



# ROADRUNNER

Founded 1968

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A Chapter of the National Audubon Society

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NO. 9

## General Meeting May 3 7:30 pm Western Foundation

### Wildlife Corridors: The Key to Natural Wealth

Southern California (in particular Los Angeles and Ventura counties) is perhaps unique in the world for its system of mountainous National Forest lands, coastal mountain ranges, and desert valleys amid 15 million people and a maze of wide freeways. Although small handfuls of biologists and conservationists have been arduously engaged since the late 1980s in protecting a fragile system of connections, the planning and land use entitlement process is only recently coming close to adequately recognizing the regional importance of wildlife corridors.

From Piru Creek to Acton to the Camarillo Grade, and from the Tierra Rejada Valley to the Cahuenga Pass, the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy is involved with land acquisition, environmental review processes, and planning to complete wildlife corridors at all scales, since these tenuous connections occur on scales of thousands to as little as mere tens of feet wide. Nowhere in Southern California is the work on any single freeway crossing complete, and no land connection can be vouched safe until every component parcel is irreversibly protected.

Join **Paul Edelman** on May 3<sup>rd</sup> to learn what the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy is currently working on. Every wildlife corridor saved represents a permanent public investment in the unique opportunity for millions of people to

live close to natural areas populated by a maximum number of animal species, and in the natural processes that maintain nature's wealth around us, cost-free in perpetuity.



Bobcat

Photos by  
Chrystal Klabunde

Coyote



### Conservation Column By Dee Lyon

#### IDEAS FOR ALL OF US!

Best Birthday or Graduation or Anniversary gift: An acre of the Amazonian Rainforest. This is an easement that keeps that acre green forever! It's \$75 and sold by The Nature Conservancy.

What do you do about your big carbon footprint? Send your money to the National Forest Foundation to plant trees here in our Los Padres Forest. It was founded by the US Congress in 1991 and has a Carbon Footprint Calculator. It's \$1 to have them plant a tree for you. Our Los Padres National Forest is 1.75 million acres and needs restoration in many burn areas.

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### CALENDAR

#### May

1	7:45 am	Field Trip	Malibu Creek State Park
3	5:15 pm	Pre meeting Dinner:	Ottavio's
3	7:30 pm	General Meeting	Western Foundation
13	9:00 am	Field Trip	Beginner's Bird Walk
16	8:00 am	Field Trip	Satwiwa/Rancho Sierra Vista
29	7:00 am	Field Trip	Pine Mountain

**\*\*\* 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 May Board meeting will be held on Monday, May 17. 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 location varying monthly. Please contact CVAS Secretary, **Linda Reynolds** at **805-386-4062** or [sec@ConejoValleyAudubon.org](mailto:sec@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!**

#### **Saturday, May 1<sup>st</sup>** **West End of Malibu Creek State Park** **(Old Reagan Ranch Site)**

Meet at Rancho Park & Ride at 7:45 am. We will explore the west end of Malibu Creek State Park, accessed via Cornell Road, just south of Mulholland. Spring brings Lazuli Bunting, Blue Grosbeaks, Goldfinches, and Orioles. If you wish to meet the group at the starting point, take Cornell Road south past Paramount Ranch. Proceed on Cornell after the stop sign at the corner of Cornell and Mulholland. Almost immediately on your left will be the entrance road and gravel parking lot for the old Reagan Ranch. Park in the gravel lot. We will start from this location at 8 am. Leader is **David Person (805) 469-6806**.

#### **Thursday, May 13<sup>th</sup>** **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 will cancel.

#### **Sunday, May 16<sup>th</sup>** **Satwiwa/Rancho Sierra Vista**

Meet at the main parking lot at 8 am. Take the 101 to Wendy Drive in Newbury Park. Head south on

Wendy to Lynn Road and turn right. Stay on Lynn past Reino. Lynn becomes Potrero. Entrance will be on left (south) side of Potrero. Leader is **Rich Congersky (805) 558-2297**.

#### **Saturday, May 29<sup>th</sup>** **Pine Mountain**

Meet at Las Posas Park and Ride. Group will leave from there at 7 am. Leader is **Dee Lyon (805) 499-2165**. Will caravan up Hwy 33 to Pine Mountain campground. Bring jacket, lunch, water and \$\$ for carpool drivers. High clearance vehicles recommended. Will look for Green-tailed Towhee, Purple Finches, Clark's Nutcrackers, White-headed Woodpeckers and other montane species.

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#### **National Park Service (NPS) Birdwalks in May**

##### **Sunday, May 9<sup>th</sup>** **King Gillette Ranch at 8 am**

**Morning Birds: 2nd Sundays.** A wealth of birdlife is attracted to the many habitats at this site. Bring binoculars and join us for a 1-mile accessible walk. Beginning birders welcome. \$7 parking fee. Rain cancels. Info: **805-370-2301**. 2hrs **NPS**

##### **Sunday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>** **Rancho Sierra Vista/Satwiwa at 8am**

**Birds of Spring.** Many habitats attract colorful migrants and summer residents: blue grosbeaks, lazuli buntings, roadrunners, warblers, and the elusive grasshopper sparrow. Bring binoculars. Beginners welcome. Rain cancels. Info: **805-370-2301**. Meet at main parking lot. 2.5hrs **NPS**

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#### **Conservation Column** by Dee Lyon *(Continued from Page 1)*

And remember, plant a Toyon or Penstemon today! Let's get started on restoring habitat. Suggest to your neighbors that they use native plants to bring down their water bills. Suggest it to your Homeowner's Association. Bring up the topic among your friends; tell them that you have a goal of 100 native plants planted in 50 different yards. Take them a plant!

Convince friends and neighbors that pesticides are a bad idea. It's possible that they are catalysts  
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**Conservation Column** by Dee Lyon  
(Continued from Page 2)

which could cause cancer. They certainly kill our good insects and probably birds too. Natural controls, such as Pyrethrum, soap or tea are people- and nature-friendly.

Start a fruit and vegetable exchange program in your area. Many people have too many peaches, oranges, avocados, tomatoes or zucchini. It's lots of fun and makes sense ecologically.

Carpool whenever you can, and try riding the train or a bus. Keep your car as long as possible; that's the most ecologically sound thing you can do. Buy things that are made to last a long time. When you forget the cloth grocery bag, excuse yourself to run out to the car and get it. That will help you remember the next time. Sign up for Freecycle.com and try to get everything recycled or given to a thrift store before using the trash barrel.

Use vinegar and soda for cleaning, and boil some cinnamon and spices for room freshener.

Send your Conservation Tips in to me so that we can all learn and benefit.

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## CVAS Open Board Positions

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### Volunteer Candidates Sought For CVAS Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer

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#### Officer's Duties Described

It was announced by Carol Langford, CVAS President, that there will be three open board positions for the service term starting July, 2010 through June, 2011: Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer.

Officers attend and participate in nine CVAS monthly Board meetings held August through May with no meeting held in December. The Secretary records and distributes minutes for each Board meeting and prepares external CVAS correspondence. The Treasurer maintains CVAS financial records, receives dues and other CVAS income for deposit, and issues checks for CVAS Board approved expenses. The Vice President conducts Board and General meetings when the President is absent; coordinates the annual CVAS Dinner-Auction.

CVAS members interested in applying for any of the open board positions are encouraged to contact **Carol Langford** at (805) 987-2721 or [president@ConejoValleyAudubon.org](mailto:president@ConejoValleyAudubon.org)

## FIELD TRIP REPORTS

### Conejo Valley Botanic Gardens, March 14<sup>th</sup>

*By David Person*

The morning was clear and sunny. Although the wind picked up as we were ending about 10 am, it was calm for most of the morning. There were a total of eight birders. We saw 25 species with flocks of Waxwings being the most spectacular. While not the busiest of birding days, it made for a pleasant morning.

### Hill Canyon, March 27<sup>th</sup>

*By Jean Hulberg*

Those old Devil winds got stronger and stronger. Hats and visors went rolling down the road, but 12 of us soldiered on and managed 23 species. The Swallows and Swifts are back and Herons are sitting on nests as is the resident Red-tailed Hawk. We had a great look at a Thrasher running across the road, probably looking for any kind of shelter from the wind. Despite the winds, the Canyon was beautiful -- all green and yellow with patches of lupines and poppies.

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### Message from the Editor

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

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### Annual Dinner-and-Auction Memories

*Photos by Don Klabunde*



Our auctioneer, Don Klabunde starts the bidding for two quilts



Goldfinch Quilt



Hummingbird Quilt

# ROADRUNNER

Conejo Valley Audubon Society, Inc.

P.O. Box 4782

Thousand Oaks, CA 91359

May, 2010



Officers and Committee Chairs			Username
President	Carol Langford	805-987-2721	president
Vice Pres	Rich Congersky	805-558-2297	rcongersky
Secretary	Linda Reynolds	805-386-4062	sec
Treasurer	Dixie Anderson	805-484-3985	
Programs	Chrystal Klabunde	805-522-8023	chrystal
Conservation	Dee Lyon	805-492-2165	chickadee
Education	Thelma Williams	805-492-2796	thelma
Field trips	David Pearson	805-496-9587	fieldtrips
Publicity	Ron Barns	818-991-9967	rtbarns@netscape.net
Newsletter	Charlie Lucas	805-498-6447	newsletter
Hospitality	Patricia Turner	805-987-9147	hospitality
Membership	Bob Parker	805-446-2701	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	<a href="http://www.ConejoValleyAudubon.org">http://www.ConejoValleyAudubon.org</a>		
Send E-mail to	<a href="mailto:username@ConejoValleyAudubon.org">username@ConejoValleyAudubon.org</a>		



While bird banding at Zuma Canyon with Walter Sakai, a professor of Biology at Santa Monica City College, in conjunction with the National Park Service and the US Fish and Wildlife, Bill and Dixie Anderson took this picture of an Anna's Hummingbird.

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](mailto:newsletter@ConejoValleyAudubon.org).

**NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

**C0ZC230Z**

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, payable to CVAS, for a family membership. Mail to: CVAS, P.O. Box 4782, Thousand Oaks, CA 91359 \_\_ Please send my newsletter by E-mail.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_