



Phainopepla

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

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October / November 2018

General Membership Meetings

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

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



SAVE THE DATE!

Saturday, December 22, 2018

Thank you! to all the wonderful volunteers who helped at the September 15 clean-up of the Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Reserve. We couldn't have done it without you!

Monthly Program

Thursday, October 25, 2018, 7:00 p.m.

Speaker: Bonnie Flamer

Topic: Birds of Brazil

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

Bonnie Flamer, a San Fernando Valley Audubon board member, will be presenting a slide show on her trip to the Pantanal region of Brazil where she traveled with a local ornithologist. She was able to capture images of over 60 bird species endemic to the area and mammals such as the Capybara and Jaguar. She will also be talking about photography in general.

Bonnie studied photography at California State University, Northridge and in 1981 became a founding member of Women in Photography, Los Angeles. Bonnie has exhibited both nationally and internationally. She was selected for the Women in Photography show published in *Zoom* magazine 1989, Paris, France, which toured internationally, and in the United States.

She has exhibited at numerous galleries, colleges, and museums.

A large body of her work from the years of 1960–1990 is represented as medium format black and white gelatin prints. In recent years Bonnie's focus has turned to travel and wildlife photography. Her recent children's book, published in 2013, is about the migration of a young buffalo with his family, "Once Upon a Time in Yellowstone" is currently being sold at the Western Heritage Center in Billings, Montana.



Bird Fest

of the Santa Monica Mountains



**Saturday,
November 10
9 AM–2:30 PM**
**Santa Monica
Mountains
Interagency
Visitor Center**

King Gillette Ranch
26876 Mulholland Hwy.
Calabasas, CA 91302

Free event, free parking

Co-sponsored by Conejo
Valley Audubon Society, San
Fernando Valley Audubon
Society, Santa Monica Bay
Audubon Society, National
Park Service, and Western
National Parks Association.

For more info, email
samo@wnpa.org or
call 805-370-2302.

The Santa Monica Mountains
Interagency Visitor Center
Store is operated by Western
National Parks Association,
a nonprofit education
partner of the National
Park Service since 1938.

Your purchases help
support national parks
across the West.

Photo: Kerry Perkins

A day to celebrate the bird! See live bird presentations, listen to talks by local experts, take a guided bird walk, meet representatives from bird- and environmentally-friendly agencies, purchase gifts from local vendors, and more! Bring the kids for special family-friendly activities. Food vendors will be on site.

**Western
National Parks
Association**



Meet Our Human Stars - Rose Leibowitz

At Bird Fest 2018, in addition to the wonderful walks, informative “tablers”, and young peoples’ activities, these are our presenters. The first two are in the open air; go indoors to the little theater for the others.



Nature of Wildworks director, Mollie Hogan, will present live raptors including a Red-tailed Hawk named Dragon, Harry the Turkey Vulture, Dancer the Barn Owl and the fastest animal in the world, Sire the Peregrine Falcon. You won't want to miss this entertaining and informative close-up encounter of the feathered kind.

Dani Nicolson brings us two live California Brown Pelicans, Morro and Solimar, from Morro Bay, and talks about their natural history and continuing threats to this once endangered species.



Dave Weeshoff volunteers with International Bird Rescue, Heal the Bay, San Fernando Valley Audubon Society and other organizations with an interest in aquatic birds and their environments. He has visited the Arctic, Antarctic, Midway Atoll, Galapagos, New Zealand, and Coastal Chile, among other destinations. **The Causes and Consequences of Plastics in the Oceans.** Learn about how plastic affects birds and mammals in the world's oceans including the Arctic and Antarctic.

Join Benny Jacobs-Schwartz, a seasoned educator, birder, author and LA native for a unique presentation on his summer guiding in Alaska. **There and Back again, a Birder's Journey to the Last Frontier.** This presentation features fabulous bird photos, vibrant videos and captivating stories from the Kenai Peninsula. We will also explore where many of our local winter residents spend their breeding season.



Kerry Perkins is an amateur wildlife photographer and lifetime bird lover. He started photographing birds ten years ago and has donated his work to the National Park Service and California State Parks as well as local newspapers and magazines. **Birds of the Santa Monicas.** Sit back and enjoy his photos and information about the birds around us!

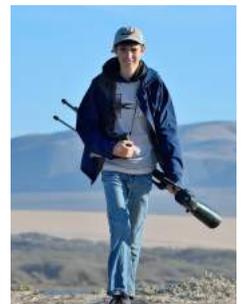
Richard Armerding was introduced to the world of birding by his wife Catherine. They have watched and fed birds for over 25 years. Both are actively involved with Conejo Valley Audubon Chapter and own the Wild Birds Unlimited store in Thousand Oaks. **Project Feeder Watch** is a winter-long survey of birds at feeders in backyards, nature centers and other locales in North America. Learn how you can contribute to this community science project. Richard will give tips and techniques to help you identify the birds.

Birding is becoming more popular with the young and we have a forum of four exceptional young birders who will share their passion with us.

Teodelina Martelli is a 17-year-old birder interested in the behavior, evolution, and conservation of birds. This year she is the American Birding Association (ABA) Young Birder of the Year.

Cayenne Sweeney is a 16-year-old birder and ABA Young Birder of the Year in 2017.

Dessi Sieburth is an 11 grader and a member of the Pasadena Audubon Society Young Birders Club and a regular contributor to the Los Angeles Audubon Newsletter. He was a volunteer at the Moore Lab of Zoology at Occidental College where he conducted research on Golden-cheeked Woodpeckers and Rufous Hummingbirds which has been published in the AUK. He was the ABA Young Birder of the year in 2015 and this year was awarded the John Goddard Prize for Environmental Leadership for bird conservation efforts.



Alexander deBarros is a 19-year-old student at Glendale community college. Has been leading the San Fernando Valley Young Birders group for the last four years. He is also involved in a bird banding project with the chapter. He leads walks for the City of Glendale and has created birding clubs. In 2016, he attended the Hog Island Audubon Summer Camp. He plans on getting an ornithology degree from Cornell and becoming a professional ornithologist.

Report on July and August Monthly Field Trips by Richard Barth

On July 21 we birded on Mt. Pinos in the Los Padres National Forest, our coverage being mostly above 8300 ft. A strong turnout of birders enjoyed mild, pleasant weather conditions. We were successful in tallying many of our target birds for the trip: Clark's Nutcracker, Hairy Woodpecker, White-headed Woodpecker, "Thick-billed" Fox Sparrow, Cassin's Finch and Dusky Flycatcher. Green-tailed Towhee was seen before our walk began and Mountain Quail on the drive up. Other favorite montane species like Brown Creeper, Pygmy Nuthatch, Mountain Chickadee, Steller's Jay and Purple Finch made our list. We missed Olive-sided Flycatcher this year but logged other birds of interest: Ash-throated Flycatcher, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Violet-green Swallow, White-breasted Nuthatch, Western Wood-Pewee, Chipping Sparrow, Northern Flicker and Spotted Towhee. The expected Dark-eyed Juncos, Western Bluebirds and House Wrens were everywhere.

We visited Chilao, Buckhorn and Charlton Flat along Angeles Crest Highway on August 18. White-headed Woodpecker, Brown Creeper, Olive-sided Flycatcher, Pygmy Nuthatch and Purple Finch are always among our reliable finds on this trip. We did quite well with warblers this year—Black-throated Gray, Nashville, Yellow, Yellow-rumped, Orange-crowned and Wilson's. The most abundant species found was Mountain Chickadee, with Dark-eyed Junco a strong second. Other species readily seen were White-breasted Nuthatch, Steller's Jay, Western Bluebird and Acorn Woodpecker. Birds of interest that should be mentioned are Warbling Vireo, Ash-throated Flycatcher, Pacific-slope Flycatcher, Western Wood-Pewee, Band-tailed Pigeon, Northern Flicker, Downy Woodpecker, Spotted Towhee and Oak Titmouse. Our wrens were House and Bewick's. Black-headed Grosbeak was a nice surprise. No Green-tailed Towhee or Hairy Woodpecker this time.

Calendar of Events

October

Sunday, October 7. Sepulveda Basin Bird 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@sfvaudubon.org or (805) 727-5007.

Saturday, October 13. Nature Walk. 9:00—11:00 a.m. Season Opener! Join us on San Fernando Valley Audubon's renowned birds-and-nature walks for families and beginners. Stroll through the lovely Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Reserve with a guide, enjoying its trails and wildlife lake. Many kinds of birds are found here, along with lizards, cottontail rabbits, butterflies, fish and more. Learn about the plants and birds and see them up close. Learn why this is a special place. Wear sturdy shoes and layered clothing. A cap or hat with a brim is suggested. Binoculars are available for loan. Directions: Driving on Woodley Ave. north from Burbank or south from Victory Blvd., go ½ mile and turn east at the sign for the Japanese Garden. Continue straight (don't turn into the garden) and drive past the Cricket Fields and around the tree in the middle of the road, on to the parking lot at the end of the road. Meet at amphitheater. GPS coordinates to parking: 34.179942,-118.472595. Leader(s): Muriel Kotin, (310) 457-5796 or Diana Keeney, (818) 998-3216. Reservations are not needed except for large groups. Heavy rain cancels. Please see page eight for more information, or visit our website, www.sfvaudubon.org.

Saturday, October 13. Placerita Canyon Nature Center Docents' Bird Walk. 8:00 a.m. Directions: Take the 405 or 5 Freeway north to the 14 Freeway. Exit the 14 at Placerita Canyon. Turn right at the end of the off ramp and continue about 1.5 miles to the park entrance. Turn right and park at the Nature Center. Various leaders. For more information, call the Nature Center at (661) 259-7721.

Sunday, October 14. 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.

Tuesday, October 16. Weekday Walk 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@sfvaudubon.org.

Saturday, October 20. Monthly Field Trip: El Dorado Park in Long Beach, 8:00 a.m. Directions: Take the 405 Freeway to the Studebaker Road exit in Long Beach. Go north on Studebaker to Spring Street, then turn east (right) on Spring to the park entrance. The parking fee is \$7. Meet in the Nature Center parking lot. Leader: Richard Barth, (310) 276-0342.

Saturday, October 20. 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, October 21. 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.

Thursday, October 25. SFVAS General Membership Meeting. 7:00 p.m. Speaker: Bonnie Flamer. TOPIC: Birds of Brazil. Join us for an interesting evening viewing photos of some of the endemic birds (and mammals) of Brazil. 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, October 27. Hansen Dam Bird Walk. 8:00—10:00 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.

Saturday, October 27. 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, or call (818) 990-5405.

November

Sunday, November 4. Sepulveda Basin Bird 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@sfvaudubon.org or (805) 727-5007.

Saturday, November 10. Bird Fest (FREE) 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Santa Monica Mountain Visitors Center, King Gillette Ranch, 26876 Mulholland Hwy, Calabasas.

Talks: 9:00 a.m. Causes and Consequences of Plastics in the Ocean—Dave Weeshoff

10:00 a.m. Birds of the Santa Monicas—Kerry Perkins

11:00 a.m. There and Back Again, a Birders Journey to the Last Frontier—Benny Jacobs-Schwartz

12:00 p.m. Project Feeder Watch—Richard Armerding

1:00 p.m. Young Birders Forum—come and meet some of the best young birders in the area and hear their stories: Teodelina Martelli, Cayenne Sweeney, Alexander deBarros, and Dessi Sieburth

Also, enjoy a visit with the educational Brown Pelicans brought to us by Dani Nicholson from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and the wonderful repeating bird show from Nature of Wildworks, led by Mollie Hogan. This show will repeat three times between 10:00am and 1:00 p.m.

Walks: There will also be bird walks on the hour, each will last about 40 minutes and binoculars will be available to be borrowed. See pages two and three for more information. *Join us for a day of fun activities!*

Saturday, November 10. Nature Walk. 9:00–11:00 a.m. Join us on San Fernando Valley Audubon's renowned birds-and-nature walks for families and beginners. Stroll through the lovely Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Reserve with a guide, enjoying its trails and wildlife lake. Many kinds of birds are found here, along with lizards, cottontail rabbits, butterflies, fish and more. Learn about the plants and birds and see them up close. Learn why this is a special place. Wear sturdy shoes and layered clothing. A cap or hat with a brim is suggested. Binoculars are available for loan. Directions: Driving on Woodley Ave. north from Burbank or south from Victory Blvd., go ½ mile and turn east at the sign for the Japanese Garden. Continue straight (don't turn into the garden) and drive past the Cricket Fields and around the tree in the middle of the road, on to the parking lot at the end of the road. Meet at amphitheater. GPS coordinates to parking: 34.179942,-118.472595. Leader(s): Muriel Kotin, (310) 457-5796 or Diana Keeney, (818) 998-3216. Reservations are not needed except for large groups. Heavy rain cancels. Please see page eight for more information, or visit our website, www.sfvaudubon.org.

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Sunday, November 11. 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, November 17. Monthly Field Trip: Ventura Harbor and Water Treatment Ponds. 8:00 a.m. Directions: From the San Fernando Valley, take the 101 Freeway to the city of Ventura, exit Seaward Avenue, turn left over the freeway, then immediately left (south) on Harbor Blvd. to Spinnaker Drive and proceed to the end. Look for birders near the restroom building in the last parking lot on the left. Leader: Richard Barth, (310) 276-0342.

Saturday, November 17. 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.

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Thursday, November 22. NO General Membership Meeting in November. HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

Saturday, November 24. SFVAS Hansen Dam Bird Walk. 8:00–10:00 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.

Saturday, November 24. Young Birders Group Bird Walk: Sepulveda Basin. 9:00 a.m. These walks are for young birders who are serious about birding, know some birds, and are willing to learn. All are welcome to join! Directions: Exit the San Diego Freeway (I-405) on Burbank Blvd. Go west about one-half mile to Woodley Avenue and turn right (north). Travel about one-half mile to the second possible right turn (at sign for the Water Reclamation Plant and Japanese Garden). Turn right and go east about one-half mile to Wildlife Area parking at the end of the road. Leader(s) Alexander and/or Olivia. For more information on meeting location please e-mail Rose Leibowitz at roselbirds@gmail.com, or call (818) 990-5405.

Monday, November 26. 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.

December

—SPECIAL Bird Walk—

Saturday, December 1. 8:00 a.m. Glendale Community Services and Parks Bird Walk—Glendale Narrows Riverwalk. Every year, the City of Glendale's Trails and Open Space program hosts a bird walk at Glendale Narrows Riverwalk Park, along the L.A. River. It is a short walk, only two-thirds of a mile, and very good for beginners. The river's Glendale Narrows area is one of just 3 stretches of the river that is not completely encased in concrete. The natural bottom and massive willow trees attract an array of birds. Black-necked Stilts number in the hundreds. Many species of ducks, herons, and sandpipers are common there, as are warblers, blackbirds, and Scaly-breasted Munias. These make for very good photos, so bring cameras.

Because this is a City of Glendale event, **attendees are required to RSVP at (818) 548-3795.** The walk is limited to 50 participants, so reserve a spot now, but only if you are actually going to attend. Please don't take up a spot that could be used by someone else. Extra binoculars are available, but limited. Meet at the Glendale Narrows Riverwalk, 300 Paula Ave. 91201 at 8:00 a.m. If you need directions, e-mail alexanderdebarros@yahoo.com (include a start location so that accurate directions can be given). The leader is Alexander deBarros, who has led the walk for the last two years, and also leads the SFVAS Young Birders walk.

Future Field Trips (details later):

NO Monthly Field Trip in December due to Christmas Bird Count January 19. Upper Newport Bay and San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary

Audubon-at-Home by Alan Pollack

An Audubon member writes me concerned about mosquito larvae living in her bird baths and other water bowls—something to definitely be concerned about.

Mosquito larvae hatch in about two weeks. Songbirds need less than an inch of water to bathe (and drink) in, so in the hot summer/mosquito months, that will evaporate in a few days eliminating any mosquito larvae. If you have deeper/larger water sources, you can put in a mosquito dunk obtainable from plant nurseries. It kills larvae and doesn't harm other wildlife. Mosquitoes only lay their eggs in still water so, in a pond if the water moves, no problem. Additionally, fish will eat mosquito larvae.

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@sfaudubon.org.

Conservation Corner

Why I Choose Hope for Climate Change

I had the opportunity to attend an intense and informative three-day event—the Climate Reality Project Leadership Corps training—to learn the current and future perspectives on the causes and consequences of climate change on life on our planet and what we can do to prevent the worst of it.

I came away encouraged, energized, and hopeful.

Since the National Audubon Society released their report “314 Species on the Brink” in 2014 I have been especially attentive to, and vocal about, climate change and its impact on our feathered friends. While the report provided valuable insight into how bird species would be driven from their nominal ranges to ranges far less conducive to their success, it provided little advice as to what we can do about it. But, of course, that was not their mission—to provide answers—but rather to convincingly paint a picture of 588 North American bird species and their prospects in a hotter world. At the time, the future looked rather bleak.

I have subsequently learned why there is now hope if we wish to change the future. Among the reasons for hope are:

- Renewable energy alternatives are getting cheaper
- Roof-top solar is becoming cost-competitive and pervasive
- Energy storage technology and economics keep improving
- The electric vehicle market is booming (cars, trucks, and buses)
- Wind energy is blowing away all expectations (!)
- The tide is turning on public opinion, driving the necessary “political will”
- The negative consequences of climate change are becoming even more clear
- We know that clean energy can save lives
- Climate-smart agriculture is improving (plant and animal production)
- We know that clean energy creates jobs
- Governments at all levels are taking a stand (every nation on the planet has signed the Paris Accord)
- Major cities in the USA have banded together to address the issues, including Los Angeles
- And the list goes on.....

And so, momentum is now on our side. We finally have the tools to make the global shift away from the dirty fossil fuels driving climate change, and we can power our lives and economies without destroying the planet. The question is “Can we act quickly enough?”, while the trajectory of the severe consequences can be

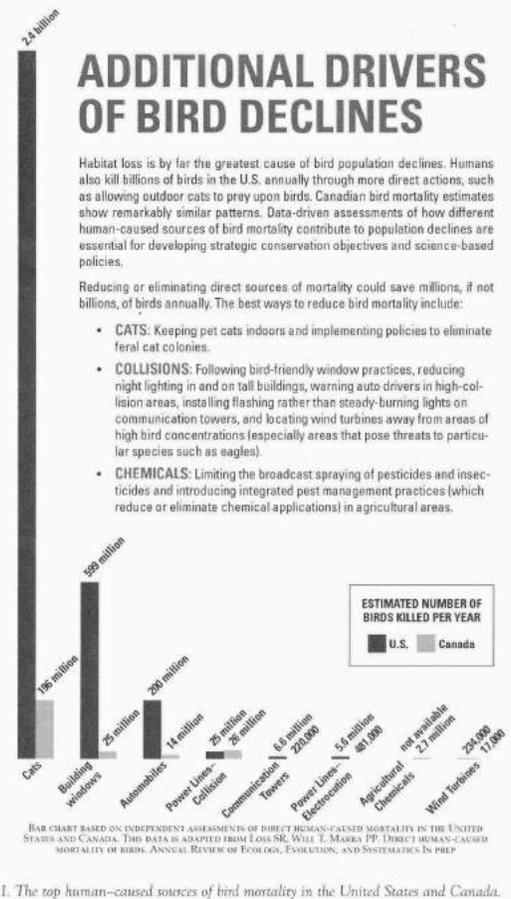


Figure 1. The top human-caused sources of bird mortality in the United States and Canada.

mitigated to the degree we will still have a livable planet-home at the end of this century.

I plan to suggest practical, effective solutions each of us can do—as individuals, voters, conservationists and bird-lovers, in subsequent missives. Please call or e-mail me with your questions and ideas.

In the meantime, please vote on November 6 for candidates that have the vision and commitment to addressing this existential issue. (I always vote via Mail-in Ballot—it is so convenient).

Dave Weeshoff—Conservation Chair

weeshoff@sfaudubon.org / (818) 618-1652

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

President: Paula Orlovich (818) 481-5605
 1st Vice President: Teri Carnesciali (818) 892-5029
 2nd Vice President: Becky Arntzen (818) 761-6692
 Treasurer: Jim Houghton (818) 784-4077
 Corresponding Secretary: Lynn Maddox (818) 845-4688
 Recording Secretary: Kathy Barton (818) 929-2516

DIRECTORS

Felipe Lepe (818) 536-2069
 Diana Keeney (818) 998-3216
 Barbara Heidemann unpublished
 Joanne Millius (818) 335-5331
 Bonnie Flamer (818) 990-8877
 Benny Jacobs-Schwarz (818) 939-9913

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
 Editor *Phainopepla*: Rebecca LeVine (818) 776-0881
 Finance: Pat Avery (626) 840-8226
 Youth Activities: Muriel Kotin (310) 457-5796

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Audubon-at-Home: Alan Pollack (818) 340-2347
 BirdFest: Rose Leibowitz (818) 990-5405
 Birdathon: Becky Arntzen (818) 761-6692
 Christmas Bird Count: Jim Moore (661) 298-1130
 Conservation Banquet: Becky Arntzen (818) 761-6692
 Paula Orlovich (818) 728-9838
 Education Classroom: Dave Weeshoff (818) 618-1652
 Education-SBEEP: Paula Orlovich (818) 728-9838
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 Web Coordinator: Jim Houghton (818) 784-4077
 Young Birders Group: Rose Leibowitz (818) 990-5405

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

www.SFVAudubon.org

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How did you learn about SFVAS?

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

Articles, letters, drawings, and photographs concerning conservation, 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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Free Nature Walks At Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Reserve



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

Second Saturdays, 9:00 A.M. 2018: Oct. 13, Nov. 10, and Dec. 8. 2019: Jan. 12, Feb. 9, and Mar. 9.

These Walks are for:

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

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

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

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

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

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