General Meeting January 6
7:30 pm Western Foundation
David Pereksta

David Pereksta is an Avian Biologist for the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement, where he studies and analyzes the effects on birds and bats of offshore oil and gas and renewable energy development off the Pacific coast.

Throughout his career with various Federal and State agencies he has studied several imperiled bird species including Snowy and Piping Plovers, Least Terns, Ospreys, Northern Goshawks, Brown Pelicans and Spotted Owls. Recently, David has assisted Cornell University in their searches for the Ivory-billed Woodpecker in Arkansas during the 2006, 2007 and 2008 field seasons. An avid birder for over 30 years, he has birded throughout North America and the American tropics, and has led birding trips to Belize, Costa Rica and Peru. David has been an active participant and leader in southern California pelagic trips since 1994. His talk will cover Southern California seabirds; with improved photos and exciting additions.

Black-footed Albatross by Don Klabunde

Conservation Column
by Dee Lyon

“Bringing Nature Home” by Doug Tallamy explains why healthy bird communities are inextricably linked to healthy insect populations. Ninety-six percent of North American birds raise their young on insects. And not just any insects - mostly caterpillars. Rich in fat and protein, caterpillars are essential for a bird trying to keep up with the demands of a healthy family. It takes 390 to 570 caterpillars a day to feed a growing clutch of four to six chickadees in the sixteen days from when they hatch to when they fledge. Most of their foraging happens within 200 feet of the nest. That is why you need so many caterpillars in your yard.

The United States has about 11,500 caterpillar species. The premier habitat for them is oak trees, which support 534 species. Cherries, plums, willows and of course many other native species are prime habitats as well. So gardeners play a pivotal role in creating safe havens for wildlife. They make a difference. The neighborhood where native plants abound offers abundant food, places to nest and a bit of water to bathe in. The birds then don’t have to keep moving around trying to find food, which takes a lot of energy.

(continued on page 3)

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

Call Nobuko McClure (805) 482-0411

For Reservations Day of General Meeting

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>January</th>
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<tr>
<td>4-5</td>
<td>Carrizo Plain</td>
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<tr>
<td>6 5:15 pm</td>
<td>Pre meeting Dinner: Ottavio’s</td>
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<td>6 7:30 pm</td>
<td>General Meeting Western Foundation</td>
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<td>9 9:00 am</td>
<td>Beginning Bird Walk</td>
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<td>12 7:30 am</td>
<td>Ventura Settling Ponds</td>
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<td>18-19</td>
<td>Salton Sea</td>
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<td>24 7:45 am</td>
<td>Pt. Mugu Naval Base</td>
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<tr>
<td>26 8:00 am</td>
<td>Santa Clara River Estuary</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
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 January Board Meeting will be held on Monday January 20. All CVAS members are invited to attend monthly CVAS Board Meetings. Please contact Gary Evans at 805-231-5692 for location.

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 January 4-5, 2014
Carrizo Plain

In addition to the breathtaking vistas, we will see Ferruginous Hawk, Prairie Falcon, Golden Eagle, LeConte’s Thrasher and Merlin. We will likely see Rough-legged Hawk, Mountain Plover and Sandhill Crane. We will also visit geological sites related to the seismology of California. We will meet in Maricopa and drive around the plain all weekend. We will then leave the plain heading north via Bitterwater Road on Sunday, looking for Yellow-billed Magpie. Email Matthew Page to sign up at fieldtrips@conejovalleyaudubon.org. He will give meeting time, location and carpool info. Matthew is the trip leader and likes to communicate through his email address.

Reserve your own room in Buttonwillow or Taft for Saturday night, or camp on the plain. FRS radios & spotting scopes are just about necessary. Limit: 12 participants.

Thursday, January 9th
Beginner’s Bird Walk

Second Thursday of each month. Call Angie Kobabe (818) 991-4055 between 9:00 am and 10:00 am to let her know you are coming and learn the location.

Sunday, Jan 12, 2014
Ventura Settling Ponds

Join trip leader Frank DeMartino as he leads us around the settling ponds in Ventura to scour for ducks, herons, grebes, raptors and sparrows. Frank enjoys birding the ponds and has much local knowledge of the species we can expect. If time allows we may also visit Marina Park to look for rock pipers and gulls. Directions: Meet at the Las Posas Park and Ride to carpool at 7:30 am.

Alternatively, meet at 8:00 am at the harbor in the parking lot across the street from the ponds, where Spinnaker meets Angler Court. For more information, call Frank DeMartino (856) 906-8733.

Saturday / Sunday, Jan 18-19 2014
Salton Sea Weekend

Away to the Salton Sea with us! We will spend all day Saturday and most of Sunday at the south end of the Salton Sea where impressive flocks of Snow and Ross's Geese winter, along with Sandhill Crane and White-faced Ibis. Shorebirds, gulls, grebes and others also winter in impressive numbers. We will also try for Yellow-footed Gull. This is a Gulf of California breeder but small numbers wander north to the Sea in the non-breeding season. Additionally, we will search local parks and other areas for woodpeckers, Black-tailed Gnatcatcher, Verdin, and other desert residents. Please sign up in advance by emailing Matthew for meeting time and location at fieldtrips@conejovalleyaudubon.org.

Matthew is the trip leader and likes to communicate by email. FRS radios and spotting scopes are extremely helpful.

Trip limit: 12

Friday, Jan 24, 2014
Pt. Mugu Naval Base

This trip is for CVAS members only and requires signup at least 3 weeks prior to trip; it is limited to 25 people. Contact Don Williamson at (818) 889-4498 to check availability. US citizenship and SSN # required as well as picture ID. No cameras or video equipment permitted. Meet at base parking lot (corner of Mugu Rd and Naval Air Road) at 7:45 am. Trip leader is David Pereksta.

(field trips continued on page 3)
Conservation
(continued from page 1)

But ensure that your great habitat doesn’t include your
cat (or your neighbor’s) out to kill birds. The Smithsonian
Conservation Biology Institute reported that between
1.4 billion and 3.7 billion birds are killed each year by
cats roaming outdoors.

It’s estimated that we have more than 45 million
acres of lawn in this country and dump out about
10,000 gallons of our precious drinking water on just a
25 x 40 foot yard! About 70 million pounds of
pesticides are applied on those lawns, which is really bad
for birds and people. Let’s all get behind CHANGE
LAWNS TO HABITAT.

(field trips continued from page 2)

Sunday, January 26, 2014
Santa Clara River Estuary

We will meet at the Ventura Harbor and walk to the Santa
Clara River Estuary. Here we hope to find pelicans, ducks,
grebes, gulls and shorebirds along the way as well as in the
estuary itself. Bring a spotting scope if you have one.
Directions: Take 101 to Seaward. Turn onto Harbor and
head south toward the Ventura Harbor. Turn right on
Spinnaker Drive and enter the harbor. We will meet in the
parking lot at Surfer’s Knoll at 8 am. Trip leader is Frank
DeMartino: (856) 906-8733.

You are cordially invited to join
Conejo Valley Audubon Society
on
Friday, March 15, 2014
at New Location!
The Palm Garden Hotel
495 North Ventu Park Rd.
Newbury Park, CA 91320
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 3/1/14)

5 Free raffle tickets for each 1st time guest

New Members

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<tr>
<th>Adele Fergusson</th>
<th>Kathy Jonokuchi</th>
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<td>Jean Kohut</td>
<td>Jean Saris</td>
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Donors

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<tr>
<th>Mary Hansen</th>
<th>Kathy Jonokuchi</th>
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<td>Nobuko McClure</td>
<td>Bill and Carol Langford</td>
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<td>Charlie Lucas</td>
<td>Marlene Winstead</td>
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Warbling Vireo
by Stacey Bergman

Allen’s Hummingbird
by Jean Kohut

Dues Reminder
Dues are payable for the term September 2013
to June 2014. Please tear off form on last page
of this newsletter to send with check.
January, 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Officers and Committee Chairs</th>
<th>Usernames</th>
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<tr>
<td>President</td>
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<td>Vice Pres</td>
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<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Gary Evans</td>
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<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Ron Barns</td>
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<td>Programs</td>
<td>Cia DeMartino</td>
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<td>Graphic Arts</td>
<td>Chrystal Klabunde</td>
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<td>Conservation</td>
<td>Dee Lyon</td>
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<td>Education</td>
<td>Thelma Williams</td>
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<tr>
<td>Field trips</td>
<td>Matthew Page</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publicity</td>
<td>Cory Taylor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Newsletter</td>
<td>Gary Evans</td>
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<tr>
<td>Membership</td>
<td>Bonnie Clarfield-Bylin</td>
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<td>Historian</td>
<td>Bets Buchanan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Special Events</td>
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<td>Don Klabunde</td>
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<td>Nobuko McClure</td>
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<td>Frank DeMartino</td>
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<td>CVAS Web Site</td>
<td><a href="http://www.ConejoValleyAudubon.org">http://www.ConejoValleyAudubon.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Send E-mail to</td>
<td><a href="mailto:username@ConejoValleyAudubon.org">username@ConejoValleyAudubon.org</a></td>
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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 Gary Evans, 29 Sabra Ave., Oak Park, CA 91377-1126, or by E-mail: GaryE@ConejoValleyAudubon.org.

Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed to staff officer positions currently open on the CVAS Board. The Vice President position will need to be filled in addition to the Special Events coordinator. We encourage you to discuss your interests in volunteering for any of these positions at our next General Meeting.

NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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

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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 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

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Otherwise newsletter will come by email

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