**CVAS MEETINGS IN THE TIME OF COVID**

Due to the ongoing threat of covid variants, we will for the time being, continue 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](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9isp3qPeQ0E)

The link to join the Monthly Programs is: [https://zoom.us/j/6155249106](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.

**NOVEMBER MONTHLY PROGRAM**

**WILDLIFE CROSSING AT LIBERTY CANYON**

Beth Pratt, California Regional Executive Director of the National Wildlife Federation, leader of the #SaveLACougars Campaign, and the author of *When Mountain Lions Are Neighbors: People and Wildlife Working It Out in California*, will speak to us on November 1st about this month’s conservation topic. Read on:

**CONSERVATION**

**IF WE BUILD IT, THEY WILL COME**

Any baseball fan and movie lover knows that this is a “sorta” quote from “Field of Dreams” (the actual quote is, “If you build it, he will come.”). In this case the “they” are the mountain lions of the Santa Monica Mountains. In my email inbox the other morning was an exciting message from the National Wildlife Federation announcing “the California Wildlife Conservation Board recently approved a $20 million grant to the wildlife crossing at Liberty Canyon.” The proposed land bridge has been a joint project of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, the National Wildlife Federation, the National Park Service, Caltrans and the Resource Conservation District of the Santa Monica Mountains.
OCTOBER BIRDING TRIPS

Since we’re still living with pandemic concerns, CVAS will continue its careful approach to birding trips. Rather than sharing guidebooks, we encourage you to bring your own or download one on your mobile phone (the Sibley guide is available as an app for both Android and iPhone). Regrettably, we won’t be offering extra binoculars to share, so please bring your own pair. And finally, please wear your mask and observe social distancing.

Nov 6, Sat - Saticoy Ponds
Meet at the gate at 9 am. We will need to have our waivers (see website) filled out and ready. Lots of water birds, some shore birds and passerines.
Leader is new young proficient birder, Ava Molnar 805-427-0987

Nov 12, Fri - Point Mugu Naval Air Station
David Pereksta will lead our primo bird trip of the year, to Pt Mugu Navy Base! Trip is limited to 25, so text your name to Dee at 805-427-0987 to get on the list.
Additional requirements will be on the website.

Nov 21 - Sun - Conejo Valley Botanic Garden
Meet at 8 am. We will see lots of passerines.
Leader is David Person 805-496-9587

Nov 27 - Sat - Rancho Sierra Vista/Satwiwa
Meet at 8 am. We will see lots of grassland birds and raptors. This is one of the best birding spots in our area.
Leader is Richard Armerding 310-701-3878

Wednesday, November 10, 8:00 am – Beginner Bird Walk
Conejo Valley Audubon invites birders of all experience levels to attend our monthly at Rancho Sierra Vista/Satwiwa. These walks are held on the second Wednesday of each month.
We will meet at 8:00 am at the main parking lot, which is accessible off Lynn Road at Via Goleta in Newbury Park. Rancho Sierra Vista is an excellent place to see many of the oak woodlands birds that are common in the Conejo Valley area. We will take time to introduce beginning birders to these species and will teach the best techniques for locating and identifying them. Wear comfortable walking shoes. Bring masks and water and social distance.
Please register in advance by contacting walk leader Richard Armerding at (310) 701-3878.

Disclaimer:
Everyone is welcome to attend any Conejo Valley Audubon field trip, but Conejo Valley Audubon assumes no responsibility for injuries, personal or otherwise, incurred while attending a CVAS sponsored activity and in order to attend, all attendees agree that CVAS is not liable for such accidents. Everyone attends at their own risk.

LAWNS TO HABITAT

Also, we are looking for a few folks to help us with the Lawns to Habitat restoration project. We go to our grant recipients yards and help them design a garden that is attractive and stays green (for the most part). We will train you. Each of our grantees receives about 40 California Natives, which the owner plants and hopefully gets excited about the birds and butterflies that now inhabit their garden.

Please call Dee Lyon and leave a message at 805-427-0987 if you can help or even want a native garden of your own.
CONSERVATION continued from page 1:

When the land bridge is finished it will be the culmination of 20+ years of research, fundraising and development. It will be the world’s largest wildlife crossing and will "reconnect an entire ecosystem that has long been fragmented by the 101 freeway". Fragmentation has not only adversely impacted the mountain lion with P22 being one of its most tragic high profile stories, but studies have shown that the loss of connectivity has affected smaller animals including birds, toads and even bats. The financial goal for the project is $85 million with approximately $73 million raised to date. It is hoped that this ambitious project will be able to start in January, 2022 and be finished by 2023. The Liberty Canyon land bridge is an example to the world of what can be done when people take up the cause for wildlife. More importantly it recognizes how important the natural world is to the well being of all of us whether we are two legged, four legged, six legged, or...

If you would like to donate visit https://savelacougars.org/giving/

IN MEMORIUM

Alas, our friend Charlie Lucas has passed away. His memorial service will be October 30th at 10 am at Pierce Brothers in Westlake Village. It is suggested that donations in his memory be made to the Conejo Valley Botanical Garden.

Charlie was the very dedicated editor of this newsletter from 2008 until 2013. He was also an excellent bird photographer. He is remembered for his great kindness, patience, graciousness and keen interest in other peoples' stories. In the newsletter of Conejo Valley Botanical Garden, it was written of Charlie: "He arrives in his big white truck and then walks down to Sage Hill, where plants are waiting for the water he brings to them by hoses, sometimes as many as five hoses joined together." He was their volunteer of the year in 2016.

Carol Langford, past president of CVAS, said of him: "Charlie Lucas was the rare gentleman who volunteered for a meaningful role at Conejo Valley Audubon by simply answering 'yes' when the request was made at a general meeting for a new newsletter editor. Charlie read extensively and was very familiar with the value of a well-crafted sentence. He used that knowledge during the many years he edited, published and disseminated the Roadrunner, all without fanfare or drama. Charlie was a low-key, low-maintenance volunteer who enjoyed expanding his knowledge of birds and sharing the activities of CVAS during his many years of involvement with our group." He will be missed.
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 WFVZ.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.

Name _________________________________________________________

Address _______________________________________________________ 

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