



ROADRUNNER

FOUNDED 1968

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Volume 53, Number 10, Special Edition

June, 2022

CALENDAR

Jun 4, Sat, 8:00 am
Pre-picnic bird walk
see page 2

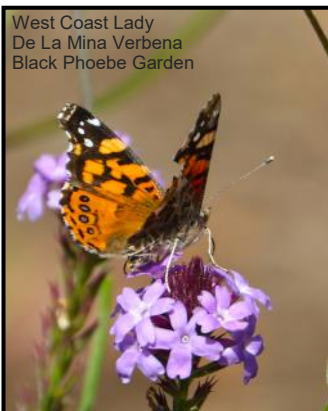
Jun 4, Sat, 11:00 am
Annual CVAS Picnic
see page 2



Western Bluebird
Bewick's Wren Garden



Apricot Mallow
Black Phoebe Garden



West Coast Lady
De La Mina Verbena
Black Phoebe Garden

SPECIAL EDITION

BIRD-FRIENDLY GARDEN TOUR REPORT

On April 24th, in person for the first time since the onset of the pandemic, Conejo Valley Audubon hosted its annual **Bird-Friendly Garden Tour**, spearheaded by the amazing Jennifer de la Torre. Twelve hosts opened their gardens to people interested in knowing more about how to create a yard that is welcoming to birds, drought tolerant and just plain beautiful, not mutually exclusive goals.



Black Phoebe Garden

In a landmark study published in Science in 2019, it was found that since 1970 nearly three billion birds have been lost. There are several factors involved, but one of the most important is the loss of habitat. As noted in the latest Birds on Wire from National Audubon, "Native birds co-evolved with native plants (which) produce fruit, seeds, and nectar that match their nutritional needs. (Native plants) host insects such as caterpillars which feed the chicks of 96 percent of native birds, (and) native oak trees are home to more than 200 species of wasps." On the other hand, the ubiquitous lawns that have replaced so much of the native vegetation are essentially wastelands, useless for providing birds and their chicks with the nutrition they need.

Another looming problem is the waste of water that large green lawns represent. On 27 April USA Today reported that the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California declared a water shortage emergency. Effective June 1, outdoor watering would be limited to one day a week. We in Ventura County are part of this mandated cutback.



Spotted Towhee Garden



Germander Sage
Calif. Towhee Garden



Bewick's Wren Garden

Those who have already converted their yards to native plants are ahead of the game, but for those who haven't yet made the change, Conejo Valley Audubon will once again be offering our popular **Lawns to Habitat** grant. 25 applicants who show interest in dealing with this water crisis by helping our local birds will receive up to \$200 in grant money to purchasing native plants, as well as assistance in and planning and implementing of their native garden.



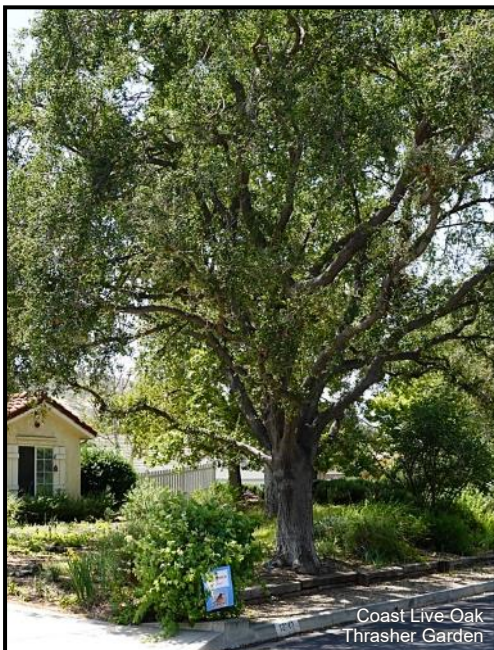
Fairyduster
Heritage Park



Palmer's Indian Mallow
Bewick's Wren Garden



Lesser Goldfinches
Bewick's Wren Garden



Coast Live Oak
Thrasher Garden



Oak Titmouse Garden

THE TERRIFIC HOSTS WITH THE BEAUTIFUL GARDENS



Erik & Jody
Black Phoebe



Martha & Jim Ford
Spotted Towhee



Beth Ann Gee
Bewick's Wren



Connie Rutherford
Yellow-rumped Warbler



Herb & Debra Roiblat
Anna's Hummingbird



Dee Lyon
Heritage Park



Bonnie Clarfield-Bylin
Calif. Towhee



Jennifer Queen
Rock Wren



David Person
Great Blue Heron



Rick Burgess & Trisha Munro
Waxwing Way-Station



Bob Sussman
Thrasher

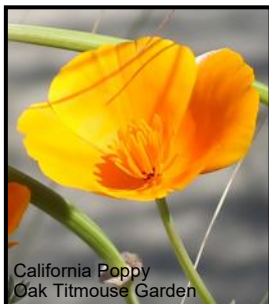


Brian Stark
Oak Titmouse

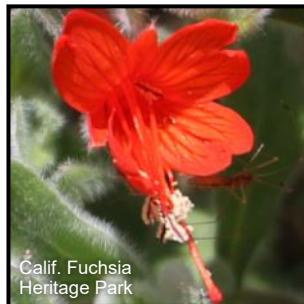
Special thanks for exceptional help from volunteers: Rick Burgess, Stephen Bylin, Bonnie Clarfield-Bylin, Gary Evans, Madeleine Gee, Mary Hansen, Chrystal Klabunde, Don Klabunde, Carol Langford, Laura McClean, Trisha Munro, Erik Oberg, Tom Oberg, Laura Pasetta, David Person, Jim Queen, Ray Rutherford, Staley Stewart, Bob Sussman, Thelma Williams, Jackie Worden, and the CVAS Board Members for support and encouragement.



California Bush Sunflower
Oak Titmouse Garden



California Poppy
Oak Titmouse Garden



Calif. Fuchsia
Heritage Park



Hummingbird Sage
Black Phoebe Garden



Baby Blue Eyes
Bewick's Wren Garden

This fall the **Lawns to Habitat** program will be celebrating its 10th anniversary thanks to the vision of Dee Lyon who has worked tirelessly to establish this program in our chapter. Watch for the application on our website www.ConejoValleyAudubon.org or our Facebook page to become part of the solution.

DON'T FORGET THE CVAS ANNUAL PICNIC



June 4, Saturday - Los Robles Trail

Meet at 8:00 am for the morning bird walk, then at 10:30 for the potluck lunch.

Were it not for the pandemic, this would have been the twenty-first year in a row that our CVAS Annual Picnic was held at the Los Robles Trail area adjacent to the original Janss House in Thousand Oaks, and there have been some changes since we were last there. We can no longer drive right down to "our" oak tree, the lawn is gone and a few new picnic tables have been added, but "our" tree is still there as shady as ever.

At the south end of Moorpark Rd turn right onto Greenmeadow Ave and proceed approximately one mile to the parking area. Carpooling is encouraged as parking is limited. Please bring your own table service, drinks and chairs.

Unless you have a special "signature dish", please bring food items based on your last name as follows:

A to I - bring a Dessert
J to Q - bring a Salad
R to Z - bring a Main Dish