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**San Fernando Valley Audubon Society**  
A 501(c)(3) non-profit organization  
A Chapter of National Audubon Society

*For Nature Education and the Conservation of Wildlife*

Vol. 74 No. 5

October / November 2023

## Online General Membership Programs

We hope you will join us for our informative Zoom Programs.

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

—SAVE THE DATES—  
DECEMBER 19, 2023

## Annual Christmas Bird Count

SEE THE NEXT ISSUE, OR GO TO OUR WEBSITE, FOR TIMES AND LOCATIONS

ANNUAL AWARDS LUNCHEON  
WILL BE HELD  
JUNE 2024

Become a **NEW** member  
Your first year is **FREE!**  
Go to [SFVAudubon.org](http://SFVAudubon.org)



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

**(747) 237-3720**

Number is a Forwarding Message Service

## October Zoom Program: Falconry

Thursday, October 26, 2023, 7:00—8:30 p.m.

**K**en Miknuk, professional Falconer, will speak about the various theories on the origin of falconry, and the lure of the Shaheen. Ken will provide insight behind the scenes of a world class professional falconer, the animal husbandry, and training. We will meet the various raptors and he will explain how they are flown and their jobs.



Tiercel Peregrine Falcon, Hector

Ken Miknuk is the founder of California Falconry. He has a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering and is a Master Falconer. He holds three Federal and two State permits for his three-generation professional falconry company. His Instagram account is #falconer for his world acclaimed pregame ritual for the MLS soccer team LAFC. Ken has 50 years-experience as a Falconer, and 18 years as a professional Falconer.



Red-naped Shaheen Falcon

## November Zoom Program: California Condor Recovery Program

Thursday, November 16, 2023, 7:00—8:30 p.m.

**D**ebbie Parisi will provide a brief history and facts about the California Condor. She will also discuss the five tenets of the California Condor Recovery Program and the effort to save the species. The presentation will also include information on the impact of the HPA1 virus on the species and the current plans to vaccinate these endangered birds.

Debbie is a board member of the non-profit Friends of California Condors Wild & Free. Her organization supports the United States Fish and Wildlife Service refuges that are home to the endangered California Condor. She has been a USFWS volunteer since 2008, working on the refuges as a CACO nest monitor and radio telemetry tracker in support of the California Condor Recovery Program. She completed the California naturalist program and has Level 3 wildlife track and sign certification.

Friends of California Condors Wild & Free is an all-volunteer non-profit 501(c)(3) organization whose purpose is promoting the recovery of the California Condor and the preservation of associated ecosystems. This is done for present and future generations through education, outreach, research, and the support of cooperative stewardship. They work in collaboration with the Hopper Mountain National Wildlife Complex, the California Condor Recovery Program, and other recovery program partners.

**IF YOU ARE NOT ALREADY ON OUR DISTRIBUTION LIST, [CLICK HERE](#), TO SIGN UP AND RECEIVE A LINK PRIOR TO ALL EVENTS.**



Photo by Stacey Bergman. The condor is studbook 20 or AC-4. He is the oldest bird in the wild at 43 years and 5 months.



## ANNUAL REPORT TO MEMBERS

By Katheryn Barton, President

Those of you who attended our May 2023 Zoom meeting have already heard much of what I am relating below, but for those who could not join us that evening, I would like to take a few paragraphs to fill you in on what our chapter has been up to this past year, and what you can look forward to in the next.

As I don't need to remind anyone, the last few years have been tumultuous, with Pandemic shutdowns affecting nearly everything and everyone, including our chapter. We had to suspend our bird outings and migrate to Zoom for our meetings, but in the last year or so we have come roaring back.

Our chapter leads seven different monthly bird outings, three of which are scheduled year-round. These outings bring hundreds of people, young and not so young, that much closer to the wonder of birds. You may have heard that the pandemic created a huge increase in interest in birds and birding. More people than ever are coming to our outings, engaging with us at outreach events, and joining the chapter. We have offered educational and entertaining speakers and presentations at our monthly Zoom meetings. Our newest endeavor was the initiation of the outing, Bird Sit and Nature Journaling, begun by the late and much-missed Diana Keeney.

Through our sponsorship of the Sepulveda Basin Environmental Education Program at the Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Preserve, we have brought environmental education to roughly 2000 schoolchildren from the Los Angeles area. Many of these children have never visited a nature preserve, never looked through a microscope, never watched as a Red-tailed Hawk soared overhead.

We have continued our Bluebird nest box program and partnered with other organizations in habitat restoration and clean up.

Protecting and advocating for habitat for birds and other wildlife is a key part of our mission, so it is especially exciting for us to launch a new initiative to create habitat for wildlife where there is little more than sterile lawn. Our chapter financed and shepherded a drought-tolerant pollinator demonstration garden at a fire station in Encino, which was so successful that the station asked us to come back and convert the rest of their landscaping. We are continuing and expanding that program, and are currently in the process of creating more bird and wildlife-friendly, drought tolerant habitat.

Another accomplishment is our monetary support of other worthy organizations through our Conservation Investment Committee and its grant program. We have supported raptor and other wildlife rehabilitation, we have helped send budding young ornithologists to international conferences to present their original research, and we have donated to the Kimball Garrett Ornithology Fund, which will be training the next generation of ornithologists.

Of course, we can't give money away without gathering it first! Our fundraising efforts through our annual fundraiser, Birdathon, help us to fund the environmental education program at the Basin. We are also grateful to have received some bequests through thoughtful estate planning.

Our outreach events at festivals like P-22 Day, Wild for the Planet at the LA Zoo, the first-ever Bruin Birding Club LGBTQ+ Pride Festival, and other events reached thousands of people.

Our Christmas Bird Count, this chapter's 66th, was very successful this year, with 78 participants covering 89 locations, and tallying 135 species and roughly 16,000 individual birds.

Looking to the next year, we hope to have more in-person events, where our members can flock together, renew old acquaintances and make new friends.

We have much to be proud of, and so much to look forward to. 🐦

## San Fernando Valley Audubon Chapter's Funding of a Condor Vaccination Program

by Joanne Millius, Conservation Co-Chair

As many of you may know, recovery efforts have been ongoing for the endangered California Condor with numerous agencies and institutions involved. A program was started in 1987 to capture the last remaining 22 wild condors in the hopes of replenishing them in larger numbers over their range. The captive breeding program, led by the San Diego Wild Animal Park and Los Angeles Zoo, has been successful in breeding, raising, and reintroducing Condors to the wild. As of 2022 there are 347 Condors in the wild, and 214 in captivity. A new threat to Condor populations has arisen with the spread of Avian Flu throughout the bird world. Therefore, this year the San Fernando Valley Audubon Chapter donated \$5,000 to Friends of the California Condor Wild and Free (FCCWF) who are assisting with and helping to finance a vaccine program against Avian Flu. FCCWF is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization whose purpose is promoting the recovery of the California Condor and the preservation of associated ecosystems through education, outreach, and research. They along with the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service have been organizing vaccine trials for use on the Southern California population of California Condors in the hopes of preventing further mortality due to the Avian Flu. Although as of now we do not know of any Condor deaths due to Avian Flu in the Southern California population, 24 Condors in the Arizona population have died from the disease. We are funding the immunization of the Southern California population, and the Condor recovery teams plan to make the vaccination available to all U.S. team managers of wild flocks in Arizona/Utah, Central California, and Northern California as well.

The check will be written to Friends of California Condors, but the money would then go into the Condor Survival Fund, a fund managed by the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History and administered by an independent board.

A vaccine trial on Black Vultures has been completed and no adverse reactions were observed. Blood sample testing observed titers in the Vultures (concentration of antibodies present in the birds), and vaccination of Condors under managed care began in the beginning of July with three Condors receiving the shots. Vaccine trials will run into September and vaccination of wild flocks would likely begin in October of this year, and continue until all the birds have been vaccinated.

There are many institutions who are also part of the recovery team including California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians, Los Angeles Zoo, the National Park Service, San Diego Zoo, the Smithsonian Institution, The Peregrine Fund, and other governmental and non-governmental organizations. 🐦



## San Fernando Valley Audubon Society

### Experience the Fall Migration!

Discover the Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Reserve  
SFV Audubon Family & Beginner Tour  
Saturday October 14, 2023 @9AM.

for more advanced birders join the First Sunday  
Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Reserve walks @8AM  
Both begin at the Woodley Park Amphitheatre  
(see [www.sfvaudubon.org](http://www.sfvaudubon.org) for directions)

October ushers in a full slate of bird walks in our area  
including Hansen Dam, Malibu Canyon,  
O'Melveny Park and more,  
as well as informative presentations.

See [www.sfvaudubon.org](http://www.sfvaudubon.org) or click QR Code for directions, details,  
and more information



San Fernando Valley Audubon Society  
[www.sfvaudubon.org](http://www.sfvaudubon.org) • 747-237-3720  
[info@sfvaudubon.org](mailto:info@sfvaudubon.org)

## DIANA LEIGH KEENEY By Kathryn Barton, President



We are saddened to report the untimely passing of Diana Leigh Keeney, a long-time Board member, officer, walk-leader, and all around thoughtful and soft-spoken but effective volunteer for our chapter. She began her relationship with SFVAS in 2009, as a Board member-at-large, and then served in many positions over the years, including Recording and Corresponding Secretary, Vice President, Hospitality and Sales and Service Chairs. Many of you who attended our in-person meetings will remember her graciously hosting our sales table in the rear of the room. In 2022, she conceived of the idea of a

stationary Bird Sit with Nature Journaling, a practice she had begun during the pandemic lock-down, and she then offered to co-lead a monthly event at O'Melveny Park. The "Bird Sit" became instantly popular, due in no small part to Diana's gentle and persistent encouragement of those of us trying our hands at art for the first time. The Bird Sit will continue, led by Diana's co-leader, Teri Carnesciali, and a new co-leader, Mary Lou Sharp.

What so many of us remember and cherish about Diana was her sweet spirit, her thoughtfulness and empathy, and her desire and ability to make the world a better place. Her generosity and kindness will be missed and our thoughts are with her loved ones at this time.



## Nature Walks at the Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Reserve

San Fernando Valley Audubon will resume offering Second Saturday walks for the 2023–2024 season on October 14. They will take place at 9:00 a.m. monthly through March and last 1.5–2 hours, depending on the group's wishes.

Depending on participants' interests, they will be general nature walks or bird walks for beginners. All walks will include the many birds, other wildlife, habitat, and recovery from the devastating fire of September 2020, the emphasis varying with participants' interests. Families with school-age children are welcome, as well as beginning birdwatchers and people who want to visit the Wildlife Reserve. SFVAS members and non-members are invited. However, please leave your pets at home, as they are not allowed in the wildlife reserve.

[Click here for Google map](#) for directions. We will meet at the small amphitheater on the south side of the rock-faced buildings at 9:00 a.m. Binoculars will be loaned to participants who need them. GPS coordinates of the parking lot are 34.179942,-118.472595. Walk will carry on in case of light drizzle, but heavy rain cancels.

**Equipment and Clothing:** Wear sturdy shoes, layered clothing, and a cap or hat with a brim. Water and sunscreen suggested. Bring your binoculars or you may borrow ours.

For more information call Muriel Kotin at (213) 500-4143 or San Fernando Valley Audubon at (747) 237-3720.

Members of SFVAS's Youth Activities Committee who lead these Second Saturday walks also lead special bird or nature walks for groups by appointment. These special walks may be on weekdays or weekends, for groups from schools or other organizations. To arrange one, contact Muriel at [Muriel.Kotin@sfvaudubon.org](mailto:Muriel.Kotin@sfvaudubon.org). SFVAS's Youth Activities Committee members are volunteers who also lead tours of the wildlife reserve for volunteers working on monthly habitat restoration projects under the leadership of Friends of the LA River and California Native Plant Society. Please contact Muriel if you are interested in becoming a part of this fun committee.

## Calendar of Events

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

### OCTOBER 2023

**Sunday, October 1. 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: Alexander deBarros, [Alexander.deBarros@sfvaudubon.org](mailto:Alexander.deBarros@sfvaudubon.org).

**Thursday, October 12. 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 at O'Melveny Park—at the picnic tables near the bathrooms. (Rain cancels and moves it to the 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 Teri Carnesciali at [teri.carnesciali@sfvaudubon.org](mailto:teri.carnesciali@sfvaudubon.org). Co-leader: Mary Lou Sharp.

**Saturday, October 14. Family Basin Tour Begins: FREE Guided Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Reserve Tour. 9:00—10:30 a.m.** This tour is perfect for families with school-age children, beginning or first-time birders, and people who want to learn more about the Wildlife Reserve. Directions: Driving on Woodley Ave. north from Burbank Blvd. or south from Victory Blvd., go .5 miles and turn east at the sign for the Japanese Garden. Continue straight (don't turn into the garden) and drive past the Cricket Fields and around the tree in the middle of the road, on to the parking lot at the end of the road. Park in the lot and walk past the low, rock-faced buildings. Meet at the amphitheater. This tour will meet on 2nd Saturday's of the month, October—March. Leader: Muriel Kotin. [muriel.kotin@sfvaudubon.org](mailto:muriel.kotin@sfvaudubon.org). Heavy rain cancels.

**Sunday, October 15. 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. [kathy.barton@sfvaudubon.org](mailto:kathy.barton@sfvaudubon.org).

**Tuesday, October 17. 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](mailto:c.oppenheimer@sfvaudubon.org).

**Thursday, October 26. General Membership Meeting: Zoom Program: 7:00—8:30 p.m. SPEAKER: Ken Miknuk, Professional Falconer.** Join us as we learn about the history of falconry, and the training that is involved. See page 1 for more info.

If you are not already on our distribution list, [Click here](#), to sign up and receive a link prior to all events.



Male Harris's Hawk, Bond

**Saturday, October 28. Hansen Dam Birding 8:00—11:00 a.m.** 10965 Dronfield Avenue, Pacoima. 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, [pat.bates@sfvaudubon.org](mailto:pat.bates@sfvaudubon.org).

**Sunday, October 29. Young Birders Group. 9:00—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](mailto: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](mailto:YoungBirders@sfvaudubon.org) for more information and we will add you to our e-mail list.

### NOVEMBER 2023

**Sunday, November 5. 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: Alexander deBarros, [Alexander.deBarros@sfvaudubon.org](mailto:Alexander.deBarros@sfvaudubon.org).

**Thursday, November 9. 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 at O'Melveny Park—at the picnic tables near the bathrooms. (Rain cancels and moves it to the 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 Teri Carnesciali at [teri.carnesciali@sfvaudubon.org](mailto:teri.carnesciali@sfvaudubon.org). Co-leader: Mary Lou Sharp.

**Saturday, November 11. FREE Guided Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Reserve Tour. 9:00—10:30 a.m.** This tour is perfect for families with school-age children, beginning or first-time birders, and people who want to learn more about the Wildlife Reserve. Directions: Driving on Woodley Ave. north from Burbank Blvd. or south from Victory Blvd., go .5 miles and turn east at the sign for the Japanese Garden. Continue straight (don't turn into the garden) and drive past the Cricket Fields and around the tree in the middle of the road, on to the parking lot at the end of the road. Park in the lot and walk past the low, rock-faced buildings. Meet at the amphitheater. This tour will meet on 2nd Saturday's of the month, October—March. Leader: Muriel Kotin. [muriel.kotin@sfvaudubon.org](mailto:muriel.kotin@sfvaudubon.org). Heavy rain cancels.

**Thursday, November 16. General Membership Meeting: Zoom Program: 7:00—8:30 p.m. SPEAKER: Debbie Parisi** will provide a brief history and facts about the California Condor. She will also discuss the five tenets of the California Condor Recovery Program. See page 1 for more info.

If you are not already on our distribution list, [Click here](#), to sign up and receive a link prior to all events.

**Sunday, November 19. Malibu Creek State Park. 8:00 a.m.** Meet at the second (lower) day-use parking lot. Entrance to the park is on the west side of Las Virgenes Road, just south of Mulholland Hwy. Entrance fee is \$12 per car. Leaders: Kathryn Barton and David Barton. [kathy.barton@sfvadubon.org](mailto:kathy.barton@sfvadubon.org).



**Tuesday, November 21. Weekday Wander at O'Melveny Park, Granada Hills. 9:00—11:00 a.m.** Directions: Take the 118/Ronald Reagan Freeway and exit at Balboa Blvd. Turn north, driving two miles to Sesnon, turn left going west 0.6 miles, turn right at park entrance. Meet in the parking lot. RAIN CANCELS. Contact Carolyn Oppenheimer at [c.oppenheimer@sfvadubon.org](mailto:c.oppenheimer@sfvadubon.org).

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**Sunday, November 26. Young Birders Group. 9:00—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@sfvadubon.org](mailto:youngbirders@sfvadubon.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@sfvadubon.org](mailto:YoungBirders@sfvadubon.org) for more information and we will add you to our e-mail list. 🐦

## DEAD BIRDS, CITIZEN SCIENCE, AND PUBLIC HEALTH

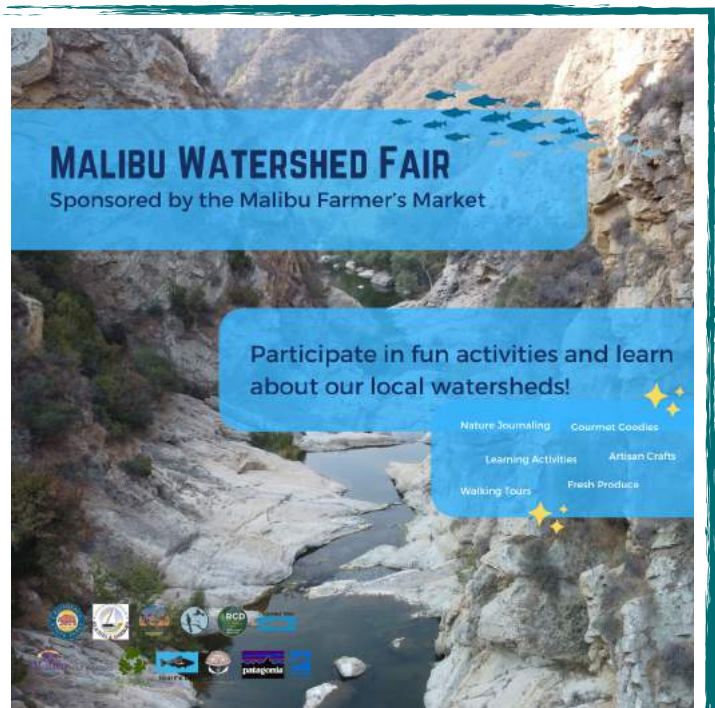
By Patricia Bates, Conservation Co-Chair

According to the Cornell Lab of Ornithology the North American bird population has declined by about 2.9 billion birds. There are many causes of this decline, and there are some ways we, at San Fernando Valley Audubon Society and as individuals, can assist with citizen science projects to help develop data on actual causes. There are also ways we can locally report findings to assist with public health of both birds and humans. Here are some examples:

**dBird:** [dBird](#), a project of [NYC Audubon](#) in partnership with [Birds Connect Seattle](#), provides a way to report incidents of dead and injured birds, helping to contextualize and guide conservation and advocacy efforts that aim to reduce human-caused hazards to birds. The project will help gather much needed data on collisions with buildings including windows, cat attacks, and more. SFV Audubon is a dBird user and we will be monitoring local reports. The form is easy to fill out using this link: <https://dbird.org/>

**CA and LA County Departments of Public Health:** It is important to report dead birds to help track infectious disease including West Nile Virus or other causes. Detailed instructions may be found using this [link](#). For a single dead bird (except pigeons, doves, poultry and ducks), call 877-WNV-BIRD (877-968-2473, CA Department of Public Health), or visit [here](#). For clusters of three or more dead birds, call 213-288-7060 (LA County Public Health).

**Project Phoenix:** Effect of Wildfire Smoke on Birds. Project Phoenix is a statewide community science monitoring project to study the effects of smoke on birds in neighborhoods across California. By observing birds in your neighborhood for just ten minutes a week through October (fire season), you can help learn more about bird responses to smoke. Together, we can safeguard birds through ever-smokier summers. Project Phoenix was developed in partnership with the UCLA La Kretz Center for California Conservation Science and the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County. For additional information and to sign up follow this [link](#). 🐦



**Sunday, October 1. 9:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.**

**Legacy Park, 23500 Civic Center Way, Malibu. FREE**

This is the kickoff to an amazing effort to restore the watershed of the Santa Monica Mountains back to its natural habitat that could once again sustain a population of steelhead trout and a natural river. We are excited to be a part of the statewide effort (often led by indigenous communities) to return life to the rivers and allow the trout and salmon to return to their historic lands!

Stop by our SFVAS table to join one of the 50-minute bird walks offered at 9, 10, 11am, and 12pm, through Legacy Park.

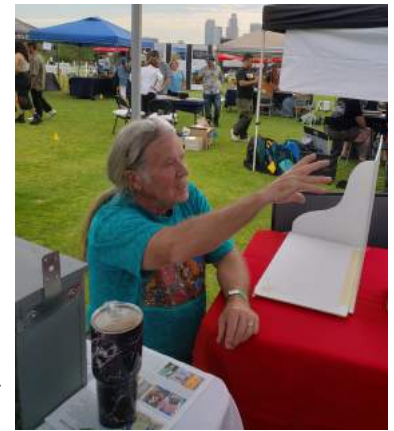
Please take a look at this effort being spearheaded by [caltrout.org](http://caltrout.org): Malibu Creek Restoration Project.

## LA Riverfest *By Marianne Davis*



WuDi Davis

Team SFV Audubon represented at the LA Riverfest (FoLAR) at LA State Historic Park on Sunday 7/23/23, and what a great day it was! The weather gods were kind, we had overcast skies and a nice breeze the whole time, so we were happy campers. Charlie Wilken, Alexander deBarros, and Team Davis (Richard, Marianne, and WuDi) staffed our booth. Charlie set up our Sharp-Shinned Hawk on display, and he used him as the perfect example to discuss bird strikes (since this one died from it), and we handed out samples of anti-bird strike stickers (branded, of course...Marianne and WuDi frantically cut out the samples and put our stickers on). Alexander did a great job talking about all our programs, and Richard discussed the display of nesting boxes and how birds make very different styles of nests. We got several new membership sign-ups and enjoyed the other exhibitors. 🐦



Charlie Wilken

### **New Bird Walks** *-by Alexander deBarros, Field Trip Chair*

In the coming year, SFVAS is hoping to add eight new monthly bird walks to our calendar, and we are currently searching for people who would be interested in leading them. Locations in need of leaders currently are:

- Castaic Lagoon
- Upper Las Virgenes Canyon Open Space Preserve
- Griffith Park Ranger Station & Old Zoo
- Placerita Canyon
- Summit Park
- Malibu Legacy Park

New walks will be added at Aliso Canyon and the Glendale Narrows Riverwalk, but leaders have already been selected for these locations.

In addition, we would like to restart our monthly Field Trips to distant and wonderful natural spaces across Southern California. These include:

- Carpinteria Salt Marsh Nature Park and Carpinteria Seal Sanctuary (Carpinteria, Santa Barbara County)
- Upper Newport Bay Nature Preserve and San Joaquin Marsh (Newport Beach & Irvine, Orange County)
- Morro Rock and Montaña de Oro State Park (Morro Bay, San Luis Obispo County)
- Bear Divide Bird Banding Station (Santa Clarita, Los Angeles County)
- Big Morongo Canyon Nature Preserve and Black Rock Canyon Campground (Morongo Valley & Yucca Valley, San Bernardino County)
- Satwiwa Native American Indian Natural Area (Thousand Oaks, Ventura County)
- Mt. Pinos — Chula Vista Trailhead (Pine Mountain Club, Kern County)
- Chilao Visitor Center and Buckhorn Campground (Angeles National Forest, Los Angeles County)
- Salton Sea — North Shore Marina, State Rec Area Visitor Center, and National Wildlife Refuge (Riverside County, Imperial County)
- Point Dume (Malibu, Los Angeles County)
- Bolsa Chica Ecological Reserve and Huntington Central Park (Huntington Beach, Orange County)

If you are familiar with any of these locations, enjoy sharing your knowledge of birds, and are interested in leading a bird walk, even with a commitment of once a year, please contact Alexander deBarros at [alexanderdebarros@yahoo.com](mailto:alexanderdebarros@yahoo.com).

**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**

**EXECUTIVE OFFICERS**

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 Corresponding Secretary: Teri Carnesciali  
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 Christmas Bird Count: Alexander deBarros  
 Classroom Education: Paula Orlovich  
 Programs: Joanne Millius  
 Publicity: Marianne Davis  
 Sales & Service: OPEN  
 Youth Activities: Muriel Kotin

**SPECIAL COMMITTEES/WORKING GROUPS/PROGRAMS**

Annual Awards: Paul Orlovich  
 Audubon-at-Home: OPEN  
 Birdability/Signage: Richard Davis  
 Bird Sit w/Nature Journaling: Teri Carnesciali  
 Mary Lou Sharp  
 Charitable Investments: Richard Davis  
 Conservation/Sustainability: Co-Chair: Patricia Bates  
 Co-Chair: Joanne Millius  
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 Franklin Canyon Birding: Paula Orlovich  
 Hansen Dam Birding: Patricia Bates  
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 Sepulveda Basin Birding: Alexander deBarros  
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Articles, letters, drawings, and photographs concerning conservation, ecology, birding, chapter activities, and articles of interest to the membership are welcome for publication in the *PHAINOPEPLA*.

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 3<sup>rd</sup> of the month to be included in the following month's newsletter.

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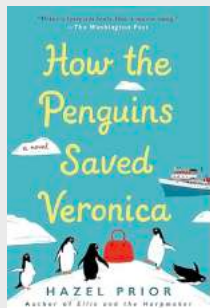
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### Book Report by Marianne Davis

**HOW THE PENGUINS SAVED VERONICA**, by Hazel Prior



**M**y bestie recommended this book because she knows I like birds, and she liked the story line, so it worked for us. During this delightful light read I actually learned a lot about penguins and enjoyed the plot about an elderly Scottish lady who finds purpose in a penguin research station in Antarctica, making a big impact in several others' lives along the way. This was just plain fun, the kind of book you can read ravenously over a few days, a good break from the heavier reading I usually do. Available at LAPL.



Photo by Richard Davis showing Chapter's display and Art Langton at the Chatsworth Nature Preserve Open House June 24, 2023. The Foundation for the Preservation of Santa Susanna State Historic Park has already requested bird displays for their monthly walks for third graders during the 2023-2024 school year.