

Phainopepla



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2005 Christmas Bird Count Participants

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Phil Booth	Hank Hox	Stephen Langton	Carolyn Oppenheimer	John Stonick
Kerry Cavanaugh	Barbara Johnson	Joyce MacKinnon	Mark Osokow	Donna Timlin
Guy Commeau	Frank Karlin	Doug Martin	Brenda Pfaff	Aaron Wells
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Jim Estes	Muriel Kotin	Ron Melin	Wendi Potter	
Frank Gilliland	Mary Lumpkin	Jim Moore	Connie Schaefer	
Susan Gilliland	Arthur Langton	Robert Munsey		

Thank you to all the people who participated in this year's count.

Pete Dunne to Lead Bird Walk in Sepulveda Basin for Benefit of SFVAS

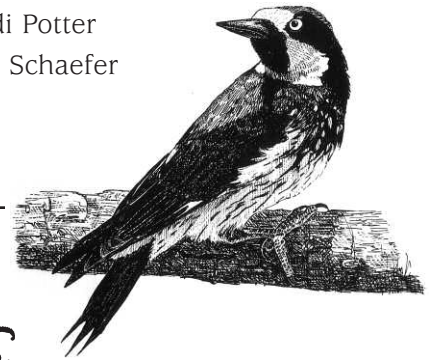


Illustration: Shawneen Finnegan

Here is your chance to learn great tips on bird watching from one of the foremost authorities on the subject in the United States while helping to support our Audubon chapter. Pete Dunne is the Director of the Cape May Bird Observatory. His book, *Pete Dunne on Bird Watching: The How-to, Where-to, and When-to of Birding*, identifies ten steps to becoming a better birder. Learn from the master. Mr. Dunne has graciously agreed to lead a charity bird walk for the benefit of SFVAS the morning after his lecture at our Annual Awards Banquet. The walk will be held at 8:30 a.m. at the Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Area on Saturday, March 4. We are asking for a donation of \$30 to SFVAS to attend. Participation will be limited to twenty-five people so reserve early. Coffee and nibbles will be available at the start of the walk. Reservations can be made with Chris Van Beveren via her email address: becktravel@yahoo.com. If you don't have e-mail you can reserve by phone at 818-998-3122. 🐦

2005 Christmas Bird Count Report by Arthur Langton, compiler

Despite an optimistic five-day forecast, the forty-one counters on the Chapter's 2005 Christmas Bird Count were greeted with cloudy skies and light rain showers as the first of a series of winter weather fronts passed through Southern California on December 26th. Early morning counters in upper Bee Canyon found themselves in fog and birding only by ear. Others complained of poor lighting conditions, while counters at Wilson Canyon found their access blocked by a locked gate and collected only raindrops. Nevertheless, over 18,000 birds were counted representing 135 species plus two additional races and two additional species seen during count week but not count day. This is a significant increase over last year when only 119 species and 13,000+ individuals were counted.

Three new species made the count list. A well-documented and photographed Yellow-bellied Sapsucker was sighted behind Hansen Dam. Several Cackling Geese, the smaller form of the Canada Goose and now considered a separate species, were seen on the golf course near Lake Balboa. The compiler was surprised by the appearance of a Eurasian Collared Dove in his backyard the day after the count.

Other unusual sightings included the return of an Eastern Phoebe and female Vermilion Flycatcher to Sepulveda Basin. The phoebe has now been seen there two years in a row. A Gray Flycatcher and Herring Gull, unusual this far from the coast, were among the hundred species sighted at Hansen Dam, which was the leading species producer and most popular location for counters this year. In addition, the Hansen Dam count included a good variety of ducks including 30 Hooded Mergansers, the count's only Prairie Falcons, Rock Wrens, snipe, dowitcher plus a Solitary-type vireo, a count week Townsend's Warbler, and half the Chipping Sparrow total.

High counts for the Valley were achieved for Hooded Mergansers, Eurasian Wigeon, Great Egrets, Osprey, and White-tailed Kites. To the opposite extreme and missing entirely were Barn Owls, Roadrunners, White-throated Swifts, any and all rails, Vesper Sparrows, and Acorn Woodpeckers. This is the first year in some forty-eight years of count history that no Acorn Woodpeckers were seen or heard and may be a reflection of recent fire damage to oak trees, acorn crop failure, and/or adverse viewing conditions. The absence of swifts is noteworthy only because the Valley once had the nation's high count for the species back in the late 1960's. Vesper Sparrows along with other grassland species are in decline in the Valley. Even this year's Killdeer count was half of last year's. The nine titmouse sightings seems extremely low for a once-common bird of the oak forest, chaparral, and

some residential areas and quite a departure from the 33 counted only three years ago. Yellow-rumped Warbler numbers, on the other hand, climbed to almost three times last year's total.

Each and every area contributed something unique and special to the count. Even the Los Angeles River opposite Reseda Park provided the count's lone Wood Duck while the park's pond boosted totals for coots, wigeon, Mallards, shovelers, and Bufflehead. Chatsworth Nature Preserve, badly damaged by fire, produced 65 species adding five of the eight White-

tailed Kites seen plus a variety of nuthatches and the only Mountain Bluebirds, Ferruginous Hawk, and Northern Harrier seen count day. Also reported were two coyotes, a gray fox, and a bobcat.

The eighty species seen at Sepulveda Basin, in addition to the Eastern Phoebe and Vermilion Flycatcher, included a good variety of egrets, herons, and shorebirds, but also a Black-throated Gray Warbler, Bullock's Oriole, 100 cormorants, and the bulk of the count's blackbirds and coots. Snow and Ross's geese, White Pelicans, and Eurasian Wigeon added to the total.

El Cariso Park and Golf Course and Verteran's Park provided 81 species including Great Horned Owls and one Screech Owl, a wide variety of expected woodpeckers and sapsuckers plus one Red-breasted Nuthatch. Upper Bee Canyon and O'Melveny Park added two additional Screech Owls and four more Great Horned Owls, both Rufous-

crowned and Chipping Sparrows and all the Purple Finches and Steller's Jays seen on count day.

Sightings at Pierce College provided nearly a third of the count's Canada Goose totals as part of a thirty-five species survey. The count's only Slate-colored Juncos came from Limekiln Canyon. Peregrine Falcons were seen at various locations including Woodland Hills, Hansen Dam and Sepulveda Basin. Great-tailed Grackles are now year-round birds at Chatsworth Nature Preserve and Hansen Dam in addition to Sepulveda Basin.

The compiler extends his thanks to all those who braved the rain and inclement weather to take part in this year's count. In particular a special thanks to those who led groups and turned in reports in a timely fashion: Ron Melin, Jim Hardesty, Doug Martin, Wendi Potter, Stuart Wells, Donna Timlin, Jim Abernathy, Kris Ohlenkamp, and Irene Langton. The success of any count is always, in part, a measure of the number and skill of eyes in the field. As for those birds not seen, as one writer put it, "The absence of evidence is not evidence of absence." Maybe we'll find them next year. 🐦



Yellow-bellied Sapsucker

2005 Christmas Bird Count Summary

SPECIES AND NUMBERS REPORTED

Snow Goose _____	7	gull, species _____	35	Cedar Waxwing _____	114
Ross's Goose _____	2	Rock Pigeon (Dove) _____	601	Orange-crowned Warbler _____	1
Cackling Goose _____	5	Band-tailed Pigeon _____	8	Yellow-rumped (Audubon's)	
Canada Goose _____	1737	Eurasian Collared Dove (CW) _____	1	Warbler _____	1423
Wood Duck _____	1	Mourning Dove _____	553	Yellow-rumped (Myrtle's)	
Gadwall _____	153	Yellow-chevroned Parakeet _____	4	Warbler _____	1
Eurasian Wigeon _____	4	Western Screech Owl _____	3	Black-throated Gray Warbler _____	1
American Wigeon _____	1583	Great Horned Owl _____	12	Townsend's Warbler (CW) _____	1
Mallard _____	305	Anna's Hummingbird _____	110	Common Yellowthroat _____	39
Cinnamon Teal _____	8	Allen's Hummingbird _____	24	Spotted Towhee _____	16
Northern Shoveler _____	165	hummingbird, species _____	13	California Towhee _____	118
Northern Pintail _____	3	Belted Kingfisher _____	7	Rufous-crowned Sparrow _____	3
Green-winged Teal _____	102	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker _____	1	Chipping Sparrow _____	115
Canvasback _____	15	Red-breasted Sapsucker _____	4	Lark Sparrow _____	140
Ring-necked Duck _____	183	Red-naped Sapsucker _____	1	Savannah Sparrow _____	74
Lesser Scaup _____	86	Nuttall's Woodpecker _____	18	Fox Sparrow _____	4
Bufflehead _____	20	Downy Woodpecker _____	6	Song Sparrow _____	39
Hooded Merganser _____	58	Northern (Red-shafted) Flicker _____	28	Lincoln's Sparrow _____	45
Ruddy Duck _____	260	Gray Flycatcher _____	1	White-crowned Sparrow _____	345
California Quail _____	52	empidonax, species _____	1	Golden-crowned Sparrow _____	2
Pied-billed Grebe _____	81	Black Phoebe _____	100	Dark-eyed (Oregon) Junco _____	275
Eared Grebe _____	5	Eastern Phoebe _____	1	Dark-eyed (Slate-colored)	
Western Grebe _____	4	Say's Phoebe _____	20	Junco _____	9
American White Pelican _____	93	Vermilion Flycatcher _____	1	Red-winged Blackbird _____	329
Double-crested Cormorant _____	197	Cassin's Kingbird _____	57	Tricolored Blackbird _____	45
Great Blue Heron _____	35	Loggerhead Shrike _____	4	Western Meadowlark _____	278
Great Egret _____	109	Hutton's Vireo _____	1	Brewer's Blackbird _____	673
Snowy Egret _____	36	Solitary Vireo, species _____	1	blackbird, species _____	300
Green Heron _____	9	Steller's Jay _____	2	Great-tailed Grackle _____	91
Black-crowned Night Heron _____	32	Western Scrub Jay _____	40	Brown-headed Cowbird _____	105
Turkey Vulture _____	29	American Crow _____	318	Bullock's Oriole _____	1
Osprey _____	4	Common Raven _____	150	Purple Finch _____	6
White-tailed Kite _____	8	Tree Swallow _____	5	House Finch _____	440
Northern Harrier _____	1	Northern Rough-winged Swallow _____	7	Lesser Goldfinch _____	158
Sharp-shinned Hawk _____	4	Barn Swallow _____	1	American Goldfinch _____	125
Cooper's Hawk _____	8	Mountain Chickadee _____	1	House Sparrow _____	84
Red-shouldered Hawk _____	12	Oak Titmouse _____	9	TOTAL SPECIES SIGHTED _____	135
Red-tailed Hawk _____	29	Bushtit _____	554	Count Week Sightings _____	2
Ferruginous Hawk _____	1	Red-breasted Nuthatch _____	2	TOTAL BIRDS COUNTED _____	18,182
American Kestrel _____	33	White-breasted Nuthatch _____	3		
Merlin _____	1	Rock Wren _____	5		
Peregrine Falcon _____	4	Bewick's Wren _____	37		
Prairie Falcon _____	2	House Wren _____	7		
American Coot _____	2561	Marsh Wren _____	1		
Killdeer _____	84	Ruby-crowned Kinglet _____	158		
Greater Yellowlegs _____	3	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher _____	29		
Spotted Sandpiper _____	2	Western Bluebird _____	39		
Least Sandpiper _____	56	Mountain Bluebird _____	2		
Western Sandpiper _____	10	Hermit Thrush _____	38		
Long-billed Dowitcher _____	1	American Robin _____	66		
Wilson's Snipe _____	1	Wrentit _____	19		
Ring-billed Gull _____	290	Northern Mockingbird _____	51		
California Gull _____	69	California Thrasher _____	15		
Herring Gull _____	1	European Starling _____	975		
Western Gull _____	11	American Pipit _____	57		

A brief note from Dave the layout guy...

On January 9, I saw a Roadrunner at Upper Knapp Ranch Park in Woodland Hills, so happily, they are still around! 🐉

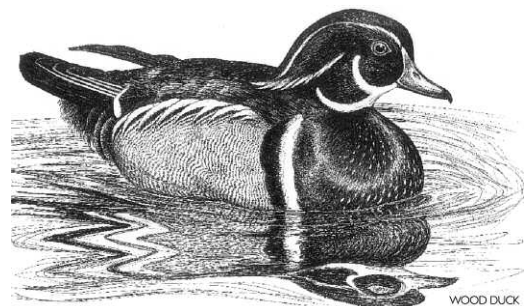


Illustration: Mimi Hoppe Wolf

February 2006 Calendar

Sunday, February 5. Sepulveda Basin Bird Walk. 8:00 a.m. Directions: Exit the San Diego Freeway (I-405) on Burbank Blvd. Go west about 1/2 mile to the first possible right turn. Woodley Ave. Turn north (right) on Woodley. Travel about 1/2 mile to the second possible right turn (at sign for the Water Reclamation Plant and Japanese Garden). Turn right and go east about 1/2 mile to Wildlife Area parking at the end of the road. Look for people with binoculars. Leader is Kris Ohlenkamp. For more information contact him at (310) 455-1827 or e-mail krisohl1@verizon.net.

Saturday, February 11. Beginners and Family Bird Walk. 8:30–11:00 a.m. Come on out for a fun bird walk at Sepulveda Basin! These popular walks, designed for beginning birders and school-age children, have resumed for the current cool season. Directions: Same as for February 5, except walk across the road from the parking lot to the low buildings to meet. For more info, contact Muriel Kotin at (310) 457-5769 or aKotin@earthlink.net or Linda Jones at (818) 831-6061 or LJonesBird@aol.com.

Saturday, February 11. Upper Las Virgenes Canyon (Ahmanson Ranch) Bird Walk. 8:00–10:30 a.m. Join us as we enjoy this recent park acquisition while looking for seasonal birds. Directions: Exit the Ventura Freeway (U.S. 101) at Las Virgenes Canyon Road and proceed north to the trail-head parking area at the end of the road. Please bring plenty of water and wear proper shoes. Nearest public restroom facility is at Gates Canyon Park, about 1 mile east of Las Virgenes Canyon Road on Thousand Oaks Boulevard. Co-sponsored by the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority. Leader: Jim Hardesty (818) 346-6712.

Saturday, February 11. Placerita Canyon Nature Center Docent's Bird Walk. 9:00 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: Bob Fischer. For more information, call the Nature Center at (661) 259-7721.

Sunday, February 12. Descanso Gardens Bird Walk. 8:00 a.m. Meet at the first wide place after entering the gardens. Admission is free for early birders. Located at 1418 Descanso Drive, La Cañada. Leader: Karen Johnson or Nancy Herron Knode. For more information, contact Karen at (818) 790-1687 or lv2bird@aol.com.

Saturday, February 18. Monthly Field Trip – Ventura County Game Preserve. 8:00 a.m. An excellent spot to observe a wide variety of birds including waterfowl, wetland birds and raptors. IMPORTANT—We will be birding the preserve entirely on foot, as vehicles are not allowed out on the habitat roads. Covering the circuit will probably require 4+ hours. Also, no parking is allowed inside the preserve compound—our cars must be parked on the left (north) side of the paved road outside the compound. Directions:

From the 101 Freeway take the Las Posas Road exit south (left), then Hueneme Road west (right) to Casper Road. Turn south (left) and continue on Casper Road as it eventually turns left and leads to the preserve compound. Bring lunch and drinking water. Allow one hour and fifteen minutes driving time from the Valley. Leader is Richard Barth (310) 276-0342.

Saturday, February 18. 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 back lot. Meet at the kiosk. Leader is Roger McClure. For further information, call (661) 255-3606.

Sunday, February 19. 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 \$8 per car. Leader: Muriel Kotin (310) 457-5796. aKotin@earthlink.net.

Tuesday, February 21. Weekday Wanderers Bird Walk at Hansen Dam. 8:30 a.m. Directions: Take Osborne exit from the Golden State (5) Freeway. Go northeast past the intersection with Glenoaks. Turn right at Dronfield to enter the park. Turn right at the end of Dronfield then take a quick left to go down the hill to the large parking lot. Alternate directions: From the Foothill Freeway (210) exit at Osborne. At the off ramp, turn right onto Foothill. After a short distance turn left on Osborne and then left on Dronfield. Heavy rain cancels. Call Carolyn Oppenheimer at (818) 885-7493 with questions (before 7:00 p.m. please) or email: CarolOpp@aol.com.

Thursday, February 23. General Membership Meeting. 7:30 p.m. Encino Community Center, 4935 Balboa Blvd., Encino. Located between Moorpark and Ventura Blvd., on the west side of Balboa, just south of the Presbyterian Church. Come early for social time. Our speaker will be Roy Poucher who will speak on Birding Ecuador. See “February Program Notes” on page 5. Remember: We now meet on fourth Thursdays.

Sunday, February 26. Descanso Gardens Bird Walk. – See February 12 for details.

Future trips:

March 18–19. Morro Bay Weekend

April 22. Morongo Valley (fourth Saturday)

May 13. Walker Ranch/Placerita Canyon (second Saturday)



February 2006 Program Notes

ROY POUCHER TO SPEAK ON BIRDING ECUADOR AT FEBRUARY 23 MEETING

Join us as we welcome back Roy Poucher for another delightfully informative talk, this time on birding in Ecuador.

Roy Poucher has been a Sea and Sage (Orange County) Audubon trip leader and field trip assistant in their introductory birding classes for 14 years. He has led repeated multi-day trips to Yosemite, Santa Barbara, the Eastern Sierra, Arizona and Texas. His birding Big Years (1996 in CA and 1998 in the ABA Area) were major accomplishments (472 and 677 species respectively). In 2003 he designed and led spring warbler trips to the Upper Texas Coast and to the Great Lakes. He has founded his own bird tour company, Bird Odysseys which has toured Costa Rica, Ecuador and the Galapagos Islands. 🐦

THE GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT RETURNS FOR ITS NINTH SEASON FEBRUARY 17–20, 2006

The Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC), a joint project of Audubon and the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, returns for its ninth season February 17–20, 2006. Bird enthusiasts of all ages can share their love of birds with a friend, child, scout troop, class, or co-worker—opening new eyes to the joy of birding and the fun of creating a unique snapshot of winter bird abundance and distribution across the continent.

Everyone can participate, from beginning bird watchers to seasoned experts. During the count, bird watchers can tally up birds for as little as 15 minutes, or for as long as they like, keeping track of the highest number of each bird species they see together at one time. People are encouraged to report birds from public lands and local parks, as well as from their own backyards. Participants enter their numbers online at www.birdsource.org/gbbc and can explore sightings maps, lists, and charts as the count progresses. 🐦

VOLUNTEER HELP WANTED

The San Fernando Valley Audubon Society Education Committee is looking for help with elementary school classroom visits in the Valley. The presentations involve showing pictures of different kinds of birds, passing out feathers and bones, as well as having lively discussions with students about strategies, adaptation, and conservation. They usually last about one hour and we often do two classes back to back. Volunteers need to be available on weekdays during school hours.

If you're interested in being part of our program, please contact Pat Jacobs at (818) 222-2456 or Peng1lover@aol.com. 🐦

ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT UNDER ATTACK....

Submitted by Claudia Eyzaguirre, Chapter Coordinator, Audubon California

On September 29, 2005, the U.S. House of Representatives passed a bill to dismantle the Endangered Species Act (ESA). After 30 years of serving as the nation's premier safety net for animals and plants on the verge of extinction, the ESA itself is threatened. We who have spent days watching birds, and who have worked to prevent habitat destruction and to clean up waterways, know that the ESA is one of our most important laws for protecting wild plants and animals and the places they live.

The attack on the ESA is led by U.S. Rep. Richard Pombo, R-Tracy. Pombo, since his first term as Congressman in 1993 has made a personal mission of destroying the ESA. He is the author of the "extinction bill" HR 3824. HR3824 is a deceptively titled the "Threatened and Endangered Species Recovery Act". The bill will:

- Eliminate Habitat Protections
- Repeal Protections Against Hazardous Pesticides
- Politicize Scientific Decision-Making
- Eliminate the Vital Check and Balance of Consultation
- Require Taxpayers to Pay Developers, Oil & Gas Companies, and other Industries for Complying with the Law

Representative Pombo represents a small slice of greedy developers and resource extraction based industries that want to open up public land to profit. Over 100 editorials around the country have called Pombo extreme and out of step with the American public.

In fact, the ESA is one of the most widely admired laws, with 86% approval rating from Americans. Numerous studies have shown the ESA has halted the extinctions of hundreds of species. The numbers speak for themselves: since the passage of the ESA in 1973 only nine of 1,800 protected species have gone extinct. The ESA has been 99% effective in preventing extinction.

Now the HR3824 rests on the Senate floor in the Wilderness Subcommittee chaired by Senator Lincoln Chafee (R-RI). We have gained a little time as Chafee has a strong environmental record. Now under careful review, the folly of Pombo's proposals will be exposed (unlike the way the Extinction bill was railroaded through the House committee and full floor vote in one week.) We do not expect a Senate vote before mid-winter, but in this Congress, surprise Friday afternoon votes are not uncommon. It is now up to our Senators to prevent anti-conservation legislation from being passed. If this bill goes to

continued on back page

Monthly Field Trip Report by Richard Barth

This year's trip to the Ventura Harbor and Treatment Ponds took place on November 19. A strong turnout and perfect weather made for pleasant birding.

Our shorebird study here concentrated on Black Oystercatcher, Surfbird, Black Turnstone, Willet, Whimbrel, Black-bellied Plover and Sanderling. In the waterfowl department, Wood Duck was a nice surprise and we also enjoyed Canvasback, the three species of teal, Lesser Scaup, Northern Shoveler, Gadwall, American Wigeon, Surf Scoter, Bufflehead and Ruddy Duck. We found Pied-billed, Eared and Western Grebe and the expected five species of heron. Brown Pelican, Double-crested Cormorant and the usual gulls were seen. Sora and Common Moorhen are always good finds and sparked considerable discussion. The hawks on hand were Cooper's, Red-shouldered and American Kestrel. Adding to the fun were Marsh Wren, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, California Thrasher, Belted Kingfisher and Say's Phoebe. A very short list of warblers and sparrows was headed by Orange-crowned and Savannah. We observed a Savannah Sparrow at the treatment ponds that looked suspiciously like a rare Large-billed from the one angle we had. Two days later a Large-billed was reported at the ponds.

On our way home from the harbor area, seven of us birded the Ormond Beach environs near Port Hueneme. Some additional species of interest were found—Virginia Rail, American Pipit, Greater Scaup, Northern Harrier, Mew Gull, American Avocet, Greater Yellowlegs, Marbled Godwit, Spotted Sandpiper, Least Sandpiper, Long-billed Dowitcher and Western Meadowlark.

Illustration: Jeremy Pearse

Centennial Celebration and Awards Banquet

FRIDAY, MARCH 3, 2006

Airtel Plaza Hotel 7277 Valjean Avenue, Van Nuys • 6:00 p.m. No host bar 7:00 p.m. Dinner

FEATURED SPEAKER: Pete Dunne CONSERVATION AWARD RECIPIENT: Linda Jones

Pete Dunne is the author of seven books, including *Pete Dunne on Bird Watching: The How-to, Where-to and When-to of Birding*, *Hawks in Flight*, *The Wind Masters*, *The Feather Quest*, and *Tales of a Low-Rent Birder*. He is vice president of the New Jersey Audubon Society and director of its Cape May Bird Observatory. He has written columns and articles for virtually every birding magazine and for the *New York Times*. He is also a winner of the American Birding Association's Roger Tory Peterson Award for promoting the cause of birding.

The buffet-style dinner will include selections for vegetarians and non-vegetarians. The cost is \$50.00 including tax and tip. Reservations must be made in advance. Please list names of all guests in your party and mail in the form below by February 28, 2006. THERE IS NO RESERVED SEATING. You will not receive a confirmation of your reservation. Reservations will be held at the door. For further information call Jeanne Polak-Recht, Chairperson, at 818-360-1438.

**SAN FERNANDO VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY
CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION AND AWARDS BANQUET
FRIDAY, MARCH 3, 2006**

Name(s) _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ ZIP _____

Enclosed is my check for \$ _____ (\$50.00 / person)

Please make checks payable to: San Fernando Valley Audubon Society.

Mail to: Jeanne Polak-Recht, 11002 Garden Grove Avenue, Northridge, CA 91326

JOIN THE SAN FERNANDO VALLEY AUDUBON

To get started with your membership, use the following form and mail to:

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

Make all checks payable to SFV Audubon.

SFVAS Membership

Regular 1-yr chapter membership\$20 \$ _____
 First-Class Postage\$5 \$ _____
 Contributions to SFVAS \$ _____
 Total \$ _____
 Name _____
 Address _____
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The PHAINOPEPLA, published ten times a year, is the newsletter of the San Fernando Valley Audubon Society, P. O. Box 7769, Van Nuys, CA 91409, 818-347-3205. San Fernando Valley Audubon Society is a chapter of the National Audubon Society, a nonprofit conservation/education organization, and is dedicated to "the conservation of wildlife and natural resources."

Articles, letters, drawings, and photographs concerning conservation, the sciences 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 7th of the month to be included in the following month's newsletter. 🐦



An introductory membership to the National Audubon Society is \$20 and should be sent separately to: *National Audubon Society, Membership Data Center, P.O. Box 52529, Boulder, CO 80322*. Be sure to write "C12" on the form to assure assignment to our chapter. For renewals, use the form in the National Audubon magazine, *Audubon*.

If you have any questions about membership, renewals, change of address or any other membership concerns, please contact Jim Hardesty at (818) 346-6712 or email him at: jnhardesty@adelphia.net. 🐦

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All phones are area code 818 unless otherwise noted.

For chapter leaders email addresses, see our Web site:

www.SanFernandoValleyAudubon.org/sfvas

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Phainopepla February 2006

Program Notes continued from page 5

'conference' with the House, we can expect a compromise that nature cannot bear.

In California, our focus has shifted to Senator Diane Feinstein. She has not come out as a leader of ESA protection. In response, Audubon California, in cooperation with our Chapters, is undertaking a multi-faceted campaign to show Senator Feinstein that Californians care about Endangered Species and critical habitat protection. Chapters will flex their grassroots muscle with Endangered Species Field Trips in January. These events will generate attention and media around the ESA and Audubon. In late winter, we will take our voices directly to the Senator's office with Executive Director Glenn Olson delivering as many as 50 Chapter signed letters declaring our commitment to the ESA and asking for her support.

I encourage you all to get involved by helping with an Endangered Species Field trip or by writing a letter to Senator Feinstein.

Senator Dianne Feinstein
United States Senate
One Post Street, Suite 2450
San Francisco, CA 94104

Audubon California looks forward to working with all of you on this critical campaign.

To get involved, contact Chapter Coordinator Claudia Eyzaguirre at: ceyzaguirre@audubon.org.

For more information go to:

http://www.audubon.org/news/press_releases/Endangered_Species_Bill_09-30-05.html 



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