



ROADRUNNER

Founded 1968

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CVAS Annual Picnic Saturday, June 1 - Los Robles Trail



We had such a good time at this beautiful location last year that we decided to have this year's picnic there too. Located in front of the original Janss house in Thousand Oaks. Go south on Moorpark Road to the end approximately 1 mile south of the 101 freeway. Turn right on Green Meadow Ave. and go approximately 1 mile to the parking lot at the end of Green Meadow Ave. Carpooling is encouraged as there is limited parking.

There will be a potluck picnic at 11:00 am, please bring these food items to share. If your last name begins with:

A to I bring Main dish
J to R bring Dessert
S to Z bring Salad

Please provide your own table service, drinks and chairs.

President's Message by Carol Langford

"The year 1968 is considered one of the most turbulent, and pivotal, twelve month periods in American history" per Tom Brokaw. The Civil Rights Movement gained momentum while America was entrenched in the unpopular Vietnam War. In San Francisco the Haight-Ashbury area was the center of the hippie movement while in Thousand Oaks the Conejo Valley Audubon Society fledged! Tom Maxwell was the first elected President and forty years later he continues to volunteer for CVAS during our annual Christmas Count. Tom's sterling 40 years of volunteer service is an example to each of us as we continue to enjoy the camaraderie of fellow birders while learning a bit more each year.

Writing of service, Don and Cheryl Williamson have completed 60 gold medal-winning issues of the ROAD-RUNNER. In the fall of 2001 Don assumed the Treasurer position, in September of 2002 Cheryl published her first edition of the Roadrunner and in September of 2003 Don traded Treasurer for Membership Chair. They have published the newsletter, provided our much envied name badges, and attended innumerable board meetings always being responsible voices for conservation and outreach. Don was selected as a "tester" for the Audubon electronic membership communication system. In 2006 the ROAD-RUNNER was honored to receive FIRST PLACE in the Audubon Biennial Newsletter Contest for newsletter excellence. The credit is due to the artistic talent, concise writing and technical skills of our sterling volunteers, the Williamsons. We will really miss you!

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CALENDAR

June

1	8:00 am	Annual Picnic	Janss House
7	7:15 am	Field trip	Pine Mountain
12	9:00 am	Field trip	Beginner's Bird Walk
14	8:00 am	Field trip	Rancho Sierra Vista
22	7:30 am	Field trip	Camarillo Regional Park

September

8	7:30 pm	General meeting	Western Foundation
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The annual picnic will be the last meeting for this year. We will resume our meetings on September 8th. The first program of the year will be "Show and Tell"

Have a safe and birdy summer!

CVAS Events

The public 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. Please call the trip leader in advance to learn of any changes to the field trip plans.

Field Trips

The times specified are departure times - **be sure to arrive 15 min earlier.** Try to car pool when ever possible and don't forget to give the driver gas money!

RAIN CANCELS!

Sunday, June 1 Annual Picnic

Held at the old Janss House. Go to south end of Moorpark Road and turn right to the end. Bring main dish, salad or dessert for 8. Plus chair, plate, cutlery and drinks. BirdWalk at 8 am

Saturday, June 7 Pine Mountain

Leave Las Posas Park and Ride at 7:30 am. Bring jacket, lunch and water for a trip up 33 to Pine Mountain campground. High clearance vehicle recommended. We'll look for Green-tailed Towhee, Purple Finches, Clark's Nutcrackers, White-headed Woodpeckers, Pygmy Nuthatches, and other montane species.

Leader is **Dee Lyon (805) 499-2165.**

Thursday, June 12 Beginner's Bird Walk

This is the last Beginner's Bird Walk this year; it will be at Camarillo Springs Park. The bird walk will be at 9:00 am followed by a potluck lunch. Call **Angie Kobabe (818) 991-4055** between 9 am and 9 pm to let her know you are coming and what you will bring.

Rain cancels.

Saturday, June 14 Rancho Sierra Vista

See our wonderful neotropical migrants (Lazuli Bunting, Blue Grosbeak, orioles etc) Meet at Sierra Vista at 8 am. Leader is **Rich Congersky (805) 558-2297.**

Sunday, June 22 Camarillo Regional Park

Leave Las Posas Park and Ride at 7:45 or meet at the entrance to the Park at 8 am. We'll look for Yellow-breasted Chats, Orioles, Ash-throated Flycatchers, other nesting birds. Leader is **Tom Halpin (805) 746-4598.**

Shutterbugs

by Don Williamson

The June 9th meeting will be in the multipurpose room at Leisure Village at 7:30 PM. The topic will be Filters presented by Marlene Votion. The picture theme for June will be image manipulation using the techniques presented by Jerry Spector at the May meeting.

If you are interested in attending the Shutterbugs meetings, contact Jerry Spector at (805) 384-9039 or jerbear007@yahoo.com to be put on the access list for Leisure Village.

"MEET ME AT THE FAIR" July 30 - August 10, 2008

We are looking for people interested in working at the Ventura County Fair. We need volunteers to work at the fair and to decorate the booth. If you are interested, give Carol Langford a call (805) 987-2721. This is one way we can share the love of birds with our local community. Be sure to visit our booth in the Agricultural Building during the fair.

Mark the Date

*** Sunday, June 1, 2008 *** CVAS Annual Picnic

Los Robles Trail

June 14, 2008

California Reptile & Amphibian Celebration

krfriends@audubon.org

<http://kern.audubon.org>

August 9, 2008

Kern Valley Hummingbird Celebration

krfriends@audubon.org

<http://kern.audubon.org>



Oregon Junco

Watercolor by Tom Halpin

Ventura County Science Fair

by Linda Reynolds

Conejo Valley Audubon Society was pleased to give two awards on April 24 at the annual Ventura County Science Fair.



They were given in the name of Dr. Elliot McClure, who was an active birder, teacher, and researcher in the field of ornithology. Both awards this year were in the area of Environmental Science. Judging was done by Linda Reynolds and Chrystal Klabunde.

The first award was given to Kristin Lopez, Sacred Heart Elementary School.

Her project was entitled "Garbage Blues". Kristin buried eleven different objects in soil, dug them up at regular intervals, and checked their rate of decomposition. Her samples were on display.

The second award went to Amy Schwartz of Medea Creek Middle School. Her project was about hydro pollution, entitled "How pHresh is your water"? Amy sampled water at least six locations along Medea Creek, measuring amounts of pH, ammonia, salinity, nitrates and nitrites. Bottles of water from each location were on display.

Both girls used proper scientific testing procedure, did their own work, had attractive displays and well written reports. They each received an award certificate from Conejo Valley Audubon Society accompanied by a check for \$100.00.

(President's message continued from page 1)

Behind the scenes many of you quietly work to keep CVAS moving forward. Bill and Jean Hulberg arrange the chairs before each of our meetings. Marge Coler spent hours and hours designing, piecing and quilting the Western Tanagers. Rich Congersky assisted by an able committee organized our dinner and auction. Don Klabunde was in fine form as the auctioneer. Angie Kobabe, our President in 1984 and 1985, leads a "Beginner's Bird Walk" each month. In addition to placing 20 Audubon Adventures in area classrooms, Thelma Williams has coordinated volunteers participating in the TREES program at Sequoia Junior High. Chrystal Klabunde and Dee Lyon have attended meetings of the Calleguas Creek Watershed District and are hatching plans that will require even more volunteers.

During 2008 as CVAS celebrates forty years of community service we'll continue to recognize our volunteers. Each one of you assists as we look forward to another forty years of learning a bit more each year.

Your Board of Directors is collecting names, addresses and/or telephone numbers of CVAS board members and field trip leaders. We have newsletters dating from 1994. If you have information from earlier years please contact Carol Langford. We want to recognize our leaders from the past 40 years at our September meeting.

Ecological Field Study Program

by Thelma Williams

The Conejo Valley Audubon has been privileged to participate in an ecological field study program at Sequoia Middle School, Newbury Park, starting in February of this school year. The environmentally aware, enthusiastic, fantastic teacher is Allen Saute--teacher of the month this year for the Conejo Valley School District.

Each week or 2 week visit, with the help of at least 2 volunteers from our group, the class has observed and looked for birds on the campus. They have sixteen new 10x42 Bushnell Explorer binoculars, obtained through DonorsChoose.org (they hope to obtain 24 more through DonorsChoose.org funding), and field guides and have learned to use them. They record data in their log books, helping them to identify species and behavior and what it means. They were able to follow the development of a hummingbird nest until the babies had fledged. They also are studying mammals and plants on the campus. The native garden of over 300 plants, created last fall, is doing well. The bird list for campus sightings is now at 43.

The project is proposed for many years, and next year, plans are to continue at Rancho Sierra Vista in a joint National Park Service Project called TREE (Teens Restoring Endangered Ecosystems). The 100 students will go for all-day field trips every 2 weeks, rotating every hour. We are to be responsible for one of the sessions, discussing birds and related topics. This is an exciting program, and we are delighted to be involved in exposing young people to the environment and to birding.

It will also be a commitment, as it has been this year. I would like to express my appreciation to all who have helped this year, we have had 14 members of our group visiting the class--Laurie Van Stee, Dee Lyon, Linda Easter, MaryAnn Campbell, Chris Bumar, Tom Halpin, Bill and Jean Hulberg, Bets Buchanan, Summer Wilson, Babette Lawall, Carol and Bill Langford, and Linda Reynolds. Thanks for your continued involvement.