



ROADRUNNER

Founded 1968

Published by the Conejo Valley Audubon Society

A Chapter of the National Audubon Society

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VOL. 43

November, 2012

NO. 3

General Meeting November 5 7:30 pm Western Foundation

Mary Freeman presents: The Northern Saw-whet Owls of the Angeles Crest

During the five years of the Los Angeles County Breeding Bird Atlas survey, data on this owl species were sorely lacking. In response, Mary set out over the past 12 years to study the status and distribution of this little-understood owl in the changing San Gabriel mountains. Come and listen as Mary gives an overview of her findings relating to Saw-whets, other owls and wildlife encountered during the project.

Mary is a native of Los Angeles, and has led birding trips since the late 70s. She likes to bird by ear, has a BA in art design, illustrates birds, designs jewelry, and has searched out owls throughout the Americas. But her greatest passion is surveying Saw-whets in our local mountains.



Mary Freeman & Owl Friend

Conservation Column By Dee Lyon

Ocean policy. American environmental policy generally, and ocean policy in particular, has come a long way over the last four decades. I think it's hard for many people today to imagine the days when pollution was unregulated, huge foreign fishing vessels dominated our fisheries, and building in the coastal zone was a free-for-all. But that was once the reality and the result was a real decline in ocean health that threatened what we as a society want and need from this vast but fragile resource.

Implementing fishing regulations in the northeastern U.S. reversed the adverse trend after decades of overfishing had devastated our coastal resources. This was a battle, because things had to change and change can be hard on people, businesses and communities. It is true that there are some who lose out in the short term, but the alternative is truly the loss of the great fisheries of New England. Undoubtedly things can still get much better, but years of overfishing have been reversed and some key fisheries like scallops and haddock have recovered and are producing more than ever.

It is not uncommon to hear people decry regulation, yet regulation has been responsible for significant improvements in the health of marine and coastal ecosystems. This year marks the 40th anniversaries of several important ocean policies, including the Coastal Zone Management, Marine Mammal Protection, Clean Water, and National Marine Sanctuaries Acts. Once again, we are making progress.

CALENDAR

November

4	8:00 am	Field Trip: Ventura Ponds/Treatment Plant
5	5:15 pm	Pre meeting Dinner: Ottavio's
5	7:30 pm	General Meeting Western Foundation
8	9:00 am	Field Trip: Beginner's Bird Walk
9	7:45 am	Field Trip: Point Mugu Naval Base
10	7:30 am	Field Trip: Mugu Rock, Mugu Lagoon, Sycamore Canyon
18	8:00 am	Field Trip: Arroyo Simi

Pre meeting Dinner

Ottavio's in Camarillo at 5:15 pm

Call **Nobuko McClure**

For Reservations **(805) 482-0411**

Reservation Deadline: 9:00 am

Day of General Meeting

CVAS Events

Everyone is welcome to attend any CVAS meeting or field trip. CVAS assumes no responsibility for injuries, personal or otherwise, incurred while attending a society- sponsored activity and will not be held liable for such accidents. One attends at one's own risk.

Board Meeting Notice

The November Board Meeting will be held on Monday November 19. All CVAS members are invited to attend monthly CVAS Board Meetings. Meetings start at 7:00 pm and are held in the home of a board member with meeting locations varying monthly. Please contact CVAS Secretary, **Gary Evans** at **(805) 231-5692** or GaryE@ConejoValleyAudubon.org for meeting location and directions.

Field Trips

The times specified are departure times – **be sure to arrive 15 min earlier**. Try to carpool whenever possible and don't forget to offer the driver gas money!
RAIN CANCELS!

Sunday, November 4th Ventura Wildlife Ponds at Ventura Water Treatment Plant.

Leader: **Ron Barns (818) 991-9967**. Ducks, gulls, rails, and more. Spotting scopes are always welcome. Directions: Take Harbor Blvd to Spinnaker and enter Ventura Harbor. The Water Treatment Plant is on Angler, a left turn before Spinnaker curves to the right. Park in the available parking across the street and meet at the gate at 8:00 am.

Thursday, November 8th Beginner's Bird Walk

Second Thursday of each month. Call **Angie Kobabe (818) 991-4055** between 9:00 am and 9:00 pm to let her know you are coming and to find out where it will be held. Rain or temperatures above 90 degrees will cancel.

Friday, November 9th Point Mugu Naval Base

This trip, only for CVAS members, requires signup at least 3 weeks prior to trip and is limited to 25 people. Contact **Don Williamson** at **(818) 889-4498** to check on availability. US citizenship required as well as picture ID. No cameras or video equipment

permitted. Meet at base parking lot (corner of Mugu Rd and Navel Air Road) at 7:45 am. Trip leader is **Dave Pereksta**.

Saturday, November 10th, 2012 Mugu Rock, Mugu Lagoon, and Sycamore Canyon

From Mugu Rock, we will scan the ocean for sea ducks, gulls, shearwaters, and other possible pelagic species. We will also visit Mugu Lagoon to look for sandpipers, shorebirds, and egrets. Finally, at Sycamore Canyon, we will look for migrating songbirds. Meet at the Las Posas Park and Ride at 7:30 am. Leader is **Dee Lyon (805) 499-2165**.

Sunday, November 18th, 2012 Arroyo Simi

The arroyo through Simi Valley has a great assortment of shorebirds, ducks, herons, and gulls. Join this self-led, easy walk from Madera Street to First Street and back along the bike path. Expected species include: Green Heron, Black-necked Stilt, Belted Kingfisher, and White-faced Ibis. Possible birds include Hooded Merganser and Blue-winged Teal. Meet at the entrance to the bike path at Easy Street in Simi Valley, just east of Madera Rd at 8:00 am.

Note: CVAS will again host a trip to the **Seal Beach National Wildlife Refuge**. This winter's trip is scheduled for Sunday Dec 16, 2012, 8AM to noon. Interested birders must email **Michael Zarky** (mzarky@earthlink.net) to sign up and to receive further details.

Annual CVAS Membership Dues Reminder
As a reminder to all members, CVAS membership dues now match our activity year. The current membership year runs from September 2012 to August 2013. So for most members – those who last renewed or joined prior to January 2012 – your dues for our next activity year are now due and payable using the CVAS Membership Application on page 4 of this newsletter. If you have questions about when your membership ends, please contact the membership secretary at (membership@conejovalleyaudubon.org).

Field Trip Reports

Santa Clara River Estuary by *Dee Lyon* Saturday, Sept 1st

17 of us hiked the beach on a gorgeous day to find the following 51 species: a big flock of Red-necked Phalarope, Wilson's Phalarope, Brown Pelican, Black-crowned Night Heron, Ruddy Ducks, Mallards, Orange-crown Warbler, Song Sparrow, Amer Coot, Western Gull, Calif Gull, Heerman's Gull, Elegant Tern, Forster's Tern, Turkey Vulture, Horned Lark, Snowy Plover, Sanderling, Marbled Godwit, Whimbrel, Willet, Western Sandpiper, Least Sandpiper, Semipalmated Plover, Western Grebe, Clark's Grebe, Surf Scoter, Common Loon, Eared Grebe, Pied-billed Grebe, Snowy Egret, Great Egret, Gt Blue Heron, Double-crested Cormorant, Brandt's Cormorant, Black Turnstone, Killdeer, Osprey, House Finch, Black Phoebe, Amer Crow, Bufflehead, No Shoveler, Barn Swallow, Cliff Swallow, Tree Swallow, No Rough Wing Swallow, Eurasian Collared Dove, Gt Tailed Grackle, Red-winged Blackbird, No Mockingbird.

Message from the Editor

The editor would appreciate any articles of interest, photographs, or field trip reports from members. Please get them to me by the 5th of the month. I prefer them in electronic form with articles in plain text or rich text format (RTF) and pictures in jpeg format.

CVAS' Nature Adventure Day

Photo by Don Klabunde

Snakes & Lizzards Drew the Largest Crowds



Images from the Past: October 22, 2011

CVAS' Nature Adventure Day

Photos by Don Klabunde

A Colorful Sign Beckons Kids & Adults to Satwiwa



Thelma arrives to take charge



A Turkey Vulture Entertains



A Great Horned Owl Eyes The Crowd



ROADRUNNER

Conejo Valley Audubon Society, Inc.

P.O. Box 4782

Thousand Oaks, CA 91359

November, 2012



Officers and Committee Chairs			Username
President			
Vice Pres			
Secretary	Gary Evans	805-231-5692	GaryE
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Publicity	Cory Taylor		publicity
Newsletter	Charlie Lucas	805-498-6447	newsletter
Membership	Bonnie Clarfield-Bylin	805-405-5632	membership
Historian	Bets Buchanan	805-482-0063	
Special Events			
Photographer	Don Klabunde	805-522-8023	photographer
Special Projects	Nobuko McClure	805-482-0411	nobuko
Webmaster	Frank DeMartino		webmaster
CVAS Web Site	http://www.ConejoValleyAudubon.org		
Send E-mail to	username@ConejoValleyAudubon.org		

Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed to staff officer positions currently open on the CVAS Board. For the term starting Fall 2012, both the President and Vice President positions will need to be filled in addition to the Special Events coordinator. We encourage you to discuss your interests in volunteering for any of these positions at our next General Meeting.

Regular meetings are held on the first Monday evening of each month at the Western Foundation of Vertebrate Zoology, 439 Calle San Pablo, Camarillo at 7:30 pm, unless otherwise noted. **Everyone is welcome.** Take Pleasant Valley Road or Lewis Road to where they cross south of the 101 Freeway. Go west to the second street, Calle San Pablo. 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 to promote the study and conservation of birds and other vertebrates. The organization makes contributions in the areas of natural history collections, original research, and conservation.

The *Roadrunner* is published monthly except July and August by the Conejo Valley Audubon Society. It is sent to paid CVAS members only. Members are invited to submit articles, announcements, letters, photos, and drawings for publication consideration. Copy deadline is the 5th of the month. Send items to Charlie Lucas, 465 Havenside Ave., Newbury Park, CA 91320, or by E-mail: newsletter@ConejoValleyAudubon.org.

NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

C2ZC230Z

Please enroll me as a member of the National Audubon Society. I have enclosed \$20 (\$15 for seniors and students), payable to **National Audubon Society**, for an introductory membership.

Mail it to: National Audubon Society, P. O. Box 422250, Palm Coast, FL 32142-2250

Renewing memberships should be sent to National Audubon with the renewal form and envelope you receive.

For questions regarding national membership status call: National Audubon Customer Service 1-800-274-4201

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phone _____ E-mail address _____

CONEJO VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Please enroll me as a member of Conejo Valley Audubon Society. I have enclosed \$20 for a family membership.

Additional Gift: ___\$25.00 ___\$50.00 ___\$75.00 ___\$100.00 \$_____ Other

Membership \$ _____ Donation \$ _____ Total (check payable to CVAS) \$ _____

Mail to: CVAS, P.O. Box 4782, Thousand Oaks, CA 91359 Newsletter will be sent by E-mail.

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phone _____ E-mail address _____