



ROADRUNNER

FOUNDED 1968

Published by the Conejo Valley Audubon Society a Chapter of the National Audubon Society
visit us at: www.ConejoValleyAudubon.org or www.facebook.com/ConejoValleyAudubon

Volume 56, Number 7

March, 2025

CALENDAR

Mar 2, Sun, 5:30 - 9 pm
Annual Gala Dinner & Auction Fundraiser

Mar 3, Mon, 7:00 pm
Monthly Program

Mar 8, Sat, 8:00 am
Lake Piru
see page 3

Mar 12, Wed, 8:00 am
Beginner Bird Walk
see page 3

Mar 15, Sat, 8:00 am
Lake Casitas
see page 3

Mar 22, Sat, 8:00 am
Potrero Open Space
see page 3

Mar 29, Sat, 8:00 am
Cañada Larga Road
see page 3



Black Phoebe
© CVAS

MARCH 3rd MONTHLY PROGRAM

SMITHSONIAN BIRD FRIENDLY® CERTIFICATION

YOUR COFFEE IS STRONGER THAN YOU THINK.

IT CAN HELP WILDLIFE.

Bird Friendly coffee farms are proven to be second only to undisturbed forest for birds and other wildlife.

OR HURT IT.

Studies show that when a coffee farm clear-cuts down their shade to grow coffee in the full sun, the total number of plant and animal species decrease by nearly half.

Did you know that many of the brilliant birds flitting across North American backyards are coffee connoisseurs—and you can help them out with your own coffee choices? Many migrant songbirds spend winters on farms where coffee grows under tall trees. Developed by Smithsonian scientists, Bird Friendly® is the only certification that guarantees every coffee bean sold is grown in a way that protects habitat for birds and other wildlife. As the gold standard in biodiversity-friendly certifications, all Bird Friendly coffee comes from organic and deforestation-free farms that sustain diverse, native shade trees on their land. In 2023, the Bird Friendly program certified over 14,000 hectares of land in 12 countries, with 3.58 million pounds of coffee moving through the certified supply chain.

Join Smithsonian Migratory Bird Center's Laura Rathmell as she discusses coffee, birds, and how your morning cup of coffee can protect the migratory birds we know and love.

To learn more about the Bird Friendly program and where to buy Bird Friendly® certified coffee, visit <https://birdfriendly.si.edu>

JOIN US AT THE WESTERN FOUNDATION!

We have the privilege of holding our meetings at the **Western Foundation of Vertebrate Zoology** (also known as the Bird Museum), 439 Calle San Pablo in Camarillo. If you arrive when the doors open at 6:30, you'll have the rare opportunity to look around the museum's collections for a half hour before the meeting starts at 7:00 pm. (Also check out wfvz.org)

CVAS's meetings will be hybrid, simultaneously live at WfVZ (recommended) and on Zoom. The link to join on Zoom is <https://zoom.us/j/6155249106>.

Anyone interested in joining us for dinner at Wood Ranch Camarillo before the meeting, let Chrystal know you're coming (805-261-9885), then meet at the restaurant by 5:00 pm.

CONEJO VALLEY AUDUBON

INVITES YOU TO OUR ANNUAL

COCKTAIL DINNER AND AUCTION

THIS IS OUR BIG FUNDRAISER OF THE YEAR



SUNDAY
MARCH 2, 2025

PALM GARDEN
HOTEL

495 VENTU PARK ROAD
THOUSAND OAKS, CA 91320

NO-HOST COCKTAILS AT 5:30 PM
DINNER AT 6:30 PM

EARLYBIRD SPECIAL ENDS FEBRUARY 18TH

TICKETS \$75.00

EARLYBIRD SPECIAL \$65.00 BEFORE FEBRUARY 18
(STUDENTS \$50.00)

TO DONATE

ITEMS for AUCTION:
email **DON KLABUNDE** at
dpklabunde@msn.com

MONEY:
visit conejovalleyaudubon.org

ALSO YOU CAN BRING BIRDY WHITE
ELEPHANTS FOR THE RAFFLE TABLE

**5 FREE RAFFLE TICKETS
FOR EACH FIRST-TIME GUEST**

BUFFET (BUF)

- garden salad
- beef with peppercorn sauce
- mahi mahi
- vegetable
- roasted potato
- bread and butter
- coffee, tea and sodas
- dessert

CUSTOM ENTRÉE (CUS)

vegan, GF or special order

**WINE AND COCKTAILS
WILL BE AVAILABLE**

Please fill out this form, mail it with your check (payable to CVAS) to CVAS, P.O. Box 4782, Thousand Oaks, CA 91359, or register at ConejoValleyAudubon.org (we take PayPal) Enter names as you would like them to appear on your place card and select BUF or CUS.

Contact Email or Phone # _____

Name _____ entrée _____

Name _____ entrée _____

Name _____ entrée _____

Name _____ entrée _____

Name _____ entrée _____

OR REGISTER AT ConejoValleyAudubon.org WITH PAYPAL

MARCH BIRDING TRIPS

CVAS birding trips are open to everyone, regardless of skill level. Experienced birders lead these trips so that everyone has their best chance to see the wide variety of migrant and resident bird species that our area has to offer.

Please bring water, wear comfortable shoes, a hat, and observe good birding etiquette. RAIN CANCELS

Saturday, Mar 8th: **Lake Piru**

Meet at 8:00 am at Warring Park in Piru. We'll look for the largest bird in North America, the California Condor as well as other large raptors, plus waterfowl, and early spring migrants. The entrance fee will be \$5 per car for this field trip, instead of the normal \$10, so be sure to tell them you are part of the CVAS birding group.

Trip leaders: Peter Robertshaw (909) 771-9720.

Saturday, Mar 15th: **Lake Casitas**

Thanks to Ojai Rotary Club, we will be able to charter a small boat out onto the lake! Space is limited, so please text Sammy at (818) 470-7098 or email him at fieldtrips@conejovalleyaudubon.org if you are interested in coming on this trip. Meet outside the lake entrance at 8:00 am, and we'll carpool in, since the cost is \$20 per car.

Trip leaders: Sammy Cowell (818) 470-7098 and Jerry Maryniuk



Dolly from LA Zoo
© Don Klabunde



Grasshopper Sparrow
© Don Klabunde

Saturday, Mar 22nd: **Potrero Open Space**

Meet at 8:00 am in the Rancho Potrero Trailhead parking lot off Lynn Road. This open space is ideal habitat for a variety of grassland species! We'll specifically be looking for the local population of Grasshopper Sparrows that winter and breed in the area. Vesper Sparrow and Western Meadowlark overwinter as well, and swallows and kingbirds might be arriving early.

Trip leader: Ryan Burnett (530) 258-6742

Saturday, Mar 29th: **Cañada Larga Road**

The ranchland along Cañada Larga Road provides great habitat for many grassland species, and the riparian habitat along the creek is a great place to spot early migrants. Meet at 8:00 am at the beginning of the road, and we will drive up the canyon together, stopping at various points.

Trip leader: TBD

Beginner Bird Walk

Rancho Sierra Vista / Satwiwa

March 12th, Wednesday, 8:00 am

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 teach the best techniques for locating and identifying them. Wear comfortable walking shoes and layered clothing, and bring water.

Contact walk leader Richard Armerding at (310) 701-3878 (texting is OK)



Western Meadowlark
© CS Klabunde

Disclaimer: Everyone is welcome to attend any Conejo Valley Audubon field trip, but Conejo Valley Audubon Society 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.

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PLACE
STAMP
HERE

Conejo Valley Audubon Society, Inc.
P.O. Box 4782
Thousand Oaks, CA 91359

OFFICERS		USERNAMES
President	Frank DeMartino	<i>president</i>
Vice Pres	Sammy Cowell	<i>vicepresident</i>
Secretary	Ann Glass	<i>secretary</i>
Treasurer	David Person	<i>treasurer</i>



COMMITTEE CHAIRS		
Programs	Nicole Ball	<i>programs</i>
Field Trips	Sammy Cowell	<i>fieldtrips</i>
Conservation	Vacant	<i>conservation</i>
Lawns to Habitat	Vacant	<i>lawnstohabitat</i>
Garden Tour	Jennifer de la Torre	<i>gardentour</i>
Education	Meg Thackoorie	<i>education</i>
Membership	Catherine Armerding	<i>membership</i>
Publicity	Bonnie Clarfield-Bylin	<i>publicity</i>
Social Media	Bonnie Clarfield-Bylin	<i>media</i>
Newsletter	Chrystal Klabunde	<i>newsletter</i>
Webmaster	Chrystal Klabunde	<i>webmaster</i>
Photographer	Don Klabunde	<i>photographer</i>
Librarian	Jean Stoutenborough	<i>librarian</i>
Member at Large	Carol Langford	<i>carol</i>
Member at Large	Dee Lyon	<i>dee</i>
Member at Large	Nobuko McClure	<i>nobuko</i>
Member at Large	Gary Evans	<i>gary</i>
Member at Large	Matthew Page	<i>matthew</i>

To contact board members, add @conejovalleyaudubon.org after each username above

EVERYONE IS WELCOME. Monthly meetings are held on the first Monday evening of each month (second Monday when the first one's a holiday) at 7:00 pm, at the Western Foundation of Vertebrate Zoology, 439 Calle San Pablo, Camarillo, CA. Directions: from the corner of Pleasant Valley Rd. and Lewis Rd. in Camarillo, go west to the second street, Calle San Pablo, and turn right. The Foundation is the fifth building on the left. [Or join via Zoom \(see page 1\)](#)

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

() [Check here to receive your newsletter by snail mail, otherwise a digital version will be sent by email.](#)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email address _____