



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 57, Number 5

February, 2026

CALENDAR

Feb 2, Mon, 7:00 pm
Monthly Program

Feb 6, Fri, 7:45 am
Bard Lake
see page 2

Feb 11, Wed, 8:00 am
Beginner Bird Walk
see page 2

Feb 13-16
Great Backyard Bird Count
see page 2

Feb 15, Sun, 3-5 pm
Birds & Brews
see page 2

Feb 20, Fri 8:00 am
Pt. Mugu Naval Base
CVAS members only
see page 2

Mar 14, Sat, 5:30 pm
Annual Dinner/Auction
see page 3



California Scrub Jay
© CS Klabunde

FEBRUARY 2nd MONTHLY PROGRAM

ROOTED IN COMMUNITY: CALIFORNIA WALNUT WOODLANDS, THE ECOLOGICAL SIGNIFICANCE TO AVIFAUNA

Changes in land use following Euro-American colonization resulted in the severe reduction of the endemic Southern California black walnut (*Juglans californica*) and its woodland habitat. Natasha Khanna-Dang studied the availability of trees and large shrubs and feeding behavior of birds in eight patches of California walnut woodland in Los Angeles County during the breeding and nonbreeding periods of 2023. Natasha will join CVAS's monthly meeting via Zoom to discuss the findings on the importance of these woodlands to the larger ecosystem and will discuss how ecological research can intersect with both conservation and social justice issues.

Natasha Khanna-Dang works as an urban conservation biologist based out of Los Angeles, California. They completed their Master of Science degree in Environmental Science at California State University, Los Angeles in 2024. Natasha is also an environmental educator and believes in the importance of intersectional ecology – ecological research that intersects with issues of environmental and social justice.



© CS Klabunde



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>.

If you would be interested in joining us for dinner before the meeting, text Chrystal at (805) 261-9885 and meet us at WoodRanch Camarillo at Daily and Lantana by 5:00 pm.

FEBRUARY 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

Your Fieldtrip Chair is trying something new: You can sign up for trips at [new Field Trip Sign-Up Form](#). Also, you're invited to join our Conejo Valley Audubon Society (CVAS) [WhatsApp community group](#) from your phone or desktop and chat with others in real-time to discuss rare birds, get bird IDs, or just get to know each other.

February 6th, FRIDAY -- Bard Lake

Meet by 8:00 am at the boardroom of the Calleguas Municipal Water District office, 2100 Olsen Road, Thousand Oaks. After a brief introduction by the CMWD staff, they will escort us on the 3 mile loop around the 230 acre reservoir looking for different duck and gull species. (note: golf carts are available for those who would like them) The lake is typically closed to the public, so this is a special treat for CVAS! All participants must show a signed waiver and their driver's license or other government-issued photo ID when we gather. Please email fieldtrips@conejovalleyaudubon.org for your copy of the waiver to sign in advance.

Trip leaders: Bill & Carol Langford (360) 742-6059

February 13-16 (long weekend) – Great Backyard Bird Count GBBC.

Done annually in February, the GBBC is a global, four day community science event where people of all ages and skill levels help track bird populations by simply watching birds anywhere they choose for **15 minutes or more**. Participants can count birds on any of the four days and submit sightings using **Merlin Bird ID**, **eBird Mobile**, or the **eBird website**, with no separate registration required. The goal is to create a worldwide snapshot of where birds are and how they're doing. It's easy, fun, and meaningful whether you're birding solo, with family, or as part of a community event.

More info at: <https://www.birdcount.org/>

February 13th, FRIDAY (8am-1pm) – Point Mugu Naval Base

This trip has been **RESCHEDULED** from January 23 due to website problems. There are still openings, so email John Mueller directly at fieldtrips@conejovalleyaudubon.org to be included. **Your papers must be in to the Navy by Jan 20th.**

Pt. Mugu Navy base has seen more diverse bird species than anywhere else in Ventura County. This is a rare opportunity for CVAS members to get an escorted bird tour of the base to see dozens and dozens of different birds from raptors to waterfowl to sparrows, scoters and shorebirds.

February 15th, Sunday, (3-5 pm) - Birds & Brews - Tarantula Hill Brewing - Thousand Oaks

We will be picking-up the Birds & Brews social meetups in 2026 with our first meet in Thousand Oaks at Tarantula Hill Brewing on T.O. Blvd. We will be in the middle of the GBBC and this will be a good opportunity to meet other birders from the area and discuss progress, or anything else. RSVP if you're interested so we can reserve a table ahead of time. Join our Conejo Valley Audubon Society (CVAS) [WhatsApp community group](#) from your phone or desktop and chat with others in real-time to discuss rare birds, get bird IDs or just get to know each other.



White-tailed Kite
© Don Klabunde

Beginner Bird Walk Rancho Sierra Vista / Satwiwa February 11th, 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, accessible from 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)

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.



Vermilion Flycatcher
© Don Klabunde

Hi, CVAS Birders,

It's time to think about our Annual Dinner/Auction for 2026. This year it will fall on March 14th – π Day, Pi Day, or even Pie Day if you prefer.

CONEJO VALLEY AUDUBON
INVITES YOU TO OUR ANNUAL
COCKTAIL DINNER AND AUCTION



SATURDAY
MARCH 14, 2026
(3/14 AKA 3.14 AKA π DAY)

PALM GARDEN
HOTEL

495 VENTU PARK ROAD
THOUSAND OAKS, CA 91320

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

TICKETS \$80.00
EARLYBIRD SPECIAL \$70.00 BEFORE FEBRUARY 28
(STUDENTS \$55.00)

5 FREE RAFFLE TICKETS
FOR EACH FIRST-TIME GUEST

DINNER BUFFET (BUF)
salad
2 entrees
2 sides
dinner roll and butter
coffee, tea and sodas
and of course pie

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 _____

OR REGISTER AT ConejoValleyAudubon.org WITH PayPal

ROADRUNNER

Page 4

Volume 57, Number 5

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

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

OFFICERS

President	Frank DeMartino
Vice Pres	Kay Regester
Secretary	Ann Glass
Treasurer	David Person

USERNAMES

<i>president</i>
<i>vicepresident</i>
<i>secretary</i>
<i>treasurer</i>

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Programs	Gena Nicole Ball	<i>programs</i>
Field Trips	John Mueller	<i>fieldtrips</i>
Conservation	Sangeet Khalsa	<i>conservation</i>
Lawns to Habitat	Ann Glass	<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.langford</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 [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 your newsletter by snail mail, otherwise a digital version will be sent by email.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email address _____