



ROADRUNNER

FOUNDED 1968

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visit us at: www.ConejoValleyAudubon.org or www.facebook.com/ConejoValleyAudubon

Volume 52, Number 1

September, 2020

CALENDAR

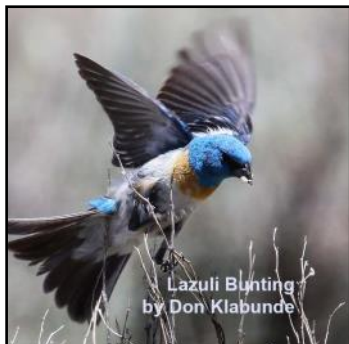
Aug. 18, 7:00 pm
Board Meeting via zoom
everyone's welcome
contact Richard for invite

Aug. 27, 7:00 pm
Zoom Practice Session
see easy instructions →

Sep. 7
Labor Day

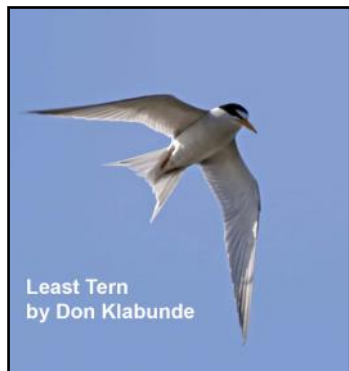
Sep. 14, 7:30 pm
General Meeting via zoom
Member Show & Tell
see easy instructions →

Sep. 9, 8:00 am
Rancho Sierra Vista/Satwiwa
Beginner Bird Walk



Lazuli Bunting
by Don Klabunde

Sep. 19, 9:00 am
Santa Clara River Estuary



Least Tern
by Don Klabunde

CVAS MEETINGS IN THE TIME OF COVID

For health and safety, we will be conducting our CVAS Monthly Programs online using Zoom, which is a computer tool that allows you to meet with other people online. Zoom can be used on a computer, tablet or smartphone. We will send out an email prior to each meeting with instructions for joining the meeting. If you are not familiar with Zoom, we will be having a practice session in August so you can become familiar with it before the first meeting in September. This practice session will be on August 27th at 7:00pm. The link to join the practice session is the same as you will use to join the Monthly Programs: <https://zoom.us/j/6155249106>

When you join the meeting, you will be able to hear and see the presenter on your computer. If your computer has a microphone or camera, you will also be given the choice of whether other meeting participants can hear or see you. However, in most cases we will be muting all meeting participants except for the presenter.

If you have never used Zoom before, you may wish to watch this video for some tips: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9isp3qPeQ0E>

SEPTEMBER GENERAL MEETING

MEMBER SHOW & TELL

Each September, our first meeting of the season is dedicated to the birding trips and adventures of our members, so you are invited to submit your recent, or not-so-recent photos. This year's show & tell will be conducted over zoom. Those who wish to share, please contact Don Klabunde, at username [Photographer](https://www.facebook.com/Photographer) plus [@ConejoValleyAudubon.org](https://www.facebook.com/ConejoValleyAudubon.org) (see page 5) for instructions and the link where you can upload your files. You'll be able to narrate your show during the zoom meeting.

The word is that our fantastic David Pereksta will have some goodies to show.

ANNUAL CVAS MEMBERSHIP DUES REMINDER

Since 2012, the CVAS membership year has matched our activity year (September to August). So for most members, your dues are now payable. To continue receiving this newsletter, either pay online at:

www.ConejoValleyAudubon.org

or use the CVAS Membership Application on page 5. If you have questions, contact your Membership Chair at:

username [Membership](https://www.facebook.com/Membership) plus [@ConejoValleyAudubon.org](https://www.facebook.com/ConejoValleyAudubon.org). (see page 5)

SEPTEMBER 2020 TRIP DESCRIPTIONS

CVAS will take a new approach to birding trips now that we are living with a pandemic. **Each trip will be limited to 15 people maximum, and thus will require advance registration with the trip leader.** Since it will be hard to share guidebooks, we encourage you to bring your own or download one on your mobile phone (the Sibley guide is available as a book and an application for both Android and iPhone). Also, for safety we will not have extra binoculars to share, so please be sure to bring your own pair. Finally, given social distancing requirements, it may be difficult to hear each other. If you have a walkie talkie, it might be a good idea to bring that as well.

While you are out birding, please take precautions to ensure your wellbeing and that of those around you by wearing a mask over your nose and mouth and being prepared to follow these guidelines from ebird.org:

- **Keep your optics to yourself.** Don't share your scope, binoculars, or camera with others; disinfect the eye caps of your optics after each birding trip.
 - **Maintain distance.** If you are birding near others (whether they are birders or not), maintain at least 6 feet of space between yourself and other people at all times. Take turns at blinds, shelters, and in other situations where proper distancing may not be possible.
 - **Avoid touching communal surfaces.** This includes railings, doorknobs, handles, and other frequently used areas of public sites. If you touch these surfaces, wash your hands and/or use hand sanitizer immediately.
 - **Respect restrictions and closures.** Check if your favorite park, trail, or wildlife refuge is still open before heading outside. Plan your birding trips in accordance with the latest recommendations of your local authorities.
- Share checklists, not phones:** eBird Mobile users should avoid passing phones to review checklists for the time being. Confirm lists verbally before submission and if you need to make changes after you submit, it is easy to [share and correct lists](#) on the eBird Mobile app!

Wednesday, September 9, 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. 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. Wear comfortable walking shoes. **Please register in advance by contacting walk leader Richard Armerding at (310) 701-3878.**

Saturday, September 19, 9:00 a.m. - Santa Clara River Estuary

The Santa Clara River Estuary produces some of the most diverse observations of ducks, sandpipers, terns, gulls, plovers and other shorebirds in the county. We'll meet at Surfer's Knoll at 9 am and walk down to the estuary after peeking over the fence into the Ventura Settling Ponds. The estuary should be a great place to see Elegant, Forster's and Caspian Terns, Brown Pelicans, Western, California, and Ring-billed Gulls, Ruddy Ducks, Whimbrels, Long-billed Curlews, American Avocets, and Western & Least Sandpipers. We may even spot a Peregrine Falcon. Directions: from the 101 freeway, exit Seaward Ave. and proceed south to Harbor Blvd. Turn left and continue to Spinnaker Dr., turning right to enter the harbor area. Drive past the Surfer's Knoll parking area on the left and make a U-turn to double back and enter the parking lot. **Please register in advance by contacting walk leader Frank DeMartino at (856) 906-8733.**



Snowy Plovers
by Don Klabunde

WARBLER BINGO

Fall migration is nearly upon us once again! In Ventura County that means hundreds of warblers chipping their way through our county. We're bringing back our simple, yet challenging, game for birders to play while they are out craning their necks for those elusive little birds. The game is Warbler Bingo! Our game starts on September 1st, so start brushing up on those warbler field marks! Last year, John Mueller claimed a Warbler Bingo victory with a bingo consisting of MacGillivray's Warbler, Nashville Warbler, Northern Waterthrush, Hermit Warbler, and Black-Throated Gray Warbler.

HOW TO PLAY

- **Head** to our website, conejovalleyaudubon.org, and fill out your name and email to receive a game card
- **As** you go out birding after September 1st, simply mark off the birds on your card that you have seen or heard
- **If** you are lucky enough to get five warblers in a row (horizontal, vertical, or diagonal) then email username [webmaster](mailto:webmaster@conejovalleyaudubon.org) plus @conejovalleyaudubon.org (see page 5) and let us know that you have a Warbler Bingo!
- **Our** fall warblers seem to love tamarisks, so be sure to check those places out regularly!
- **Rules of Birding** rely heavily on the honor system and so do we! Please record only birds that you are able to positively ID
- **The** game starts on 9/1/20 and runs through 11/30/20 and sightings only count if they are within that timeframe
- **Only** warblers seen in Ventura County count for our game
- **Only** one Warbler Bingo card allowed per person

PRIZES

The first person to get a Warbler Bingo will receive two free tickets to Conejo Valley Audubon Society's annual dinner and auction in the spring! Tickets are not redeemable for cash, sorry.

The winner will also receive a certificate of accomplishment for their outstanding warbler watching.

Bragging rights are optional.

ANNUAL DINNER / AUCTION UPDATE



Many of you know that last Spring's Annual Dinner and Auction was postponed the very day before it was to happen due to the COVID-19 lockdown. Palm Garden Hotel very graciously rescheduled to October 3rd without extra charge. The way things are going now, that date is likely to change too.

WATCH THIS SPACE

CONSERVATION



It's Fall, 2020, a year like no one expected and our lives have been changed indelibly. As one of the numerous cartoons sent to me over the last 8 months said, "Everyone, in 2015, who had guessed where they might be in 2020 has been wrong." There have been changes made to the board of Conejo Valley Audubon as well. I am Mary Hansen and I am now the point person for all things dealing with conservation. I assume the title that has been so ably filled by Dee Lyon for the past 10 years, one of the many hats she has worn in service to birds and birding. I can only hope to do half as well as she has in reporting to you about the good, the bad and the ugly as it pertains to our county in general and, more specifically, to the birds we treasure.

Just to be sure I was on the right page I looked up the definition of conservation in the Merriam-Webster online dictionary and here is that definition: the protection, preservation, management or restoration of natural environments and the ecological communities that inhabit them. Further, conservation is the protection of things found in nature. It requires the sensible use of all Earth's natural resources: water, soil, minerals, wildlife and forests. People

who care about conservation try to preserve natural resources so those resources will still be around in the future.

That's a pretty broad definition and covers a lot of territory. It, also, offers each of us a myriad of ways we can serve and protect this fragile Earth, our island home. I look forward to exploring the many aspects of conservation through this column. Please feel free to email me with suggestions, comments or concerns at username [Conservation](mailto:Conservation@ConejoValleyAudubon.org) plus @ConejoValleyAudubon.org (see page 5).

LAWNS TO HABITAT GRANTS - 2020

The Conejo Valley Audubon Society is offering its annual Lawns to Habitat Grant Program again this year. 25 grantees will receive a \$200 credit towards approximately 40 1-gallon California Native plants. CVAS consultants will provide design advice on converting your yard to a green, and mostly drought tolerant, bird and wildlife habitat. Consultations will be done outside with masks and social distancing.

If you are interested, see the guidelines and apply online at: www.ConejoValleyAudubon.org



Western Swallowtail
by Ryan Stoutenborough

ROADRUNNER

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

PLACE
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OFFICERS		USERNAMES
President	Frank DeMartino	<i>president</i>
Vice Pres	Richard Armerding	<i>vice president</i>
Secretary	Ann Glass	<i>secretary</i>
Treasurer	David Person	<i>treasurer</i>
COMMITTEE CHAIRS		
Programs	Dee Lyon 805-499-2165	<i>programs</i>
Conservation	Mary Hansen	<i>conservation</i>
Garden Tour	Jennifer de la Torre	<i>garden tour</i>
Education	Thelma Williams 805-492-2796	<i>thelma</i>
Field Trips	Angela Bonfiglio Allen	<i>fieldtrips</i>
Publicity	Ann Glass	<i>publicity</i>
Newsletter	Chrystal Klabunde 805-522-8023	<i>newsletter</i>
Membership	Jean Stoutenborough/Catherine Armerding	<i>membership</i>
Librarian	Jean Stoutenborough	<i>librarian</i>
Photographer	Don Klabunde 805-522-8023	<i>photographer</i>
Webmaster	Richard Armerding	<i>webmaster</i>
Facebook	Matthew Page	<i>media</i>
member at large	Bonnie Clarfield-Bylin 805-405-5632	<i>bonnie</i>
member at large	Nobuko McClure 805-482-0411	<i>nobuko</i>
Newsletter Emeritus	Gary Evans	<i>gary</i>



To contact board members, add @conejovalleyaudubon.org after each username above

EVERYONE IS WELCOME. Under normal circumstances, meetings will be held on the first Monday evening of each month (second Monday when the first one's a holiday) at 7:30 pm, at the Western Foundation of Vertebrate Zoology, 439 Calle San Pablo, Camarillo, CA. Directions: from the corner of Pleasant Valley Road and Lewis Road in Camarillo, go west to the second street, Calle San Pablo, and 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 and dedicated to the study of birds and their habitats. As a world-class natural history collection, they have long made significant contributions to original research, and conservation. They also accept contributions. Visit WVZ.org

The *Roadrunner* is published monthly except July and August by the Conejo Valley Audubon Society. It is sent to paid CVAS members via either email or snailmail. Members are invited to submit articles, reviews, letters, photos etc. for publication consideration. Copy deadline is the 5th of the previous month. Send items to Chrystal Klabunde at newsletter@ConejoValleyAudubon.org, or 1229 Nonchalant Dr., Simi Valley, CA 93065.

For information on joining the **NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY**, please visit www.audubon.org

To join **CONEJO VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY** please visit www.ConejoValleyAudubon.org or mail in this

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Please enroll me as a member of Conejo Valley Audubon Society. I have enclosed \$20 for a family membership. (An additional gift of \$25.00, \$50.00, \$75.00, \$100.00 or any amount would also be greatly appreciated.)

Make check payable to CVAS for membership at \$20.00 plus donation \$? equals a total of \$ _____

Mail to: CVAS, P.O. Box 4782, Thousand Oaks, CA 91365

() [Check here to receive a black and white newsletter by snailmail, otherwise a color version will be sent by email.](#)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email address _____