



ROADRUNNER

Founded 1968

Published by the Conejo Valley Audubon Society
A Chapter of the National Audubon Society

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VOL. 46

March, 2015

NO. 7

General Meeting March 2nd 7:30 pm Western Foundation

Jeff Sikich is a National Park Service wildlife biologist and world-renowned tracker. International government agencies and non-profit groups have enlisted him to tag dangerous carnivores in order to better understand the behaviors of threatened species. For the past decade he has been in the Santa Monica Mountains studying the impact of dense human population, highways and urban sprawl on our mountain lions. Jeff will discuss this research and answer questions.



WFVZ Advanced Gull and Tern ID Workshop

Adam Searcy, facilitated by Linnea Hall, will teach this advanced workshop for intermediate to experienced birders who wish to improve their ageing and seasonal identification skills.

The workshops are March 3rd, 5th and 7th. Cost is \$150 for current WFVZ members or \$200 otherwise. Class size is limited to 20 and filling fast. If interested email Linnea at linnea@wfvz.org or phone (805) 388-9944 by February 25th.

Conservation by Dee Lyon

Why are there so many birders?

The advent of field guides, the development of better and less expensive binoculars, a greater interest in nature and deeper concern for the environment have all contributed to the expansion of birdwatching.

There are the casual, the committed and the expert. It is amazing that in a survey one in four Americans questioned said they did some bird watching over a two year period. It is estimated that two million Americans are committed birders, knowing a hundred or more species. The super-committed read their field guides from cover to cover, do some bird watching several days a week and keep records of sightings.

When asked why they observe birds, most spoke of the beauty of birds and wanting to be close to nature. Birding can be a particularly intense personal experience producing a joyful awareness.

In one study the average bird watcher age was 42. 70% were male. They were typically of above average income and education.

It's best if a birder starts as a child.

California and Florida have the most species of birds. It has been said that if a birder stays in California long enough, that person will see almost every migrant species in North America.

Dee

CALENDAR

March		
2	5:15 pm	Pre meeting Dinner: Ottavio's
2	7:30 pm	General meeting
8	8:00 am	Chesebro Canyon
15	8:00 am	Lake Los Carneros
21	8:30 am	Ventura County Game Preserve
29	8:00 am	Rancho Sierra Vista

*****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.

Sunday, March 8th Cheseboro Canyon

The gently rounded hills and canyons of Cheseboro and Palo Comado are older than the steeper, more recently formed Santa Monica Mountains and provide popular terrain for hikers, bikers and equestrians. For over 150 years ranchers made these canyons their home. Many of the native plants, poorly adapted to heavy grazing, were replaced with European annuals such as wild oats, mustard and thistle. Despite numerous years of cattle grazing, we can still find a variety of native plant communities, including chaparral, coastal sage scrub and riparian woodlands. In these communities we will find native residents and migrants. Directions: Take the Cheseboro exit from US 101 and head north on Palo Camado Canyon Road. Turn right onto Cheseboro Canyon Road and park either at the first or second parking lots, depending on availability. The group will meet at the second parking lot at 8 am. Trip Leader: Richard Armerding (310) 701-3878

Thursday, March 12 Beginning Bird Walk

Second Thursday of each month. Call Angie Kobabe (818) 991-4055 between 9:00 am and 10:00 pm to learn the location and let her know you are coming. Time is 9:00 am.

Sunday, March 15 Lake Los Carneros

We will spend most of the day at Lake Los Carneros in Goleta, looking for waterfowl, finches, sparrows and chaparral species. Expected birds include Gadwall, Cinnamon Teal, Redhead, White-tailed Kite, Mew Gull, Belted Kingfisher, Loggerhead Shrike, Hutton's Vireo, gnatcatchers, swallows, sparrows and more. Lake Los Carneros

is best accessed off North La Patera Lane in Golita. Directions: Take the 101 North and exit at Fairview Avenue. Turn right and then turn left on Calle Real. Turn right on La Patera Lane and park near the trailhead entrance to the park and lake. Meet at Las Posas Park and Ride to carpool at 7:00 am or at Lake Los Carneros at 8 am. Trip leader: Carol Langford (360) 742-6059

Saturday, March 21 Ventura County Game Preserve

Just in time for early spring migrants, the game preserve has generously opened their private grounds for our group. Please use good birding etiquette... you must remain with the group at all times! On past trips we have seen species such as Vermillion Flycatcher, Marsh Wren, Northern Harrier, Peregrine Falcon and American Bittern. Since we cannot drive the grounds there will be considerable walking (about 2 miles total). Directions: Take Casper Rd. south from Hueneme Rd (between Saviers Rd. and Hwy 1). Follow the left curve to the barn and house and park on the road adjacent to these buildings. Please bring scopes, binoculars and field guides. Time is 8:30. Trip leader: Neil Zeigler (805) 983-7207

Sunday, March 29 Rancho Sierra Vista

We expect to see orioles, hummingbirds, swallows and more at this great park. In the grassland that remains after the devastating fire of May 2013, we should be able to find gnatcatchers, Black-headed Grosbeak and California Thrasher. Historically, this park has hosted up to eight species of flycatcher, four species of woodpecker, five species of hummingbird, seven species of raptor and twelve species of sparrow at this time of year. Will they all be there this year? Help us answer that question and upload your findings to eBird to contribute to citizen science efforts. Directions: From the 101 exit Wendy Drive and head south. Turn right on Lynn Road. Lynn Road soon becomes Potrero Road. Turn left on Via Goleta and head to the end of the road and meet in the parking lot at 8 am. Trip leader: Linda Easter (805) 482-7537

You are cordially invited
 to join
CONEJO VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY
 on
SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 2015
 at
PALM GARDEN HOTEL
 495 Ventu Park Road -Thousand Oaks - CA 91320

for our Annual

COCKTAIL DINNER AND AUCTION

No-host cocktails 5:30 PM –Dinner 6:30 PM
 Ticket price per person \$43.00 (early bird special \$38.00 – before 3/7/15)
 5-FREE raffle tickets for each 1st time guest

We ask that everyone kindly bring an item for the raffles.
 All types of donation items are acceptable and are not limited to those with an avian theme.
 Anyone interested in donating items for the silent or live auctions please contact Carol Langford
 at 360-742-6059 or berry50@yahoo.com

All are tax deductible!

Dinner selections: Buffet Service with Seasoned Vegetable Medley, Salads, Roasted Potatoes and choice of entree. Also freshly baked breads and a delicious dessert, coffee or tea.

#1 Vegetarian Stuffed Squash

#2 Wild Salmon and Tri-tip

Please fill out this reservation form, tear it off, and mail it with your check (payable to CVAS) to:
 CVAS, P.O. Box 4782, Thousand Oaks, CA 91359

Print your name(s) as you would like it to appear on your place card and select an entrée by number

Name _____ Dinner # ____ Phone # _____

Name _____ Dinner # ____

Name _____ Dinner # ____

Name _____ Dinner # ____

Name _____ Dinner # ____

Thanks for your support!!!

ROADRUNNER

Conejo Valley Audubon Society, Inc.

P.O. Box 4782

Thousand Oaks, CA 91359

March, 2015



Officers and Committee Chairs			Username
President	Ron Barns	818-991-9967	rtbarns@netscape.net
Vice Pres	Bonnie Clarfield-Bylin	805-405-5632	vice-president
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Treasurer	Richard Armerding		treasurer
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Graphic Arts	Chrystal Klabunde	805-522-8023	chrystal
Conservation	Dee Lyon	805-499-2165	chickadee
Education	Thelma Williams	805-492-2796	thelma
Field trips	Matthew Page	805-990-6534	Fieldtrips
Publicity	Cory Taylor		publicity
Newsletter	Gary Evans	805-231-5692	GaryE
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Historian	Bets Buchanan	805-482-0063	
Librarian	Jean Stoutenborough		librarian
Special Events	Carol Langford	360-742-6059	carol.lee.langford@gmail.com
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		



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 Gary Evans, 29 Sabra Ave., Oak Park, Calif. 91377-1126 or by E-mail: GaryE@ConejoValleyAudubon.org.

NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

C5ZC230Z

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 **←** Check to receive newsletter by mail

Name _____ Otherwise newsletter will come by email

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail address _____