



ROADRUNNER

FOUNDED 1968

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Volume 52, Number 7

March, 2021

CALENDAR

Mar. 1, 7:30 pm
Monthly Program via zoom
see easy instructions →

Mar. 10, 8:00 am
Beginner Bird Walk-maybe
check with Richard



Laysan Albatross
Don Klubunde

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 have never used Zoom before, you may wish to watch this video for some tips:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9isp3qPeQ0E>

The link to join the Monthly Programs is: <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 and 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.

MARCH MONTHLY PROGRAM AN EVENING WITH ROSEMARY MOSCO

Rosemary Mosco blends science, humor and heart to create books and comics about wildlife. *BirdWatching Magazine* says: "She is the rare humorist who understands nature and biology well enough to make even the most cranky birder crack a smile." Her *Bird and Moon* comics are collected in the book, *Birding Is My Favorite Video Game*, a 2019 ALA Great Graphic Novel for Teens. The *Bird and Moon* comics have also appeared in publications from *Audubon* to *Ranger Rick*.



FEBRUARY BIRDING TRIP NEWS

Due to uncertain COVID 19 restrictions, as of the time of publication, there are no organized CVAS trips scheduled for the month of March.

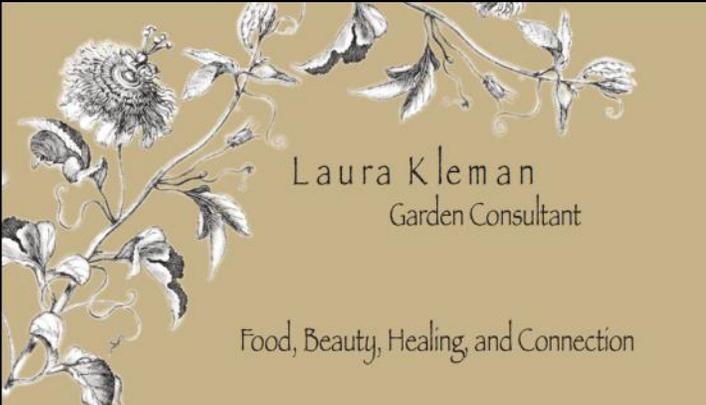
Check with Richard Armerding, close to Wednesday, March 10th, to see if his Beginner Bird Walk will take place on that day. **Be safe. Stay healthy.**

Painted Redstart
Don Klabunde



A FRIENDLY RECOMMENDATION FROM MARY HANSEN

There is little doubt that we will be continuing to avoid large groups and practicing social distancing for the foreseeable future. To that end, Conejo Valley Audubon will once again sponsor a Virtual Native Garden Tour this spring. The importance of planting using native flora cannot be overestimated and Conejo Valley Audubon remains committed to supporting this practice. In the fall twenty-five gardeners were given assistance in purchasing native plants for their gardens as well as consulting help in planning their new gardens. One problem encountered is not everyone has a green thumb (my father once forbade me from entering his garden after I pulled several “weeds” that turned out not to be weeds). If this sounds familiar, Laura Kleman, a local garden consultant, is offering organic, sustainable, regenerative, and custom garden services including garden care, design, and organic, sustainable, regenerative, and custom garden services including garden care, design, and coaching specializing in food, herb, flower, craft and native plants. For more information please check out her website at www.healinggardensconsultant.com.

 <p>Laura Kleman Garden Consultant</p> <p>Food, Beauty, Healing, and Connection</p>	 <p>healinggardensconsultant.com healinggardensconsultant@gmail.com 520-306-6326</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Edible, organic garden and garden program design • Garden education and outreach • Garden consulting and coaching • Garden revitalization, maintenance, and holiday decor
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CONSERVATION

In December it looked like the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) might actually survive the past administration intact. Such was not the case, unfortunately. To quote natlawreview.com: “On 7 January 2021, the Trump administration



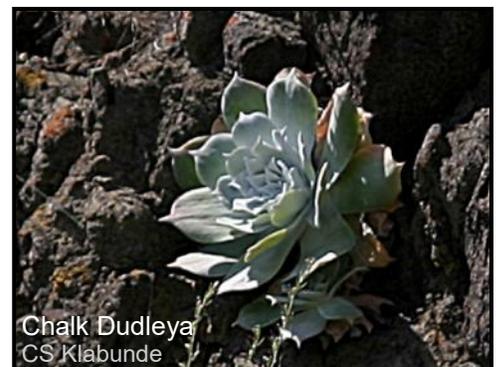
Bufflehead pair
CS Klabunde

finalized a new rule that limits the scope of the MBTA. Under the new rule (which President Biden has already directed the Department of the Interior to review), the Fish and Wildlife Service has declared that the MBTA covers only intentional, and not incidental, take of protected birds, memorializing a memorandum that was rejected by a federal court last August. The new rule — if it withstands legal challenges and efforts by the Biden administration and Congress to reverse it — significantly reduces the activities that would result in liability under the Act, and as a result, reduces the risks businesses and developers face.” The result, also, puts birds more at risk even as we must face the fact that three billion birds have been lost since 1970 due

in large measure to degradation and loss of habitat, as well as predation by domestic and feral cats. To read more on the consequences of the gutting of the MBTA, I refer you to the National Law Review website. The good news is several states and environmental groups have begun work on legal challenges to the new wording of the MBTA.

In other news, the county of Los Angeles has passed legislation to protect the native toyon and elderberry under the Los Angeles Protected Tree Ordinance (PTO). These plants are not only California natives that are fast growing and drought tolerant, but they are very important as major contributors to erosion control after a fire. It would be exciting to see the county of Ventura pursue the same protection as we face an increase in the cycle of drought and wildfires because of climate change.

In a recent posting from the California Native Plant Society (cnps.org), the wholesale poaching of native California *Dudleya* has become a multimillion dollar problem. In an effort to stop the poaching, California Assembly member Christopher Ward (D-San Diego) has introduced AB 223. The bill “gives law enforcement officials and district attorneys the tools necessary for prosecution, and enforces penalties that are large enough to deter poachers...and make sit explicitly unlawful to steal and sell *Dudleya* taken from state, local or private lands, and establishes strong penalties for violations.” As noted in the CNPS article, more than half of California’s species of the *Dudleya* are ranked as rare. Please consider writing to your local state Assembly members in support of AB 223. These include: Steve Bennet (D) for the 37th district, and Jacqui Irwin (D), for the 44th district.



Chalk Dudleya
CS Klabunde

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Conejo Valley Audubon Society, Inc.
P.O. Box 4782
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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 would 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 91359

() Check here to receive a black and white newsletter by snail mail, otherwise a color version will be sent by email.

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