

ROADRUNNER

FOUNDED 1968

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NO. 9

General Meeting, May 1st 7:30 pm Western Foundation Rosi Dagit Penguins in our Watershed

Rosi Dagit has been doing Santa Monica Mountains research and restoration work since 1987. Each January since 1994 she has traveled to Antarctica and worked on the Antarctica Site Inventory longterm monitoring project. She will share insights from this monitoring work into how our actions can affect Antarctica wildlife.



Western Foundation - Classes Introduction to Southern California Bird Identification

4 Thurs. evenings at WFVZ (5:30 pm to 8:30 pm)
May 4th thru May 25th

3 Saturday Field Trips (7:00 am to 11:00 am)
May 6th, 13th, 26th or 27th

Max 25 people – call 805-388-9944 now to reserve

CALENDAR

May

1	5:15 pm	Pre Meeting Dinner: Ottavios
1	7:30 pm	General Meeting Western Foundation
7	8:00 am	Hill Canyon
13	8:00 am	Wheeler Gorge
21	8:00 am	Las Lajas
28	8:00 am	Malibu Creek State Park

Food for Thought by Dee Lyon

(condensed from Tom Philpott's
article in Mother Jones)

Why aren't we feeding bugs to animals? Animals have no qualms about eating bugs. Hens stampede through grass like bulls to pluck a fresh insect.

Strange that feeding bugs to livestock remains an exotic practice. It takes nearly 25 pounds of corn and soybeans to produce a pound of beef. Growing all that grain is tough on the planet, boosting soil erosion and requiring enormous amounts of fertilizers and pesticides.

Insects are beautifully efficient and thrive on landfill-bound food waste.

Some insects can breed anywhere and can turn almost any organic matter into larvae, which we won't eat but farm animals will. Scaling up larvae production could make raising salmon or beef easier on the environment. They can deal with waste from meat-processing plants, bakeries, breweries and restaurants across the country. They could save 250,000 cars' worth of carbon emissions. "Natural systems have no waste."

Dee

*****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, May 7th Hill Canyon joint walk with COSCA

Hill Canyon and Santa Rosa Park offer a variety of birding habitats, such as chaparral, riparian and oak woodlands. We should expect to see spring migrants, as many as four species of wren (House, Bewicks', Canyon and Rock), Red-shouldered and Red-tailed Hawks, woodpeckers, gnatcatchers, goldfinches and resident White-throated Swift. Directions: From Moorpark or Camarillo take Santa Rosa Road and turn onto Hill Canyon Road to enter the park. The COSCA parking lot on the left is free but fills quickly. Recent county upgrades to the parking lot on the right have eliminated the free parking, so please expect a \$4.00 fee for weekend use of the lot. Meet in the COSCA parking lot at 8 am. Leader: Bonnie Clarfield-Bylin (805) 405-5632

Saturday, May 13th Wheeler Gorge Campground

Wheeler Gorge is a wonder to bird in the spring, when the oak trees team with migrating warblers, tanagers, vireo and flycatchers. Up to six species of hummingbirds are a possibility and as many as eight species of flycatchers, including Olive-sides, Western Wood-pewee, Dusky, Hammond's and Pacific-Slope. Swainson's Thrushes are also found regularly along the stream bed and Hutton's Vireos should be singing from the tree tops. Add in resident woodpeckers, Steller's Jays, towhees and titmice, and you have the perfect recipe for a great day of birding. Meet at 8 am at the entrance to the campground on highway 33. Leaders: Kay Regester and Mary Hansen. Leader: Kay Regester (805) 258-1025

Sunday, May 21st Las Lajas Canyon

Rusting steam shovels. Fossilized sea shells. Oaks, cottonwoods and willows. Lizards, hawks, woodpeckers and bluebirds. In the foothills of Simi Valley lies Las Lajas Canyon, home to all of these attractions and more. We'll take a leisurely hike up this gentle canyon looking for evidence of 20th century oil exploration. We'll see geologic formations and wildlife. We'll also just enjoy the cool spring air. The trailhead to Las Lajas canyon is at approximately 5715 Evening Sky Drive in Simi Valley. Meet here at 8 am with water, sunblock and good hiking shoes. Dress in layers. We will hike two to three miles and then return the way we came. Most of the trail is gentle, but the first and last 0.2 miles are steep. So we will have a short but steep climb out. Please plan accordingly. Directions: From the 118 freeway in Simi Valley exit Yosemite and head north. Turn right on Evening Sky Drive and proceed to the trailhead. Trip leaders: Don and Chrystal Klabunde (805) 522-8023

Sunday, May 28th Malibu Creek State Park

Malibu Creek State Park in the Santa Monica Mountains features 15 miles of streamside trails through oak and sycamore woodlands. It has also been extensively used as a movie set for many features and TV shows. While here we will look for hawks, sparrows, woodpeckers, bluebirds and orioles. There is a fee at this park and so bring money for the entrance fee and for gas. We will meet at the Rancho Park & Ride at the junction of Highways 101 and 23 at 8:00 am for carpooling. Leader: Dee Lyon (805) 427-0987

America's Birdiest County Count

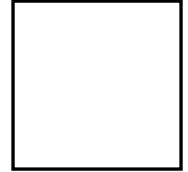
Have you ever wondered how many birds there are in Ventura County on any given weekend? Join us as we spend three days scouring the county for birds as part of the America's Birdiest County competition. The count for Ventura will take place on April 28th, 29th and 30th. Birds seen anywhere within the count boundaries are countable, so keep an eye out of lingering winter birds at your feeders. Check out our website for detailed information on how to participate. All skill levels are most welcome!

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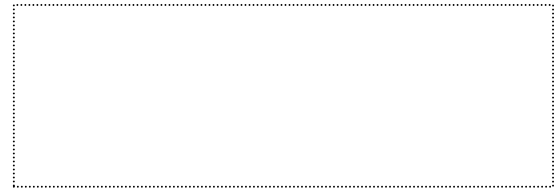
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CVAS Web Site <http://www.ConejoValleyAudubon.org>
Send E-mail to username@ConejoValleyAudubon.org

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, 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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