



ROADRUNNER

FOUNDED 1968

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Volume 53, Number 5

January, 2022

CALENDAR

Jan 2, Sun, 8:00 am

Arroyo Simi

see page 2

Jan 3, Mon, 7:30 pm

Monthly Program via zoom

see easy instructions →

Jan 8 and 9, Weekend

Salton Sea

see page 2

Jan 12, Wed, 8:00 am

Beginner Bird Walk

check with Richard

Jan 16, Sun

CSU Channel Islands

see page 2

Jan 21, Fri

Point Mugu Navy Base

see page 2

Jan 29, Sat

Briar's Bluff

see page 2



Crowned Woodnymph
© Jeff Maw

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>

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.

JANUARY MONTHLY PROGRAM A GUIDED TOUR OF PANAMA'S COLORFUL BIRDS

In Panama, where there is an amazing variety of environments within a small space. From marshes to dry scrub to rainforests to foothills and all the way up to mountainous cloud forests over 3,000 feet high, brightly colored resident birds share their home with thousands of migrants from distant latitudes. In this month's presentation you will not only learn about those amazing colorful birds and ecosystems, but importantly about how birding in Panama will support a local group's efforts to preserve them.



Guido Berguido banding a Common Tody-Flycatcher



Green Honeycreeper
© Karl Overman

A native of Panama City, our guide, Guido Berguido, describes himself as a biologist by training, a tour leader by accident, and a conservationist at heart. He was instrumental in founding the 1,500-acre Cerro Chucantí Private Natural Reserve and the ADOPTA Rainforest Association. He has earned degrees in Environmental Biology, Tourism Administration, and even an MBA. And for more than 25 years he has been steeped in the rich avifauna and ecosystems of Panama.

JANUARY 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.**

Jan 2, Sunday - Arroyo Simi

Meet on Easy Street and Madera Road at 8:00 am. It's an easy walk along the bike path, looking for a wonderful array of water-fowl, waders and passerines.

Leader is Don Klabunde (805)522-8023.

Jan 8 and 9, Saturday and Sunday– Salton Sea

Register for the trip by emailing the leader, Pete Robertshaw, at PeterRobertshaw@verizon.net to receive the details of where and when to meet. Please make your own hotel reservation in Brawley. Pete recommends the Brawley Inn, but there are other options. **You will need to fill out a liability waiver.**

We will start early Saturday afternoon, near the north end of the Salton Sea, then bird down the west side of the lake to Unit 1. We'll spend the night in Brawley, bird a little around the town early on Sunday and then work our way north on the east side of the lake, stopping at a few hotspots before heading home Sunday afternoon. Please note that the trip will require a limited amount of driving on unpaved roads.

Target birds: thousands of Snow and Ross's Geese, Sandhill Cranes, lots of ducks and waders, rails, raptors, Burrowing Owls, and desert species like Gambel's Quail, Abert's Towhee, doves, Gila and Ladder-Backed Woodpeckers, and Vermilion Flycatcher.

Jan 16, Sunday - California State University Channel Islands

We will look for flycatchers, grassland birds and any unusual birds found on the Christmas Bird Count.

Contact leader. Bonnie Clarfield-Bylin (805)405-5632 for time and information on parking.

Jan 21, Friday - Point Mugu Navy Base

The Navy says they will be ready for us this time. Text Dee Lyon at (805)427-0987 for the forms which must be in by three weeks prior to the trip. **That's January 1st!** We saw close to 70 species in November.

Jan 29, Saturday - Briar's Bluff behind California Lutheran University (a change from initial schedule)

Meet at 8 am at the north end of Mountclef Blvd. We will look for the CA Gnatcatchers, Cactus Wrens, sparrows and other grassland birds.

Leader is Dennis Allen.

Wednesday, January 12, 8:00 am – Beginner Bird Walk

Conejo Valley Audubon invites birders of all experience levels to attend our monthly Beginner Bird Walk 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.



White-faced Ibis
Don Klabunde

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.

CONSERVATION WHY CONSERVATION?

by Mary Hansen

I have been traveling, so my mind has been anywhere but where it should be to write this article. I tried to write it while sitting in a cafe at the Blue Lagoon in Iceland, a country of inestimable physical beauty and where conservation seems to be in the local DNA, but all ideas were lacking. Today, with a little bit of jet lag, it wasn't much better. So it's back to basics; why is conservation important and what are a few simple things we can do as our small part in a very large picture. These are nothing new, but I always need to remind myself that I have a part to play, so I Googled "Ten simple things I can do for conservation." I was pleased at the long list of sites that popped up.

From the NOAA platform comes:

1. Bike more drive less.
2. Educate - when you further your own education, you can help others understand the importance and value of our natural resources.
3. Volunteer - community cleanups are a big part.
4. Reduce, reuse, recycle - always a good mantra.
5. Conserve water - we remain in a drought so take out those green lawns and plant natives(!)
6. Choose sustainable - learn to make smart seafood choices at www.Fishwatch.gov.
7. Shop wisely - use less plastic, remember those reusable grocery bags.
8. Use long lasting light bulbs - and turn out lights when you aren't using them.
9. Plant a tree - the planet needs them, we need them, the birds need them.
10. Don't send chemicals into our waterways.

All these are pretty basic, but I can never hear them too often. I have my part to play and so do you.



California Sycamore seedlings
At Hahamonga Native Plant Nursery

ROADRUNNER

Page 4

Volume 53, Number 5

Conejo Valley Audubon Society, Inc.
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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

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