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For Nature Education and the Conservation of Wildlife

Vol. 74 No. 2

April / May 2023

Online General Membership Zoom Programs

We hope you will join us for our informative Zoom Programs. [CLICK HERE](#), to signup and receive a link prior to all events.

Birdathon is ON!

TIME TO COUNT BIRDS AND RAISE MONEY TO SUPPORT SBEEP. JOIN ONE OR MORE OF THE BIRDATHON EVENTS LISTED IN THE CALENDAR OF EVENTS, AND/OR DONATE TO SUPPORT YOUR FAVORITE TEAM LEADER(S).

DONATE ONLINE AT WWW.SFVAUDUBON.ORG
Thank you for your support!

IMPORTANT

VOTE! ALL MEMBERS: PLEASE VOTE ONLINE, OR FILL OUT THE FORM ON PAGE 6, FOR THE NEW BOARD MEMBERS. WE NEED YOUR VOTES!

—Save the date—

ANNUAL AWARDS LUNCHEON
SATURDAY, JUNE 10
Honoring Kris Ohlenkamp
GO TO SFVAUDUBON.ORG
FOR MORE INFORMATION

Become a NEW member

Your first year is FREE!

Go to SFVAudubon.org



To reach an event leader or board member call our Chapter Phone Number

(747) 237-3720

Number is a Forwarding Message Service

Bagels and Ballots Brunch at the Sepulveda Basin



Please join us on Sunday, April 2, for a Bagels and Ballots Brunch at the Sepulveda Basin. The brunch will start at 10:30 a.m. and include bagels and beverages provided by the San Fernando Valley Audubon Chapter. Come early for the optional bird walk, at 8:00 a.m. in the Wildlife Reserve with leader Pat Bates. We will provide ballots to SFVA members to vote in the annual election of Officers and Board members. As per our by-laws, voting must be by written ballot and we need 40 members to cast ballots in order to achieve a quorum. Because our Annual Meeting, scheduled for May 25, will be on Zoom, we will not have the chance to hand out ballots. Cannot make the event? Please send in the ballot found on page 6 by May 25. Directions to Bird walk and/or Brunch: Take Burbank Boulevard to Woodley Avenue. Turn north. Travel around 0.4 miles on Woodley to the first possible right turn, a park road. The park road will end at a parking lot. Turn left and drive through the parking lot. Turn right onto the park access road ("Wildlife Way") and drive around 0.4 miles to the paved parking lot on the left at road's end. Park in the lot and walk past the low, rock-faced buildings to our meeting place on the other side of the buildings.

Online Zoom Programs [CLICK HERE](#), to signup and receive a link prior to all events.

Thursday, April 27, 2023

7:00—8:30 p.m. Diversification in Mexican Birds

April will feature a joint presentation from three graduates of the Moore Lab of Zoology at Occidental College, all focusing on the geography of diversification in Mexican bird species. SFVAS has long benefitted from the generosity of Dr. John McCormack, Moore Lab Director. Last year, SFVAS provided funding for several of Dr. McCormack's students to present their research at the 2022 American Ornithological Society conference in San Juan, Puerto Rico. Three of these students will share their research results with us via Zoom presentation.



Kelsey Reckling

Diversity in Red Warblers of the Mexican Highland Forest



Eliza Kirsch

Diversity in Green Jays of Mexico and the United States



Maeve Secor

Variation in Yellow Grosbeaks of the Mexican and Neotropical Highlands

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Green Jay: By Tony Castro - Own work, CC BY-SA 4.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=107438110>
Yellow Grosbeak: By Arjan Haverkamp - originally posted to Flickr as 2008-08-23-15h00m37.IMG_4747I, CC BY 2.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=9596644>



Thursday, May 25, 2023

7:00—8:30 p.m.

Topic: Join Joseph Curti, a Ph.D. candidate at UCLA, as they discuss their conservation genomic approaches to studying an important game bird species and the state bird of California, the California Quail (*Callipepla californica*). In this talk, Joseph will discuss impacts to California Quail across their range, putative reasons for California Quail decline, and the state of ongoing research to trap California Quail in the Santa Monica Mountains of Los Angeles in order to use whole genome resequencing to assess how roads of differing traffic volume impact quail dispersal and gene flow.

Joseph will end their talk with a discussion of how the results of this study can be applied to California Quail conservation across their range as well as ways that individuals can contribute to the study through observations of quail in the field.

Speaker: Joseph Curti is a fourth year Ph.D. candidate in the UCLA Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Department. Joey is interested in applying whole-genome sequencing to California conservation management. Joey's current research projects include 1) the impacts of long-term isolation and small population size on California red-legged frogs (*Rana draytonii*) in the Santa Monica Mountains, 2) the impacts of roads on the genetic health and population connectivity of California Quail (*Callipepla californica*), and 3) population structure and signatures of local adaptation of the Yuma bat (*Myotis yumanensis*). Joey works closely with the National Park Service (Santa Monica Mountains), the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the California Conservation Genomics Project.



BIRDATHON 2023 IS HERE !!

By Richard Davis – Email: Birdathon@sfvaudubon.org

Audubon's Birthday (April 26) is coming soon and it is our tradition to hold "Birdathon", our major annual fundraising event for the San Fernando Valley Audubon Society (SFVAS) during the months of April and May. Once again, we will have a dedicated team of leaders who will ask for our pledges of support based on the number of bird species they can spot during a single day's outing at popular birding destinations throughout southern California.

You can simply pledge donations to any of the team leaders and, for many of these outings, you can also join as a team member. As a team member you help, not only by making pledges but also by joining the event to increase the numbers of birds spotted. And that's in addition to a great outdoor experience with friends and experienced birders. If you have questions or concerns, you may email us (birdathon@sfvaudubon.org) or the Team Leader to clarify any details.

WHAT BIRDS WILL YOU SPOT THIS YEAR?



SCHEDULE OF BIRDATHON 2023 EVENTS WITH DIRECTIONS

Date	Leader(s)	Location /Time	Species Estimate	Contact	Directions
April 14	Kris Ohlenkamp	Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Reserve-8am: Park at Model Airplane Field	60	kris.ohlenkamp@sbcglobal.net	Directions
April 18	Carolyn Oppenheimer	O'Melveny Park – 9am	30	c.oppenheimer@sfvaudubon.org	Directions
April 22	Pat Bates	Hansen Dam – 8:15am	40	batesbird@gmail.com	Directions
May 6	Charlie Wilken	Aliso Canyon Park – 9am	20	cswilken@gmail.com	Directions
May 14	Paula Orlovich	Franklin Canyon – 8am TENTATIVE	30	54warbler@gmail.com	Directions
May 21	Katheryn & David Barton	Malibu Creek State Park – 8 am	35-40	Katheryn.barton@gmail.com	Directions
May 28	Luisa Bergeron & Rebecca Marschall	O'Melveny Park – 9am YOUNG BIRDERS EVENT	20	youngbirders@sfvaudubon.org	Directions
TBD	Art Langton	Highway 33: From the ocean to the mountains	80		
TBD	Allan & Muriel Kotin	Malibu and nearby	50		
TBD	John & Andrew Willis Lori Willis Memorial Fund	TBD	30		

If an outing shows no email address, the Leader has chosen to do their outing alone or will be accompanied only by members of their personal Covid pod. Make no mistake, these team leaders have worked tirelessly over decades to support SFVAS in its environmental conservation and education efforts. They richly deserve your support.

On May 28, we are planning a special [YOUNG BIRDERS EVENT](#) at O'Melveny Park. In addition to spotting as many bird species as we can, we plan to sneak a peek inside some of our Bluebird nesting boxes with a cell phone on a custom selfie stick. Plus, we will bring along some of our nests from previous years so everyone can see (and feel) the astonishingly different nest styles that are programmed into the DNA of each species. Have you got a young birder that could bring you to the event?

All our leaders have shown long-term support for Audubon and for our conservation and education goals. Please show your support for them by pledging generously. SFVAS members and supporters will receive an introductory email containing links to the Birdathon section of our website where you will be able to make your pledges.

And feel free to lead your own Birdathon outing and solicit support from your friends. (Email me too (birdathon@sfvaudubon.org). I'll make a pledge to your event! Come join us in these events, support our worthy causes and, have fun on some great days outdoors.



Traditionally, Birdathon has been the major support for our [Sepulveda Basin Environmental Education Program \(SBEEP\)](#), carried out in partnership with the Resource Conservation District of Santa Monica Mountains (RCDSMM), to provide teacher training and yearly field trips to the Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Reserve for sixty classes, nearly 2000 students from the Los Angeles Unified School District, mostly from Title 1 schools. In recent years, the pandemic shut down almost all such field trips. However, the pandemic is now easing, the students have returned and,

once again, we need your help to support these important field trips and learning opportunities. [Learn More About SBEEP](#)

FURTHER DETAILS OF THESE BIRDATHON EVENTS INCLUDING TEAM LEADERS AND THE LOCATION, DATE AND TIME OF THEIR TREKS WILL BE DISTRIBUTED TO YOU BY EMAIL AND ON OUR WEBSITE.

LOOK FOR IT !! IF YOU ARE READY, YOU CAN PLEDGE OR DONATE NOW, SIMPLY BY CLICKING [HERE](#) OR SCAN THE QR CODE



Calendar of Events

To reach an event leader you may call our forwarding message service at [\(747\) 237-3720](tel:7472373720)

April 2023

Saturday, April 1. Chatsworth Nature Preserve Earth Day Open House. 10:00–2:00 p.m. This is the one day a year when the public is allowed in without the need of a special permit. Several environmental groups will have booths set up including SFVAS. (Please let Charlie Wilkin know if you can help set up, dismantle, or volunteer at the booth.) Guided tours of the ecology pond will be provided. Perhaps the Lewis's Woodpeckers, present during last December's CBC, will still be present. Recent heavy rains have filled the ephemeral ponds and brought forth a variety of wildflowers. If the rains keep coming, these conditions should last through March. An end of February survey in the Preserve recorded the presence of large flocks of Lawrence's Goldfinches, Lewis's Woodpeckers, two varieties of sapsuckers, and several duck species including Mallards, Shovelers, Bufflehead, American Wigeon, Cinnamon and Green-winged Teals, Redhead and Ring-necked Ducks. (See flyer, [page 4](#), for more information)

Sunday, April 2. Sepulveda Basin. 8:00–11:00 a.m. Optional Bagel Brunch and Ballots. 10:30. Join us for bagels and coffee and vote for the upcoming Board of Directors. See [page 1](#) for more information. **Directions to Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Reserve During Detour on Access Road:** Take Burbank Boulevard to Woodley Avenue. Turn north. Travel around 0.4 miles on Woodley to the first possible right turn, a park road. The park road will end at a parking lot. Turn left and drive through the parking lot. Turn right onto the park access road ("Wildlife Way") and drive around 0.4 miles to the paved parking lot on the left at road's end. Park in the lot and walk past the low, rock-faced buildings to our meeting place on the other side of the buildings. Leader: Pat Bates, treasurer@sfvaudubon.org.

Sunday, April 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. (747) 237-3720.

Thursday, April 13. A Bird Sit with Nature Journaling, O'Melveny Park. 10:00–11:30 a.m. If you would like to mindfully connect with birds and all of nature, join us 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.

Friday, April 14. BIRDATHON EVENT. Sepulveda Basin. 8:00 a.m. Park at the Model Airplane Field. Directions Leader: Kris Ohlenkamp.

Sunday, April 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: Kathryn Barton and David Barton. kathryn.barton@sfvaudubon.org.

Tuesday, April 18. BIRDATHON EVENT. 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 c.oppenheimer@sfvaudubon.org.

Saturday, April 22. BIRDATHON EVENT. Hansen Dam Birding 8:00 a.m. 10965 Dronfield Avenue, Pacoima. Hansen Dam Birding is moving back to the Dronfield lot—near the Ranger Station! The lot is available again, and there is no street parking near the other location in the event the gate is locked. Directions: Take the Foothill/Osborne exit from the 210 Freeway, go right (east) on Foothill, to Osborne (1st light), go left, then left again at Dronfield. Meet in the lower parking lot (down the hill from the Ranger Station). If the lower level or the gate is locked, park either on the upper level or street and meet at the Ranger Station. Accessibility is excellent for this site, which is entirely on a packed dirt road. Leader: Pat Bates, treasurer@sfvaudubon.org.

Saturday, April 22. Earth Day Haskell Creek Cleanup. Signup at foliar.org. Come help remove accumulated trash from the winter storms.

Sunday, April 23. Young Birders Group. 9–11:00 a.m. This walk is recommended for young beginning birders. We will have binoculars to share, but if you have your own, don't forget to bring them! If you're planning on coming, please send us a quick e-mail at youngbirders@sfvaudubon.org so we have an idea of how many folks to expect. Feel free to reach out if you have any questions, suggestions for walk locations, or anything else. Please check our website for updates. E-mail Luisa and/or Rebecca at YoungBirders@sfvaudubon.org for more information and we will add you to our e-mail list.

Thursday, April 27. General Membership Program. 7:00–8:30 p.m. Guest Speakers: Kelsey Reckling, Eliza Kirsch, Maeve Secor. Topic: Diversification in Mexican Birds. See [page one](#) for more information. [Click here](#) to sign up and we will send you the link. If you have signed up for a previous Zoom event, no need—you are already on our list!

May 2023

Saturday, May 6. BIRDATHON EVENT. Aliso Canyon Park. 9:00 a.m. Leader: Charlie Wilken, cswilken@gmail.com. Directions.

Sunday, May 7. 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. Park in the lot and walk past the low, rock-faced buildings to our meeting place on the other side of the buildings. Leader: Rebecca Marshall.

Thursday, May 11. A Bird Sit with Nature Journaling, O'Melveny Park. 10:00–11:30 a.m. If you would like to mindfully connect with birds and all of nature, join us 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.

Sunday, May 14. TENTATIVE BIRDATHON EVENT. 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. (747) 237-3720.

Tuesday, May 16. Weekday Wander at O'Melveny Park, Granada Hills. 9:00—11:00 a.m. Last of the season. 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 c.oppenheimer@sfaudubon.org.

Sunday, May 21. BIRDATHON EVENT. 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: Katheryn Barton and David Barton. katheryn.barton@sfaudubon.org.

Thursday, May 25. General Membership Program. 7:00—8:30 p.m. Join Guest Speaker: Joseph Curti, a Ph.D. candidate at UCLA, as they discuss their conservation genomic approaches to studying the California Quail. See page one 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!



Saturday, May 27. Hansen Dam Birding. 8:00 a.m. 10965 Dronfield Avenue, Pacoima. Hansen Dam Birding is moving back to the Dronfield lot — near the Ranger Station! The lot is available again, and there is no street parking near the other location in the event the gate is locked. Directions: Take the Foothill/Osborne exit from the 210 Freeway, go right (east) on Foothill, to Osborne (1st light), go left, then left again at Dronfield. Meet in the lower parking lot (down the hill from the Ranger Station). If the lower level or the gate is locked, park either on the upper level or street and meet at the Ranger Station. Accessibility is excellent for this site, which is entirely on a packed dirt road. Leader: Pat Bates, treasurer@sfaudubon.org.

Sunday, May 28. BIRDATHON EVENT. Young Birders Group. 9—11:00 a.m. O'Melveny Park, Granada Hills. 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.

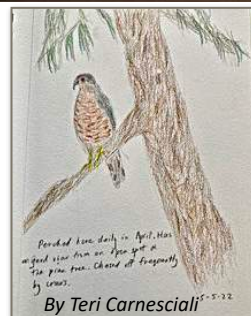


Bird Sit Bulletin



The act of drawing can solidify an image in your brain more than just observing does. Christine Elder, wildlife artist and nature journaler, reminds us to be drawing to learn—not learning to draw.

The Cooper's Hawk is a familiar sight in Southern California. Several of the Bird Sit with Journaling participants were inspired to record their encounters with that bird by drawing/painting it. Here are some examples of their work. Notice that each birder has captured the essence of the Cooper's Hawk in a slightly different way!



Meet in the parking lot. This walk is recommended for young beginning birders. We will have binoculars to share, but if you have your own, don't forget to bring them! If you're planning on coming, please send us a quick e-mail at youngbirders@sfaudubon.org so we have an idea of how many folks to expect. Feel free to reach out if you have any questions, suggestions for walk locations, or anything else. Please check our website for updates. E-mail Luisa and/or Rebecca at YoungBirders@sfaudubon.org for more information and we will add you to our e-mail list.

Chatsworth Nature Preserve

Earth Day Open House

Celebrate Earth Day at the only Nature Preserve in the City of Los Angeles

Saturday, April 1, 2023 • 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Opening Ceremony with Native American Blessing
 Guided Nature Hikes • Native American Storytelling • Live Animal Exhibitions
 Environmental & Community Resource Fair • Food Trucks

Event updates: ladwp.com/CNPEarthday

Bring hats, refillable water bottles, sunscreen and comfortable walking shoes.
 No dogs, drones, cigarettes of any kind, bikes or scooters.

Location & Parking:
 Entry gate on Valley Circle Blvd, west of Plummer St.

Map: bit.ly/2naHjvT
 Street parking available with limited on-site parking.

ladwp.com

Sign Language interpreters, Assistive Listening Devices, or other auxiliary aids and/or services may be provided upon request. To ensure availability, you are advised to make your request at least 72 hours prior to the meeting you wish to attend. Due to difficulties in securing Sign Language Interpreters, five or more business days notice is strongly recommended. To request accommodation, please call 213-367-1076. TDD: 800 HEAR DWP (800 432-7397).

IN MEMORIAM Phil Pister

A notice from the Center for Biological Diversity announced the recent passing of Edwin Phil Pister. Phil was many things to many people: ichthyologist, a fisheries biologist for the Department of Fish and Game, environmentalist, naturalist, photographer of wild places and things, educator, and all-around public servant. He was also the featured speaker at the Chapter's annual conservation dinner in March 1976. As a descendent of an early California pioneer family, he compared California of the past with the California of the present; the present meaning 1976. He was an early proponent that the Department of Fish and Game, his employer, should pay equal attention and interest to non-game species of native wildlife as well as those of interest to sportsmen realizing, of course, that a major portion of the Department's funding, and his salary, originated from the sale of hunting and fishing licenses.^[1] The reader will note the recent change of the Department of Fish and Game to the Department of Fish and Wildlife. Good ideas sometimes take a long time to mature and come to fruition.

Phil pushed for wildlife inventories stating that you couldn't manage or conserve species unless you knew numbers and locations. He was frequently quoted in the Sports Section of the Los Angeles Times, back in the days of long ago when the Times included information of interest to hunters and fishermen. On the eve of the opening of trout fishing season in the eastern Sierra, Phil was the one who provided on-site tips and information on which lakes were ice-free, where the recent trout plants had been made, and where trophy sized fish might be hanging out.

During the energy crises of the late 1970s, op-ed writers proposed, and legislators passed a bill allowing the construction of dams and hydroelectric generators on mountain streams within the State. A provision in the law, however, required the hopeful applicant to seek and gain approval of the Department of Fish and Game. Knowing that stream ecology and food chains are different than those of lakes or ponds along with an awareness of the tragic and unfortunate history of stream alterations and destruction to the detriment of wildlife in California, no projects were approved or built. I suspect Phil may have had something to do with this. Today, how much of wild California are we willing to sacrifice in our quest for renewable energy sources?

Phil was the first chairman of the Desert Fishes Council, a group dedicated to the preservation of the desert pupfish indigenous to a few scattered streams, sloughs, and springs of the eastern deserts. Several Chapter members belonged to and were active members of this organization. The term "desert fish" may seem contradictory or counterintuitive. Nevertheless, Death Valley National Park lists two species of fish among its native fauna despite setting summer records for temperature and aridity. Phil is credited, practically single handedly, saving the Owens Pupfish from extinction by using a 30-gallon tank to move the entire known population from a degraded habitat to a new safer habitat free of non-native competing and predatory fish.^[2]

Phil was an educator, and I was one of his many students. In the spring of 1975, UCLA extension offered a class entitled "Trout of the Eastern Sierra" with Phil Pister as the instructor. An interesting subject, I thought and needing credits to move up the LAUSD salary scale, I paid my fee and enrolled. At an introductory meeting at UCLA, I found this was to be no ordinary class, but a class to be conducted in the upper Convict Creek drainage, and participants were expected to be competent backpackers able to pack in their own gear and food and, in short, to take care of themselves for five days in a wilderness setting. Persons unable to acclimate to altitudes of 9000-11,000 feet shouldn't take part. In the latter half of July, the class gathered for a day of classroom instruction and altitude adjustment at a local high school before being trucked up to Laurel Lakes for our first evening out in the open. The following morning, we hiked into Phil's classroom and laboratory, the upper Convict Creek basin, and set up our camp between Edith and Mildred Lakes. Remaining patches of winter snow on the surrounding peaks contributed to the beauty and grandeur of the scene.

Accompanying the extension class were several fisheries biologists in training. They packed in the heavy survey equipment including seine nets, an inflatable raft, and a fish shocking device. All this was for surveying fish populations and stream and lake productivity as measure by the number and size of the fish sampled.

Thoughts and ideas gleaned from this class included the following:

1. Trout of the Owen's River drainage are transplants from elsewhere in California or from other parts of the country. The predominant fish in the Convict Creek basin is the eastern Brook Trout with a few Golden Trout added to the mixture by the Department of Fish and Game for the sole purpose of keeping fishermen happy. The Golden Trout, state fish of California, is native to the upper Kern River and its tributaries. Elsewhere, it's a transplant.
2. Aquatic food chains begin with soluble mineral nutrients at its base.
3. Granite, the typical common rock of the Sierra, is poor in soluble mineral nutrients.
4. High elevation lakes are deficient in soluble nutrients and aquatic organisms to produce trophy-size trout. Some of these lakes are overpopulated with undersize fish and are easily caught by anyone willing to make the trek to find and catch them.
5. Introduced species, hydroelectric generation, stream channelization, flood control and water diversion projects have played havoc with native fish populations.

Discussion and dissension over water rights and appropriation continues to the present day.^[3] Phil stood tall for all native wildlife, but especially for the fishes.

^[1] Anonymous
"Conservation award given to R.D. Smith by Audubon Society"
Valley News
March 16, 1976
Page 6, section

^[2] McGinnis, Samuel M.
Field Guide to the Freshwater Fishes of California, revised edition
University of California Press
2006
page 277

^[3] James, Ian
"Newsom seeks to wave delta environmental rules"
Los Angeles Times
Volume CXLII, number 76
February 17, 2023
Page A1



San Fernando Valley Audubon Society

A Chapter of the National Audubon Society
Incorporated as California Audubon Society 1913

Website: <http://www.sfvaudubon.org/>
E-mail: info@sfvaudubon.org
Address: P.O. Box 7769
Van Nuys, CA 91409-7769

For nature education and the conservation of wildlife

MEMBER BALLOT: ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

PLEASE RETURN YOUR COMPLETED BALLOT NO LATER THAN MAY 25, 2023

San Fernando Valley Audubon Society (whose formal legal name is the California Audubon Society), is asking you, as a member of San Fernando Valley Audubon Society, to vote in the annual election of individuals to serve as Officers and on the Board of Directors. Please complete the enclosed ballot, write your name and sign in the places indicated, and return the ballot by mail or email as described in the instructions below, by May 25, 2023.

The following candidates have been nominated by the Nominating Committee of the Board of Directors. No other candidates have been nominated, so none of the seats is contested.

Candidate	Office
Patricia Bates	Treasurer
Barbara Heidemann	Recording Secretary
Jolene Herz	1 st Year Board
Natalie Beckman-Smith	1 st Year Board

Officers are elected for two year terms, with a limit of four continuous years in one office. The term of a first-year board member at large is three years, second-year is two years, and third-year is one year. All other officers will be completing a second year of their two year terms.

INSTRUCTIONS

Voting for the Board will be by written ballot. The ballot is included, following these instructions. Please indicate your vote for each candidate in the space provided, write your name and sign the ballot in the places indicated, and return the ballot by May 25, 2023. You may return the completed ballot to the Society by mailing it to the following address: San Fernando Valley Audubon Society, PO Box 7769, Van Nuys, CA 91409-7769, or by photographing your completed and signed ballot and sending it by email to sfvaudubonsociety@gmail.com. The ballot must be received by the Society by the deadline in order to be counted. Once your ballot is received by the Society it cannot be revoked.

Please indicate whether you approve or disapprove of the election of each candidate. Check "Yes" if you approve, or "No" if you do not approve. Alternatively, you may indicate that you withhold your vote rather than approving or disapproving a candidate. Only votes approving a candidate will be counted in the election.

Withholding your vote means that you abstain from voting – you would still be participating in the election, but no vote would be recorded on your behalf for or against the candidate.

In order to achieve a quorum, 40 members must cast ballot votes. If a quorum is achieved, the candidate receiving the highest number of affirmative votes for each seat will be elected.

If you have any questions, please email the Society at sfvaudubonsociety@gmail.com.

MEMBER BALLOT: ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS (2023–2024)

The undersigned member of San Fernando Valley Audubon Society (whose formal legal name is the California Audubon Society), hereby casts their ballot for each candidate in the election of the Society's officers and director for the next term as indicated below:

Candidate	Office	Yes	No	Withhold
Patricia Bates	Treasurer	___	___	___
Barbara Heidemann	Recording Secretary	___	___	___
Jolene Herz	1 st Year Board	___	___	___
Natalie Beckman-Smith	1 st Year Board	___	___	___

Signature

Member's name (please print)

Date

ALL BALLOTS MUST BE SIGNED. PLEASE SIGN EXACTLY AS YOUR NAME APPEARS ON THE MEMBERSHIP RECORDS OF THE SOCIETY.

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY

NEW Chapter Phone Number

To reach a board member or event leader you may now call our forwarding message service at **(747) 237-3720**

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President: Kathy Barton
 1st Vice President: Rebecca LeVine
 2nd Vice President: Paula Orlovich
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 Corresponding Secretary: Teri Carnesciali
 Recording Secretary: Barbara Heidemann

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 Jolene Herz
 Luisa Bergeron
 Rebecca Marschall
 Patricia Turner
 Charlie Wilken

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 Bird Boxes: Carolyn Oppenheimer
 Christmas Bird Count: Alexander deBarros
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 Programs: Joanne Millius
 Publicity: Marianne Davis
 Sales & Service: Diana Keeney
 Youth Activities: Muriel Kotin

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 Audubon-at-Home: Alan Pollack
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 Bird Sit with Journaling: Diana Keeney
 Teri Carnesciali
 Charitable Investments: Richard Davis
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 Hansen Dam Birding: Pat Bates
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 Malibu Creek Birding: Dave & Kathy Barton
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 O'Melveny Wander: Carolyn Oppenheimer
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 Sepulveda Basin Steering: Muriel Kotin
 Sepulveda Basin Birding: Various Leaders
 Social Media: Jolene Herz
 Strategic Planning: Marianne Davis
 Web Coordinator: Jolene Herz
 Young Birders Group: Luisa Bergeron
 Rebecca Marschall

TO BECOME A MEMBER AND/OR RENEW ONLINE GO TO

<https://www.sfvaudubon.org/membership/>
It is 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	\$ _____
1-yr Online Chapter Membership (No paper copy of <i>Phainopepla</i>) FREE for new members	\$ _____
Student 1-yr Chapter Membership.....\$10	\$ _____
Tax Deductible Contribution to SFVAS	\$ _____
Total	\$ _____

New Member Renewal School

Name _____

Address _____

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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 non-profit chapter of the National Audubon Society, and is dedicated to "Nature Education and the Conservation of Wildlife."

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) 425-0962 or e-mail her at Lynn.Maddox@sfvaudubon.org.

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For Chapter leaders' e-mail addresses, see our Website: www.SFVAudubon.org

Follow us on:



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




Phainopepla

San Fernando Valley Audubon Society
PO Box 7769
Van Nuys, CA 91409-7769

Inside This Issue

Birdathon...2
Calendar of Events...3—4
Bird Sit Bulletin...4
In Memoriam, Phil Pister...5
Ballot ...6
Chapter Information...7

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) 425-0962 or at alan.pollack@sfvaudubon.org. 

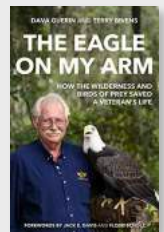
Book Reports by Marianne Davis

THE EAGLE ON MY ARM: How the Wilderness and Birds of Prey Saved a Veteran's Life

From LAPL

By Dava Guerin and Terry Bivens

This is a good book to read after Jack Davis' book on eagles, I did it by accident and they compliment each other nicely. This is the story of how Patrick Bradley came back from Vietnam, traumatized and suffering from PTSD, and proceeded to have big difficulties in his life for decades. Then he discovered that being in the wild was therapeutic, and finally found that working with raptors had a healing aspect like nothing else he knew. He has now shared that through his organization, The Avian Veteran Alliance, and they help countless Veterans and people with disabilities to this day. As we know, animals and nature are the prescription.



WHEN BIRDS ARE NEAR: Dispatches from Contemporary Writers

Edited by Susan Fox Rogers (LAPL)



I got this book from LAPL, and looking at it I thought, oh no, essays. I don't usually go for essays, I need something that holds my attention longer. But these pieces are so great, and had authors that I admired (J. Drew Lanham) that I read it. And was very glad. You are going to be treated to writings about rehab'ing a nighthawk, birding for Prairie Chickens, snowy owls eruptions lately, and Christina Baal's quest to see a condor in it's element. There's even an illustrated chapter by Ursula Murray Husted, whose drawings speak of how things seem to always turn out well when you bird; these are just a few of the examples. This is a good book to put on your nightstand, and read one essay per evening. It's very satisfying, as each essay is written by an artist, and comes to a good conclusion. Sweet dreams.