



ROADRUNNER

Founded 1968

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

VOL. 42

March 2011

NO. 7

General Meeting March 7 7:30 pm Western Foundation

Birdwatching in Lesvos

Don Des Jardin presents another video produced by his long time friend Paul Doherty from the UK. In this video, Paul takes you to the Greek island of Lesvos (Lesbos) during prime spring migration. This video covers portions of April and May.



Lesvos lies in the Aegean Sea and was originally joined to the coast of Asia Minor, present day Turkey, but was detached by powerful geological disturbances. It's roughly 43 miles long by 28 miles wide, with an area of 630 square miles. The basic geography of Lesvos, together with its size and location so close to the Turkish coast and consisting of many varied habitats, including some good wetlands, offers some of the best birding in the Mediterranean basin. Four weeks each spring, birders from across Europe converge on this outpost of

Europe, which lies just 5 miles off Turkey and Asia Minor. The birds are a blend of Mediterranean breeding species and migrants moving through to breed in Eastern Europe and Asia Minor. One example is Krüper's Nuthatch, and Lesvos is probably the easiest place to see this species in the Western Palearctic region.

Conservation Column

By Dee Lyon

A Thought-provoking book! The other side of the story?

Matt Ridgely, author of THE RATIONAL OPTIMIST, says "The world will pull out of the current crisis because of the way that markets in goods, services and ideas allow human beings to exchange and specialize honestly for the betterment of all." Some of his ideas are described below.

By 1950 8 out of 10 American households had running water, central heating, electric light, washing machines, refrigerators, and a car, but fifty years later that middle class would be described as below the poverty line. Today, even "poor" Americans have all of that as well as television, telephones and air conditioning. Cornelius Vanderbilt had none of these. So is this taking its toll on the environment?

He says no; rivers, lakes, seas and the air are getting cleaner all the time; Pasadena has less smog; Bald Eagles are booming. Today, a car emits less pollution traveling at full speed than a parked car did in 1970 from leaks.

(Continued on Page 2)

CALENDAR

March

5/6	7:00 am	Field Trip: Wind Wolves
7	5:15 pm	Pre meeting Dinner: Ottavio's
7	7:30 pm	General Meeting Western Foundation
10	9:00 am	Beginner's Bird Walk
13	8:00 am	Field Trip: Rustic Canyon / Happy Camp
18	5:30 pm	CVAS Annual Dinner and Auction
19	8:00 am	Field Trip: Rancho Sierra Vista
27	7:30 am	Field Trip: Private Property

***** Pre meeting Dinner *****
Ottavio's in Camarillo at 5:15 pm

Call **Nobuko McClure**
For Reservations (805) 482-0411
Reservation Deadline Before!
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 March Board Meeting will be held on Monday, March 21. 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!

Saturday/Sunday, March 5th/6th Wind Wolves

Meet at Rancho Park and Ride at 7 am for 2 hour, 113 mile, drive up to the Preserve. It's up I-5 to 166/Maricopa Hwy and has 97,000 acres. Look for great flowers this year. Bring jacket and lunch. Leaders are **Bill and Carol Langford (805) 987-2721**. Those who wish to camp at Wind Wolves on Saturday night must **first call Carol** who will set up camping arrangements in advance.

Thursday, March 10th Beginner's Bird Walk

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

Sunday, March 13th Rustic Canyon / Happy Camp

Meet at the Rustic Canyon parking lot at 8 am. Take 23 Fwy towards Moorpark and take the Princeton exit. Left at the bottom of the ramp and again at the stop sign at Campus Park Drive. Follow signs to Rustic Canyon Golf Course. Drive up the access road towards the golf course clubhouse and park in the dirt lot before the golf course parking lot. We walk the trail next to the driving range then into Happy Camp and up to the oaks. Expect a variety of chaparral birds along with many raptors. Bring water

and a snack. Leader is **David Person (805) 469-6806**.

Saturday, March 19th Rancho Sierra Vista Plant/Bird Walk

This trip will emphasize the native plants of Rancho Sierra Vista while enjoying the birds that are found in this habitat. Meet at the main parking lot at RSV 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 **Mary Ann Campbell (805) 522-2354**.

Sunday, March 27th Private Property

Carpool from Las Posas Park and Ride at 7:30 am (bring gas money). Meet at the Private Property to walk in. There will be lots of shore birds; should still be some ducks, hawks, herons, black birds; possible American Bittern and Sora. Leader is **Ron Barns (818) 991-9967**.

Conservation Column

(Continued from Page 1)

He contends that Intensive farming saves nature. All cereal crops worldwide produced twice as much in 2005 as was produced from the same acreage in 1968. If yields had not increased, rainforest would have been burnt, deserts irrigated, wetlands drained, pastures ploughed and tidal flats reclaimed. We're farming 38 percent of the land, but if yields had not increased, we would have had to farm 82 per cent of the land to feed today's people. One big advance is that weeds can be controlled by herbicides rather than ploughing, more crops are sown directly into the ground without tilling. This reduces soil erosion, silt run-off and the massacre of innocent small animals of the soil. Food processing with preservatives, (deplored by green-chic folk) has greatly reduced the amount of food that goes to waste. Industrial nitrogen fertilizer allows us to cut down the area of farmland per person to the point where we can begin to turn the rest over to wilderness. Drip irrigation can solve the water problems.

All crop plants are "genetically modified", capable of yielding unnaturally large, free-threshing seeds or heavy, sweet fruit and dependent on human intervention to survive.

[To be continued in the April Newsletter]

You are cordially invited to join
Conejo Valley Audubon Society

on

Friday, March 18, 2011

at

Sterling Hills Golf Club
901 Sterling Hills Drive
Camarillo, CA 93010

Exit the Ventura Freeway (101) at Central Avenue in Camarillo.
Go north on Central (0.8 mi) to Beardsley Road and turn RIGHT.
Continue on Beardsley (0.75 mi) until you reach Sterling Hills Drive and turn RIGHT.
On the left you will see the golf course parking lot.

For

Cocktails, Dinner and Auction

No-host cocktails 5:30 PM – Dinner 6:30 PM

Ticket price per person \$40.00 (early-bird special \$35.00 – before 3/4/11)

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:
805-987-2721 or president@ConejoValleyAudubon.org

All are tax deductible!

Dinner selections: All served with Tossed Green Salad, Fresh Vegetable, Chef's Choice Starch, Freshly Baked Breads & Butter, and Chef's Choice Dessert and Beverage.

- (1) Duet Plate: Petite Filet Mignon & Baked Salmon Filet
- (2) Hot Vegetable Plate

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!!!

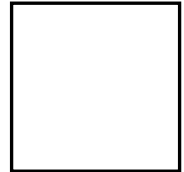
ROADRUNNER

Conejo Valley Audubon Society, Inc.

P.O. Box 4782

Thousand Oaks, CA 91359

March, 2011



Officers and Committee Chairs			Username
President	Carol Langford	805-987-2721	president
Vice Pres			
Secretary	Gary Evans	805-231-5692	GaryE
Treasurer	Ron Barns	818-991-9967	rtbarns@netscape.net
Programs	Chrystal Klabunde	805-522-8023	chrystal
Conservation	Dee Lyon	805-499-2165	chickadee
Education	Thelma Williams	805-492-2796	thelma
Field trip: Co	Dee Lyon	805-499-2165	chickadee
Field trip: Co	Charlie Lucas	805-498-6447	newsletter
Publicity	Ron Barns	818-991-9967	rtbarns@netscape.net
Newsletter	Charlie Lucas	805-498-6447	newsletter
Membership	Bob Parker		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		

An Avian Limerick by Laine Bell

There once was an
unpleasant Pheasant

So ugly and mean to
his spouse

That in his family tree
It was quite plain to
see

Someone was a nasty
old Grouse.

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

C1ZC230Z

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 _____