



ROADRUNNER

FOUNDED 1968

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VOL. 50

March 2020

No. 7

General Meeting, Mar. 2

Western Foundation

Frank DeMartino

Fly me to the moon

Bird migration myths and realities



Migration is one of the most amazing feats that birds perform. Humanity has been fascinated by the pattern of appearing and disappearing birds for millennia. Understanding migration is a key step to realizing the challenges and threats that birds deal with on a regular basis. We will look at some of the myths that have surrounded migration through the ages and some that persist even today. We will highlight some of the many obstacles migrating birds face and the incredible ways that they have evolved to deal with them. Finally, we will look at current conservation issues that pertain

to migration and at current conservation efforts like Cornell's *Seven Simple Actions to Bring Birds Back*.

Frank DeMartino is an avid birdwatcher whose passion for birds has led him to serve on the board for both Ventura Audubon Society and the Conejo Valley Audubon Society. Currently he serves as President for CVAS and has opened a Wild Birds Unlimited store in Ventura in 2017.

Garden Tour

BIRD-FRIENDLY GARDEN TOUR

This year's tour will be double the fun, as it will be extended to two days so we can tour more gardens!

SATURDAY, APRIL 18th, 2020 from 9 AM until 3 PM – Oak Park, Agoura Hills & Thousand Oaks

SUNDAY, APRIL 19th, 2020 from 9 AM until 3 PM – Simi, Moorpark & Camarillo

The Conejo Valley Audubon Society will again be partnering with the Western Foundation of Vertebrate Zoology as we host our third Bird Friendly Garden Tour.

March

Mar. 2	5:15 pm	Pre-meeting dinner: Ottavios
Mar. 2	7:30 pm	General Meeting WFWZ
Mar. 8	8:00 am	Rustic Canyon Gold Course
Mar 11	8:00 am	Beginning Bird Walk
Mar 14	5:30 pm	Auction Dinner
Mar 21	8:00 am	Lake Piru
Mar 28	8:00 am	Beginning Birding Class
Mar 29	8:30 am	Arroyo Verde Park

Pre meeting Dinner

Ottavio's in Camarillo at 5:15 pm

Call **Nobuko McClure**
For Reservations (805) 482-0411
Reservation Deadline: 9:00 am
Day of General Meeting

Our tour will feature residential yards and one native plant nursery. The gardens all provide habitat for our native birds and demonstrates the use of drought tolerant native and non-native plants, along with a few water features. We invite you to visit the gardens in the order of your choice.

CVAS members are encouraged to bring a friend who may be interested in birds, gardens or perhaps installing a “bird-friendly” yard of their own. To paraphrase the film *Field of Dreams*, “If you build it, they will come!”

Each guest will receive the following documents electronically:

- Garden addresses (including any special circumstances a property may have - such as bees or horses on site, limited parking, etc.)
- A plant list for each respective garden
- Information on native plants and local resources
- A coupon for a 20% discount coupon (for non-sale plants) at Matilija Nursery
- Membership forms for CVAS and WFVZ

We will feature SIX anchor plants on this tour. A matrix of these six plants and which birds they may attract will be included in the handout. *These six anchor plants will be labeled at each site so that you may see the variety and age of the plant.*

Each garden will have a bird list on display to let you know which birds have visited the garden in the past.

Each host garden will have a donation jar on site. **Donations are encouraged** and will support the CVAS “Lawns to Habitat Program” as well as funding for educational programs

promoted by both CVAS and WFVZ. You do not need to donate at each site – one donation is plenty and greatly appreciated.

Hosts will be present to answer questions about plant species, maintenance, upkeep, irrigation and installation. All hosts and volunteers will be wearing nametags.

We hope our bird-friendly garden tour will inspire you to install a habitat of your own. Stay tuned for news about the **CVAS Lawns To Habitat** restoration program this summer. If your application is approved, you can receive design assistance plus \$200 of native plants in the fall. Or, if your garden is already planted you can encourage a friend to apply.

IMPORTANT NOTES:

- *Sorry, **restroom facilities will not be available.***
- ***No dogs** will be allowed in any of the gardens.*
- *Plant photography is encouraged.*

If you are planning to attend the tour, **please RSVP with your first and last name, the names of guests you will be bringing, a contact e-mail and a phone number to cvasgardentour@gmail.com NO LATER THAN April 10th, 2020.**

The tour will be limited to 300 guests, so please make your reservation soon!

You will receive an e-mail containing the tour addresses by April 15th.

Carpooling is encouraged as parking may be limited at some of the garden locations.



CVAS EVENTS

Everyone is welcome to attend any CVAS meeting or field trip. CVAS assumes no responsibility for injuries, personal or otherwise, incurred while attend a society-sponsored activity and will not be held liable for such accidents. One attends at one's own risk.

Sunday, March 8, 8:00 a.m. Rustic Canyon Golf Course/Happy Camp

Our walk will begin adjacent to the golf course and continue through the open space beyond. The trail passes through coastal sage scrub and eventually enters oak woodland and riparian habitat as Rustic Canyon turns eastward. Flycatchers, warblers, goldfinches, towhees and other sparrows will likely be present. We may glimpse California Quail, California Thrasher, Phainopepla, Greater Roadrunner and Loggerhead Shrike. Several species of raptors are possible, including breeding Great Horned Owl and Red-tailed Hawk, or even a flyover by a Golden Eagle. Directions: From Hwy 118 in Moorpark, turn north on Princeton Ave. and then left on Campus Park Dr. Meet at the trailhead parking lot (to the right of the golf course entrance). Trip leader: Don Klabunde (805) 522-8023.

Wednesday, March 11, 8:00 a.m. Rancho Sierra Vista/Satwiwa

Conejo Valley Audubon invites birders of all experience levels to attend our monthly Beginner Bird Walks at Rancho Sierra Vista/Satwiwa. These walks are held on the second Wednesday of each month. As usual, we will meet at 8:00 am at the main parking lot, which is accessible off Lynn Road at Via Goleta in Newbury Park. Rancho Sierra Vista is an excellent place to see many of the oak woodlands birds that are common in the Conejo Valley area. We will take time to introduce beginning birders to these species and will teach the best techniques for locating and identifying them. If you have binoculars please bring them. A few pairs of loaner binoculars will be available. Wear comfortable walking shoes. No sign-up is needed; just show up. In the event of heavy rain, we will cancel the walk. The walk will be led by Richard Armerding (310) 701-3878.

No walk the weekend of Saturday - Sunday, March 14-15. Join us instead at our annual dinner and auction on Saturday, March 14!

Saturday, March 21, 8:00 a.m. Lake Piru

Meet at Las Posas Park and Ride at 7:00 a.m. to carpool, or at Lake Piru at 8:00 am. If you would like to carpool from Simi Valley, please contact the trip leader to make arrangements. Entry fee is \$10 between October and April, but the Parks Management Company is graciously extending a discount of \$5 to Conejo Valley Audubon Society on the morning of March 21 only. Please mention that you are participating in the CVAS bird walk when you speak with staff at the entrance station to receive the discount. Depending on enthusiasm, we may walk a mile or two in total. On last year's trip we saw or heard more than 70 species, including California Condor, Bald Eagle, White-tailed Kite, Vermilion Flycatcher, Lawrence's Goldfinch, Red-breasted Sapsucker, Phainopepla, Violet-green Swallow, Bullock's Oriole and plenty of sparrows, grebes, and other waterfowl. Directions to Lake Piru: Take Highway 126 to Piru, turn north on Main Street, which in 1.2 miles becomes Piru Canyon Road. Follow Piru Canyon Road approximately 7.75 miles to the Lake Piru entrance station. After paying the entrance fee, proceed to the first right turn, toward the boat launch ramp and park in the lot next to the Lake Store. We will assemble here and condense into fewer vehicles to carpool further into the recreation area. If you arrive late and do not find us there, continue along Piru Canyon Road for about half a mile or a little more until you see the group in a large picnic area on the right side of the road with a grove of sycamores, restrooms, and a children's play area. Please note that there is no cell phone reception at Lake Piru. Trip leader: Pete Robertshaw (909) 771-9720.

Sunday, March 29, 8:30 a.m. Arroyo Verde Park 5000 Foothill Road, Ventura

Let's explore how this park in the Ventura foothills is recovering after the Thomas Fire of December 2017. As usual, all birding skill levels are welcome. We may cover a good distance, so be sure to wear comfortable walking shoes and bring water.

Habitats include coastal sage scrub, chaparral, some native oaks, and landscaped areas. We will look for California Quail, Band-tailed Pigeon, Western Bluebird, American Robin, Hermit Thrush, orioles, warblers and sparrows. With any luck, the Painted Redstart will still be present. There is a \$2/hour fee to park on the weekends (maximum \$5/day), but you can park outside on Foothill Road just east of Day Road and walk in for free. We will meet at the first parking lot on the left once you enter the park. To get there, take the 101 Freeway to Victoria Avenue and exit, going toward the hills. At Foothill Road turn left and continue to the signal at Day Road. Turn right at Day Road, going into the park. Trip leader: David Torfeh, (805) 794-5334.

2020 Beginning Bird Identification Class

Conejo Valley Audubon Society (CVAS), in conjunction with the Conejo Valley Botanic Garden, is offering a series of three classes on bird identification. These classes will help beginners learn to identify our local bird species and introduce them to nearby birding locations. Knowledgeable birder Bonnie Clarfield-Bylin will present the first class. Richard Armerding and Don Klabunde will present the second and third classes, respectively. The class dates are Saturday, March 7, Saturday, March 21 and Saturday, March 28, 2020. Each class will go from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. The first class will be at the Botanic Garden, 400 W. Gainsborough Road. Follow signs to the Kids' Adventure Garden. Directions to the second and third classes will be provided at the first class. Wear comfortable walking shoes and be prepared for warm or cool weather. If you have binoculars, bring them. Otherwise, binoculars will be loaned out during class. The classes are limited to 25 people, so contact Dee Lyon at 805-499-2165 to reserve your spot. We ask that you donate \$25 to the Conejo Valley Botanic Garden for the three classes or \$10 per class if you are unable to attend all three.



Birdwatching *from Wikipedia*



Conservation

by Dee Lyon

Beat Climate Change (Part 2)

Shift 85% of the world's energy to non-fossil fuel sources. Site clean energy facilities on already developed land like city rooftops. Climate will stabilize and in addition air pollution will drop by 90%.

Relocate where crops are grown such that each nation produces its crops where conditions are most suitable. Food production will meet human needs while requiring less water, land and fertilizer.

Adopt sustainable management practices in all existing fisheries to protect wild fish stocks and boost yields over the long term. Annual yields from fisheries will increase 41%

The Biggest Little Farm

CLU (Preus-Brandt Forum bldg.)

Friday, March 20, 7:00 pm

CLU is hosting a showing of the movie *The Biggest Little Farm* as part of its Reel Justice Film Series. This movie chronicles the eight-year quest of John and Molly Chester. They trade city living for their dream to harvest in harmony with nature on 200 acres of barren farmland in Moorpark, California. Featuring breathtaking landscapes and captivating animals, the film offers a blueprint for better living and a healthier planet. A question and answer session with the writer and director, Emmy award-winning filmmaker John Chester, follows the screening. Admission is free.

CONEJO VALLEY AUDUBON
Invites You To Our

ANNUAL COCKTAIL DINNER and AUCTION

SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 2020
at
PALM GARDEN HOTEL

495 Ventu Park Road, Thousand Oaks, CA 91320

No-host Cocktails at **5:30 PM** and Dinner at **6:30 PM**

Tickets \$45.00

(Earlybird special **\$40.00** before February 23)

5 Free Raffle Tickets
for each first-time guest

To donate items for auction
contact the Klabundes at
(805)-522-8023
or dpklabunde@msn.com

also bring birdy white elephants
for the raffle table

With your Entrée, the
Buffet Service includes
Seasoned Vegetables,
Salad, Roast Potatoes,
Freshly Baked Bread
and Coffee or Tea
plus Dessert.

Entrée Codes:

Buf: Wild Salmon and
Roast Beef will be on
the Buffet Table.

Veg: Special order
Vegetarian Entree can
be provided

Please fill out this form and mail it with your check (payable to CVAS) to CVAS, P.O. Box 4782,
Thousand Oaks, CA 91359 or register at Conejovalleyaudubon.org (we take PayPal)
Enter names as you would like them to appear on your place card and select an entrée.

Contact Phone # _____

Name _____ Entrée Code _____

Name _____ Entrée Code _____

Name _____ Entrée Code _____

Name _____ Entrée Code _____

Name _____ Entrée Code _____

Thanks for your support!!!

March, 2020

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

Officers and Committee Chairs

President	Frank DeMartino	
Vice Pres	OPEN position	
Secretary	OPEN position	
Treasurer	Richard Armerding	
Programs	Chrystal Klabunde	805-522-8023
Graphic Arts	Chrystal Klabunde	805-522-8023
Conservation	Dee Lyon	805-499-2165
Education	Thelma Williams	805-492-2796
Field trips	Angela Bonfiglio Allen	
Publicity	Karen Rusch	805-208-1851
Newsletter	Gary Evans	805-231-5692
Membership	Jean Stoutenborough	
	Catherine Armerding	
Librarian	Jean Stoutenborough	
Photographer	Don Klabunde	805-522-8023
Webmaster	Frank DeMartino	
Facebook admin	Matthew Page	
member at large	Carol Langford	360-742-6059
member at large	Bonnie Clarfield-Bylin	805-405-5632
member at large	Nobuko McClure	805-482-0411

Username

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vice-president
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chickadee
thelma
fieldtrips
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newsletter
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photographer
webmaster
media
carol.lee.langford@gmail.com

2 bonnie
1 nobuko



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

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
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Membership \$	Donation \$	Total (check payable to CVAS) \$
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Mail to: CVAS, P.O. Box 4782, Thousand Oaks, CA 91359 | ☐ Check to receive newsletter by mail

Name _____ Otherwise newsletter will come by email _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

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