



# Phainopepla

Published by the  
**San Fernando Valley Audubon Society**  
A Chapter of National Audubon Society  
*For Nature Education and the Conservation of Wildlife*

**Vol. 69 No. 3**

**June / July 2018**

## Monthly Program

### 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 5-6, for directions.

### *Thank you!*

to all the volunteers who came and helped out at the April 14 Spring Clean-up of the Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Reserve. Your willingness to get your hands dirty is appreciated by all who visit the basin.

### AUDUBON MEMBERS, FRIENDS & FAMILIES: Join Us for this Fun-filled Annual Event!

#### What: SFVAS POT LUCK

Where: San Fernando Valley Arts & Cultural Center, 18312 Oxnard Street, Tarzana

When: Thursday, June 28, 2018

6:30 p.m. Volunteer Set-up

7:00 p.m. Appetizers, wine, and other beverages

7:20 p.m. Dining: POT LUCK SHARING

Please bring a dish to share from the following categories (which are different from last year).

- A-F Side Dishes
- G-L Salads
- M-P Main Dishes
- Q-Z Desserts

To minimize the trash created at this event, please bring your own non-disposable plate, cup, and utensils. Mother Earth will thank you!

7:50 p.m. Game answers and prizes

8:00 p.m. Reports, thanks to retiring board members, and presentation of new Board Members and Officers

8:15 p.m. Membership Slideshow and thank you gifts for presenters

Share up to ten slides maximum on a thumb drive. They should be uploaded as a PowerPoint presentation or a pdf file. The filename should be your last name underscore, and first initial. If you have more than one file (e.g. individual jpgs) they should be followed by a number. For example, bates\_p1.jpg, bates\_p2.jpg, etc. That way Pat can have them ready to go on the computer.

For further information, please contact Joanne Millius at (818) 335-5331.



***Remember to VOTE on June 5 and VOTE YES on PROP 68!***



## BIRDATHON 2018 Surpasses Expected Species Counts *By Pat Avery*

A big "Thank You" to all our Birdathon leaders! We had a broad range of events this year that included several of the regular monthly bird walks, traveling caravans covering vast geographic areas, and a 2-hour sit-in at a single location.

All of our Birdathon events are complete and the results are in! Overall we exceeded our goal for the number of species each team would identify by 37 species. Birdathon leaders gave liberally of their expertise and time to host events that would earn money to support the education and conservation efforts of SFVAS.

Now it is your turn! Support our ongoing education and outreach programs that help protect the rich diversity of species and habitat reflected in our area! Send your donations to SFVAS, PO Box 7769, Van Nuys, CA 91409 or give online at [www.sfvaudubon.org](http://www.sfvaudubon.org).

**Thank you! Our fundraising success will be reported in the next *Phainopepla*.**

### **Birdathon Events 2018**

Date	Event Place	Leader	Probable Species Count	Results
4/8/18	Big Sit @ Sepulveda Basin	Heather Medvitz & Pat Avery	30	38
4/15/18	Malibu Creek State Park	Art Langton	45-50	55
4/17/18	O'Melveny Park	Carolyn Oppenheimer	30	33
4/18/18	Antelope Valley Big Day	Jim Moore	120	129
4/21/18	Morongo Valley Field Trip	Richard Barth	65-70	60
4/24/18	Simi Hills/Santa Susanna Mtns. Big Day	Mark Osokow	65	75
4/28/18	Hansen Dam	Pat Bates	30	39
4/29/18	Lori Willis Memorial Fund	John & Andrew Willis	50	51
5/6/18	Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Reserve	Kris Ohlenkamp	60-65	55
5/5-5/6/18	LA & Orange Counties Marathon	Allan & Muriel Kotin	100	97

### **Highlights of Birdathon Events for 2018**

Five birders joined Heather Medvitz and Pat Avery for a Sunday morning stroll and sit at Sepulveda Basin that found 38 species including bright Bullock's Orioles, Cassin's Kingbirds, Pied-billed Grebes and Red-winged Blackbirds.

Art Langton was joined by six birders at Malibu Creek State Park. They identified 55 species including Ash-throated Flycatcher, Hutton's Vireo, Golden-crowned Sparrow and Lazuli Bunting,

Twelve birders joined Carolyn Oppenheimer for a walk in O'Melveny Park and found 33 species including Black-throated Gray Warbler, Nashville Warbler, Black-headed Grosbeak and Golden-crowned Sparrow.

Jim Moore conducted nine birders on his annual Big Day in the Antelope Valley. They tallied 129 species including excellent views of Great Horned Owl nestlings; Hooded, Common, and Red-breasted Mergansers; Soras; Solitary Sandpiper; Prairie Falcon and seven types of flycatchers (Western Wood Pewee, Hammond's, Pacific Slope, Black Phoebe, Say's Phoebe, Ash-throated, and Western Kingbird).

Richard Barth's trip to Morongo Valley and Black Rock Campground found 60 species including Pinyon Jays, singing Scott's Orioles, Vermilion Flycatchers, a singing Summer Tanager, over twenty Phainopeplas hovering around one tree and a Green-tailed Towhee.  
*Continued next page.*

Six birders joined Mark Osokow for his annual Big Day in the Santa Susana Mountains and Simi Hills. They tallied 75 species including Merlin, Lazuli Bunting, Phainopepla, Warbling Vireo, Black-throated Gray Warbler, Hermit Warbler, Blue Grosbeak, Rufous-crowned Sparrow, Great Horned Owl, Western Screech Owl, Barn Owl, and Common Poorwill.

Pat Bates and four birders found a large number of Lawrence's Goldfinches at Hansen Dam. They also saw a Yellow-breasted Chat and two nesting Phainopeplas. In total, they counted 39 different species.


John and Andrew Willis spent the day birding Los Angeles and Long Beach Harbors and came across a huge flock of Black Skimmers on the beach at Ocean Avenue and a Red-throated Loon at Alamitos Bay. In total, they found 51 species.

Twenty-eight birders joined Kris Ohlenkamp at Sepulveda Basin earning Kris the distinction of attracting the most participants. They saw both male and female Western Tanagers, Phainopepla, a male blue Grosbeak, a female Myrtle's variant of the Yellow-rumped Warbler and had great looks at an Olive-sided Flycatcher. In total, they identified 55 species.

Muriel and Alan Kotin completed their 24-hour marathon visit to birding sites in Orange and Los Angeles Counties. They nearly tripped over a Horned Lark at Bolsa Chica and observed an Eared Grebe in full breeding plumage. At Harriet Wieder Park they found a mating pair of tree swallows before they even got out of the car. In total, they identified 97 species.

Art Langton completed a one-man, personal Birdathon along State Route 33 from McGrath State Beach to Ozema Ranger Station in Los Padres National Forest. He made stops at Ventura Marina, Cañada Larga, Ojai Meadows, and Wheeler Gorge. Due to fire damage further up the road, Wheeler Gorge is currently the end of good birding on this trek. In total, he saw 68 species.

Birdathon leaders and participants were rewarded by directly experiencing the broad diversity of habitat and number of bird species found in our region. Birdathon, our only fundraising event of the year, supports our vital education and conservation programs. Your contribution will enable SFVAS to continue to educate the public about bird identification and the importance of protecting bird wildlife habitat.


Please join us by making a contribution today to SFVAS, PO Box 7769, Van Nuys, CA 91409 or online at [www.sfvaudubon.org](http://www.sfvaudubon.org). 

## **Report on March and April Field Trips** *by Richard Barth*

March 17 & 18 marked our Morro Bay Weekend, essentially a three-day event with some of us tallying sightings on Friday as well. There were short periods of rain on Friday and Saturday, but Sunday's weather was almost perfect. For the trip we found 99 species, plus an interesting hybrid. Target species Pigeon Guillemot, Brant, Chestnut-backed Chickadee and Peregrine were present and accounted for. Our shorebird list totaled fourteen species while our waterfowl list numbered thirteen including Greater Scaup and a recently-reported hybrid Blue-winged X Cinnamon Teal. Other special sightings included Common Loon (with one individual in full breeding plumage), Red-throated Loon, Black Oystercatcher, Brandt's Cormorant, Pelagic Cormorant, White-tailed Kite, Osprey, Fox Sparrow and Purple Finch. Also of some note: Belted Kingfisher, Wrentit, California Quail, Hermit Thrush, California Thrasher, Golden-crowned Sparrow and Western Meadowlark. We were successful in finding a cooperative Canyon Wren on Morro Rock this year, and got lucky with a Brown Creeper at the State Park Campground.

On April 21 we traveled to the high desert north of Palm Springs and birded the Big Morongo Valley Preserve, nearby Covington Park and neighborhood, and after lunch Black Rock Campground in Joshua Tree National Park. The day's efforts served as an SFVAS Birdathon, producing 60 species under glorious weather conditions. Highlight sightings for the day were Scott's Oriole, Summer Tanager, Pinyon Jay, Vermilion Flycatcher, Bell's Vireo, Green-tailed Towhee, Verdin, Lawrence's Goldfinch, Yellow-breasted Chat, White-throated Sparrow, Cactus Wren and White-winged Dove. We were treated to a migratory fall-out of at least twenty Phainopeplas. Also tallied were Gambel's Quail, Ash-throated Flycatcher, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Lazuli Bunting, Hooded Oriole, Bullock's Oriole, Black-headed Grosbeak, Western Tanager, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Black-chinned Hummingbird, Costa's Hummingbird, Lark Sparrow and Lincoln's Sparrow. Topping our warbler list were Nashville, Yellow, Wilson's and Black-throated Gray. Other species of interest found: American Kestrel (one carrying a large lizard), California Thrasher, Chipping Sparrow, Western Bluebird and Pacific-slope Flycatcher.

## **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](mailto:alan.pollack@sfvaudubon.org). 

## Proposition 68 Will Fund Numerous Local and Statewide Conservation Priorities

SFVAS is joining Audubon California and a broad coalition of conservation organizations in supporting Proposition 68 on the June 5 California ballot. These groups have cited numerous potential benefits to California's birds and other natural treasures, as well as the state's residents. Called the California Clean Water & Safe Parks Act, Proposition 68 is a \$4 billion bond measure that will fund a number of important priorities for Californians, including local, regional and state parks, clean drinking water projects, flood protection, and habitat projects that are vital to the state's diverse wildlife.

The cycle of drought and extreme weather is already taking a toll on California's natural treasures and threatens our communities with flooding and ecological degradation. These same forces have also exposed our state's antiquated water infrastructure, bringing into doubt our ability to provide clean, safe, and reliable drinking water to our residents. Lastly, with most of the bond funding for vital conservation programs running out in the last few years, it is time for Californians to make the next investment in the protection of the natural resources that make California's parks and open spaces destinations for millions of visitors every year.

For the birds of the Pacific Flyway, and the roughly one million people living around the Salton Sea, Prop. 68 has profound importance. The bond measure includes \$200 million for vitally important dust mitigation and habitat restoration at the Salton Sea, where water diversions are creating a public health disaster and destroying habitat. *Join SFVAS in supporting Proposition 68 on June 5. Thank you!* 🐦

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## Your Chapter, Supporting Other Conservation Organizations *By Katheryn Barton*

Last year, the San Fernando Valley Audubon Society adopted a new mission statement, which consists of three major components. The first reads, "To promote the conservation of natural resources and to preserve and enhance wildlife habitats and biodiversity." (Go to [www.sfvaudubon.org](http://www.sfvaudubon.org), go to "About Us" and click on "Mission Statement" to read it in its entirety.) One of the many ways the Chapter can pursue its mission is to provide financial support to other conservation-related organizations with complementary missions, using its financial assets accumulated through donations both large and small, and both recent and from the earliest days of the Chapter's history. Although the Chapter has, throughout its history, supported other conservation-minded organizations, the Chapter's Board of Directors has identified a few worthy non-profit organizations whose purposes and activities exemplify our mission statement and further our goals. The Chapter hopes that our ongoing support of these organizations will create a synergy that benefits our local communities and our local wildlife. Future issues of the *Phainopepla* will include details about the donations, as well as more information about these organizations. But first, we wanted to share how the Chapter has come to be in a position to offer concrete support to like-minded organizations.

As many of you already know, the Chapter has a long, proud history, and is over 100 years old. Donations made to the Chapter in the first half of its existence, thanks to strong economic growth and wise investment strategies, have yielded good returns. In later years, the Chapter was the beneficiary of two thoughtful members who generously included the Chapter in their estate-planning. Marjorie Holmes, an active member for many years, left her estate to the Chapter, including her home in Mission Hills, with hopes that it could be turned into a nature center. Unfortunately the home was badly damaged in the Northridge earthquake, making it impossible to realize her original vision. However, proceeds from the sale of the home added to the assets of the Chapter. And just a few years ago, Joyce McKinnon, a retired operating room nurse, who was a very active member of the Chapter, and served as Recording Secretary and Director-at-Large, as well as a naturalist in SBEEP, remembered the Chapter in her estate planning as well.

As a general rule the Chapter strives to "break even" each year. Although the Chapter's ongoing activities, including annual operational costs and SBEEP, are supported by member dues supplemented by proceeds from our annual Birdathon, the Chapter is now able to make more substantial "investments" in other conservation-minded organizations, thanks to the many individuals who have supported it with their donations over the years. We thank you, and the birds do, too! 🐦

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## *Phainopepla* Photo of the Month

by Richard Medvitz

*Phainopepla* (*Phainopepla nitens*)

Big Morongo Canyon Preserve

Canon 7D Mark II camera with 100-400 mm Mark II lens

This month's photo of our chapter's symbol, the gorgeous *Phainopepla*, comes to us from Richard Medvitz. He notes that it was taken at Big Morongo Canyon Preserve, on January 31, 2018. "Beautiful Sunday, late-morning birding, Heather and I stopped on our way back from Palm Springs at the Big Morongo Preserve and came upon a flock (of *Phainopeplas*), maybe 20 or so. This one stayed put long enough to get a clear photo."

The name comes from the Greek "phain pepla" which means "shining robe," which if you've seen them shining in the sun, you'll agree is an apt name!

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](mailto:kathy.barton@sfvaudubon.org). Or you can post to our Facebook page: [www.facebook.com/sfvaudubon](http://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. 🐦





# Calendar of Events

## June

### **Saturday, June 2. 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, June 3. 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@sfgvaudubon.org](mailto:kris.ohlenkamp@sfgvaudubon.org) or (805) 727-5007.

**Saturday, June 9. Monthly Field Trip: Rancho Sierra Vista Preserve (second Saturday). 7:30 a.m.** We expect to see Blue Grosbeak, Lazuli Bunting, orioles, flycatchers, raptors, possibly Grasshopper Sparrow. Directions: Take the Ventura Freeway (101) to the Lynn Road exit in Thousand Oaks. Go south on Lynn Road and proceed 5.3 miles to Via Goleta. Turn left at Via Goleta to the preserve entrance. The main gate officially opens at 8:00 a.m. but a ranger usually opens it much earlier. We will meet at the gate at 7:30, ready to drive down to the parking lot and get an early start. We will bird until about 11:30. Leader: Richard Barth, (310) 276-0342.

**Saturday, June 9. 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, June 10. 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. 1<sup>st</sup> 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. 1<sup>st</sup> Street then take the 3<sup>rd</sup> 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, June 16. 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.

**Sunday, June 17. 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.

**Please NOTE: The Tuesday Weekday Walk at O'Melveny Park is on summer hiatus and will resume September 18.**

**Saturday, June 23. Hansen Dam Bird Walk. 9:00 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@sfgvaudubon.org](mailto:pat.bates@sfgvaudubon.org).

**Monday, June 25. 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.

**Thursday, June 28. SFVAS General Membership Annual Pot Luck. 7:00 p.m. (6:30 p.m set-up).** The program includes the installation of new officers, food, and photos. For more information, see Monthly Program, page one. **Location: San Fernando Valley Arts & Cultural Center, 18312 Oxnard Street, Tarzana, CA. (818) 697-5525.** 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. ALL are welcome!

**Saturday, June 30. 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](mailto:roselbirds@gmail.com), or call (818) 990-5405.

## July

**Sunday, July 1. Sepulveda Basin Bird Walk. 8:00–11:30 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@sfgvaudubon.org](mailto:kris.ohlenkamp@sfgvaudubon.org) or (805) 727-5007.

**Saturday, July 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, July 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, July 14. Placerita Canyon 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. Leader: Roger McClure. For more information, call the Nature Center at (661) 259-7721.

**Sunday, July 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.

**Please NOTE: The Tuesday Weekday Walk at O'Melveny Park is on summer hiatus and will resume September 18.**

**Saturday, July 21. Monthly Field Trip: Mt. Pinos. 7:30 a.m.** Join us for summer montane species such as Fox Sparrow, Green-tailed Towhee, Dusky Flycatcher, Cassin's Finch, Hairy Woodpecker and Clark's Nutcracker. Meet in the parking lot at Iris Meadows. Bring plenty of water, sunscreen, insect repellent and lunch. Directions: From the San Fernando Valley, take I-5 north to the Frazier Park exit. Go under the freeway and head west on Frazier Park Road, which becomes Cuddy Valley Road and then becomes Mount Pinos Road and leads up to the top parking lot on Mt. Pinos (dead end). We will meet in the lot. The mileage from the freeway exit to this top parking lot is approximately 20 miles. Your vehicle must exhibit a National Forest or National Park Pass in order for you to park and bird in this area. Leader: Richard Barth, (310) 276-0342.

**Saturday, July 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.

**NO SFVAS General Membership Meetings in July and August. See you September 27. Have a great summer!**

**Saturday, July 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@sfvaudubon.org](mailto:pat.bates@sfvaudubon.org).

**Saturday, July 28. Young Birders Group Bird Walk: Franklin Canyon Park. 9:00 a.m.** 2600 Franklin Canyon Dr., Beverly Hills. 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: From the San Fernando Valley, take the Ventura Freeway (101) or Ventura Boulevard to Coldwater Canyon Boulevard. Head south to the intersection of Coldwater Canyon and Mulholland Drive. Make a 90-degree right turn onto Franklin Canon Drive. (This means crossing Mulholland) Road signs read "Road Closed 800 Feet" "Sunset to Sunrise"; this is the park entrance. Meet in the parking lot on the left. Allow some extra time, as Coldwater Canyon can be a slow road. Leader(s) Alexander and/or Olivia. For more information on meeting location please e-mail Rose Leibowitz at [roselbirds@gmail.com](mailto:roselbirds@gmail.com), or call (818) 990-5405.

**Future Field Trips (details later):**

**August 18. Chilao, Buckhorn and Charlton Flats**

**September 15. Huntington Central Park and Bolsa Chica**

**October 20. El Dorado Park**

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## 2018–2019 Board Announced

The Nominations Committee (Becky Arntzen, Felipe Lepe, and Muriel Kotin) is pleased to announce the new SFVAS Board of Directors for our 2018–2019 year which begins on July 1, 2018.

**Officers (2-year terms):**

- **President:** Paula Orlovich
- **1st VP:** Teri Carnesciali
- **2nd VP:** Becky Arntzen
- **Corresponding Secretary:** Lynn Maddox
- **Recording Secretary:** Kathy Barton
- **Treasurer:** Jim Houghton

**Board Members at Large:**

- **3rd Year Board:** Felipe Lepe and Diana Keeney
- **2nd Year Board:** Barbara Heidemann and Joanne Millius
- **1st Year Board:** Bonnie Flamer and Benny Jacobs-Schwartz

The election was held at the May 24 meeting and installation will take place at the June 28, 2018 Pot Luck. 🐾



Mallard, by Paula Orlovich,

May 12, 2018

Sepulveda Basin

# SAN FERNANDO VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY

## EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

President: Rose Leibowitz (818) 990-5405  
 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President: Paula Orlovich (818) 728-9838  
 2<sup>nd</sup> 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

## DIRECTORS

Teri Carnesciali (818) 892-5029  
 David Barton (818) 981-1418  
 Becky Arntzen (818) 761-6692  
 Felipe Lepe (818) 536-2060  
 Barbara Heidemann unpublished  
 Joanne Millius (818) 335-5331

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

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If you have any questions about membership, renewals, change of address or any other membership concerns, please contact Lynn Maddox at (818) 845-4688 or e-mail her at [Lynn.Maddox@sfvaudubon.org](mailto:Lynn.Maddox@sfvaudubon.org).

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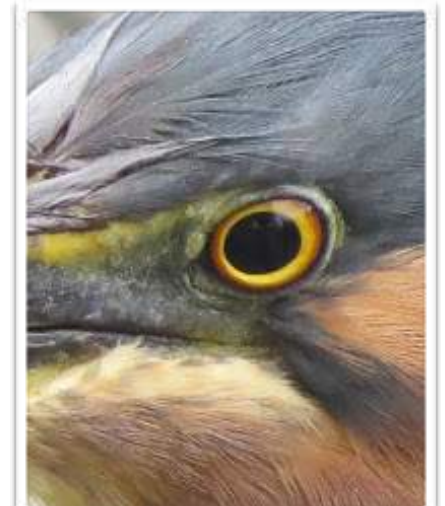
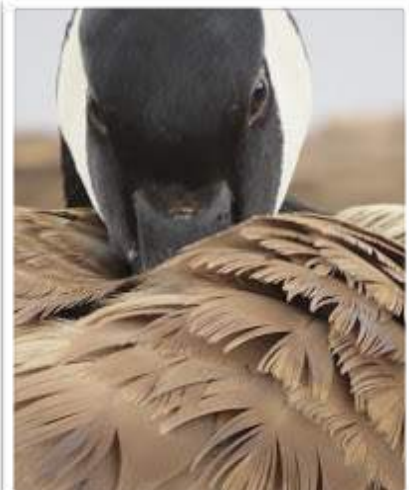
# Phainopepla

San Fernando Valley Audubon Society  
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**Children's Bird Day** was very fun. Light rain makes for very good birding. The dozen of us totaled 40 species, which is more than the adult walk that was also happening that day. The highlights of our walk included grebe and cormorant chicks, great views of a hunting Green Heron, a Phainopepla (the symbol of San Fernando Audubon), and a family of Great Horned Owls. Here's the complete list, with pictures <https://ebird.org/view/checklist/S45593751> - Alexander deBarros



Photos left to right: Canada Goose, Western Bluebird, and Green Heron. Children's bird walk - Sepulveda Basin - 5/12/18