

ROADRUNNER

FOUNDED 1968

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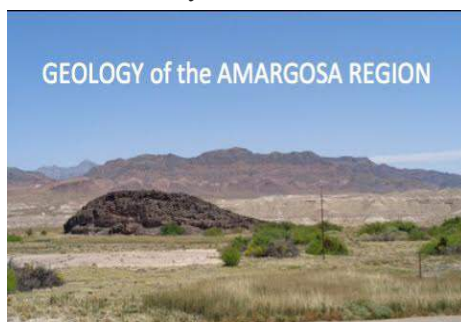
October, 2019

No. 2

General Meeting, Oct. 7 Western Foundation Geology of the Amargosa Region

The barren and colorful Amargosa Desert southeast of Death Valley is a geologist's playground. It is important ecologically due to perennial water flow through Amargosa Canyon. Bill Neill will outline the area's long and dramatic geological history, which connects to that of all of western North America. He will close by describing the transition since the 1970's from a mining economy to eco-tourism.

Bill studied geology at UCLA and Stanford University. Then he was employed as a petroleum engineer for twenty years. He has been active for 36 years working at controlling invasive wildland weeds and exotic trees in native areas. He has served as co-president of the LA/SMM CNPS chapter since January. Since 2014 he has been director of the Amargosa Conservancy.



October 2019

Oct. 6	8:00 am	Laguna Tams and Oxnard Plain
Oct. 7	5:15 pm	Pre-meeting dinner: Ottavios
Oct. 7	7:30 pm	General Meeting WFVZ
Oct 9	8:00 am	Beginning Bird Walk
Oct 13	7:45 am	Matilija Creek
Oct 19	8:00 am	Arroyo Simi (Madera)
Oct 26	3:00 pm	Rancho Sierra Vista (Satwiwa)

Conservation by Dee Lyon Fix those Leaky Pipes

Twenty percent of clean water globally is lost to leaks.

Pipes under city streets leak a total of 9 trillion gallons of water each year. That adds up to 14 billion dollars of lost water! That's enough to fill Hoover Dam's reservoir.

You Wu, cofounder of Watchtower Robotics, has developed a small robot that feeds through a water hydrant, becomes water propelled and maps leak locations in 3D. It finds leaks from inside pipes before they burst.

There is much underground damage to city streets. The wasted water could be kept in rivers and other waterways to support nature all around the world. Stopping even half those leaks could meet the daily needs of hundreds of millions of people.

Seems like a no brainer for city water departments to deploy those robots in old infrastructure.



*****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

CVAS Events

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

Sunday, October 6, 8:00 am Laguna Tams and Oxnard Plain

We will visit the Laguna Tams, noted for producing a wide variety of migrating warblers, vireos and sparrows, before trying the sod fields for pipits and plovers. We will then work our way down Arnold Road, where we can find warblers, sparrows and perhaps something unexpected. Meet at the Las Posas Park and Ride to carpool at 7:30 am. Trip leader is Matthew Page (805) 990-6534

Beginning Bird Walk Rancho Sierra Vista/ Satwiwa Wednesday October 9

Conejo Valley Audubon invites birders of all experience levels to attend our monthly Beginner Bird Walks at Rancho Sierra Vista/ Satwiwa. These bird walks are held on the second Wednesday of the 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 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 leader will be Richard Armerding (310) 701-3878

Sunday, October 13, 7:45 am Matilija Creek

Matilija Creek is a major tributary to the Ventura River, located off Highway 33 a short distance from Ojai. We will explore the riparian

habitat and lake upstream of Matilija Dam, which hosts a diverse array of birds, aquatic life and native plants. The cattail marsh just behind the lake provides habitat for Least Bitterns, Sora and Virginia Rail (which breed here). The alder/cottonwood /willow gallery forest along the creek is an excellent place to look for migrants. Abundant rainfall this season means the creek will be flowing and the area will be wet, so wear appropriate footgear (sturdy rubber boots if you have them). To date 145 species have been recorded there. Newest additions to the list last fall include Black and White, Chestnut-sided, Blackpoll and Parula Warblers. The chaparral-dominated slopes and mountains above the creek (yes, Mountain Quail can be heard) will provide a scenic backdrop to our birding adventure. This is very important we will traverse uneven ground, walking on cobbles, stepping over fallen limbs and perhaps crossing wet areas. Not for the faint of heart. There is little parking, so we will meet at Nordhoff High School, 1401 Maricopa Hwy, in Ojai at 7:45 am to consolidate into fewer vehicles and carpool to the site. There are no restrooms on site so we suggest you use the Shell station in Oak View. If you would like to carpool from the lowlands meet at the Las Posas Park and Ride by 7:00 am. Trip leader is Jesse Grantham, (805) 746-0975. A checklist can be downloaded from eBird. Go to Hotspots, enter Matilija Riparian and Lake and follow links.

Saturday, October 19, 8:00 am Arroyo Simi (Madera)

Arroyo Simi has a great assortment of shorebirds, ducks, herons and gulls. It is easily accessed via a level bike path that runs from Madera Street to First Street and on through most of Simi Valley. We will walk slowly along the mostly natural-bottomed channel scanning for birds and taking our time to learn better identification skills. Expected species include Green Heron, Black-necked Stilt, Belted Kingfisher and White-face Ibis. Possible birds include Hooded Merganser and Blue-winged Teal. Meet at the entrance to the bike path at Easy Street in Simi Valley, just east of Madera Road. October 19 also happens to be Global Big Day, so our observations will

contribute to the day's worldwide tally!
Trip leader is Don Klabunde (805) 522-8023

Saturday, October 26, 3:00 pm – 5:30 pm
Rancho Sierra Vista/Satwiwa

Have you ever found it difficult to decide between birding and sleeping in on your precious weekend mornings? Now you can do both! Join us for late afternoon birding at Rancho Sierra Vista/Satwiwa, where we will look for Greater Roadrunner, Western Meadowlark, California Thrasher and Western Bluebird. Other target species include Loggerhead Shrike, White-tailed Kite, Red-shouldered Hawk and a variety of sparrows and woodpeckers. Perhaps we'll spy an owl or hear a Common Poorwill as sunset approaches. If you're hungry and/or thirsty afterward, join us at 6:00 pm at Brendon's Irish Pub and Restaurant, 495 N Ventu Park Rd, Newbury Park, 805-498-5050 (to ensure enough table space, please RSVP to fieldtrips@conejovalleyaudubon.org). The walk is free, but your meal and drinks are on you. Directions for meeting at the Wendy Trailhead: Highway 101 to Wendy Drive exit in Thousand Oaks, then south on Wendy Drive to the dirt pullout at the intersection with Potrero Road. Trip leaders: Bonnie Clarfield-Bylin and Stephen Bylin, (805) 405-5632



Lewis's Woodpecker *by Don Klabunde*



California Quail *by Don Klabunde*



White-tailed Kite *by Don Klabunde*



Turkey Vulture *by Don Klabunde*

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October , 2019

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

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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