



### CVAS UPDATE

The CVAS board misses all of you very much during this time. The board has started virtual Zoom meetings to discuss how we can resume activities next year. It's early to discuss details. But after the summer break we'll have more news in the September newsletter.

#### Virtual Bird-friendly Garden Tour with WFVZ

The 2020 virtual garden tour was a big success. This was a joint venture of CVAS and the Western Foundation. All of the hosts from the 2019 tour participated as well as well as new hosts. The photo below is from the 2019, since we could not do a group shot this year.

Much appreciation goes to Jennifer de la Torre on the far left of CVAS and Linnea Hall on the far right of the Western Foundation for their leadership. As well here is a special shout-out to Shannon Morris of the Western Foundation, fourth from the left, who once again handled all of the reservations.

Pictures from the tour follow on the next pages.



### Conservation Birding is Big

by Dee Lyon

The US Forest Service estimates that about 80 million Americans are involved in birding each year. It might involve backyard bird feeding, building or installing nest boxes or hiking in a wildlife area to photograph birds.

In any event, birding is for all ages regardless of physical ability. It can be as easy as sitting in a chair in your living room watching birds eat from feeders. Or it can be as challenging as stalking rare birds in the Andes.

Cornell University wants your help if you are a birder. Each year the Lab of Ornithology seeks volunteers from November through April to count birds at their feeders and report to the lab. Go to [FeederWatch.org](http://FeederWatch.org). The bird scientists then use the information to estimate regional numbers and the health of wild birds. Additionally, <http://birds.cornell.edu> provides interesting information such as rare birds that have been spotted.

#### Peter Thayer Software

Once upon a time before smart phones, world-birder Peter Thayer created a wonderful computer-based set of software about North American Birds. Thayer Birding Software includes comprehensive info, photos, videos and bird sounds. The many quizzes are fun and educational and can be set for all levels. While many digital platforms were updated for smartphones Pete kept improving his software for PC and Mac only. As part of Pete's retirement phase-out plan, he has made his software available for everyone to download. Just got to <https://www.thayerbirding.com>

**HERE ARE PHOTOS FROM OUR  
2020 VIRTUAL GARDEN TOUR**



**The Hermit Thrush Garden**



**The Egret Garden**



**The Lincoln Sparrow's Garden**



**The Great Blue Heron Garden**



**The Bluebird Garden**



**The Kingfisher Garden**





**The Thrasher Garden**



**The Oak Titmouse Garden**



**The Roadrunner Garden**



**The Bewick's Wren Garden**



**The Bewick's Wren Garden**





**The Hermit Thrush Garden**



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# ROADRUNNER

June , 2020

Conejo Valley Audubon Society, Inc.  
 P.O. Box 4782  
 Thousand Oaks, CA 91359

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Except for Carol Langford – must add @conejovalleyaudubon.org after every username above

Regular meetings are held on the first Monday evening of each month (except June, July, August) at the Western Foundation of Vertebrate Zoology, 439 Calle San Pablo, Camarillo at 7:30 pm, unless otherwise noted. **Everyone is welcome.** Take Pleasant Valley Road or Lewis Road to where they cross south of the 101 Freeway. Go west to the second street, Calle San Pablo. Turn right. The Foundation is the fifth building on the left.

The Western Foundation of Vertebrate Zoology is a non-profit organization founded in 1956 to promote the study and conservation of birds and other vertebrates. The organization makes contributions in the areas of natural history collections, original research, and conservation.

The *Roadrunner* is published monthly except July and August by the Conejo Valley Audubon Society. It is sent to paid CVAS members only. Members are invited to submit articles, announcements, letters, photos, and drawings for publication consideration. Copy deadline is the 5th of the month. Send items to Gary Evans, 29 Sabra Ave., Oak Park, Calif. 91377-1126 or by E-mail: GaryE@ConejoValleyAudubon.org.

For information on joining the National Audubon Society, please go to [www.audubon.org](http://www.audubon.org)

**CONEJO VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

Please enroll me as a member of Conejo Valley Audubon Society. I have enclosed \$20 for a family membership.

Additional Gift: \_\_\_\$25.00 \_\_\_\$50.00 \_\_\_\$75.00 \_\_\_\$100.00 \$\_\_\_\_\_ Other

Membership \$\_\_\_\_\_ Donation \$\_\_\_\_\_ Total (check payable to CVAS) \$\_\_\_\_\_

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