administration from Cal Lutheran University. Currently Mr. Anselm is Ventura County's Public Works Deputy Director, Water Resources Division. In that role he directs programs to protect the County's groundwater and surface water resources. In addition, he oversees the management of the Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency, and the County's participation in the multiple newly formed Groundwater Management Agencies.





NOTES FROM THE FIELD

...David Pereksta

AUGUST 2017

Waterfowl and waterbirds that do not typically summer in our area continued into August. Individual **Brant** were at several locations including the [Santa Clara River Estuary](#) 5-7 August (KO), Mugu Lagoon on 20 August (BS), and a continuing bird at the Ventura River Mouth through 7 August. The summering **Snow Goose** from the Santa Clara River Estuary disappeared in July, but a bird found on the Oxnard Plain on 12 August may have been the same individual (JMu). Two **Reddish Egrets** continued at Mugu Lagoon through 20 August where they are now an expected summer visitor. **Yellow-crowned Night-Herons** continue to breed at Point Mugu; however, individuals away from the Navy base are still rare so one at the Ventura Settling Ponds on 4 August (AF) and one at the Santa Clara River Estuary on 14 August (DKB) were notable. As many as 13 **American White Pelicans** continued at the Santa Clara River Estuary through 30 August.

August is a great time for southbound shorebird migration through Ventura County and although habitat was limited, a few birds of note were found. **Baird's Sandpipers** were reported from several locations including one at Point Mugu on 7 August (JM), two at the Santa Clara River Estuary 13-20 August (TG), and one in La Conchita on 31 August (JB). A **Pectoral Sandpiper** was an early migrant at Lake Casitas on 6-7 August (JG & BS). A **Semipalmated Sandpiper** was in Port Hueneme 29-31 August (DM) and a **Solitary Sandpiper** was there 12-14 August (DM). Another **Solitary Sandpiper** was at Point Mugu on 18 August (JP).

Landbirds of note were limited in August (that will change in September and October), but a few uncommon to rare species were seen. A **White-winged Dove** was in a Newbury Park yard 20-27 August (RA & CB). **Vermilion Flycatchers** continued at Point Mugu through 22 August where they are now breeding, and another was elsewhere on the Oxnard Plain on 25 August (DP). A **Virginia's Warbler** was reported at Conejo Community Park on 19 August (RS).

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), call or e-mail David Pereksta at 659-5740 or [pereksta@pacbell.net].

Good birding,
David Pereksta

Observers: Richard Armerding, John Bailey, Catherine Bourne, Adele Ferguson, Jesse Grantham, Trish Gussler, Deven Kammerichs-Berke, Dan Maxwell, Jimmy McMorran, John Mueller, Kris Ohlenkamp, David Pereksta, Jeremiah Psiropoulos, Ben Sandstrom, Bill Shanbrom, and Roger Swanson



OCTOBER FIELD TRIPS...Adele Fergusson

Saturday, October 1, 8:30 a.m. Laguna Tams

Leader: Linda Easter 818-519-2833

The tamarisk trees at Laguna Rd are a migrant hot spot. Migrating birds mostly warblers are attracted to the insects in the trees and a number of uncommon to rare birds often show up at this location.

Directions: From Hwy 101, take Rice Ave south (towards the ocean), turn left (east) on E Pleasant Valley Rd, turn right on Laguna Rd. Please observe good birding etiquette at this location, as it is a fairly busy road in an agricultural area, please do not park in front of driveways or the tamarisk trees. Carpooling is encouraged to minimize traffic.

Carpool Direction: From Camarillo, meet at 8:10 at Las Posas Park and Ride. From Ventura, meet at 7:50 am at the parking lot behind Carrow's (next to the Chevron station) at the intersection of Harbor and Seaward (Von's Shopping Center).

Saturday, October 7, 8:00 a.m. Work Day Hedrick Ranch Nature Area.

Leader: Sandy Hedrick 805-340-0478.

Arrive at 8:00 for self-guided birding which usually yields some interesting birds. Work from 9am – noon. Long pants and boots or closed shoes are required. Bring water, gloves & sun protection.

Directions: Take Hwy 126 to Santa Paula, 10th St. Exit. Go under freeway, rt. on Harvard, rt. on 12th and cross the S.C. River Bridge. Go 3.7 miles to 20395 S. Mountain Rd. Turn left onto the dirt road and follow it to the end (approx. ½ mile). Even a little rain can make the road impassable; if in doubt, call Sandy to check road conditions.

Saturday, Oct 14, 8:30 a.m. Canada Larga.

Leader: Neil Zeigler 805-983-7207

We will walk and drive the canyon. Always a great walk! Some birds we may see are Western Bluebirds, Road-runners, sparrows, swallows, Red-tailed Hawks and perhaps a barn owl.

Directions: Take Hwy 33 toward Ojai. Exit Canada Larga Rd. Meet near the beginning of the road on the right hand side in the small parking lot before the avocado trees.

Monday October 16, 8:30 a.m. Ventura Settling Ponds

Leader: Adele Fergusson 805-415-4304.

Enjoy a morning of mostly waterfowl birding. Spotting scopes are always welcome.

Directions: Take Harbor Blvd to Spinnaker and enter Ventura Harbor. The Water Treatment Plant is on Angler before Spinnaker curves to the right. Park either across from the entrance on Angler or if there is not room, park in the lot on the right side of Spinnaker past the Ventura Boat Yard and meet at the gate. Note: Take care in crossing Spinnaker due to the blind curve.

Saturday, October 21, 8:30 a.m. Lake Casitas Joint trip with CVAS.

Leader: Kay Regester 805-258-1025 and Co-Leader: Dee Lyons

Join us for a walk by the lake, We will be looking for hummingbirds, grosbeaks, gnatcatchers as well as ducks, geese and waterfowl. Hopefully we will see a Bald Eagle.

Directions: Take Hwy 33 towards Ojai; exit Casitas Vista Rd. Turn right twice and go under freeway past Foster Park to first right, Santa Ana Rd. Follow to park, on left. Or take Hwy 33 to Hwy 150, turn left and follow signs to the lake. Park out front and we will walk into the park. There will be lots of walking, so wear comfortable shoes and bring snacks and water. Bring scopes if you have them! Target birds will include: the resident Bald Eagles, Green Heron, Chipping and Lark Sparrows, Common Merganser and Spotted Sandpiper.

To Carpool from Ventura, meet at 7:50 am at the parking lot behind Carrow's (next to the Chevron station) at the intersection of Harbor and Seaward (Von's Shopping Center).

Saturday, October 28, 8:00 a.m. Carpinteria **Leader: Rob Denholtz will be our guide. Linda Easter (assistant and trip coordinator).**

There will be a limit of 25 people.

This is a joint CVAS/VAS field trip to the restricted part of the Carpinteria Salt Marsh Reserve and approved by UCSB. This is a unique opportunity to have a guided tour of the private part of the salt marsh that is used by UCSB and affiliates to study the ecology of one of the last coastal salt marshes in Southern California. Please contact Linda Easter if you are interested in attending to

...CALL NOTES (Continued from Page 1)

Of course, the future of any organization is the next generation—in our case, a new generation of birders. Audubon, traditionally, has been older probably because we are supposed to have more time once retired. (Trust me, it isn't true!) But, the pace of change including the nation's demographics and growing threats made worse by climate change require that we get the next generations engaged sooner than later.

We congratulate and thank Cynthia and the CSUCI students who are leading the way.

A NEW ADVENTURE AT CSUCI CHANNEL ISLANDS AUDUBON CLUB President — Kat O'Dea



The fall semester is underway at California State University, Channel Islands and, with a brand-new year, comes new students and new immersible activities and organizations. This year, we have undertaken a momentous opportunity with the inauguration of CI Audubon. CI Audubon is a student club on campus that aims to bring the love of birds and nature conservation to a diverse student and faculty body. The Club's focus will not only be on the mutual love and respect of bird species and the preservation of their habitats, but will also incorporate activism and volunteer opportunities to enrich student growth and community involvement.

CSUCI had their annual Clubs and Organizations fair in early September. CI Audubon was received with immense interest from both students and faculty wanting to know how they could be involved. The fair allowed us to engage the student community and explain the mission of Audubon and what Audubon means. For many students, this was their first exposure to Audubon, and it truly became not only educational and informative for them but for myself as well.

While we head into the fall semester I believe CI Audubon will continue to grow. The Club Fair brought over 40 interested students and multiple faculty members together who will become part of the first Audubon Club on campus. We hope to further our involvement at CSUCI and the community with future fundraisers, events, volunteer work and of course birding activities.

...FIELD TRIPS (Continued from Page 3)

be put on the list. Linda's contact information-phone 818-519-2833 or lindita517@yahoo.com.

Directions: We will meet at 8 am at the Estero Road gate to the Carpinteria Salt Marsh reserve. This is NOT the public entrance. Everyone should arrive on time as the gate will be locked once we enter. From Ventura County, take US 101 north to Casitas Pass Road in Carpinteria. Turn left over the freeway and proceed to Carpinteria Avenue. Turn right on Carpinteria Avenue and proceed to Estero Road, a small road on the left. Park along Carpinteria Avenue or in one of a few spaces on Estero Road. Do not park in the parking lots of the nearby commercial buildings. There is no potable water onsite, so bring water with you.

To Carpool from Ventura, meet at 7:15 am at the parking lot behind Carrow's (next to the Chevron station) at the intersection of Harbor and Seaward (Von's Shopping Center).

SAVE THE DATE

Point Mugu trip November 3, 2017 8:00—Limit 20 People
To get put on the list for the trip email Adele Fergusson [@adelefergusson@yahoo.com](mailto:adelefergusson@yahoo.com).
Topic Point Mugu Trip by October 16th

***In Memoriam
Arthur D. Marshall***

Arthur D. Marshall (Art), one of the founders of Ventura Audubon died at age 91 on August 20, 2017. Art helped organize Ventura Audubon in 1980 and served as president from 1987 until 1997. He continued to serve on the board and as Membership Chair until 2011. He led field trips, helped with Christmas Bird Count and, like many non-profit leaders, did whatever was necessary. When he retired from the board, National Audubon presented him with the Great Egret Award in recognition of his more than 30 years of service. His leadership and tireless effort on behalf of VAS and its mission were critical to the success of Ventura Audubon. Our condolences to family and friends – we all miss him.

VAS OFFICERS and CHAIRS

Officers

President	Bruce Schoppe	(805) 658-2396
Vice President	Cynthia Hartley	(805) 795-4115
Treasurer	Marianne Slaughter	(805) 484-8415
Secretary	Joyce Schoppe	(805) 658-2396

Board Members

Conservation	Sandy Hedrick	(805) 643-2408
Publicity	Jim Susha	(805) 983-3929
CBC	Frank DeMartino	(805) 906-8733
Field Trips	Adele Fergusson	(805) 415-4304
Membership	Deborah Burns	(805) 933-0647
Newsletter	Janice Susha	(805) 983-3929
WSP/CLT Team	Debra Barringer	Unlisted
Outreach	David Lee	(805) 451-3504
Programs	Vacant	
	John Connor	(805) 654-1805
At Large	Jackie Worden	(805) 657-2837
	Kat O'Dea	

Chairs

Webmaster	Christi Lester	(310) 722-9557
Education	Betsy Bachman	(805) 646-4407
	Rachael Cavanagh	
Social Media	Jessica Ventrone	
	Tim Sullivan	

MEMBERSHIP EXPIRATION: If you are not sure whether your membership has expired, please **email** Deborah at debburns38@gmail.com and she will check it out for you.

BOARD MEETING: The next Board of Directors meeting will be on Tuesday, November 7. Future meetings will be held at Wild Birds, Unlimited located at 4020 E. Main Street, Ventura, 805-765-4594. Because the store will be closed, parking is available. VAS members are welcome to attend.

THE VENTURA AUDUBON SOCIETY holds its monthly program on the second Tuesday of the month at the Poinsettia Pavilion, 3451 Foothill Rd. in Oxnard at 7:30 p.m., September through April. The May meeting is a barbecue. Call the President for information. Board Meetings are held bimonthly on the first Tuesday of the month. A membership form is available on the VAS 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 12th of the month preceding the month of publishing.*

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