



ROADRUNNER

FOUNDED 1968

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Volume 52, Number 9

May, 2021

CALENDAR

May 3, 7:30 pm

Monthly Program via zoom
see easy instructions →

May 12, 8:00 am

Beginner Bird Walk-**maybe**
check with Richard

Hooded Oriole
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 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.

MAY MONTHLY PROGRAM

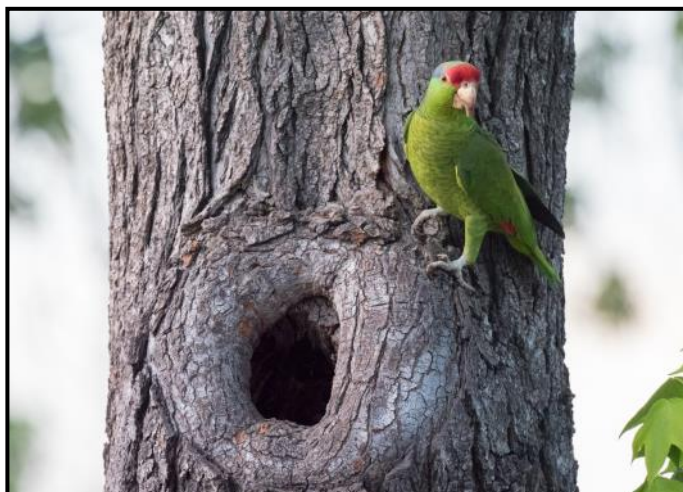
WE'LL ALWAYS HAVE PARROTS:

THE PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE OF *AMAZONA* PARROTS IN LOS ANGELES

Dr. John McCormack will speak on the history of Los Angeles' *Amazona* parrots (Red-crowned and Lilac-crowned Parrots) and what DNA from museum specimens can tell us about their origins, adaptation to city life, hybridization, and future as distinct species. Dr. McCormack is Director and Curator of the Bird and Mammal Collection at the Moore Laboratory of Zoology and an Assistant Professor of Biology at Occidental College. The Moore Lab holds the largest collection of Mexican birds in the world and over 65,000 specimens in total, which researchers from around the world study to understand avian biodiversity and how it originated. Dr. McCormack has pioneered the use of new DNA sequencing



technologies to collect DNA from museum specimens. He received his undergraduate degree in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology from the University of Arizona and his PhD from UCLA. After postdoctoral research at the University of Michigan and Louisiana State University, he arrived at Occidental College as Moore Lab Director in 2011. He recently oversaw the completion of a major remodel to the Moore Lab's facilities and collection space.



MAY BIRDING TRIP NEWS

BE SAFE. STAY HEALTHY. GET YOUR VACCINATION!

Due to uncertain COVID 19 restrictions, as of the time of publication, there are no organized CVAS trips scheduled for the month of May. **We do hope to have trips again in September.**



Beginner Bird Walk:

Check with Richard Armerding, close to Wednesday, May 12th, to see if his Beginner Bird Walk will take place on that day.

BE SAFE. STAY HEALTHY. GET YOUR VACCINATION!

CONSERVATION

HOPEFUL NEWS FOR BIRDS

In March, the Biden Administration revoked the Department of the Interior's so-called M-Opinion, which in 2017 weakened protections for more than 1,000 species under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. The M-Opinion reversed decades of consistent interpretation and declared that the Act did not prohibit the predictable and preventable killing of migratory birds by commercial activities. The current Administration is also asking for public comment on its proposal to revoke a pending Trump-era regulation that had been intended to codify the M-Opinion.

Also in March, U.S. Representative Mike Quigley (D-IL) and Senator Cory Booker (D-NJ) reintroduced H.R. 919 – Bird-Safe Buildings Act. During the last Congress, the House passed this act twice, but it failed in the Senate. With reintroduction it now has a chance to pass the Senate and become the law of the land.

“As more and more cities across the country, including Chicago, (New York,) and just this week Philadelphia, adopt policies and practices to prevent bird-building collisions, the federal government must step up and do its share,” said Congressman Quigley. “We can help set an example for the country and the world and prove that bird-safe building design is cheap, easy, and effective.”

Yellow-rumped Warbler
Don Klabunde



Many bird-friendly design techniques, such as installing screens or grilles on windows and minimizing the use of glass on lower floors, are already used in some federal buildings to control heat and light, or for security. The proposed bill would require bird-safe measures be used, where practicable, on all new and existing federal buildings.

A 2014 meta-analysis in *The Condor* found that, in the eastern states, White-throated Sparrows, Dark-eyed Juncos, Ovenbirds, and Song Sparrows are among the species most commonly killed by collisions with buildings, while a San Francisco study found many deceased hummingbirds and juncos. Fortunately, both home and commercial windows can easily be made safer for birds. See American Bird Conservancy's solutions at abcbirds.org, or Cornell Lab's recommendations at allaboutbirds.org, or simply search “bird window strike prevention” for tons of options.



Allen's Hummingbird
Don Klabunde

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