

ROADRUNNER

FOUNDED 1968

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NO. 1

General Meeting, September 11 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 11th, because of the Labor Day holiday.

The program for this first meeting of our 2017-2018 season will, as in previous years, be a “**Show and Tell**” program. This is the evening when we can gather again after our long summer break and renew friendships and discuss all of our interesting trips.

All members are encouraged to bring photos, movies, slides or anything they would like to share to the meeting. **Chrystal Klabunde**, 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 Chrystal (805-522-8023) programs@conejovalleyaudubon.org by Friday, September 8th, to sign up for a time slot and learn about presentation media formats.



GOOD BIRDERS STILL DON'T WEAR WHITE Passionate Birders Share the Joys of Watching Birds

Edited By

LISA A. WHITE and JEFFREY A. GORDON

Illustrated by **ROBERT A. BRAUNFIELD**

37 short interesting essays worth reading. Many of the best birders in the world -- Noah Strycker, Pete Dunne, Debi Shearwater, Sheri L. Williamson, Kenn Kaufman and others have made contributions to this book. Brief essays that are sometimes funny, though mostly serious, and all definitely interesting. This is an entertaining read!

by Cheryl and Don Williamson

CALENDAR

September

- 2 8:00 am Santa Clara River Estuary
- 10 8:00 am Hill Canyon
- 11 5:15 pm Pre Meeting Dinner: Ottavios
- 11 7:30 pm General meeting Western Foundation
- 17 7:30 am Laguna Tams and Oxnard Plain
- 23 8:00 am Ventura Settling Ponds

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.

Saturday, September 2nd 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 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 & Least Sandpipers. 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 and enter the parking lot. Meet at 8:00 am. Trip leader; Dee Lyon (805) 499-2165

Sunday, September 10th Hill Canyon

Hill Canyon/ Santa Rosa Park is at the north edge of Thousand Oaks, off of Santa Rosa Road. This park features a trail that follows Conejo Creek into the canyon, downstream of the water treatment plant. We'll scour the cottonwoods and eucalyptus for migrating warblers, vireos and sparrows. We'll also explore the park for Cactus and Canyon Wrens, towhees and woodpeckers. Meet at the park, 10241 Hill Canyon Road, at 8:00 am. There is free parking right across the road from the bridge. If full there park for \$4.00 at Santa Rosa Valley Park very close by. Bring binoculars and water. Trip leader: Richard Armerding (310) 701-3878

Sunday, September 17th Laguna Tams and Oxnard Plain

We will visit the Laguna Tams, noted for producing a wide variety of migrating warblers, vireos and sparrows, before trying the sod fields for pipits and plovers. We will then work our way down Arnold Road, where we can find warblers, sparrows and perhaps something completely unexpected. Meet at the Las Posas Park and Ride to carpool at 7:30 am. Trip leader is Matthew Page (805) 990-6534

Saturday, September 23rd Ventura Settling Ponds

Join trip leader Frank DeMartino as he leads us around the settling ponds in Ventura to scour for ducks, herons, grebes, raptors and sparrows. Frank enjoys birding the ponds and has much local knowledge of the species we can expect. If time allows the trip may also visit Marina Park to look for rock pipers and gulls. Directions: Meet at the Las Posas Park and Ride to carpool at 7:30 am. Alternatively, meet at the harbor at 8 am, in the parking lot across the street from the ponds, where Spinnaker meets Angler Court. For more information, call Frank DeMartino (856) 906-8733



Black-necked Stilt juvenile
by Don Klabunde



BOOK REVIEW
The Genius of Birds
by Jennifer Ackerman

I've found this to be a fascinating read. Jennifer Ackerman presents in a very readable, entertaining style the results of scientific studies of the last two decades. These studies are beginning to reveal just how intelligent birds are. Chicks learn to sing in a process quite similar to children learning to speak. Some birds make thousands of very tiny caches of food and can navigate to them months later, even in snow. Pigeons can distinguish human faces and in clever experiments can distinguish paintings made by Monet or Picasso. ☺ Scientists are strapping tiny geolocators on the backs of birds studying their migratory prowess. A Mockingbird can remember 400 bird songs which it will imitate. Birds actually sing with regional "accents." New Caledonian Crows make precise tools for reaching food, as taught by their parents. Jays seek to fool other onlooking jays in their caching of food.

One reviewer writes "A lovely, celebratory survey --- elevated by Ackerman's prose --- the joy she takes in thinking and noticing --- Often, you feel her wonderment, faintly recognizing another, strange intelligence covertly operating in a world we presume to be ours."

The New York Times (May 1, 2016)

---- submitted by the editor



Laysan Albatross
by Don Klabunde



Great-horned Owl
by Don Klabunde

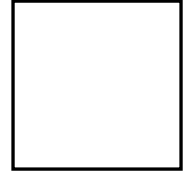


Lazuli Bunting
by Don Klabunde

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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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