



Phainopepla

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San Fernando Valley Audubon Society
A Chapter of National Audubon Society

Vol. 68 No. 5

October / November 2017

General Membership Meetings

San Fernando Valley Arts & Cultural Center
18312 Oxnard Street, Tarzana
(818) 697-5525

SFVAS General Membership Meetings are held on the fourth Thursday of the month (*except July, August, November, and December.*) EVERYONE IS WELCOME to join us at 7:00 p.m. for refreshments; program begins at 7:20 p.m. See Calendar of Events, pages 4–5, for directions.

SAVE THE DATE!



Saturday, December 16, 2017

Thank you! to all the volunteers who helped at the September 16 clean-up of the Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Reserve. We couldn't have done it without you!

Monthly Program

Thursday, October 26, 2017
7:00 p.m.

Speaker: Natasha Khanna

Where: San Fernando Valley Arts & Cultural Center, 18312 Oxnard Street, Tarzana, CA, (818) 697-5525

Natasha Khanna is a Field Organizer for Audubon California. She helps lead the Southern California Chapter Council and works on a climate change initiative with the National Audubon Society. Natasha will be giving a talk on Bird Fest and the various conservation projects and policy issues that Audubon California is working on in the state. Some policy issues include working to protect our coastline from offshore oil drilling, protecting our national monuments, renewable energy, and passing climate legislation. State work on conservation includes protecting Tricolored Blackbirds, and the Salton Sea among other issues.



4th Annual Bird Fest (FREE)

Saturday, November 4, 2017

9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Santa Monica Mountains Interagency Visitors Center, King Gillette Ranch
26876 Mulholland Hwy, Calabasas 91302

Walks: Pre-opening morning walks at 8 and 8:30 for experienced birders. Guided walks at 9, 10, and 11 a.m. with binoculars available for loan.

Live Bird Presentation: By Nature of Wildworks at 11 a.m., 12 p.m., and 1 p.m.

Tables: Bird-friendly and environmental groups will have exhibits

Vendors: Shop for bird-related items

For kids: Stories and bird walks for the young, craft activities, Boy and Girl Scouts, and young birder groups from the local Audubon chapters.

Food: Eat & drink

For more info: e-mail samo@wnpa.org or call (805) 370-2302

Dave Weeshoff, SFVAS Conservation Chair, Receives 2017 William Dutcher Award

The National Audubon Society has biennial meetings to which representatives from the Chapters meet. This year it was held in Park City, Utah. To our great delight and pride, the Society chose to honor our Conservation Chair, Dave Weeshoff! Congratulations Dave from all of us. Hard work well recognized. -Rose Leibowitz



Dave Weeshoff, left, received the William Dutcher Award from Audubon California's Garry George. Photo: Andrea Jones

Dave was honored for his many years of contributions to the Audubon mission, including his work to make renewable energy safer for birds, establish Marine Protected Areas in Southern California, and support marine bird conservation through his work with International Bird Rescue. In addition to:

- Representing Audubon on the Marine Life Protection Act process that identified Protected Areas in Southern California oceans
- Representing SFVAS on LA County Significant Ecological Areas program of the Los Angeles County General Plan
- Representing SFVAS on renewable energy in the Antelope Valley and conservation of Swainson’s Hawk habitat
- Representing SFVAS on Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan for 22 million acres of California’s Mojave and Colorado Desert which resulted in Phase I putting 10 million acres of desert into higher conservation designations while identifying over 300,000 acres that would be suitable for utility-scale renewable energy development.
- Representing SFVAS at Holiday Lake
- Acting as Southern California’s “Climate Activist” leading Southern California chapters
- And for always responding “what can I do” to any conservation or chapter challenge

Audubon couldn’t have found a better advocate for birds in California.

William Dutcher was a prominent amateur ornithologist of the late 19th and early 20th centuries and in 1905 was appointed the first President of the National Audubon Society. The Dutcher Award was created in his honor to recognize superior volunteer service by Audubon leaders that results in bird conservation at scale. 🐦

SFVAS SUPPORTS SANTA SUSANA FIELD LABORATORY CLEAN-UP TO OPEN SPACE STANDARD CONSISTENT WITH THE BOEING COMPANY'S CONSERVATION EASEMENT

For more than seven years, SFVAS has been heavily involved in advocating for a proper clean-up of the Santa Susana Field Laboratory that is fully protective of the natural, cultural, and historical resources present on the site, as well as public health both on the site and in surrounding communities. To further these ends, the SFVAS Board of Directors unanimously passed the Resolutions copied below. The Resolutions are self-explanatory.

RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT REMEDIATION OF SANTA SUSANA FIELD LABORATORY TO OPEN SPACE STANDARD

WHEREAS, based on information available at the time, in March, 2015 the San Fernando Audubon Society Board of Directors (the Board) unanimously passed a Resolution supporting remediation of the Santa Susana Field Laboratory (SSFL) a to risk-based suburban residential standard (text of resolution attached below); and

WHEREAS The Boeing Company (Boeing) owns approximately 2,400 acres of the 2,850 acre site; and

WHEREAS, at the time the resolution was promulgated, the Board was aware that Boeing had previously pledged publicly on numerous occasions to preserve their property at SSFL as open space; and

WHEREAS Boeing recently entered into an agreement with the North American Land Trust (the Trust) to have the Trust administer and enforce a Conservation Easement (the Easement) governing future uses of the Boeing-owned portions of the site as open space; and

WHEREAS the Easement is a legally enforceable document; and

WHEREAS the Easement assures that future use of the property will be limited to that of open space intended to conserve natural, historical, and cultural resources; and

WHEREAS the Easement prohibits commercial, residential, and agricultural use of the site in perpetuity; therefore, it is

RESOLVED that the San Fernando Valley Audubon Society hereby supports remediation of the SSFL to an open space standard consistent with future use of the site; and it is further hereby

RESOLVED that the previous resolution supporting remediation of SSFL to the suburban residential standard is hereby updated and superseded.

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY SAN FERNANDO VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS ON JUNE 26, 2017.

ATTACHMENT

AD HOC SHORT TITLE (by Mark Osokow): Resolution supporting a clean-up of Santa Susana Field Laboratory to risk-based suburban residential standard.

"SFVAS supports remediation of contamination at SSFL only to the standard for suburban residential areas. SFVAS opposes the unprecedented proposal to require remediation to background level, which would devastate outstanding wildlife habitat, extremely significant historical structures from the USA Space Age, and create significant health and safety impacts on communities near routes that trucks hauling soils offsite would pass. Background remediation would destroy Native American cultural sites, which remediation to the suburban residential standard would not."

PASSED UNANIMOUSLY BY SAN FERNANDO VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY BOARD OF DIRECTORS ON MARCH 26, 2015. 🐦

BIRD FEST of the Santa Monica Mountains

Saturday, November 4 | 9 AM–2:30 PM

Santa Monica Mountains Interagency Visitor Center
King Gillette Ranch, 26876 Mulholland Hwy., Calabasas, CA 91302

- Meet exhibitors from bird- and environment-friendly groups
- Participate in special activities for kids
- Eat, drink, and be merry with an on-site food vendor
- Shop for bird-related gifts

**FREE EVENT
FREE PARKING**
For more info, e-mail
samo@wnpa.org
or call
805-370-2302

Schedule

9 AM–11 AM*: guided bird walks

9 AM: Invite Wild Birds into Your Garden with Nesting Boxes

10 AM: Is It Possible to Be Both a Birder and a Bird Photographer?

11 AM: The Bigger Picture: The Message of Audubon California

11 AM, 12 PM, 1 PM: Live bird presentation by Nature of Wildworks

12 PM: Restoration of Seabird Habitat on the Channel Islands

1 PM: Snowy Plovers— Malibu Birds Join in the Recovery

*Early morning advanced bird walks at 8 AM and 8:30 AM

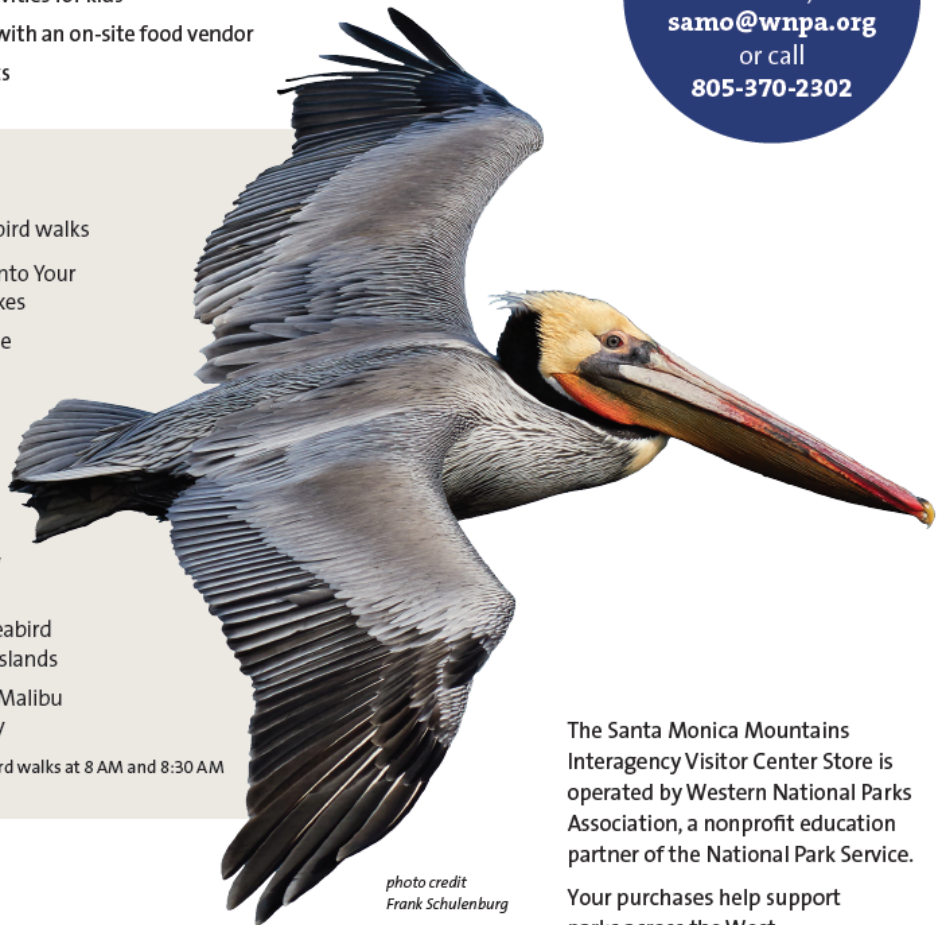


photo credit
Frank Schulenburg

The Santa Monica Mountains Interagency Visitor Center Store is operated by Western National Parks Association, a nonprofit education partner of the National Park Service.

Your purchases help support parks across the West.

Co-sponsored by

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Calendar of Events

October

Sunday, October 1. Sepulveda Basin Bird Walk. 8:00 a.m.

Directions: Exit the San Diego Freeway (I-405) on Burbank Blvd. Go west about one-half mile to Woodley Avenue and turn right (north). Travel about one-half mile to the second possible right turn (at sign for the Water Reclamation Plant and Japanese Garden). Turn right and go east about one-half mile to Wildlife Area parking at the end of the road. Leader: Kris Ohlenkamp. Contact him at kris.ohlenkamp@sfvadubon.org or (805) 727-5007.

Saturday, October 7. Castaic Lake Bird Walk. 8:00 a.m.–

12:00 p.m. Directions: Take closest freeway to I-5 North and exit at Parker Road. Turn right and proceed to stop sign (Castaic Road), proceed to next stop sign (Lake Hughes Road), proceed to next stop sign (Castaic Lake Drive) and turn right. Entrance to the park is on the right. Turn right and park in the front lot. Meet at the kiosk. Leader: Roger McClure. For information, contact the staff at (661) 257-4050.

Sunday, October 8. Wildwood Canyon Bird Walk,

Burbank. 9:00–11:00 a.m. Directions: From the I-5/Golden State Fwy. N: Take Exit 146A toward Olive Ave., merge onto E. Angeleno Ave. and turn left onto S. 1st Street, then take the first right onto E. Olive Ave.

From I-5/Golden State Fwy. S: Take EXIT 146A toward Verdugo Ave. Turn left onto S. Front Street, which will become E. Verdugo Ave. Turn left at the first light onto S. 1st Street then take the 3rd right onto E. Olive Ave.

Continue 1.3 miles on E. Olive through downtown Burbank and up the hill. Turn left onto N. Sunset Canyon Dr. Go 0.5 miles and turn right onto E. Harvard. Drive .4 miles skirting the golf course and meet at the entry kiosk area. Extra binoculars are available. Leader: Mike Mc Horney, (818) 845-0166.

Saturday, October 14. Nature Walk. Season Opener! For Beginners and Families. 9:00–11:00 a.m.

Come out for a fun bird walk at the Sepulveda Basin! These popular walks, designed for beginning birders and school-age children, are resuming for the current cool season. Binoculars are available for loan. Directions: Driving on Woodley Ave. north from Burbank or south from Victory Blvd., go ½ mile and turn east at the sign for the Japanese Garden. Continue straight (don't turn into the garden) and drive past the Cricket Fields and around the tree in the middle of the road and on to the parking lot at the end of the road. Meet at the amphitheater. Leader(s): Muriel Kotin, (310) 457-5796 or Diana Keeney, (818) 998-3216. Reservations are not needed except for large groups. Heavy rain cancels. Please see page five for more information, or visit our website, www.sfvadubon.org.

Saturday, October 14. Placerita Canyon Nature Center

Docents' Bird Walk. 8:00 a.m. Directions: Take the 405 or 5 Freeway north to the 14 Freeway. Exit the 14 at Placerita Canyon. Turn right at the end of the off ramp and continue about 1.5 miles to the park entrance. Turn right and park at the Nature Center.

Various leaders. For more information, call the Nature Center at (661) 259-7721.

Sunday, October 15. Malibu Creek State Park Bird Walk.

8:00 a.m. Meet at the second (lower) day-use parking lot. Entrance to the park is on the west side of Las Virgenes Road, just south of Mulholland Hwy. Entrance fee is \$12 per car. Leader(s): Muriel Kotin (310) 457-5796 and/or Art Langton, (818) 887-0973.

Tuesday, October 17. Weekday Walk at O'Melveny Park,

Granada Hills. 9:00 a.m. Directions: Take the 118/Ronald Reagan Freeway and exit at Balboa Blvd. Turn north, driving two miles to Sesnon, turn left going west 0.6 miles, turn right at park entrance. Meet in the parking lot. RAIN CANCELS. Contact Carolyn Oppenheimer at (818) 885-7493 (before 7 p.m.), or carolyn.oppenheimer@sfvadubon.org.

Saturday, October 21 Monthly Field Trip: El Dorado Park in Long Beach, 8:00 a.m.

Directions: Take the 405 Freeway to the Studebaker Road exit in Long Beach. Go north on Studebaker to Spring Street, then turn east (right) on Spring to the park entrance. The parking fee is \$7. Meet in the Nature Center parking lot. Leader: Richard Barth, (310) 276-0342.

Saturday, October 21. Santa Monica Mts. Conservancy

Bird Walk at Towsley Canyon. 8:00–10:00 a.m. Directions: Go north on I-5 through Santa Clarita, exit Calgrove and turn west (left) under the freeway and then left again on the Old Road. Watch for the sign, "Ed Davis Park at Towsley Canyon." Turn right and park in the front lot. Meet at the kiosk. Leader: Roger McClure. For further information, call (661) 252-6187.

Thursday, October 26. SFVAS General Membership Meeting. Speaker: Natasha Khanna. Topic: Conservation projects in California.

For more information, see Monthly Program, page one. Location: San Fernando Valley Arts & Cultural Center, 18312 Oxnard Street, Tarzana, CA. (818) 697-5525. Enjoy the gallery and shop our sales table. Directions: Located between White Oak and Reseda Blvd. In order to park, it is recommended to go on Etiwanda Avenue and turn into the parking area up the alley behind the center. Everyone is welcome!

Saturday, October 28. SFVAS Hansen Dam Bird Walk.

8:00 a.m. We will walk along a dirt road at the base of the dam—exploring promising sites along the way and sometimes go in a different direction to the lake. Meet at the lower parking lot, Dronfield Entrance. Directions: Take Osborne exit from Golden State (5) Freeway. Go northeast about two miles passing Glenoaks Blvd. Turn right on Dronfield to enter the park. Turn right at the end of Dronfield and then take a quick left and proceed downhill to the large parking lot. Alternate directions: Exit Osborne from the eastbound Foothill Freeway (210). At the off ramp, turn right onto Foothill. After a short distance, turn left on Osborne and then left on Dronfield. Follow above directions to the lower parking lot. Rain cancels. Leader: Pat Bates (818) 425-0962, pat.bates@sfvadubon.org.

Saturday, October 28. Young Birders Group Bird Walk:

Sepulveda Basin. 9:00 a.m. Directions: Exit the San Diego Freeway (I-405) on Burbank Blvd. Go west about one-half mile to Woodley Avenue and turn right (north). Travel about one-half mile to the second possible right turn (at sign for the Water Reclamation Plant and Japanese Garden). Turn right and go east about one-half mile to Wildlife Area parking at the end of the road. Leader(s) Alexander and/or Olivia. For more information on meeting location please e-mail Rose Leibowitz at roselbirds@gmail.com, or call (818) 990-5405.

Saturday, November 4. Bird Fest (FREE) 9:00 a.m.—2:30

November

p.m. Santa Monica Mountain Visitors Center, King Gillette Ranch. 26876 Mulholland Hwy, Calabasas. Join us for a day of fun activities! See pages one and three for more information.

Saturday, November 4. Castaic Lake Bird Walk. 8:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. See Saturday, October 7 for more information.

Sunday, November 5. Sepulveda Basin Bird Walk. 8:00 a.m. See Sunday, October 1 for more information.

Saturday, November 11. Nature Walk. For Beginners and Families. 9:00–11:00 a.m. See Saturday, October 14 for more information.

Saturday, November 11. Placerita Canyon Nature Center Docents' Bird Walk. 8:00 a.m. See Saturday, October 14 for more information.

Sunday, November 12. Wildwood Canyon Bird Walk, Burbank. 9:00–11:00 a.m. See Sunday, October 8 for directions. Leader: Mike Mc Horney, (818) 845-0166.

Saturday, November 18. Monthly Field Trip: Ventura Harbor and Water Treatment Ponds. 8:00 a.m. Directions: From the San Fernando Valley, take the 101 Freeway to the city of Ventura, exit Seaward Avenue, turn left over the freeway, then immediately left (south) on Harbor Blvd. to Spinnaker Drive and proceed to the end. Look for birders in the last parking lot on the left. Leader: Richard Barth, (310) 276-0342.

Saturday, November 18. Santa Monica Mts. Conservancy Bird Walk at Towsley Canyon. 8:00–10:00 a.m. See Saturday, October 21 for more information.

Sunday, November 19. Malibu Creek State Park Bird Walk. 8:00 a.m. See Sunday, October 15 for more information.

Tuesday, November 21. Weekday Walk at O'Melveny Park, Granada Hills. 9:00 a.m. See Saturday, October 17 for more information.

NO SFVAS General Membership Meeting in November. Happy Thanksgiving!

Saturday, November 25. SFVAS Hansen Dam Bird Walk. 8:00 a.m. See Saturday, October 28 for more information.

Saturday, November 25. Young Birders Group Bird Walk: O'Melveny Park. 9:00 a.m. 17300 Sesnon Boulevard, Granada Hills, CA 91344. The Young Birders Group walks are for young birders who are serious about birding, know some birds, and are

willing to learn. All are welcome to join! Directions: Take the 118/Ronald Reagan Freeway and exit at Balboa Blvd. Turn north, driving two miles to Sesnon, turn left going west 0.6 miles, turn right at park entrance. Meet in the parking lot. Leader(s) Alexander and/or Olivia. For more information, please e-mail Rose Leibowitz at roselbirds@gmail.com, or call (818) 990-5405.

Monday, November 27. SFVAS Board Meeting. 7:00 p.m. San Fernando Valley Arts & Cultural Center, 18323 Oxnard St., Tarzana. It is located between White Oak & Reseda. It is recommended to approach on Etiwanda Ave. and turn into the parking area up the alley behind the center.

Future Field Trips (details later):

NO Monthly Field Trip in December due to Christmas Bird Count.

January 20. Upper Newport Bay and San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary. 🐦

Free Nature Walks

At Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Reserve



Join us on San Fernando Valley Audubon's renowned **birds-and-nature walks for families and beginners**. Stroll through the lovely Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Reserve with a guide, enjoying its trails and wildlife lake. Many kinds of birds are found here, along with lizards, bunny rabbits, butterflies, fish, and more. Learn about the birds and why they come here, and see them up close.

Second Saturdays: 9:00 A.M. 2017: Oct. 14, Nov. 11, and Dec. 9.
2018: Jan. 13, Feb. 10, and Mar. 10.

These walks are for

- Families with school-age children
- Beginning birdwatchers, including first timers

Time and Meeting Place: The Wildlife Area entrance and amphitheater are in the southeast part of Woodley Park. Meet at the amphitheater at 9:00 AM.

Directions: Driving on Woodley Ave. north from Burbank or south from Victory Blvd., go $\frac{1}{2}$ mile and turn east at the sign for the Japanese Garden. Continue straight (don't turn into the garden) and drive past the Cricket Fields and around the tree in the middle of the road and on to the parking lot at the end of the road. Meet at amphitheater. GPS coordinates to parking: 34.179942,-118.472595.

Equipment and Clothing: Wear sturdy shoes and layered clothing. A cap or hat with a brim is suggested. We have binoculars to loan or you can use your own.

More Information: Muriel Kotin at 310.457-5796, Diana Keeney at 818.998-3216 or visit San Fernando Valley Audubon's website www.sfvaudubon.org.

Reservations are not needed except for large groups. **Heavy rain cancels.**

Central Valley Birding Symposium 2017

The Central Valley Bird Club will be hosting the 21st annual Central Valley Birding Symposium, November 16-19, at the Stockton Hilton Hotel in Stockton, CA. This year's Saturday night keynote program, "Birding Without Borders: An Epic World Big Year" will be presented by Noah Strycker. The symposium features speakers, workshops, field trips and the Birder's Mart. Something for everyone! For the schedule of events, go to: wwwcvbirds.org/events/symposium/info/

Reaching Out Through Education by Paula Orlovich

The Sepulveda Basin Environmental Education Program (SBEEP) is anticipating another exciting year, as we prepare to welcome students from the Los Angeles Unified School District for fun and informative curriculum-based field trips.

This year, as in years past, we have given field trip grants to 30 schools. Students in grades 4-6 will participate in our two-hour program at the Wildlife Lake. During their visit, guided by our trained educators, students will explore the walking paths around the lake to identify and learn about habitat, birds, native plants, environmental conservation, and water quality.

Many students come to us from schools located in the San Fernando Valley, and some from other parts of Los Angeles. All get to enjoy hands-on participation in our outdoor classroom. Needless to say, the students bring and share their own knowledge about, and experiences with, nature.

It is our great pleasure to expose a diverse population of students to the diversity of life in the Basin. It is a wonderful opportunity to share its wonderful Wildlife Reserve and, together, acknowledge the symbiotic relationship in all living things. 🐦

Phainopepla Photo of the Month by Jackie Wollner

Black Oystercatcher (*Haematopus bachmani*)

Playa del Rey Jetty
Canon 7D Mark II
Canon 100-400 zoom lens @ 360mm
1/800 second
f/8
ISO 500
Exposure compensation -.3

This month's striking photo of a Black Oystercatcher was contributed by SFVAS chapter member and social media chair, Jackie Wollner. The scientific name is *Haematopus bachmani*. *Haematopus* is from the Latin for "blood-red foot" and the species name, *bachmani*, was bestowed by John James Audubon himself, in honor of his friend, the Reverend John Bachman. Jackie took this shot of a bird while it was foraging for mussels at low tide. She writes: "He or she was in the company of a mate. Luckily for me this individual looked up to regard me just long enough for me to get a shot of those amazing eyes. Black Oystercatchers are one of my favorite birds to photograph. Their eyes are like egg yolks. Their bills are unbelievably bright red-orange. They have so much vibrant color around their face, yet they have delicate pale pink legs that remind me of the ballet tights I wore as a child."



Do you have an interesting photo of a bird taken in/near the San Fernando Valley? Please submit your photos to Kathy.Barton@sfvaudubon.org. Or you can post to our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/sfvaudubon. Please include location, date, camera and lens info, a short account of how the photo was taken, and a profile of the photographer. 🐦

Audubon-at-Home by Alan Pollack

Please e-mail Alan Pollack, our Audubon-at-Home Chair, with any questions you have with regard to creating a wildlife-friendly garden that can be used for publication. Alan offers **FREE** consultation/landscape design to help you make your yard wildlife friendly. He also gives a **FREE**, PowerPoint slide show/lecture to community groups, high school, and college classes on attracting wildlife to your garden and sustainable gardening practices. He can be contacted at (818) 340-2347 or at alan.pollack@sfvaudubon.org. 🐦

July and August Field Trip Reports by Richard Barth

We visited Mt. Pinos on July 15, birding at 8300 ft and above. Our little group of participants managed to find many of the special birds here. Green-tailed Towhee, White-headed Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Cassin's Finch, Purple Finch, Mountain Quail, Brown Creeper and Pygmy Nuthatch were tallied. A briefly-seen bird was believed from its song to be a "Thick-billed" Fox Sparrow. We were surprised to come upon a Black-throated Gray Warbler, the first one found on this trip in memory. Other species of interest included Steller's Jay (on the drive up), Mountain Chickadee, Chipping Sparrow, Western Wood-Pewee (heard), White-breasted Nuthatch, Northern Flicker (heard), Violet-green Swallow, Yellow-rumped Warbler and American Robin. Western Bluebird and Oregon Junco are common on the mountain. Two coveted species missed on the trip were Clark's Nutcracker and Dusky Flycatcher.

On August 19 we birded the Chilao, Buckhorn and Charlton Flat areas along the Angeles Crest. We couldn't have asked for a more pleasant morning of birding. Expected favorites like Hairy Woodpecker, White-headed Woodpecker, Green-tailed Towhee and "Thick-billed" Fox Sparrow did not disappoint, and we picked up Rock Wren and Lawrence's Goldfinch which are unusual finds on this trip. A Bell's Sparrow, apparently having wandered upslope from the Antelope Valley post breeding, showed up at the Chilao Visitor Center feeders. The flycatchers found were Western Wood-Pewee and Pacific-slope; our warblers were Nashville (a nice find) and Wilson's. A Wrenit gave us one brief look. Additional species of note on the day were Warbling Vireo, Black-headed Grosbeak, Oak Titmouse, Band-tailed Pigeon and House Wren. Mountain Chickadee was the most abundant species this time and we also tallied good numbers of Steller's Jays, Pygmy Nuthatches, White-breasted Nuthatches, Western Bluebirds and Dark-eyed Juncos. We missed Cassin's Finch, Purple Finch and Dusky Flycatcher. 🐦

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

President:	Rose Leibowitz	(818) 990-5405
1 st Vice President:	Paula Orlovich	(818) 728-9838
2 nd Vice President:	Diana Keeney	(818) 998-3216
Treasurer:	Jim Houghton	(818) 784-4077
Corresponding Secretary:	Lynn Maddox	(818) 845-4688
Recording Secretary:	Kathy Barton	(818) 929-2516

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Becky Arntzen	(818) 761-6692
Felipe Lepe	(818) 536-2060
Barbara Heidemann	unpublished
Velda Ruddock	unpublished

STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Bird Boxes	Carolyn Oppenheimer	(818) 885-7493
Bird Observatory:	Mark Osokow	unpublished
Community Outreach:	Sharon Ford	(818) 780-5816
Conservation:	Dave Weeshoff	(818) 618-1652
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Finance:	Pat Avery	(626) 840-8226
Youth Activities:	Muriel Kotin	(310) 457-5796

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Audubon-at-Home:	Alan Pollack	(818) 340-2347
Birdathon:	Pat Avery	(626) 840-8226
Christmas Bird Count:	Jim Moore	(661) 298-1130
Conservation Banquet:	Paula Orlovich	(818) 728-9838
	Becky Arntzen	(818) 761-6692
Education Classroom:	Dave Weeshoff	(818) 618-1652
Education-SBEEP:	Paula Orlovich	(818) 728-9838
Field Trips:	Richard Barth	(310) 276-0342
Hansen Dam Rep:	Dave Weeshoff	(818) 618-1652
Hansen Dam Walks:	Pat Bates	(818) 425-0962
Hospitality:	Teri Carnesciali	(818) 892-5029
Malibu Creek Bird Walk:	Muriel Kotin	(310) 457-5796
	Art Langton	(818) 887-0973
Membership:	Becky Arntzen	(818) 761-6692
O'Melveny Bird Walk:	Carolyn Oppenheimer	(818) 885-7493
Photo of the Month:	Kathy Barton	(818) 929-2516
Programs:	OPEN	
Recycled Water Advisory Grp:	Mark Osokow	unpublished
Sales & Service:	Diana Keeney	(818) 998-3216
Scholarships and Grants:	Jim Houghton	(818) 784-4077
Sepulveda Bird Walks:	Kris Ohlenkamp	(805) 727-5007
Sepulveda Basin Steering:	Muriel Kotin	(310) 457-5796
Social Media:	Jackie Wollner	(818) 989-4543
SSFL Public Participation Grp	Mark Osokow	unpublished
Web Coordinator:	Jim Houghton	(818) 784-4077
Young Birders Group:	Rose Leibowitz	(818) 990-5405

For Chapter leaders' e-mail addresses, see our website:

www.SFVAudubon.org

Follow us on:



Instagram @sfvaudubon and



Twitter #sfvaudubon

Like us on Facebook

Found and injured animal? Call Wildlife Rescue Center at (818) 222-2658

Become a Member and Support the
SAN FERNANDO VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY

You can become a member and/or renew online at
www.sfvaudubon.org or mail this form and include a
check made payable to:

SFV Audubon Society
Attn: Membership
P.O. Box 7769
Van Nuys, CA 91409

Regular 1-yr Chapter Membership...\$25 \$ _____

1-yr Online Chapter Membership
(No paper copy of *Phainopepla*).....\$20 \$ _____

Student 1-yr Chapter Membership...\$10 \$ _____

Tax Deductible Contribution to SFVAS \$ _____

Total \$ _____

New Member ____ Renewal ____ School _____

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, ZIP _____

Phone _____

E-mail (PLEASE INCLUDE):

How did you learn about SFVAS?

The *PHAINOPEPLA*, published six times a year, is the newsletter of the San Fernando Valley Audubon Society, P.O. Box 7769, Van Nuys, CA 91409. San Fernando Valley Audubon Society is a chapter of the National Audubon Society, a non-profit conservation/education organization, and is dedicated to "the conservation of wildlife and natural resources."

Articles, letters, drawings, and photographs concerning conservation, the science and ecology, birding, chapter activities, and articles of interest to the membership are welcome for publication in the *PHAINOPEPLA*.

Material from other newsletters or newspapers should include the source and date. Copy for the *PHAINOPEPLA* should be in the hands of the editor by the 3rd of the month to be included in the following month's newsletter.

Membership to National Audubon is separate and can be initiated on the website www.Audubon.org.

If you have any questions about membership, renewals, change of address or any other membership concerns, please contact Becky Arntzen at (818) 761-6692 or e-mail her at Becky.Amntzen@sfvaudubon.org.

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Conservation Corner *by Dave Weeshoff*

The Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) is America's cornerstone bird conservation law. Our National Audubon led the charge to help pass the law in 1918, and it has since saved millions of birds and numerous species from the brink of extinction. Now signs are pointing to growing threats to this law, placing America's birdlife in danger.

The MBTA protects most of the nation's native birds by making it unlawful to kill, hunt, sell, or possess more than 1,000 species, along with their nests, eggs, and feathers, without a permit. It is credited with helping turn the tide against the plume trade and market hunting, which devastated bird populations in the early 20th century. Today, threats to birds continue (including Climate Change), and the protections afforded by the MBTA are even more vital as ever.

In recent years, the law has come under attack. Audubon rallied to oppose the "bird killer amendment" in 2015, which would have prevented any enforcement of the law. Legislation introduced last Congress would have given a free pass to deaths from industrial activities that incidentally kill birds, such as oil waste pits, power lines, and gas flares. Neither effort moved forward in the last Congress.

Audubon also supported a proactive approach to strengthening the MBTA by addressing these industrial activities more directly through a permit process. The process has since been suspended by the Trump administration.

In this current political environment, core laws like the Endangered Species Act and others are under increasing attack. Chatter about undermining the MBTA is growing, from the halls of Washington to the pages of the Wall Street, and the threat to the law is expanding. These efforts could limit or end the protections for about 1,000 species of birds, from backyard birds like American Robins, to Red-tailed Hawks, and Common Loons, and declining species across the country like American Kestrels, Cerulean Warblers, and more.

As we approach the law's one-hundredth anniversary, SFVAS will be on guard to continue Audubon's proud legacy and keep the MBTA just as vital and effective in its next century. Please stay tuned for opportunities to take action. Please call Dave Weeshoff at (818) 618-1652, or email at Dave.Weeshoff@SFVAudubon.org for more information on how you can help.