



ROADRUNNER

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CVAS Annual Picnic Saturday, June 5 – Los Robles Trail



For the fourth year in a row, our CVAS Annual Picnic will be held at Los Robles Trail, located adjacent to the original Janss' House in Thousand Oaks. This beautiful location provides ample areas of both shade and sun. Go south on Moorpark Road to the end, approximately one mile south of the 101 freeway. Turn right on Greenmeadow Ave. and proceed approximately one mile to the parking lot at the end of Greenmeadow. 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 for eight. If your last name begins with: A to I bring a Dessert
J to Q bring a Salad
R to Z bring a Main Dish
Please bring your own table service, drinks & chairs.

Conservation Column:

CALENDAR

June

5	8:00 am	Birdwalk / Annual Picnic At Janss House
13	8:00 am	NPS Birdwalk King Gillette Ranch
21	8:00 am	Field Trip North Ranch Country Club

September

13 7:30 pm General Meeting Western Foundation

History of Conservation By Dee Lyon

The conservation of forests, also known as nature conservation, is a political and social movement that seeks to protect natural resources including plant and animal species as well as their habitat for the future.

The early conservation movement included fisheries and wildlife management, water, soil conservation and sustainable forestry. The contemporary conservation movement has broadened from the early movement's emphasis on use of sustainable yield of natural resources and preservation of wilderness areas to include preservation of biodiversity. The word conservation is now used more broadly to include the setting aside of natural areas and the active protection of wildlife for their inherent value, as much as for any value they may have for humans.

Early giants in the history of conservation include: Emerson, Thoreau and Marsh.

Ralph Waldo Emerson, author and leader of the literary and philosophical movement known as Transcendentalism, inspired a love of nature. At a time when industry was on the rise and crowded cities were becoming the centers of society, Emerson extolled the beauty of nature. His powerful prose would inspire a generation of
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Fall Schedule

The annual picnic will be our last meeting for this season. We will resume our regular monthly meetings at the Western Foundation on Monday, September 13th. The first program of next season will be our traditional "Show and Tell".

Have a safe and happy summer!

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.

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, June 5 Birdwalk & Annual Picnic

Held at the old Janss' House in Thousand Oaks. Go to the south end of Moorpark Road, turn right on Greenmeadow and then proceed approximately one mile to the end. Birdwalk will be held at 8:00 am. Leader is **Dee Lyon (805) 499-4165**.

Monday, June 21st North Ranch Country Club

Meet in the clubhouse parking lot at 8:00 am. Address is 4761 Valley Spring Drive, West Lake Village, CA 91362. Leader is **Louise Valdez (805) 497-4495**.

National Park Service (NPS) Birdwalk in June

Sunday, June 13th King Gillette Ranch

Morning Birds: 2nd Sundays. 8:00am. 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

Ventura County Science Fair By Linda Reynolds

On April 14, 2010, Crystal Klabunde and Linda Reynolds had the pleasure of acting as Special Awards judges at the Ventura County Science Fair. Representing Conejo Valley Audubon Society, they gave two awards in memory of H. Elliott McClure, a founding member of CVAS, and a lifelong birder and entomologist. Each winner will be presented with a certificate and a check for \$100. Both awards

are in the division of Earth, Space and Environmental Sciences.

Jordan Berns, a student at Medea Creek Middle School, presented a project called "To Be Oil Free". He used four different kinds of feathers found on birds, dipped them in oil, and then used three separate solutions to find which one worked best on clearing the feathers of oil.

Kristin Lopez is a student at Ventura High School. Her project is called "Cleaning up the Facts About Aquifers". She devised her own aquifer consisting of sand, rocks and clay soil. She ran both clear and red dye solutions through these mediums.

Both awards were original, attractive, and followed correct scientific procedures. They were accompanied by well-written journals. Jordan and Kristin were invited to share their projects with chapter members at the CVAS general meeting on May 3 at the Western Foundation of Vertebrate Zoology.

Education Column By Thelma Williams

CVAS has had another successful year with outreach to youth and adults in our community.

At least 16 members have volunteered time at Sierra Vista Satwiwa National State park by guiding bird walks which are included in the TREE program (Teens Restoring Endangered Environments), assisting Allen Saute's Sequoia Middle School class in Newbury Park.

Chrystal Klubunde, Thelma Williams and Linda Reynolds participated in a 4 week program at the CAPE Charter School in Camarillo, with slides, guided bird walks with binoculars, and talks using skins from the Western Foundation. (See pictures by Chrystal Klabunde below). The students were so enthusiastic-- observing an Anna's hummingbird stripping bark to construct a nest.

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Conservation Column

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Americans to find great meaning in the natural world.

Henry David Thoreau, a close friend and neighbor of Emerson, stands as perhaps the most influential writer on the subject of nature. In his masterpiece, "Walden", Thoreau recounts the time he spent living in a small house near Walden Pond in rural Massachusetts. While Thoreau was not widely known during his lifetime, his writings have become classics of American nature writing, and it's nearly impossible to imagine the rise of the conservation movement without his inspiration.

Writer, lawyer, and political figure George Perkins Marsh was the author of an influential book published in the 1860s, "Man and Nature". While not as familiar as Emerson or Thoreau, Marsh was an influential voice as he argued the logic of balancing man's need to exploit nature with the need to preserve the planet's resources. Marsh was writing about ecological issues 150 years ago, and some of his observations are indeed prophetic.

Education Column

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Chrystal and Thelma also presented slides and pictures of common birds before the Great Backyard bird count in February to classes at the EARTH'S Magnet school in Newbury Park. Several classes participated in that bird count. Thelma volunteers at that school each week in a 4th grade class.

Six of our members also led bird guided walks at the recent Science Festival at Paramount Ranch sponsored by the National Park Service. Over 400 students were involved in that weekend. Dee Lyon has spoken to several groups in the community and led a recent field trip at the Stage Coach Inn in Newbury Park.

We also have provided Audubon Adventures kits to 20 classrooms in our area. We are delighted to supply these kits to local Elementary classes.

All these outreach programs increase the awareness of the community to the philosophy of the Audubon Society, the enthusiasm of our members for the environment, and for the next generation of birders.

FIELD TRIP REPORTS

Tejon Ranch, Sunday, April 11

By Don Klabunde

A cold drizzly day, but gloriously beautiful wildflowers and a number of fun birds: Black-throated Gray Warbler, Horned Lark, Ash-throated Flycatcher, Bullock's Oriole, Northern Harrier, and Savanna Sparrow. A total of 22 species observed.



Black-throated Gray Warbler / Don Klabunde



Horned Lark / Don Klabunde

Gillette Ranch, Sunday, April 18

By Dee Lyon

Gorgeous day! While waiting for the gate to open at 8:15, we saw: several Hooded and Bullock's Orioles, Western Bluebirds, House Finches, and Lesser Goldfinches. Then in the parking area we saw a very vocal CA Thrasher, Northern Rough-winged Swallow, Flicker, Acorn Woodpecker, House Wren, CA Towhee, and Spotted Towhee. We also had: Nuttall's, Downey, and at least two LEWIS Woodpeckers, many Yellow, Yellow-rumped, and two Black-throated Gray Warblers, many Band-tailed Pigeons, Mourning Doves, Great Blue Heron, Great White Egret, Cattle Egret (in breeding plumage), Robins, Mallards, gull (sp), many singing Oak Titmice, Bushtits, many White Nuthatches, Red-tailed, Red-shouldered and Cooper's Hawks, Song Sparrows, Anna's, Rufous and Allen's Hummingbirds, Cliff and Tree Swallows, many Pacific Slope Flycatchers, Ash-throated Flycatcher, Cassin's Kingbird, Raven, Crow and Scrub Jay, Bewick's Wren, Warbling Vireo, Brewer's Blackbird, and Junco. Close to 50 species! Isn't Spring wonderful?

ROADRUNNER

Conejo Valley Audubon Society, Inc.

P.O. Box 4782



Thousand Oaks, CA 91359

June, 2010



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President	Carol Langford	805-987-2721	president
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Programs	Chrystal Klabunde	805-522-8023	chrystal
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Special Events			
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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		

Tejon Ranch Field Trip
Wildflowers
Photos by Don Klabunde

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 **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 _____
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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 _____
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 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
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