



ROADRUNNER

Founded 1968

Published by the Conejo Valley Audubon Society

A Chapter of the National Audubon Society

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VOL. 43

February 2012

NO. 6

General Meeting February 6 7:30 pm Western Foundation

Yet More Adventures of Guy Commeau!

Naturalist and photographer, Guy Commeau is back yet again with the third installment of his popular program on the wonders to be found right here in the state of California. Although his travels have included New Zealand, Nepal, Alaska, Peru and his native France, he says he loves California the best. An excellent photographer with an artistic bent, this popular presenter will entertain us with one of his exciting stories and photographs.

In 1991, Guy wrote *Mammals and Countries of the World: A Checklist*, which organized the mammals of the world much as the famous Clements checklist did for birds. He is now retired from the restaurant business and is a docent at the LAZoo ... when he's not on the road.

Yellow-Billed Magpie / D. Klabunde



Save That Date
The first annual
TOM HALPIN MEMORIAL HIKE
Will be held on Saturday, March 31

CALENDAR

February

4/5	8:00 am	Carrizo Plain National Monument
6	5:15 pm	Pre meeting Dinner: Ottavio's
6	7:30 pm	General Meeting Western Foundation
9	9:00 am	Field Trip: Beginner's Bird Walk
12	8:30 am	Field Trip: Lake Casitas
25/26	9:00 am	Photography Work Shop
26	8:00 am	Field Trip: Shorebird Work Shop at SCRE

Books for Young Birders by Carol Langford

Audubon has awarded CVAS a Collaborative Funding Grant in the amount of \$3,000 for our Books for Young Birders project. As the grant application stated "This project will place field guides in both English and Spanish in seventy Ventura County, CA schools. These schools have the highest number of limited English speaking students and the highest number of students qualifying for free or reduced meals in the county. These students and their families represent a demographic that is underserved and under represented in Conejo Valley Audubon. In addition, Conejo Valley Audubon will offer in-class presentations/interactive lessons on bird biology and identification followed up with the offer of schoolyard and/or neighborhood field trips."

CVAS started raising funds for this project last spring at our annual dinner and auction so we've a good beginning on providing the necessary funds. Now we need the volunteers! Ordering the Kenn Kaufman Field Guide and Guia will be the easy task. We have already received assurance of a bulk discount from publishers, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt. We may receive a donation of some of the Guia from the Kaufmans. Other portions of the project will be preparation of lesson plans and teaching materials incorporating the California science standards for students from first grade through high school, preparing student booklets, contacting schools and teachers for the opportunity to present the lessons, hopefully arranging bird walks in school yards or local parks, delivery of the books to the 70 school libraries, publicity and more and probably more.

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*****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 February Board Meeting will be held on Monday, February 20. 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!

Sat / Sun, February 4th/5th Carrizo Plain Nat'l Monument

Fee: Donation Suggested, Prior Sign-Up Preferred. We will meet at 8:00 am sharp at the junction of Hwy 166 and Soda Lake Road for two days of driving with beautiful plains scenery, plentiful birds and few bathrooms. Our route will be dependant on trip reports and on the road conditions. We hope to include the southern portion of Bitterwater Road if time allows. If schedule changes do not interfere we will have Adam Searcy as a guest leader. Adam has found the elusive Le Conte's Thrasher while participating in bird surveys on the Monument. We hope to see Ferruginous Hawks, Prairie Falcons, Golden Eagles, Merlins and Mountain Bluebirds. If luck is with us we'll see the Mountain Plovers and cross your fingers, the Le Conte's Thrasher. The trip organizers, Bill and Carol Langford will stay in the Motel 6 Central in Buttonwillow. Please reserve your own room. Others have indicated they will be camping. Weather is variable, check the forecast. Scopes and FRS radios are helpful. Contact the Langfords at (360)-742-6059 or via email at berry50@yahoo.com to sign-up or for more information.

Thursday, February 9th Beginner's Bird Walk Annual Westlake Boat Trip (Must Reserve)

Call **Angie Kobabe** (818) 991-4055 between 9:00 am and 9:00 pm to reserve your seat and let her know

you are coming. Reservations are required. Rain will cancel.

Sunday, February 12th Lake Casitas

Meet at Lake Casitas parking lot at 8:30 am. Lots of duck, grebes, sparrows, hawks and woodpeckers. Leader is **John Pavelko** (805) 640-9040.

Sat / Sun, February 25th/ 26th Photography Work Shop, 9am – 1pm WFVZ classroom & Ventura Harbor

Basic camera skills; Nature/bird photo hints; classroom exercises. Bring camera and manual – Limited enrollment. Send name, email address, and phone number to reserve a spot to: photographer@conejovalleyaudubon.org.

Sunday, February 26th Shore Bird Work Shop Santa Clara River Estuary (SCRE)

Meet at the Las Posas Park & Ride at 8:00 am. This workshop will emphasize the study and identification of shorebirds. Leader is **Dee Lyon** (805) 499-2165.

Books for Young Birders by Carol Langford Continued from Page 1

I've mentioned this project to some of you and I've received some enthusiastic responses. I'm excited about this project and want to give each of you an opportunity to volunteer. To ask a question or two or to volunteer contact Carol Langford at 360-742-6059 or email berry50@yahoo.com

TOM HALPIN MEMORIAL OAK TREE AND BENCH

We will be planting a Valley Oak at the Conejo Valley Botanic Garden with a nice bench to celebrate the life of our dear friend.

Please send donations to Conejo Valley Audubon Society at Post Office Box 4782, Thousand Oaks, CA 91359.

You are cordially invited to join
Conejo Valley Audubon Society

on

Friday, March 16, 2012

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 3/2/12)

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 Carrol 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

February, 2012



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	Cory Taylor		publicity
Newsletter	Charlie Lucas	805-498-6447	newsletter
Membership	Barbara Hopkins		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		

**Yes, You Can Help CVAS
This Season.
Please Volunteer!**

If you look to your immediate left, you'll see our list of Officers and Committee Chairs. Once again, we have openings that we hope you will consider volunteering for. The three openings include: Vice President, Field Trip Coordinator and Special Events.

If you can help why not let **Carol Langford** know of your interest.

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 _____