



ROADRUNNER

Founded 1968

Published by the Conejo Valley Audubon Society

A Chapter of the National Audubon Society

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VOL. 46

September , 2014

NO. 1

General Meeting, September 8th 7:30 pm Western Foundation Show and Tell

Our general meeting, normally held on the first Monday of the month, will be held this month on the second Monday, September 8th, due to the Labor Day holiday.

The program for this first meeting of our 2014-2015 season will, as in previous years, be a “**Show and Tell**” program. This is the evening when we can gather once again after our long summer break and renew old friendships and perhaps make new ones as well.

All members are encouraged to bring photos, movies, slides or anything they would like to share to the meeting. **Cia DeMartino**, our programs chair, will coordinate the presentations and will set up the necessary computer and projector to show the pictures.

If you would like to participate, please call or email Cia (805-612-1832, programs@conejovalleyaudubon.org) by Friday, September 5th, to sign up for a time and learn about presentation media formats.

It's been a long summer break and at last we have an opportunity to share our experience over the past few months as well as our birding plans for the upcoming season. Please try to attend this first meeting of the season. You'll be surely missed if you don't!

Calling all Wordsmiths!

This year CVAS will once again be offering a program assisting in converting lawns to native habitat. Details will be forthcoming in later issues. But we are first asking CVAS members to provide ideas for an acronym for this program. It would be an abbreviation formed from the first letters of other words. A good example of an acronym is SOAR, which stands for “Save Open-Space and Agricultural Resources.”

With the worsening drought we would like to emphasize water conservation in our new acronym. Birds will also clearly benefit from native habitat.

So please contact Dee Lyon with your ideas at 805-499-2165.

(or chickadee@conejovalleyaudubon.org)



CALENDAR

August

31 8:00 am Field Trip: Santa Clara River Estuary

September

6 7:15 am Field Trip: Santa Barbara Botanical Gardens

8 5:15 pm Pre-meeting Dinner: D'Amore's Pizza

8 7:30 pm General Meeting Western Foundation

14 7:00 am Los Angeles River

20 8:00 am Ventura River Estuary

27 8:15 am Santa Cruz Island

28 7:30 am Laguna Tams/ Oxnard Plain

*** Pre-meeting Dinner***

NEW LOCATION!

D'Amore's Pizza at 5:15 pm

300 N. Lantana Camarillo

Call **Nobuko McClure**

For Reservations **(805) 482-0411**

Reservations 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.

Field Trips

The times specified are departure times – **be sure to arrive 15 min earlier.** Try to carpool whenever possible and don't forget to offer the driver gas money!
RAIN CANCELS!

Beginning Bird Walk (We will start in October)

Sunday, August 31 Santa Clara River Estuary

Kick off our first trip of the 2014-2015 season at the Santa Clara River Estuary (SCRE). SCRE 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 8 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 Least Terns, Brown Pelicans, Western and Ring-billed Gulls, Ruddy Ducks, Avocets and Western and Least Sandpipers. If time permits we will also bird the Ventura Settling Ponds. We may also explore the jetties for shorebirds.

Directions: From the 101 freeway exit Seaward and proceed south to Harbor. Turn left and continue to Spinnaker, 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 to reach the parking lot entrance. Meet at 8:00. Trip leader Dee Lyon (805) 427-0987.

Saturday, September 6th Santa Barbara Botanical Garden

The Santa Barbara Botanical Garden is noted for its native plants, shrubs and trees. Here we will explore the shaded stream and canyon habitat looking for typical sage scrub birds as well as any

migrants. Meet at the Los Posas Park and Ride at 7:15 am, or at the gardens at 8:00 am. Trip leader Bonnie Clarfield-Bylin (805) 405-5632.

Sunday, September 14th Los Angeles River

The lower Los Angeles River hosts an impressive variety of shorebirds in the fall, providing critical stopover habitat for these birds on their long southbound migrations. We'll visit several locations along the river near Del Amo, Willow and other "hot spots." If time allows, we may also bird the San Pedro area. Carpool for reduced impact. Meet at the Stearns Park and Ride in Simi Valley at 7 am. Trip leader Matthew Page (805) 990-6534

Saturday, September 20th Ventura River Estuary

The Ventura River Estuary sees similar diversity of shorebirds and gulls as the Santa Clara River Estuary, but is much more accessible. Join us to look for southbound plovers, shorebirds and early arriving winter gulls. Passerines may also be present in the Emma Wood SB area. Park on the shoulder of Main Street just across from the entrance to Emma Wood Campground at 8am. Trip leader Frank DeMartino (856) 906-8733.

Saturday, September 27th Santa Cruz Island

Santa Cruz Island is home to the endemic Island Scrub-Jay, the only place in the world this species is found. Additionally, many migrating birds stop over on the island, making a fall a great time to explore. Along the way to the island we may see alcids, dolphins and perhaps whales. Please email fieldtrips@conejovalleyaudubon.org to make arrangements to join this trip.

There is not a trip limit, but you must purchase your tickets with Island Packers (805) 642-1393 in advance to ensure a spot on the boat. Round trip tickets are \$59 for adults and \$54 for seniors. Meet at Island Packers, 1691 Spinnaker Drive, Ventura NO LATER than 8:15 to check in. The boat returns to the harbor at 6:00 pm, and so pack a picnic lunch, water and snacks. Bad weather cancels. Trip leader is Matthew Page (805) 990-6534.

**Sunday, September 28th
Laguna Tams / Oxnard Plain**

Meet at the Los Posas Park and Ride at 7:30 am. We will scour the tamarisks along Laguna Road for migrating warblers, vireos and sparrows. The Laguna Tams have historically produced some of the most interesting fall migrants in the county. Yellow-rumped, Townsend's, Black-throated Gray, Yellow and Wilson's Warblers are likely.

After birding the tamarisk stands we will spend some time on Arnold Road, looking for plovers and shorebirds in the sod fields. Bring a scope if you can. Also bring lunch if you wish to spend more than the morning with us. Note: Good birding etiquette is required as Laguna Road is a very busy road in an agricultural area. The sod fields are private property and no trespassing is allowed.

Trip leader Matthew Page (805) 990-6534.

2013 LAWN CONVERSION SUCCESS!

(Pictures at the home of Brian Stark following the conversion of his front lawn to native habitat with the help of a 2013 CVAS grant)



Hummingbird Sage



Monkey Flower



Desert Mallow



Brian Stark's rainfall collection feature

Annual CVAS Membership Dues Reminder

As a reminder to all members, CVAS membership dues are now payable for our 2014-2015 season. So for most members - those who last renewed or joined before February 2014 - please pay using the CVAS Membership Application on page four of this newsletter. Thank you.

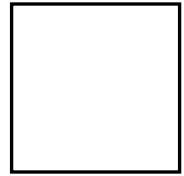
ROADRUNNER

Conejo Valley Audubon Society, Inc.

P.O. Box 4782

Thousand Oaks, CA 91359

September, 2014



Officers and Committee Chairs			Username
President	Ron Barns	818-991-9967	rtbarns@netscape.net
Vice Pres	Bonnie Clarfield-Bylin	805-405-5632	vice-president
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Treasurer	Richard Armerding		treasurer
Programs	Cia DeMartino		programs
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Conservation	Dee Lyon	805-499-2165	chickadee
Education	Thelma Williams	805-492-2796	thelma
Field trips	Matthew Page	805-990-6534	Fieldtrips
Publicity	Cory Taylor		publicity
Newsletter	Gary Evans	805-231-5692	GaryE
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Special Events	Carol Langford	360-742-6059	carol.lee.langford@gmail.com
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Special Projects	Nobuko McClure	805-482-0411	nobuko
Webmaster	Frank DeMartino		webmaster
CVAS Web Site	http://www.ConejoValleyAudubon.org		
Send E-mail to	username@ConejoValleyAudubon.org		

**Volunteer Needed**

Please contact the board if you would like to serve in the open position of membership chair.

Regular meetings are held on the first Monday evening of each month 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, CA 91377, or by E-mail: GaryE@ConejoValleyAudubon.org.

NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**C4ZC230Z**

Please enroll me as a member of the National Audubon Society. I have enclosed \$20 (\$15 for seniors and students), payable to **National Audubon Society**, for an introductory membership.

Mail it to: National Audubon Society, P. O. Box 422250, Palm Coast, FL 32142-2250

Renewing memberships should be sent to National Audubon with the renewal form and envelope you receive.

For questions regarding national membership status call: National Audubon Customer Service 1-800-274-4201

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail address _____

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) \$_____

Mail to: CVAS, P.O. Box 4782, Thousand Oaks, CA 91359 ☐ **Check box to receive newsletter by mail.**

Name _____ **Otherwise newsletter will come by email.**

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail address _____