

BUENA VISTA AUDUBON SOCIETY

LAGOON FLYER

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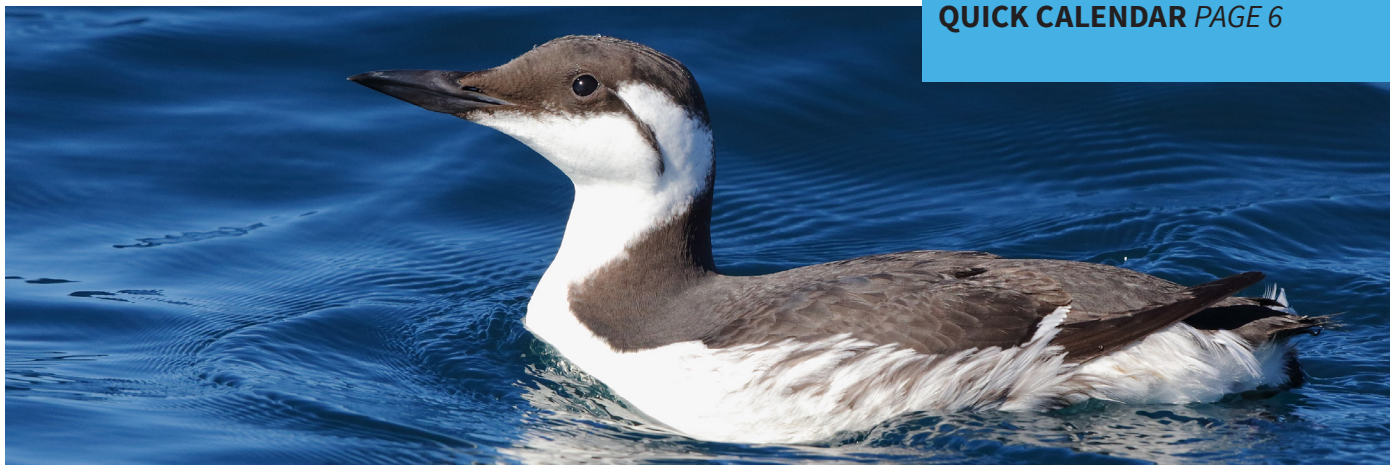


Photo credit: Mathew Binns

“THE GREEN SONGBOOK”

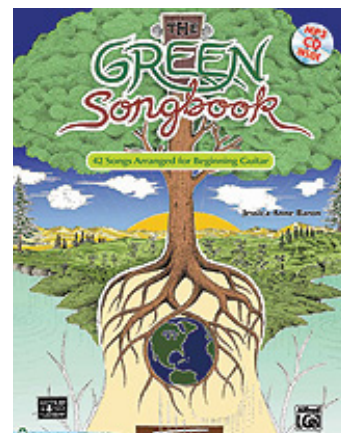
NATURE EDUCATION THROUGH MUSIC WITH JESSICA ANNE BARON

Wednesday, February 18

Birds of the Sierra Nevada with Ed Pandolfino

6:30 p.m. Social—7 p.m. Program

Our February program will be a little different than our typical fare, as we explore the use of music to educate teachers and students about environmental issues. Jessica Anne Baron, author of “The Green Songbook,” will be our guest speaker and musical director. She will discuss the making of her special songbook which features 42 eco-friendly songs from famous artists like Joni Mitchell, John Denver, Pete Seeger, Woody Guthrie, and others. The songs are arranged into nine chapters to cover important environmental themes, such as recycling, wise energy use, the Earth as our Mother, habitat preservation, sustainable farming, and water cycles. Each chapter includes teacher resources, websites, and suggested activities.



Jessica Baron is a master teacher and guitar instructor who believes in the innate musicality of every individual. She has a degree in child psychology, and is interested in how children first learn music and become interested in nature through music. Jessica will select several of her favorite songs to perform and share. She will invite the audience to join her in a voluntary exercise in the music-making process, with the promise of a special surprise at the end.

“The Green Songbook” has a little something for everyone--teachers, nature guides, parents, grandparents, and especially children. Bring your curiosity and sense of adventure and let's see where this takes us. See you there!



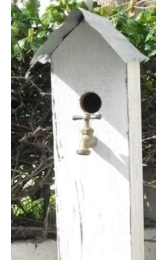
BVAS BIRDHOUSE AUCTION
MARCH 21—GET SET FOR A REAL TWEET!



BVAS BIRDHOUSE AUCTION

MARCH 21—GET SET FOR A REAL TWEET!

It's nearing time for one of our most fun and exciting events at the Nature Center. The annual Birdhouse Auction will be held on Saturday, March 21. As usual, we'll have a large assortment of wonderfully creative, handmade birdhouses, bird feeders, and bird-related items, as well as a nice assortment of beverages to keep our (bird) whistles wet. The Nature Center is a beautiful new venue now, following its renovation in 2014. To go along with the new look, the Auction committee has planned some new twists on a few of the Auction's regular features. These include an excitingly different food menu, plus Oceanside legend, Larry Hatter, the former play-by-play announcer for Oceanside High football games, as guest auctioneer. Martha Barnett will still be having "A Way With Birds," of course, wearing her new hat as auctioneer emeritus. More plans will be forthcoming in next month's newsletter, but you'll need to attend the Auction in March for the final reveal!



Thinking about the Birdhouse Auction

BUILDING A BETTER BIRDHOUSE



The birdhouse you build can be made safer for your feathered friend if you keep a few basic building tips in mind.

Removing Perches: Birds do not need a perch to move in and out of the house, but a predator will use the perch as a convenient handhold to steady itself when it raids the nest. By removing any perches or similar ornaments that predators could cling to, you make it more difficult for them to access the birds inside the house.

Hole Restrictors: A flattened tin can or other metal plate, with a hole cut into it and fastened over the existing entrance hole, will prevent predators from clawing or chewing on birdhouse entrance holes and enlarging them for easier access.

Tube Entrances: Another way to make it harder for predators to reach inside a birdhouse is to install an elongated tube entrance, like a simple piece of PVC pipe.

Roof Size: A long roof that extends 5-6 inches in front of the house provides a built-in baffle to limit a predator's reach and prevent it from accessing the entrance.

Proper Placement: Place your birdhouse well above ground level and away from an arbor, fence, or vegetation that might provide easy climbing access for unwanted guests.



Discourage Predators: Keep birdhouses away from feeders that might attract predators. And keep your pet cat indoors!

—Adapted from: birding.about.com.



Oceanside Christmas Bird Count Report

FIRST EVER BROWN BOOBY

For the first time in the 60-plus-year history of the Oceanside CBC, a pair of brown boobies were recorded in the nearshore waters off Oceanside Harbor.

There were a number of exciting birds among the 192 species recorded in the 2014 Oceanside CBC, held on December 27. A Lewis' woodpecker and 59 band-tailed pigeons were found at the Dawson Creek Preserve in Carlsbad. A zone-tailed hawk was seen by observers in Camp Pendleton and nearby Libby Lake. Sightings of four different oriole species, unexpected for this time of year, included a rare Baltimore oriole. A Eurasian wigeon at El Camino Golf Course was a rare discovery. A lone gray flycatcher was found foraging along the 14th fairway at the Oceanside Golf Course. A total of 12 vermilion flycatchers, including nine at the now-closed San Luis Rey Downs Golf Course in Bonsall, was a new high for the count.

A little over 34,000 birds were recorded in total, down significantly from the total count in recent years. The recent prolonged drought is thought to have affected nesting success and seed crops in San Diego this year, perhaps accounting for some of the decline. The frosty early temperatures on count day could also have been a factor. Over 130 birders got up at dawn and braved the early cold to take part in the 2014 count. They were rewarded as the morning turned sunny and clear, and some of the exciting birds began to appear. Of course, gathering later at the Nature Center for some friendly rehashing of their best sightings, while enjoying a bowl of Annette's famous chili, was their final reward for a day well spent.

Thank you volunteers and birders for another great count!

WHELAN LAKE BIRD SANCTUARY WALK

Saturday, February 7—8 a.m.

The December Christmas Bird Count recorded 78 species of birds at Whelan Lake, including the only snow goose found on the CBC. Will we find it again?

Directions: I-5 to Hwy. 76 East; turn left at Douglas Dr.; continue to the light at North River Rd.; go left on North River Rd. Pass through the entrance gate and follow the signs to the lake.

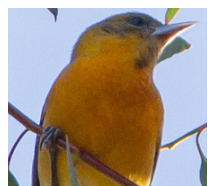
Leader: John Haddock, 760-941-7824.



J.J. Springer

SECOND THURSDAY SURPRISE WALK

Thursday, February 12—8 a.m.



Tito Gonzales

Join our weekday surprise-location bird walk on the second Thursday of each month. Where we go is based on recent reports and Steve's personal surveying. If you'd like to get on the Second Thursday Walk notification list, please send an e-mail with your name, phone number and e-mail address to: stevebrad1@earthlink.net.

Leader: Steve Brad, 760-633-1639. Day-of-trip 760-274-5256.

SAN DIEGUITO RIVER PARK BIRD WALK

Saturday, February 21—8 a.m.

The February walk will meet at the Crest Canyon lower trailhead at the San Dieguito Lagoon overlook on San Dieguito Rd. (west of I-5). The coastal sage scrub habitat of the trail and the overlook of the lagoon provides opportunity for an interesting bird list.

Crest Canyon Trailhead—From I-5, take Via de la Valle west; left on Jimmy Durante Blvd.; left on San Dieguito Rd. Drive east about 1 mile to trailhead. Leader: John Haddock, 760-941-7824.

BVAS MIGRATING BIRDERS

Florida Trip—Last Chance!—Four spots are still open on the BVAS Migrating Birders' "Spring in Southern Florida" trip scheduled for next April 19-29. A special discount from the previously-published price has been arranged for BVAS members. We'll cover all the birding hotspots in south Florida with Steve Shunk of Paradise Birding as our personal guide. The 10-day excursion includes an exciting day-long float plane trip to the Dry Tortugas.

Canada trip in late June—The "Summer in Northern Alberta" trip will go from June 24-July 5 and will highlight the breeding birds of Canada's Rocky Mountains and boreal forest. The group will be on the hunt for more than 20 species of "eastern" warblers and up to 20 different sparrows. This tour will also be a full-service package led by Steve Shunk.

More information available—Trip flyers for the Florida and Canada trips are at the Nature Center or on the Paradise Birding website paradisebirding.com. For questions, call Janine Free (760-908-7334), or Steve Shunk (541-408-1753).

OCEANSIDE HARBOR BIRD WALK

Sunday, February 8—8 a.m.

The Oceanside harbor and the mouth of the San Luis Rey River are great places to visit in February to see various species of gulls, terns, and wintering shorebirds in close association. Every winter, a few exciting-to-find gull species, like glaucous, glaucous-winged, Thayer's, and mew, show up in this location. Come and work on your gull identification skills, and hopefully pick up a few rarities in the process.

Directions: From I-5, take Harbor Dr. exit west; turn left into harbor area and bear left. At Joe's Crab Shack, turn left under the RR tracks and enter the free parking lot. Walk back through the tunnel and bear left, following the sidewalk on the south side of the shops. Meet on the N. Pacific St. Bridge over the San Luis Rey River

Leader: Steve Brad, 760-633-1639. Day-of-trip, 760-274-5256



J.J. Springer

BASIC BIRDING WORKSHOP AND BUENA VISTA LAGOON BIRD COUNT

Saturday, February 28—8 a.m.

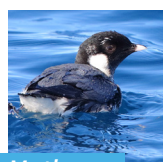
Join the BVAS birders for our basic birding workshop and bird count at Buena Vista Lagoon. No experience necessary. We meet at the Nature Center at 8 a.m. and then caravan around the lagoon to a series of selected stops for some friendly, informal, no-pressure birding.

Directions: Meet at the Nature Center parking lot, 2202 South Coast Hwy., Oceanside.

Leaders: Joan Fountain, 760-729-1379; Tom Troy, 760-420-7328.



Mike Martin



Mathew Binns

2015 BVAS PELAGIC BIRD TRIPS

The 2015 schedule of BVAS-sponsored pelagic bird trips will be finalized soon.

For schedules, fees, and all pelagic birding info, visit: socalbirding.com.

Sign up at Pt. Loma Sportfishing: 619-223-1627.

BIRDING IN FEBRUARY

It's still winter. Most birds present are year-round residents or wintering migrants. This is the beginning of courtship and nesting behavior for some early-breeding species like hummingbirds, owls, hawks, egrets, and herons. As February progresses long distance migrants begin to appear. Swallows begin to arrive in numbers in mid-month, so begin to look for them flying overhead (especially over water) and swooping down to take insects on the wing. February is also a good month for comparison gull-watching at North County lagoon inlets, where an assortment of species of varying ages and plumages gather to loaf and preen.

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. The BVAS Nature Center and its programs will receive 100% of my contribution. Minimum donation suggested: \$25.

My donation: \$ 25 ____ \$50 ____ \$ 100 ____ Other: ____

Name _____

Address _____ City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____ *E-mail _____

*Please send me the digital edition of the Lagoon Flyer by e-mail each month to save the environment and BVAS the printing costs.

Please bill my credit card: Card Exp. Date: _____ CRN _____

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

RIDGWAY RAIL SOCIETY

\$50,000 RECEIVED FOR LAGOON PARCEL

BVAS has received another \$50,000 grant to go toward purchase of the 3.5-acre parcel of land next to the Buena Vista Lagoon! Trustees of the Wimberly Wildlife Fund announced the special grant award to BVAS in January. The Fund is administered through Audubon California.

This is the third \$50,000 grant received by BVAS in support of its land acquisition campaign, with earlier grants having been received from Preserve Calavera and North County Advocates. A \$10,000 pledge was also received earlier from the Buena Vista Lagoon Foundation. BVAS advanced \$50,000 to the cause when it initially acquired purchase options on the two properties being sought. In addition, the Navy has pledged up to \$2 million to cover half of the acquisition cost and all of the cost of restoration and management of the Whelan Lake parcel

By year's end, enrollment in the BVAS Ridgway's Rail Society was closing in on 200 members, representing almost \$60,000 in donations to the Ridgway's Rail Society from the community. Together with the money raised from grants and pledges, \$270,000 has now been raised for purchase of the lagoon parcel. The enthusiastic and generous support from the community will be an important consideration for the agencies being asked to provide the bulk of funding needed to acquire this land. The agencies were scheduled for a site visit to the lagoon parcel in January.

Recent gifts included those in memory of Mr. Lawrey Gay of Oceanside, Joseph Shubert, and Thelma I. Hayes. BVAS also received a Ridgway's Rail Society gift membership donated in honor of Tim Stockley of Great Britain.

RECENT CONTRIBUTIONS

Received through December 31:

\$1,000-\$2,499: Anonymous; Marilyn Lee Frerking, in memory of Lawrey Gay; Vicki Vkrivoski & William Smith.

\$500-\$999: Rosalyn Dong; Jeanine Dreifuss; Audrey A. Terras; Richard Mayer; Fred & Carol Roberts; Eleanor Schubert, in memory of Joseph Schubert.

\$100-\$499: Susie Armstrong & Keith Marzullo; Laurie and J.D. Boone; Leila Dooley; Bob & Joanne Eggert; Linda & Clyde Hill; William & Nancy Jones; Barbara Meinke; Natalie Shapiro; Anne Stockley, in honor of Tim Stockley.

\$1-\$99: R.M. & P.M. Cook; Kathleen Dickey; Carl Emler; Emily Garnica; John Lindow; Debbie & Garth Maddock; Paul McKeever; Mary & John Mcissac, Jr.; Virginia Murphy, in memory of Thelma I. Hayes; Mary Porter; Cheryl Prince; Frank Wong; Dean & Susan Work.

All donations are greatly appreciated. Thank You!

BVAS RIDGWAY'S RAIL SOCIETY FUND

Name: _____ Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Amount \$ _____ Check/Card # _____ Exp. Date _____ CVR _____

Donations are fully tax-deductible and will be placed in the BVAS Ridgway's Rail Society Fund to be used for future land acquisitions and related expenses, habitat restoration projects, and on-going habitat management costs.

____ I would like to discuss this further. Please contact me.



Want to Support the Fund? Fill out this form.

BVAS NATIVE PLANT CLUB

CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT WORKSHOP

February 26, 10 a.m.- Noon

Anstine-Audubon Nature Preserve



BVAS members are invited to a free, hands-on workshop on how to propagate and grow California native plants. The workshop will be held at the 11.6-acre Anstine-Audubon Nature Preserve, owned and operated by San Diego Audubon. Master Gardener Anne Murphy will lead the class through this step-by-step workshop, utilizing cuttings from the native plants at the Preserve. Sign-up in advance at: www.anstine.eventbrite.com.

Directions: From the I-5 freeway, take Hwy 76, and head east. Go right on East Vista Way, then right on Hutchinson St. Follow Hutchinson St. around the curve, and the preserve is on the left after the wooden fence.

MONTHLY MEETING, FEBRUARY 15—2 P.M.

The Buena Vista Native Plant Club support group regularly meets at the Nature Center at 2 p.m. on the third Sunday of each month. Everyone's welcome, regardless of their native plant knowledge or gardening expertise. Club members answer your questions and help solve your gardening issues, as well as offer tips for native gardening activities appropriate for the season. We always spend time among the native plants in the gardens or along the trails.

GARDEN WORK PARTY

Every Monday - 10 a.m. Monday Morning with the Natives

Interested gardeners are invited to join the gardening group at the Nature Center every Monday at 10 a.m. for some casual gardening and friendly chatter.

PRESCHOOL NATURE STORYTIME

Monday, February 23, 10 a.m.

This month we'll talk about the whales that swim along the ocean just a little ways offshore from our beaches. Have you ever seen one? Come to the Nature Center for our February Nature Storytime for a whale of a story, along with songs, and special craft. And don't forget to try to guess what is in our Surprise Box that morning.

Questions? Call Mary Ellen: 760-918-6622.



KIDS' CORNER AT THE NATURE CENTER

Joey's and Johnny's Clubhouse

Third Sunday, February 15—1-4 p.m.

Kids and parents are invited to stop by the Nature Center for some informal nature fun.



NATURE CENTER VOLUNTEERS

BVAS is all about its wonderful corps of volunteers. We see the friendly hosts at the Nature Center, the Nature Guides who lead student tours of the exhibits and grounds, and the guides who lead our bird walks. They're also the many dedicated souls who do all the behind-the-scenes work—the committees that work on events like the birdhouse auction, the special team that applies labels and sorts the newsletters for mailing. Want to get involved? Call Bob at 760-207-3884 and ask him about the opportunities.

BVAS OFFICERS, BOARD*, AND CHAIRS

President	Dave Billings*	760-753-7925
Vice-President	Dennis Huckabay*	760-757-6437
Secretary	Kathy Billings*	760-753-7925
Treasurer	Sandy McMullen*	760-944-5690
Bird House Auction	Kelly Deveney	760-721-2441
Board Member	Jacques Domerq*	760-583-1961
Center Manager	Annette Schneider	760-945-8891
Christmas Bird Count	Andy Mauro*	760-753-1266
Conservation Co-Chair	Danny DiMento*	858-688-6891
Conservation Co-Chair	Joan Herskowitz*	760-942-5167
Circulation	Lisa Hart	760-945-9601
Education Chair	Fran MacNeel	760-929-9158
Facilities/Exhibits	Danny DiMento*	858-688-6891
Field Trip Leader	Steve Brad*	760-633-1639
Gift Shop	Susie Martin*	760-580-9440
Graphics Coordinator	J.J. Springer	818-859-8244
Library	C. J. DiMento	760-231-9096
Membership	Harvey Hart*	760-945-9601
Migrating Birders Trips	Janine Free*	760-908-7334
Native Plant Club & Native Plant Garden	Joan Bockman*	760-433-9401
Nature Storytime	Mary Ellen Marquand	760-918-6622
Newsletter Editor	Andy Mauro*	akamauro@cox.net
Outreach Booth	Susie Martin*	760-580-9440
Pelagic Birding Programs	socalbirding.com	
Publicity	Dennis Huckabay*	760-757-6437
Ridgway's Rail Society	Open Position	Contact Bob Crowell
Ruddy Duck Club	Andy Mauro*	760-753-1266
Volunteers	Open Position	Contact Bob Crowell
	Bob Crowell*	760-207-3884
		kbcrowell@cox.net
Webmaster	Larry Spann	larry@spannweb.net

BUENA VISTA AUDUBON NATURE CENTER

Tuesday-Saturday — 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Sunday—1 p.m.-4 p.m.

Location:

2202 South Coast Hwy.
Oceanside, CA

(East side of street on north shore of lagoon)

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 480
Oceanside, CA 92049

Phone:

760-439-2473

BVAS Website:

bvaudubon.org
We are also on Facebook!

E-mail:

bvaudubon@sbcglobal.net

LAGOON FLYER

BUENA VISTA AUDUBON SOCIETY

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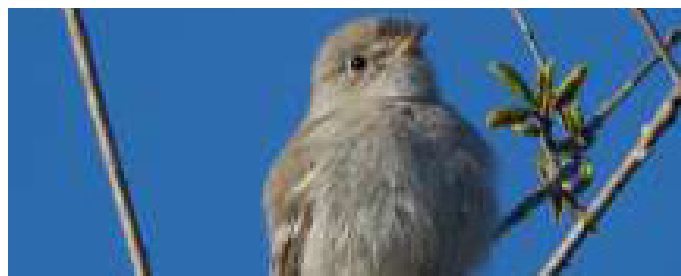
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BVAS QUICK CALENDAR

Fri. Feb. 6	Board Meeting	9 a.m.
Sat. Feb. 7	Whelan Lake Bird Walk	8 a.m.
Sun. Feb. 8	Oceanside Harbor Bird Walk	8 a.m.
Thur. Feb. 12	Second Thursday Surprise Bird Walk	8 a.m.
Fri. Feb. 13	Nature Guides Meeting	9:30 a.m.
Sun. Feb. 15	Joey's and Johnny's Clubhouse	1 p.m.
Sun. Feb. 15	Native Plant Club	2 p.m.
Wed. Feb. 18	General Meeting and Program "The Green Songbook"	6:30 p.m.
Sat. Feb. 21	San Dieguito Bird Walk	8 a.m.
Mon. Feb. 23	Preschool Nature Storytime	10 a.m.
Sat. Feb. 28	Basic Birding and Lagoon Bird Count	8 a.m.

COMING ATTRACTIONS

San Diego Bird Festival - March 5-8, sandiegoaudubon.org
Fifth Annual BVAS Birdhouse Auction - Sat. March 21



RARE FLYCATCHER GREETSD BIRDERS

In January, the BVAS Surprise Bird Walk visited a small oak woodland next to a grassy field near the Elfin Forest Preserve east of Rancho Santa Fe. They were in search of a special bird that Steve Brad had seen during a Christmas Bird Count a few days earlier. This is Steve's photo of their target bird, a handsome little gray flycatcher, a bit removed from its more normal winter range down Mexico way. While gray flycatchers are considered rare in winter, they do show up occasionally. This was a good year in San Diego for the species, as one was also observed at the 14th fairway of the Oceanside Golf Course during the Oceanside CBC. You might think only the best birders get a chance to see rare birds like this. Here's the secret—go on walks with an experienced birder! Steve's Surprise Walk is every second Thursday. You never know where you'll end up, or what special birds you'll see.

Buena Vista Audubon Society

Fundraiser and Open House



FIFTH ANNUAL BIRD HOUSE AUCTION **MAR 21, 2015**
5:00-8:00 PM

Buena Vista Audubon Society Nature Center 2202 S. Coast Hwy, Oceanside

BVAS is soliciting donations of decorative or functional birdhouses, bat houses & feeders for the auction. A limited number of undecorated bird houses are available at the Nature Center for \$8.00. Deadline for dropping off bird houses is February 16. Prizes will be awarded for the top 3 vote getters. Go the www.bvaudubon.org for more information.

- * Silent auction of unique, handcrafted birdhouses, feeders and bat-houses *
- * Hosted bar with specialty beers from Stone Brewing Co. *
- * Live music by "The Endangered Speciez Project" *
- * Wine, cheese and other gourmet treats *
- * \$10 donation for all this and more *

A Way with
Words



bvlagoon@gmail.com
760-439-2473
www.bvaudubon.org



STONE
BREWING CO.

All proceeds benefit the Buena Vista Audubon Society, a non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation dedicated to fostering an appreciation for the plants and animals of our community.