



Phainopepla

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December 2021 / January 2022

Online General Membership Meetings

Please join us for our
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JOIN US FOR THE
122ND ANNUAL
NATIONAL AUDUBON
CHRISTMAS BIRD
COUNT

**SATURDAY
DECEMBER 18, 2021**

BRING YOUR
BINOCULARS AND JOIN
US FOR A FUN AND
REWARDING DAY OF
COUNTING BIRDS.

SEE PAGES 2-3 FOR
LOCATIONS AND TIMES

It's for the birds!

2021 CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2021

SEE PAGES 2—3 FOR PLACES AND TIMES

General Membership Meeting: — Zoom Presentation —

Thursday, January 27, 2022

7:00—8:30 p.m.

Guest Speaker: Dr. Peter Coates

Topic: Crows & Ravens

Dr. Peter Coates will be speaking about his investigation of the links between nesting habitat, predator composition, and incubation behavior and success of birds, especially when it comes to Crows and Ravens. His research interests include Avian Ecology, Conservation Biology, and Habitat Modeling.

He is a Wildlife Biologist for the U.S. Geological Survey, and also worked as a seasonal biological specialist for the U.S. Department of Agriculture. As of now, he works at the Western Ecological Research Center in Dixon, California. He has written papers on Fire Science and Greater Sage-Grouse Population Ecology.

Dr. Coates received his Ph.D. in Biology from Idaho State University. He belongs to professional and honorary societies and advisory committees, including the American Ornithologists Union, Cooper Ornithological Society, Society for Conservation Biology, and The Wildlife Society.

We hope you will join us for the Zoom meeting. [Click here](#), enter your information and you will receive a link prior to the event. If you've signed up for a previous Zoom event, no need—you're already on our list!





2021 CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

Saturday, December 18, 2021

Birders Needed!

It's no secret that these last two years have been some of the most stressful in living memory. All our lives have changed around the once-in-a-century global pandemic that has already killed over 4,500,000 people worldwide. However, despite these hardships, we have continued to look for birds, both in parks and around our houses, and it is time once again to put our collective skills to good use. As always, the San Fernando Valley Audubon Society will join Audubon chapters across the western hemisphere to take part in the National Audubon Society's 122nd annual Christmas Bird Count.

The initial San Fernando Valley CBC was held in 1957 making this our 65th consecutive CBC. Over the years, we have tracked some interesting changes in bird populations in the count circle as the valley has transitioned into a more developed area.

Despite having to greatly limit participation in the CBC last year to account for the pandemic, we counted 140 species and 16,661 individuals, somewhat higher than our average of 129 species and 15,611 individuals over the last 20 years.

In order to get the most comprehensive indication of the health of bird population in the valley, we need as many counters as possible. Extensive birding experience is not a prerequisite, only a willingness to come out and count—wind, rain, or shine. Those unable to join one of the count groups may assist by noting species and numbers of birds at backyard feeders, local parks, and neighborhoods provided such counts take place within a 7.5 mile radius circle from the count center at the intersection of Balboa and Nordhoff (a map of the CBC circle is available here: <https://audubon.maps.arcgis.com/apps/View/index.html?appid=ac275eeb01434cedb1c5dcd0fd3fc7b4>). Please report all such counts along with the time spent observing to Alexander deBarros by e-mail, alexanderdebarros@yahoo.com no later than January 3, 2022.

Count participation is free and open to all. However, because of the ongoing risk of COVID transmission, all counters must follow the safety guidelines listed here: <https://www.sfvaudubon.org/2021-christmas-bird-count-covid-guidelines/>. If you are joining a count team, **you must also contact the sector leader in advance**, and inform them of your vaccination status.

Open count sectors are listed below.

O'Melveny and Bee Canyon Parks. Meeting time: 8:00 AM

Exit the 118 fwy at Balboa Blvd, and head north (turn right if you're on the westbound side, left if you're on the eastbound side). Turn left on Sesnon Blvd and continue 1/2 mile. Park is on the right. Meet in the parking lot. (34.307645 N, 118.511220 W)

Other stops: none

Terrain: Mostly flat, some light hills

Approximate distance: 3.50 miles

Leader: Muriel Kotin, mkotin@adkotin.com

Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Reserve and Lake Balboa.

Meeting time: 7:30 AM

Exit the 405 fwy at Burbank Blvd, and head west (turn left if you're on the northbound side, right if you're on the southbound side). Turn right on Woodley Ave, and take the 2nd possible right into the wildlife reserve. Continue for 600 ft, and turn right into the parking lot. (34.179670 N, 118.479616 W)

Other stops: none

Terrain: Flat

Approximate distance: 6.50 miles

Leader: Kris Ohlenkamp, kris.ohlenkamp@sbcglobal.net

Note: Bring lunch and drinks

Wilson Canyon and nearby parks. Meeting time 8:00 AM

Exit the 210 fwy at Roxford St and head north (turn right if you're on the westbound side, left if you're on the eastbound side). Roxford immediately turns east and becomes Olive View Dr. Continue 1.1 miles to just past Olive View Hospital, and turn left at the entrance to the park. Follow the road to the parking lot overlooking the dam. (34.329935 N, 118.444896 W)

Other stops: Sylmar Rec Center (34.308726 N, 118.445208 W), Carey Ranch Park (34.289210 N, 118.459778 W), Brand Park & San Fernando Mission (34.271967 N, 118.456939 W)

Terrain: Moderate hills at Wilson Canyon, other parks flat

Approximate distance: 6 miles total

Leader: Eric Shaphran, emshap@umich.edu

Veteran's Park & Stetson Ranch Park. Meeting time: 7:00AM

Exit the 210 fwy at Hubbard St and head east (turn right if you're on the northbound side, left if you're on the southbound side).

Turn left on Gladstone, Fenton, or Eldridge Ave (all will lead to the next street) and right on Sayre St. Turn left into Veteran's Park and follow that road into the parking lot. (34.326359 N, 118.419513 W)

Other stops: Stetson Ranch Park (34.323827 N, 118.473693 W)

Terrain: Mostly flat at Veteran's Park, moderate hills at Stetson Ranch

Approximate distance: 5 miles total

Leader: Scott Logan, wildwingsla@gmail.com

El Cariso Park and Pacoima Wash. Meeting time: 8:00 AM

Exit the 210 fwy at Hubbard St and head east (turn right if you're on the northbound side, left if you're on the southbound side). Turn right into the parking lot, and right again as soon as you enter. (34.318658 N, 118.417045 W)

Other stops: none

Terrain: Flat at El Cariso, mostly flat with some light hills at the Pacoima Wash

Approximate distance: 2.5 miles total

Leader: Heather Medvitz, jhmedvitz@yahoo.com

Bull Creek, Sepulveda Sports Complexes, and Valley College. Meeting time 8:00 AM

Exit the 101 fwy at Balboa Blvd and head north (turn right if you're on the northbound side, left if you're on the southbound side). Continue for 0.7 miles, then turn right into Anthony C. Beilenson Park. Take the first possible left into the parking lot. (34.181266 N, 118.498896 W)

Other stops: Los Angeles Valley College (34.172461 N, 118.413475 W)

Terrain: Flat

Approximate distance: 6 miles total

Leader: Rose Leibowitz, roselbirds@gmail.com

L.A. River and Tujunga Wash. Meeting time 6:30 AM

Exit the 101 fwy N at Topanga Canyon Rd and head north. Turn right on Vanowen St, then left onto Owensmouth Ave. Turn right onto Bassett St (the first right after crossing the L.A. River). Meet on the south side of Bassett St, just after the turn.

(34.195537 N, 118.601145 W)

Other stops: L.A. River at Sepulveda Blvd & Valleyheart Dr (34.161285 N, 118.465840 W)

Terrain: Flat

Approximate distance: 21.3 miles total

Leader: Alexander deBarros, alexanderdebarros@yahoo.com

Note: This route is done using bicycles. You must bring a bike.

Reseda Park and small Encino area parks. Meeting time 8:00 AM

Exit the 101 fwy at Reseda Blvd and head north (turn right if you're on the northbound side, left if you're on the southbound side). Turn right onto Victory Blvd, continue 800 ft, then turn left into the parking lot. (34.186859 N, 118.532932 W)

Other stops: Encino Park & Los Encinos State Historic Park (34.160410 N, 118.501661 W), Holy Spirit Retreat Center (34.149173 N, 118.492050 W)

Terrain: Flat

Approximate distance: 3 miles total

Leader: Pat Bates, batesbird@gmail.com

Limekiln, Moonshine, and Mormon Canyons. Meeting time: 7:00 AM

Exit the 118 fwy at Porter Ranch Dr and head north (turn right if you're on the westbound side, left if you're on the eastbound side). Turn right onto Sesnon Blvd and immediately turn right again into the parking lot of Holleigh Bernson Memorial Park. (34.292979 N, 118.571132 W)

Other stops: none

Terrain: Moderate to steep hills

Approximate distance: 7.6 miles

Leader: Otto Mayer, ibirdotto@gmail.com

SFV Audubon On Instagram!

By Jolene Wallace

Did you know that the SFV Audubon is active on Instagram? IG is a fun way to engage with us and see great bird photos from our SFVA walks. It's also an easy way to keep up with what's going on at SFVAS, our events and your fellow birders who attend them.

All you have to do is follow [@sfvaudubon](https://www.instagram.com/sfvaudubon) from your account. If you don't have an IG account, it takes only a few easy steps to create one.

First, you download the app, which is available for free on iOS, Android, and Windows devices. There isn't an app fully optimized for iPads yet, but it does work in limited fashion there. It works better all the time on desktop computers, too.

Upon opening the app for the first time, you'll be prompted to create a new account, or log in with your Facebook account. If you choose to make a new account, the process is straightforward: You'll be asked for your phone number or email address, full name, desired username, and password. Pretty standard stuff.

The "at" sign is the clue that you're looking at an Instagram group or address. After you sign up, check us out [@sfvaudubon](https://www.instagram.com/sfvaudubon) to see the latest photos from our bird walks and events, plus event and other important announcements. If you follow us, our posts will automatically appear in your feed.

If you're a skilled photographer and join us on a walk, be sure to show your best shots to your leader so one or more can be featured on our feed. And whatever sort of photographer you are, your own IG account can contain any of your own images you want to share with friends and followers.

It's fun, it's easy, and it adds a dimension to our favorite activity: birdwatching! 🐦

Wilbur-Tampa Park and Aliso Canyon. Meeting time 8:00 AM

Exit the 118 fwy at Tampa Ave and head north (turn right if you're on the westbound side, left if you're on the eastbound side). Turn right onto Wilbur Ave. Meet on the north side of Wilbur Ave, just east of Tampa Ave. (34.288309 N, 118.556166 W)

Other stops: Zelzah Park (34.281158 N, 118.524842 W)

Terrain: Moderate to steep hills

Approximate distance: 7 miles

Leader: Taylor Driggs, gtaylorriggs@gmail.com

CSUN, Stoney Point Park, and Browns Canyon Rd. Meeting time 8:00 AM

Exit the 118 fwy at Reseda Blvd and head south (make 2 rights if you're on the westbound side, 1 right if you're on the eastbound side). Turn left onto Nordhoff St, left again at Lindley Ave, and right into parking lot F2. (34.237401 N, 118.526776 W)

Other stops: Stoney Point Park (34.269308 N, 118.606010 W), Browns Canyon Road (34.274804 N, 118.591049 W)

Terrain: Flat at CSUN, light to moderate hills at Stoney Point, car at Browns Canyon

Approximate distance: 5.7 miles total

Leader: Natalie Beckman-Smith,

natalie.beckmansmith.24@my.csun.edu

Devil's Canyon Trail. Meeting time 7:30 AM

Exit the 118 fwy at De Soto Ave and head south (turn left if you're on the westbound side, right if you're on the eastbound side). Turn right at Chatsworth St, and right again at Canoga Ave. Meet on the east side of Canoga, just past the 118. (34.275745 N, 118.595351 W)

Other stops: none

Terrain: Light to moderate hills

Approximate distance: 5.5 miles

Leader: Rob Brown, robrown8288@gmail.com



Lawrence's Goldfinch

by Benny Jacobs-Schwartz

Calendar of Events

WE HAVE RESUMED BIRD OUTINGS, BUT PLEASE REMEMBER TO CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR THE LATEST INFORMATION. WE CONTINUE TO FOLLOW CDC GUIDELINES.

December 2021

Sunday, December 5. Sepulveda Basin Walk. 8:00–11:00 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@sbcglobal.net.

**Thursday, December 9. Sit Spot Birding & Journaling, O'Melveny Park.**

If you would like to mindfully connect with birds and all of nature, join us from 10:00–11:30 a.m. on the 2nd Thursday of each month at O'Melveny Park—at the picnic tables near the bathrooms. (Rain cancels and moves it to the 3rd Thursday.) What to bring: a cushion or a comfortable chair, a beverage/snack, binoculars, a journal, and something to write/draw with. This event is limited to 10 people. To reserve a spot, contact Diana Keeney at diana.keeney@sfaudubon.org or Teri Carnesciali at teri.carnesciali@sfaudubon.org.

Saturday, December 11. FREE Guided Tour of the Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Reserve. 9:00–10:30 a.m.

This tour is perfect for families with school-age children, beginning or first time birders, and people who want to learn more about the Wildlife Reserve. Directions: Driving on Woodley Ave. north from Burbank Blvd. or south from Victory Blvd., go .5 miles 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, on to the parking lot at the end of the road. Meet at the amphitheater. This tour will meet on 2nd Saturday's of the month, October—March. Leader: Muriel Kotin, (213) 500-4143. Heavy rain cancels.

Sunday, December 12. Franklin Canyon Park. 8:00 a.m. 2600 Franklin Canyon Dr., Beverly Hills. Directions: From the San Fernando Valley, take the Ventura Freeway (101) or Ventura Blvd. to Coldwater Canyon Blvd. Head south to the intersection of Coldwater Canyon and Mulholland Drive. Make a 90-degree right turn onto Franklin Canyon Drive. Leader: Paula Orlovich. See website sfaudubon.org under Events to reserve a spot.

Saturday, December 18. Christmas Bird Count. Come out and count birds for the 122nd Annual Audubon Christmas Bird Count. All are welcome. No experience necessary—just a willingness to count rain or shine. See pages 2–3 for meeting times and locations.

Sunday, December 19. Malibu Creek State Park. 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. Leaders: Kathy Barton (818) 929-2516 and David Barton (310) 990-6896.

**Tuesday, December 21. Weekday Wander at O'Melveny Park, Granada Hills. 9:00–11:00 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@sfaudubon.org.

No General Membership Meeting. Happy Holidays!

Saturday, December 25. Hansen Dam. 11640 Foothill Blvd., Sylmar, 8:00 a.m.

We will travel along a dirt road at the base of the dam—exploring promising sites along the way. Directions: From the 210 Freeway eastbound, exit at Osborne, go right on Foothill, then left (about 0.15 mile) into the Hansen Dam Soccer Fields parking lot. Meet in the dirt lot on the east side of the parking lot. Leader: Pat Bates, (818) 425-0962, batesbird@gmail.com.



January 2022

Sunday, January 2. Sepulveda Basin. 8:00–11:00 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@sbcglobal.net.

Saturday, January 8. FREE Guided Tour of the Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Reserve. 9:00–10:30 a.m.

This tour is perfect for families with school-age children, beginning or first time birders, and people who want to learn more about the Wildlife Reserve. Directions: Driving on Woodley Ave. north from Burbank Blvd. or south from Victory Blvd., go .5 miles 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, on to the parking lot at the end of the road. Meet at the amphitheater. This tour will meet on 2nd Saturday's of the month, October—March. Leader: Muriel Kotin, (213) 500-4143. Heavy rain cancels.

Sunday, January 9. Franklin Canyon Park. 8:00 a.m.

2600 Franklin Canyon Dr., Beverly Hills. Directions: From the San Fernando Valley, take the Ventura Freeway (101) or Ventura Blvd. to Coldwater Canyon Blvd. Head south to the intersection of Coldwater Canyon and Mulholland Drive. Make a 90-degree right turn onto Franklin Canyon Drive. Leader: Paula Orlovich. See website sfaudubon.org under Events to reserve a spot.

Thursday, January 13. Sit Spot Birding & Journaling, O'Melveny Park.

If you would like to mindfully connect with birds and all of nature, join us from 10:00–11:30 a.m. on the 2nd Thursday of each month at O'Melveny Park—at the picnic tables near the bathrooms. (Rain cancels and moves it to the 3rd Thursday.) What to bring: a cushion or a comfortable chair, a beverage/snack, binoculars, a journal, and something to write/draw with. This event is limited to 10 people. To reserve a spot, contact Diana Keeney at diana.keeney@sfaudubon.org or Teri Carnesciali at teri.carnesciali@sfaudubon.org.

Sunday, January 16. Malibu Creek State Park. 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. Leaders: Kathy Barton (818) 929-2516 and David Barton (310) 990-6896.

Tuesday, January 18. Weekday Wander at O'Melveny Park, Granada Hills. 9:00–11:00 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, January 22. Hansen Dam. 11640 Foothill Blvd., Sylmar, 8:00 a.m. We will travel along a dirt road at the base of the dam—exploring promising sites along the way. Directions: From the 210 Freeway eastbound, exit at Osborne, go right on Foothill, then left (about 0.15 mile) into the Hansen Dam Soccer Fields parking lot. Meet in the dirt lot on the east side of the parking lot. Leader: Pat Bates, (818) 425-0962, batesbird@gmail.com.

Monday, January 24. SFVAS ZOOM Board Meeting. 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, January 27. SFVAS Zoom General Membership Meeting. 7:00—8:30 p.m. Guest Speaker: Dr. Peter Coates. Join us as we learn about links between nesting habitat, predator composition, and incubation behavior and success of birds, particularly Crows and Ravens. See page 1 for more information. [Click here](#) to sign up and we will send you the link. If you've signed up for a previous Zoom event, no need—you're already on our list! 🐦

Audubon-at-Home by Alan Pollack

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@sfvadubon.org. 🐦

BIRDERS DISCOVER MEGA RARITY AT SEPULVEDA BASIN!

This last October, birders found a Dusky Warbler in the Sepulveda Basin, in the creek bed on the west side of Woodley Ave., north of Burbank Blvd. If you've never heard of Dusky Warbler, that may be because this Old World warbler normally is found in Europe and Asia, and has only been recorded in Los Angeles County three times, according to the California Bird Records Committee! Crowds of hopeful listers showed up to the bird's location, some having driven more than eight hours, to see this plain, brown, but very special, bird. Bird photographer Alexander Viduetsky was among those fortunate enough to get a glimpse (and a photo!) of this vagrant. Alex forwarded this first-hand account of his experience with the Dusky Warbler and his earlier sighting of another rarity, the Magnolia Warbler, with photo, below:

"I don't have much experience with such mega-rarities as Dusky Warbler. I admire the knowledge, birding skills and tremendous patience of birders like Jon Fisher, who had reported this bird on October 9.

Since practically everyone nowadays carries a smartphone, it's not difficult to get to the exact location of a previously reported bird, especially knowing the coordinates as well as the detailed description of that area. Since the coordinates were posted online, I had simply punched them into google maps and my phone guided me to the exact

spot. Also, many thanks to Carl, who was extremely helpful with the directions when we were looking together for the Magnolia Warbler earlier that day.



Magnolia Warbler by Alexander Viduetsky

When I arrived to the spot at Sepulveda Basin in the afternoon on October 16, there was already a group of birders there. Thanks to them, I knew exactly where that bird was. It took approximately two hours to get a chance to photograph that Old World warbler in the open. The bird was moving very fast and I had no more than a few seconds to make my photo-shots. Considering that the bird was staying in the shadows most of the time, I had to increase my camera's ISO to 2000 and add 1+ step of exposure compensation to make a sharp enough capture. Even though my photo is far from perfect, it was adequate for the Cornell's Lab application Merlin photo ID (which I have on my phone) to confirm that the bird I had photographed was indeed the Dusky Warbler."



Dusky Warbler by Alexander Viduetsky

Alex goes on to recommend the bird identification app, iBird Pro: *"Another useful application for smartphones is iBird Pro, which has Dusky Warbler in its database. From my point of view, the Similar Species option of that program is excellent for identifying unknown birds in the field. That's how I was able to ID an Ovenbird, which I had encountered incidentally a few years ago by the Mt. Wilson's observatory. I was the first who found that bird at that location."* 🐦



San Fernando Valley Audubon Society Announces Scholarship Awardees for 2021!

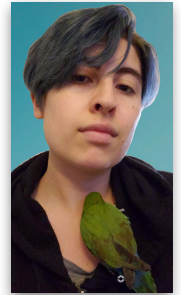
Each student will receive a check for \$500 from SFVAS

Rennie McIntosh, from CSUN, is deeply interested in Turkey Vultures, and wants to find ways of managing avian scavengers that doesn't involve killing them (they get shot regularly by ranchers who think they kill newborn livestock). She's particularly interested in promoting better understanding of their behaviors as a way to manage them beneficially, since their numbers are declining.



Marlene (Mars) Walters, from UCLA, is a Masters student, UCLA, Dept. of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology. She studies Dark-eyed Juncos and how behavior has changed during COVID lock down, and has added five other grad students to her thesis project, and wishes to use the money to buy them supplies for the work. She also participates in the Bruin Birding Club.

Ariane (Ari) Cuellar, from CSUN, is pursuing undergraduate studies, and is currently secretary to the Behavior, Ecology, Evolution and Research Club on campus. They will be working with us on the Christmas Bird Count, and is strongly committed to educating the public about the environment. They are interested in a career in the National Park Service, but wants to first go to grad school to study environmental justice and conservation.



Each student has joined SFVAS, and we look forward to working with them for the next year! 🐦

Birding Quiz —Submitted by Art Langton



This photo represents an example of different species utilizing the same geographic location for different purposes. For the terns, this a roosting spot relatively free from land based predators and ideal for resting between forays out over the ocean or lagoon in search of fish. The shorebirds come in different combinations of leg and bill length, and shape, adaptations for exploiting the resources within different portions of this shoreline. Longer legs can go into deeper water. Longer bills can explore deeper substrate. These are good examples of partitioning the food resources of the area and thereby minimizing competition between the variety of species. Can you identify the seven circled? *Answers on back page.*

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY

AUDUBON SOCIETY

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

President:	Paula Orlovich	(818) 481-5605
1 st Vice President:	Teri Carnesciali	(818) 892-5029
2 nd Vice President:	Marianne Davis	(310) 529-8871
Treasurer:	Pat Bates	(818) 425-0962
Corresponding Secretary:	Kathy Barton	(818) 929-2516
Recording Secretary:	Barbara Heidemann	unpublished

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Natalie Beckman-Smith	(818) 926-7825
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Jolene Herz	(818) 636-3764
Luisa Bergeron	(661) 755-7223
Rebecca Marschall	(818) 219-2649

STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Bird Boxes:	Carolyn Oppenheimer	(818) 885-7493
Conservation:	OPEN	
Editor <i>Phainopepla</i> :	Rebecca LeVine	(818) 776-0881
Finance:	Jim Houghton	(818) 388-7207
Programs:	Joanne Millius	(818) 335-5331
Web Coordinator:	Jim Houghton	(818) 388-7207
Youth Activities:	Muriel Kotin	(310) 457-5796

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Annual Awards	Paul Orlovich	(818) 481-5605
Audubon-at-Home:	Alan Pollack	(818) 340-2347
Birdathon:	Richard Davis	(310) 529-8865
Christmas Bird Count:	Alexander deBarros	(818) 919-3425
Community Outreach:	OPEN	
Education Classroom:	Paula Orlovich	(818) 481-5605
Education-SBEEP:	Paula Orlovich	(818) 481-5605
Field Trips:	OPEN	
Hansen Dam Birding:	Pat Bates	(818) 425-0962
Hospitality:	Teri Carnesciali	(818) 892-5029
Malibu Creek Birding:	Dave Barton	(310) 990-6896
	Kathy Barton	(818) 929-2516
Membership:	Lynn Maddox	(818) 845-4688
O'Melveny Bird Wander:	Carolyn Oppenheimer	(818) 885-7493
Publicity:	Marianne Davis	(310) 529-8871
Sales & Service:	Diana Keeney	(818) 998-3216
Scholarships and Grants:	Marianne Davis	(310) 529-8871
Sepulveda Basin Steering:	Muriel Kotin	(310) 457-5796
Sepulveda Basin Birding:	Kris Ohlenkamp	(818) 521-8799
Social Media:	Jim Houghton	(818) 388-7207

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

www.SFVAudubon.org

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

TO BECOME A MEMBER AND/OR RENEW ONLINE GO TO

<https://www.sfvaudubon.org/membership/>

It's fast, secure, saves time, and paper!

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 \$ _____

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.....**FREE** for a limited time for new members \$ _____

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Name _____

Address _____

City, State, ZIP _____

Phone _____

E-mail (PLEASE INCLUDE):

How did you learn about SFVAS?

If you want to join or renew by check, please be sure to include your e-mail address if you want to receive an acknowledgment. We can no longer thank you by regular mail. If you do not have an e-mail address, please know how much we appreciate your involvement with, and support of, 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, 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 Lynn Maddox at (818) 845-4688 or e-mail her at Lynn.Maddox@sfvaudubon.org.

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Phainopepla

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Sit Spot Birding with Nature Journaling

Sit Spot birding is an alternative approach to birding. Instead of extended walking and standing, it involves finding a comfortable spot in nature to sit, slow down, be in the moment, and notice details and behavior patterns.

Sit Spot birding is not list driven; it is not always trying to get the next bird. It is a way of expanding your awareness of and connection to birds (and all of nature!) And recording your Sit Spot experiences in a journal using words, numbers, and/or pictures can be very rewarding!

If you would like to mindfully connect with birds and all of nature, join us from 10:00–11:30 a.m. on the 2nd Thursday of each month at O'Melveny Park—at the picnic tables near the bathrooms. (Rain cancels and moves it to the 3rd Thursday.) What to bring: a cushion or a comfortable chair, a beverage/snack, binoculars, a journal, and something to write/draw with. This event is limited to 10 people. To reserve a spot, contact Diana Keeney at diana.keeney@sfvaudubon.org or Teri Carnesciali at teri.carnesciali@sfvaudubon.org.

Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee is looking for volunteers who are interested in participating on our board of directors or committees for the coming SFVAS year, July 1, 2022—June 30, 2023. Most board members start their service as chairs of a committee or as elected board members at large. Serving on a committee can also be a great way to become more involved with and contribute to SFVAS.

Newcomers to the board are important! We are volunteers, so you don't have to have prior experience. It is a wonderful opportunity to expand your knowledge and expertise while helping SFVAS work to fulfill our mission: to preserve and enhance the natural habitat within our territory, to increase the public's awareness and appreciation of bird life and the natural environment, and to create a social environment that encourages individual development and participation. Please contact Paula Orlovich if you are interested in serving in any capacity at: (818) 481-5605 or e-mail at 54Warbler@gmail.com.

Answers for Birding Quiz

1. Royal Tern
2. Long-billed Curlew
3. Wimbrel
4. Willet
5. Sanderlings
6. Marbled Godwit
7. Black-bellied Plovers