

# CMAPARRAL NATURALIST

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### Pomona Valley Audubon Society

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One fall afternoon, I went outside to survey my kingdom, (my backyard, as I call it) when I saw a strange guest on the hummingbird feeder. It sat there quite motionless for some time, so I went to get my camera for a few pictures. The birds didn't seem bothered by its presence, so I just let it be. I knew it was a Praying mantis, but not much else about it. Curiosity got the best of me, and I decided to look it up on *Wikipedia*.

Praying mantis are named for their prayer-like stance. They are predatory insects, closely related to termites and cockroaches, but not stick/leaf insects and other insects, such as grasshoppers and crickets. Other insects are their primary diet, which they catch and hold with their grasping, spiked forelegs. They have been known, also, to feed in small scorpions, lizards, frogs, birds, (oops!) snakes, fish, and rodents. Canni-balism is common among most species. Using their coloration to blend in with their surroundings, and being very still, they wait until their prey approaches close enough to snatch. Their camouflage, also, enables them to hide them from their predators.

Praying mantises mate in the autumn (I won't go into detail here). The female lays her eggs in a frothy mass, called an ootheca, on a flat surface, stem, or the ground. The mass



hardens to become a protective coating. If the ootheca survives the winter, the nymphs are hatched and have voracious appetites. They are known to shed their outer skin up to five times as they grow. If not enough aphids or other food is available, they, also, will resort to cannibalism.

Praying mantis are used for biological pest control by those farmers not wanting to use insecticides. After learning all this, I've concluded that having a Praying mantis on my hummingbird feeder is not a good idea, and had Rod gently brush it off.

Note to Readers: The Chaparral Naturalist can always use articles. If you have had or viewed an interesting bird or wildlife situation, taken an interesting field trip or vacation, write about it and submit it to the newsletter. Share your experiences, and help make our newsletter a fun and informative read.

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What Would You Like?
How Can the Chapter
Better Serve You?

by Dan Guthrie

I think our chapter does fairly well with monthly program topics. However, our field trips have not been well attended lately, and for that reason, I would like some input from you, our members, as to how we might be better able to serve you. If you could answer the following



questions, either by phone to 909-607-2836 or via e-mail to dguthrie@jsd.claremont.edu it would help us better serve you

#### **Field Trips**

- What level would you like? Beginner, intermediate, advanced?
- Destinations: Within one hour driving? Further?
- Duration: All day? Morning only?
- Day: Weekends? Weekdays?

#### Classes

- Would you be interested in a beginners bird class, meeting probably three times for talks and a coupleof half day trips?
- Please let me know your thoughts on these topics and any other comments on our activities?

### 112 Christmas Bird Count Results

by Neil Gilbert

2011 marked the 112<sup>th</sup> annual Christmas Bird Count (CBC) and the 40<sup>th</sup> year that Pomona Valley Audubon has taken part. December 17<sup>th</sup> was an overcast day that started off warmish and got colder as the day went on.

We found 134 species on count day plus 6 additional species during count week (3 days before to 3 days after count day). Those numbers total about the same as last year, 137 plus 2, but are much lower than our 10-year average, 148 plus 4. At least partially offsetting the low species count were the two new species we added to our cumulative list: Vermillion Flycatcher on Count Day, and Hooded Warbler during Count Week. The 14,961 individual birds reported this year was considerably lower than our 10-year average.

Birds of interest included: Bald Eagle at Bonelli; Golden Eagle at Baldy Canyon, Tree Swallow at three locations, Northern Roughwinged Swallow at Bonelli. Also Gray Flycatcher, Blue-winged Teal, Loggerhead Shrike, Wilson's Snipe, Hooded Merganser.

Birds that we did not see but should have seen, based on prior years' results, included Mountain Quail, Hairy Woodpecker, White-headed Woodpecker, Phainopepla and Brown-headed Cowbird.

A listing of the species we tallied is printed elsewhere in this newsletter. The results will soon be available on-line at: <a href="https://www.audubon.org/bird/cbc/index.html">www.audubon.org/bird/cbc/index.html</a> and should be available soon on our own web-site.

Thank you to the 51 birders who helped with this year's count. (results listed on facing page)

### **Welcome New Members**

We extend a warm welcome to all new members. Subscribers to Audubon Magazine from our area are automatically enrolled in our chapter and receive the Chaparral Naturalist at no additional charge. You are welcome to all our events.

Alta Loma: Carol Schoening

Chino: Carlos Compean, Irene Falcomer,

Dyana Wilson

**Chino Hills:** Jo Carey, Hang Nguyen **Claremont:** Judith Hill, Mimi Kome,

Crawford M. Judge, D. Wilsdon, Douglas Quisenberry, Janet Johnson, Robert Gustaveson, Hans Rindisbacher

**Corona:** Shirley Cyr, June Gravlee, Martin Westlake

**Diamond Bar:** Victoria Carnevale, Grizel Norte-Avila, Maryanne Strehlow **Etiwanda:** Paula Foster, Erna Noble

Glendora: Nancy Olmsted

La Verne: Marion Fiske, Walter Garrison,

Paulynne Verseput

**Montclair:** Dave Taylor

Norco: Natalie Gass, Chuck and Deborah Mills,

Mr. Grothe

Ontario: John Colgrove

**Pomona:** Jane Burtis, Jane Green, Patricia Pruden

Rancho Cucamonga: Ken and An Aven,

Lauren Leos

San Dimas: William Harter, Tina Kerrigan, Lori

Melching

**Upland:** Karen Basquez, Richard and Mandy Bennett, Lida Schneuder, Smita Sanghvi,

Diane Turner

Walnut: Rosetta Goss

West Covina: Carmen Gonzalez, Jane Shannon

## **112<sup>th</sup> Christmas Bird Count Results**

Greater White-fronted Goose Snow Goose Snow Goose Snow Goose Snow Goose Cackling Goose Cackling Goose Carding Goos	Canadian	2011
Snow Goose	Species Creater White fronted Coase	TOTALS
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Cackling Goose         4           Canada Goose         4           Tundra Swan         4           Wood Duck         20           Mandarin Duck         20           Gadwall         20           Eurasian Xamerican Wigeon         39           Eurasian Xamerican Wigeon         39           Mallard         39           Blue-winged Teal         16           Cinnamon Teal         16           Northern Pintail         2           Green-winged Teal         12           Canwasback         12           Redhead         12           Ring-necked Duck         13           Tufted Duck         7           Greater Scaup         7           Lesser Scaup         7           Lesser Scaup         7           More Tunder Winder Greater Scaup         1           Common Goldeneye         1           Looded Merganser         1           Common Merganser         2           Ruddy Duck         55           Chukar         55           Chukar         7           Ring-necked Pheasant         Mountain Qual           Calife Loon         2     <		
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Wood Duck	Canada Goose	4
Mandarin Duck   Gadwall   Qa   Qa   Qa   Qa   Qa   Qa   Qa		
Gadwall		
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Mallard  Bilbue-winged Teal  Cinnamon Teal  Northern Shoveler  Rednead  Green-winged Teal  Carwasback  Rednead  Ring-necked Duck  Tufted Duck  Greater Scaup  Tufted Duck  Greater Scaup  White-winged Scoter  Bufflehead  Common Goldeneye  Hooded Merganser  Common Goldeneye  Hooded Merganser  Common Merganser  Ruddy Duck  Common Merganser  Ruddy Duck  Common Merganser  Ruddy Duck  Common Loon  Pacific Loon  Common Loon  Pied-billed Grebe  Hooded Grebe  Bered Grebe  Bered Grebe  Bered Grebe  Bered Grebe  Bered Grebe  Great Blue Heno  Great Elgret  Snown Pelican  Double-crested Cormorant  Tarmerican Bittern  Great Elgret  Great Horn  Black-crowned Night-heron  Great Egret  Green Heron  Black-crowned Night-heron  Zertie Egret  Green Heron  Black-crowned Night-heron  Zertie Feret  Cormon Moorhen  American Kestrel  Merin  Peregrine Falcon  Praine Falcon  Fraine Falcon  Praine Falcon  Fraine Falcon  Fra		39
Blue-winged Teal		
Cinnamon Teal         16           Northem Shoveler         16           Northem Pintail         2           Green-winged Teal         12           Canwasback         13           Redhead         13           Ring-necked Duck         13           Tufted Duck         15           Greater Scaup         7           White-winged Scoter         10           Bufflehead         10           Common Goldeneye         10           Hooded Merganser         1           Common Goldeneye         1           Hooded Merganser         2           Ruddy Duck         55           Chukar         55           Ring-necked Pheasant         8           Mountain Quail         9           Red-throated Loon         9           Pacific Loon         9           Common Loon         9           Pied-billed Grebe         8           Homed Grebe         8           Eared Grebe         3           Clark Grebe         3           Clark Grebe         5           Clark Grebe         5           Clark Grebe         5           Cla		
Northern Shoveler		
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Ring-necked Duck   13		
Cesser Scaup	Ring-necked Duck	13
Lesser Scaup		
White-winged Scoter		
Bufflehead		·'
Common Goldeneye         1           Common Merganser         2           Common Merganser         2           Ruddy Duck         55           Chukar         8           Ring-necked Pheasant         8           Mountain Quail         9           Red-throated Loon         9           Pacific Loon         2           Common Loon         2           Pled-billed Grebe         8           Homed Grebe         3           Eared Grebe         3           Western Grebe         5           Clark's Grebe         5           American White Pelican         9           Brown Pelican         17           American Bittern         17           Great Egret         3           Snowy Egret         2           Cattle Egret         2           Green Heron         1           Black-crowned Night-heron         2           White-faced blis         1           Turkey Vulture         1           Osprey         2           White-faced Bila         1           Northern Harrier         1           Sharp-shinned Hawk         1 <tr< td=""><td></td><td>10</td></tr<>		10
Common Merganser         2           Ruddy Duck         55           Chukar         55           Ring-necked Pheasant         Mountain Quail           California Quail         9           Red-throated Loon         Pacific Loon           Common Loon         Pied-billed Grebe           Homed Grebe         8           Eared Grebe         3           Western Grebe         5           Clark's Grebe         5           American White Pelican         Brown Pelican           Brown Pelican         7           American Bittern         3           Great Blue Heron         Great Egret           Great Egret         3           Showy Egret         2           Cattle Egret         3           Green Heron         Black-crowned Night-heron           Black crowned Night-heron         2           White-laced bibs         1           Turkey Vulture         1           Osprey         1           White-laced libis         1           Turkey Vulture         1           Osprey         1           White-lailed Kite         1           Baid Eagle         6 <tr< td=""><td>Common Goldeneye</td><td></td></tr<>	Common Goldeneye	
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Ring-necked Pheasant   Mountain Quail   Section   Red-throated Loon   Pacific Loon   Common Loon   Pacific Loon   Common Loon   Pied-billed Grebe   Section   Sectio		55
Mountain Qual   Safeth   Saf		1
Red-throated Loon	Mountain Quail	
Pacific Loon		9
Common Loon         8           Pied-billed Grebe         8           Homed Grebe         3           Western Grebe         5           Clark's Grebe         5           American White Pelican         17           Brown Pelican         17           Double-crested Cormorant         17           American Bittern         Great Blue Heron           Great Blue Heron         3           Great Blue Heron         2           White-faced Bis         1           Turkey Vulture         2           Osprey         1           White-faced Bis         6           Turkey Vulture         1           Osprey         4           White-faced Bis         6           Farly Sullure         1           Sharp-shinned Hawk		
Pied-billed Grebe   Section   Sect		
Homed Grebe   Eared Grebe   Sared Grebe   Sared Grebe   Sclark's Grebe   Sclark's Grebe   Sclark's Grebe   Samerican White Pelican   Brown Pelican   Double-crested Cormorant   17   American Bittern   Great Blue Heron   Great Egret   Samowy Egret   2   Samowy Egret   2   Samowy Egret   2   Samowy Egret   2   Samowy Egret   3   Samowy Egret   2   Samowy Egret   3   Samowy Egret   2   Samowy Egret   3   Samowy	Pied-billed Grebe	
Western Grebe	Horned Grebe	
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Brown Pelican   17		
American Bittern  Great Blue Heron  Great Blue Heron  Great Blue Heron  Great Egret  Snowy Egret  2  Cattle Egret  Green Heron  Black-crowned Night-heron  Black-crowned Night-heron  2  White-faced bits  Turkey Vulture  1  Osprey  White-faced bits  Baid Eagle  Northern Harrier  Sharp-shinned Hawk  Cooper's Hawk  1  Red-shouldered Hawk  7  Ferruginous Hawk  Cough-legged Hawk  Golden Eagle  American Kestrel  3  Merlin  Peregrine Falcon  Virginia Rail  Sora  Common Moorhen  American Coot  Black-bellied Plover  Killdeer  Black-necked Stilt  23  American Avocet  Spotted Sandpiper  Greater Yellowlegs  Western Sandpiper  Least Sandpiper  Least Sandpiper  Dunlin  Long-billed Dowitcher  Wilson's Snipe  Bonaparte's Gull  1  Mew Gull  Ring-billed Gull  15  Western Gull  CW  California Gull  1  Thayer's Gull  CW  Tarkey  3  3  3  3  4  3  4  3  4  3  4  3  4  4	Brown Pelican	
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Black-crowned Night-heron   2	Cattle Egret	
White-faced bis   Turkey Vulture   1		
Turkey Vulture         1           Osprey         White-tailed Kite           Bald Eagle         C           Northern Harrier         Sharp-shinned Hawk           Cooper's Hawk         1           Red-shouldered Hawk         7           Red-tailed Hawk         7           Ferruginous Hawk         CW           Rough-legged Hawk         Golden Eagle           American Kestrel         3           Merlin         Peregrine Falcon           Prairie Falcon         Prairie Falcon           Virginia Rail         Sora           Common Moorhen         American Coot         2222           Black-belled Olver         Killdeer         5           Black-belled Olver         Killdeer         5           Black-necked Stilt         23           American Avocet         S         2           Spotted Sandpiper         C           Eesser Yellowlegs         Lesser Yellowlegs           Lesser Sandpiper         Dunlin           Long-billed Dowitcher         7           Wilson's Snipe         Bonaparte's Gull         1           Mew Gull         1           Ring-billed Gull         1           Mestern Gull		2
Osprey         White-tailed Kite           Bald Eagle         C           Northern Harrier         Sharp-shinned Hawk           Cooper's Hawk         1           Red-shouldered Hawk         7           Ferruginous Hawk         Cw           Rough-legged Hawk         Golden Eagle           Golden Eagle         American Kestrel           Merlin         Peregrine Falcon           Prainie Falcon         Virginia Rail           Sora         Common Moorhen           American Coot         2222           Black-bellied Plover         Killdeer           Killdeer         5           Black-necked Stilt         23           American Avocet         Spotted Sandpiper           Spotted Sandpiper         Greater Yellowlegs           Leaser Yellowlegs         Leaser Yellowlegs           Leaser Sandpiper         Dunlin           Long-billed Dowitcher         7           Wilson's Snipe         Bonaparte's Gull         1           Mewstern Gull         1           Mew Gull         1           Ring-billed Gull         15           Western Gull         0           Herring Gull         1           Herring Gull </td <td>Turkey Vulture</td> <td>1</td>	Turkey Vulture	1
White-tailed Kite         Bald Eagle           Northern Harrier         Sharp-shinned Hawk           Cooper's Hawk         1           Red-shouldered Hawk         7           Ferruginous Hawk         CW           Rough-legged Hawk         3           Golden Eagle         American Kestrel           American Kestrel         3           Werlin         Peregrine Falcon           Prairie Falcon         Priginia Rail           Sora         Common Moorhen           American Coot         222           Black-bellied Plover         Silideer           Kilideer         5           Black-necked Stilt         23           American Avocet         Spotted Sandpiper           Greater Yellowlegs         Lesser Yellowlegs           Lesser Yellowlegs         Lesser Yellowlegs           Least Sandpiper         Dunlin           Long-billed Dowitcher         7           Wilson's Snipe         Bonaparte's Gull           Bonaparte's Gull         1           Mewstern Gull         CW           California Gull         30           Herring Gull         T	Osprey	
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Sharp-shinned Hawk	Bald Eagle	di
Cooper's Hawk		
Red-shouldered Hawk         1           Red-talled Hawk         7           Ferruginous Hawk         CW           Rough-legged Hawk         Golden Eagle           American Kestrel         3           Merlin         Peregrine Falcon           Prairie Falcon         Prairie Falcon           Virginia Rail         Sora           Common Moorhen         American Coot           Black-bellied Plover         Kilideer           Black-bellied Plover         Stilideer           Spotted Sandpiper         23           Greater Yellowlegs         Lesser Yellowlegs           Lesser Yellowlegs         Lesser Yellowlegs           Least Sandpiper         Dunlin           Long-billed Dowitcher         7           Wilson's Snipe         Bonaparte's Gull           Mew Gull         1           Ring-billed Gull         1           Mestern Gull         CW           California Gull         30           Herring Gull         T		
Ferruginous Hawk	Red-shouldered Hawk	1
Rough-legged Hawk   Golden Eagle   American Kestrel   3   3   Merlin   Peregrine Falcon   Prairie Falcon   Virginia Rail   Sora   Common Moorhen   American Cool   Black-bellied Plover   Killdeer   5   Black-necked Stilt   23   American Avocet   Spotted Sandpiper   Greater Yellowlegs   Lesser Yellowlegs   Lesser Yellowlegs   Lesser Yellowlegs   Lesser Yellowlegs   Lesser Sandpiper   Dunlin   Long-billed Dowitcher   7   Wilson's Snipe   Bonaparte's Gull   1   Mew Falcon   1   Mew Falcon   1   Mew Falcon   1   Mew Falcon   1   Mew Gull   1   Mew Falcon   1   Mew Gull   1   Mew Falcon   1   Mew Gull   1   Mew Falcon   1		
Rough-legged Hawk   Golden Eagle   American Kestrel   3   Merlin   Peregrine Falcon   Praine Falcon   Virginia Rail   Sora   Common Moorhen   American Coot   222   Black-bellied Plover   Kilideer   5   Black-necked Stilt   23   American Avooet   Spotted Sandpiper   Greater Yellowlegs   Lesser Yellowlegs   Lesser Yellowlegs   Lesser Sandpiper   Least Sandpiper   Dunlin   Long-billed Dowlicher   7   Wilson's Snipe   Bonaparte's Guil   1   Mew Guil   1   Mew Guil   1   Mew Guil   1   Mew Guil   1   Mewering Guil   1   Mewering Guil   1   Merring Guil   1   Thayer's Guil   Cw   Thayer's Guil   Thayer's Guil   Cw   Thayer's Guil   Thayer's Guil   Cw   Thayer's Guil   Cw   Thayer's Guil   Thayer's Guil   Cw   Thayer's		CW
American Kestrel         3           Merlin         3           Merlin         9           Peregrier Falcon         9           Prairie Falcon         Virginia Rail           Sora         2           Common Moorhen         222           American Coot         222           Black-belied Plover         5           Black-necked Stilt         23           American Avocet         3           Spotted Sandpiper         Greater Yellowlegs           Lesser Yellowlegs         Lesser Pellowlegs           Lesser Sandpiper         Dunlin           Long-billed Dowitcher         7           Wilson's Snipe         8           Bonaparte's Gull         1           Mew Gull         1           Ring-billed Gull         15           Western Gull         Cw           California Gull         30           Herring Gull         Thyer's Gull	Rough-legged Hawk	
Merlin         Peregrine Falcon           Peregrine Falcon         Prairie Falcon           Virginia Rail         Sora           Common Moorhen         222           American Coot         222           Black-bellied Plover         Kilideer           Kilideer         5           Black-necked Stilt         23           American Avocet         Spotted Sandpiper           Greater Yellowlegs         Lesser Yellowlegs           Least Sandpiper         Least Sandpiper           Dunlin         Long-billed Dowitcher         7           Wilson's Snipe         Bonaparte's Gull         1           Mew Gull         1         1           Ring-billed Gull         15           Western Gull         CW           California Gull         30           Herring Gull         CW		
Peregrine Falcon		
Prairie Falcon           Virginia Rail           Sora           Common Moorhen           American Coot         222           Black-bellied Plover           Killdeer         5           Black-necked Stilt         23           American Avocet         Spotted Sandpiper           Greater Yellowlegs         Lesser Yellowlegs           Lesser Sandpiper         Least Sandpiper           Dunlin         Long-billed Dowitcher         7           Wilson's Sripe         Bonaparte's Gull         1           Mew Gull         1           Ring-billed Gull         15           Western Gull         Cw           California Gull         30           Herring Gull         CW           Thayer's Gull         CW	Peregrine Falcon	
Sora	Prairie Falcon	
Common Moorhen         222           American Coot         222           Black-bellied Plover         5           Black-necked Stilt         23           American Avocet         23           Spotted Sandpiper         6           Greater Yellowlegs         Lesser Yellowlegs           Lesser Sandpiper         Least Sandpiper           Dunlin         Long-billed Dowitcher         7           Wilson's Snipe         8           Bonaparte's Gull         1           Mew Gull         1           Ring-billed Gull         15           Western Gull         0           California Gull         30           Herring Gull         Cw           Thayer's Gull         Cw		
American Coot 222 Black-bellied Plover Killdeer 5 Black-necked Stilt 23 American Avocet Spotted Sandpiper Greater Yellowlegs Lesser Yellowlegs Western Sandpiper Least Sandpiper Least Sandpiper Least Sandpiper Least Sandpiper Milson's Snipe Bonaparte's Gull 1 Mew Gull 15 King-billed Gull 15 Mestern Gull 20 Galifornia Gull 30 Herring Gull CW Thayer's Gull CW Thay		
Black-bellied Plover	American Coot	222
Black-necked Stilt	Black-bellied Plover	
American Avocet           Spotted Sandpiper           Greater Yellowlegs           Lesser Yellowlegs           Western Sandpiper           Least Sandpiper           Dunlin           Long-billed Dowitcher         7           Wilson's Snipe           Bonaparte's Gull         1           Mew Gull         1           Ring-billed Gull         0           Western Gull         0           California Gull         30           Herring Gull         CW           Thayer's Gull         CW		
Spotted Sandpiper   Greater Yellowlegs   Lesser Yellowlegs   Lesser Yellowlegs   Western Sandpiper   Least Sandpiper   Long-billed Dowitcher   7   Wilson's Snipe   Bonaparte's Gull   1   Mew Gull   1   Mew Gull   1   15   15   16   16   16   16   16		23
Greater Yellowlegs   Lesser Yellowlegs   Lesser Yellowlegs   Western Sandpiper   Least Sandpiper   Least Sandpiper   Long-billed Dowitcher   7 Wilson's Snipe   Bonaparte's Gull   1 Mew Gull   1 Mew Gull   1 Stripe   15 Memory   1 Stripe   15 Memory   1 Stripe		
Lesser Yellowlegs           Western Sandpiper           Least Sandpiper           Dunlin           Long-billed Dowitcher         7           Wilson's Snipe           Bonaparte's Gull         1           Mew Gull         15           Western Gull         Cw           California Gull         30           Herring Gull         Cw           Thayer's Gull         Cw		
Western Sandpiper           Least Sandpiper           Dunlin           Long-billed Dowitcher         7           Wilson's Snipe           Bonaparte's Gull         1           Mew Gull         15           Ring-billed Gull         0           Western Gull         0           California Gull         30           Herring Gull         0           Thayer's Gull         0	Lesser Yellowlegs	
Dunlin         Dunlin           Long-billed Dowitcher         7           Wilson's Snipe         7           Bonaparte's Gull         1           Mew Gull         1           King-billed Gull         15           Western Gull         Cw           California Gull         30           Herring Gull         Cw           Thayer's Gull         Cw	Western Sandpiper	
Long-billed Dowlicher		
Wilson's Snipe         1           Bonaparte's Gull         1           Mew Gull         15           Western Gull         CW           California Gull         30           Herring Gull         CW           Thayer's Gull         CW		7
Bonaparte's Gull		
Mew Gull         15           Ring-billed Gull         Cw           Western Gull         30           California Gull         30           Herring Gull         Cw           Thayer's Gull         Cw		
Western Gull         cw           California Gull         30           Herring Gull         cw           Thayer's Gull         cw	Mew Gull	
California Gull 30 Herring Gull Thayer's Gull CW	Ring-billed Gull	-
Herring Gull Thayer's Gull CW		
Thayer's Gull CW		30
Thayer o dui	··············	
Glaucous-winged Gull CW	Thayer's Gull	CW
	Glaucous-winged Gull	CW

Species	2011 TOTALS
Glaucous-winged x Thayer's Gull	
Gull Species	-
Caspian Tern	
Forster's Tern Rock Pigeon	202
Band-tailed Pigeon	300
Eurasian Collared-Dove	2
Spotted Dove	-
White-winged Dove	
Mourning Dove Common Ground-Dove	387
Rose-ringed Parakeet	
Red-crowned Parrot	-
Lilac-crowned Parrot	
Yellow-headed Parrot	
Greater Roadrunner Barn Owl	
Western Screech-owl	1
Great Horned Owl	9
Northern Pygmy-owl	
Burrowing Owl Spotted Owl	
Long-eared Owl	
Short-eared Owl	
White-throated Swift	135
Black-chinned Hummingbird Anna's Hummingbird	153
Costa's Hummingbird	3
Broad-tailed Hummingbird	
Allen's Hummingbird	37
Selasphorus Sp. Relted Kingfisher	
Belted Kingfisher Lewis' Woodpecker	
Acorn Woodpecker	161
Williamson's Sapsucker	
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker Red-naped Sapsucker	
Red-naped Sapsucker Red-naped X Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	
Red-breasted Sapsucker	6
Nuttall's Woodpecker	28
Downy Woodpecker	2
Hairy Woodpecker White-headed Woodpecker	
Northern (R.S.) Flicker	44
Northern (Y.S.) Flicker	
Greater Pewee	
Gray Flycatcher	1
Pacific Slope FlycatcherEmpidonax species	
Black Phoebe	124
Say's Phoebe	30
Vermillion Flycatcher	
Dusky-capped Flycatcher Ash-throated Flycatcher	
Cassin's Kingbird	24
Thick-billed Kingbird	
Western Kingbird	
Loggerhead Shrike Plumbeous Vireo	
Blue-headed Vireo	
Hutton's Vireo	2
Warbling Vireo	
Steller's Jay Western Scrub Jay	162
Clark's Nutcracker	102
American Crow	188
Common Raven	19
Horned Lark Tree Swallow	112
Violet-green Swallow	
No. Rough-winged Swallow	8
Barn Swallow	
Swallow Species Mountain Chickadee	33
Oak Titmouse	57
Bushtit	494
Red-breasted Nuthatch	
White-breasted Nuthatch Pygmy Nuthatch	17
Brown Creeper	<del>-</del>
Cactus Wren	6
Rock Wren	4
Canyon Wren	33
Bewick's Wren House Wren	33
Pacific Wren	
Marsh Wren	
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	14
California Gnatcatcher	4
American Dipper Golden-crowned Kinglet	1
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	81
Wrentit	35
Western Bluebird	253
Mountain Bluebird	19

	2011
Species	TOTALS
Townsend's Solitaire	5
Hermit Thrush	14
American Robin	342
Varied Thrush	<del>-</del>
Gray Catbird	- 76
Northern Mockingbird California Thrasher	19
European Starling	741
American Pipit	4
Cedar Waxwing	674
Phainopepla	-
Orange-crowned Warbler	8
Nashville Warbler	-
Yellow Warbler	
Yelrump. Warbler (Myr.) Yelrump. Warbler (Aud.)	
Yeirump. Warbier (Aud.) Blkthroated Gray Warbier	1193
Townsend's Warbler	- 5
Hermit Warbler	
Black and White Warbler	
American Redstart	
Common Yellowthroat	17
Wilson's Warbler	-
Painted Redstart	-
Green-tailed Towhee	-
Spotted Towhee	39
Rufous-crowned Sparrow	7
California Towhee	187
Chipping Sparrow	52
Clay-colored Sparrow Brewer's Sparrow	<del>-</del> -
Vesper Sparrow	
Lark Sparrow	68
Sage Sparrow	-
Savannah Sparrow	8
Fox Sparrow	1
Song Sparrow	33
Lincoln's Sparrow	8
Swamp Sparrow	<del>-</del>
White-throated Sparrow	
White-crowned Sparrow	594 2
Golden-crowned Sparrow	1
Drk-eyed Junco (State-col.)	302
Drk-eyed Junco (Oregon) Drk-eyed Junco (Pink-sided)	302
Drk-eyed Junco (Gray-headed)	1
Hepatic Tanager	-
Summer Tanager	1
Summer Tanager Western Tanager Northern Cardinal	
Northern Cardinal	
Red-winged Blackbird	40
Tricolored Blackbird	-
Western Meadowlark	147
Brewer's Blackbird	186
Great-tailed Grackle	
Brown-headed Cowbird	
Scott's Oriole Pine Grosbeak	
Purple Finch	14
Cassin's Finch	2
House Finch	408
Red Crossbill	-
Pine Siskin	2
Lesser Goldfinch	196
Lawrence's Goldfinch	-
American Goldfinch	184
House Sparrow	92
Nutmeg Mannikin	134*
Total Species Count Day Total Individuals	14961
Count Week Only	5
	Participants

#### 2011 PVAS Challenge:

### How to Find 200 Birds in Our Local Valley by Martha Estus

Year bird counts are compelling adventures. I've done several, the best one being 380 California bird species for 2009.

Dan Guthrie, president of Pomona Valley Audubon Society, challenged members to try for 200 bird species in 2011 in our chapter area defined as: north to Mt. Baldy Village and the top of the ski-lift; west to Glendora and Walnut; south to Norco and Corona, and east to Etiwanda. I had the "Aha!" moment and thought "What a terrific idea!" No more spending long days driving the freeways to distant locations. These local areas could be reached easily and birded in half a day. That being said, where do you start?

January: The winter months are a good time to look for birds that will leave in the spring such as ducks, gulls, and wintering vagrants (lost birds out of their usual area). I began by looking for the 137 birds which were found on the 2010 PVAS Christmas bird count. I spread the word to all my birding friends who alerted me to birds they found during the year and also relied on LACoBirds@yahoogroups.com, inlandcountybirds@yahoogroups.com, and www.sialia. com. I studied the field list of California birds compiled by the California Bird Records Committee. The list can be viewed online by searching for California Bird Records Committee and clicking on "state list". It's important to study bird status and distribution to know time of year and location of birds you're looking for, otherwise, you can waste a lot of time looking for a bird that just isn't present at the moment. There are good books available, especially Birds of Southern California—Status and Distribution, by Kimball Garrett and Jon Dunn. Take the time to read the distribution maps included in most bird guides. The color coding will indicate which birds are in your area year round and where they winter or breed. Among the exciting birds for January were a Glaucous-winged Gull (winters coastally) and a Tropical Kingbird (a vagrant from southeast Arizona and Mexico) at Prado Regional Park in Chino.

**April/May:** I birded 4 to 6 mornings a week depending on availability of the birds. Spring migration is extremely

important as it offers the best chance of seeing birds such as the western warblers (only missed MacGillivray's) and flycatchers passing through on their way to their northern breeding grounds. I was surprised to find so many unusual shorebirds this far inland – Black-bellied Plover, Long-billed Curlews, Whimbrels, and Dunlin – all in the Chino area. By May 9 I had gotten the required 200 species but wasn't ready to quit!

June-August: Summer was a bit slower, but in early June, I took several trips up the Mt. Baldy ski-lift up to the saddle where I saw Clark's Nutcracker, Cassin's Finch, Green-tailed Towhee, and, to my surprise, two Red Crossbills. There were also searches for Owls and Poorwill. Two PVAS birders found a spotted owl on Glendora Ridge Road and showed it to me; a very rare find for our area.

September-December: Early September brought shorebirds to find again – Solitary and Pectoral Sandpipers and Wilson's Phalaropes. Clay-colored (Oak Park Cemetery), White-throated, and Swamp Sparrow (Bonelli Regional Park) made an appearance. Another terrific gull to end the year was a Little Gull, which usually winters on the east coast. During 2011 I saw 7 vagrant birds in total. By the last week of December I had seen 238 bird species, far beyond my expectations and the original challenge. It had been a great experience, but demanding. I have decided I won't do any more year counts. "Well, wait a minute, I'll just take a peek at the bird alerts. Wow, there's a Brown Pelican at Bonelli – gotta go!"

Many thanks to PVAS birders who alerted me to birds they found (you know who you are) and thanks in general to the Southern California birding community for devotedly reporting birds they see on the internet listserves. It's the dedication of all these birders which made this year's 2011 count, and other counts possible for me. And... a final salute to Rick Clements, who passed away 12/26/11. He was a good birding friend of mine, taught me a lot, and kept birding until the end. Looking at my list I see he alerted me to 3 of my birdsfor 2011.

I would end by saying -- get out there and try for a year count. Keep a list. You'll be surprised at what birds you may find. It's a constant learning experience and a great feeling of accomplishment. Good Birding!

P.S. If you would like a copy of my 2011 list, please e-mail me at <a href="leighestus@aol.com">leighestus@aol.com</a> I would be happy to send it to you as a Microsoft word document. ~ Martha

Editor's Note: PVAS Birders, Martha Estus has set the bar for future attempts – your new goal is 238... good luck and great job Martha!



# Field Trips

Pomona Valley Audubon field trips are open to all individuals. Please call trip leader if you plan to attend and for starting time & meeting location. Sunday Beginning Bird Walks meet at Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden. Bonelli Park trips meet at park headquarters on Via Verde, just off the 57 freeway. It is recommended to bring a snack (lunch if recommended), plenty of water, sun protection, and bug spray to all trips.

#### Saturday, January 7, 2012 Big Day Trip to Orange County

A tour of coastal migrant traps and hot spots for wintering specialties and a New Year start with a big list. Meet at Memorial Park at 7:00 a.m. for carpooling or phone for our first stop. Bring a lunch. Leader: Dan Guthrie 909-607-2836.or cell 909-239-5124.

#### Thursday, January 19, 2012 Whittier Narrows Regional Park

Meet at Memorial Park at 7:00 a.m. for a half day trip for wintering geese, sparrows, flycatchers and other good birds (perhaps we will see the returning Tropical Kingbird?) **Leader: Dan Gregory 909-944-2259.** 

#### Sunday, January 22, 2012 Bonelli Park Monthly Bird Walk

Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the Bonelli Park headquarters on Via Verde near the 57 Fwy. for our monthly walk (4th Sunday, about 2 hours) at Bonelli Park. **Leader: Rod Higbie 909-599-6526** 

#### Sunday, February 5, 2012 Beginner's Bird Walk Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden

Join us for our monthly (September-June) bird walk.

Family friendly, the walk is flat and lasts approx. two hours. (Bring binoculars if you have them) Meets 8:00 a.m. at the front entry gate (north end of College Ave. above Foothill Blvd. 1500 N. College Ave.) Leader:

Fraser Pemberton 909-624-6451.

#### Thursday, February 16, 2012 Prado Regional Park

A half day trip to nearby Chino for Vermillion Flycatcher, wintering ducks and gulls and a variety of raptors. Meet at Memorial Park at 7:00 a.m. Leader: Dan Gregory 909-944-2259.

#### Saturday & Sunday, February 18 & 19. 2012 Salton Sea Weekend

Our annual trip to the south end of the Salton Sea for flocks of geese, pelicans, Burrowing Owls and hopefully some longspurs and Mountain Bluebirds and Mountain Plover. We will drive down Saturday morning, starting in Memorial Park, and spend Saturday birding. Those who wish to stay overnight can make reservations at the Brawley Inn. Leave Claremont at 6:00 a.m. Leader: Dan Guthrie 909-607-2836.or cell 909-239-5124.

#### Sunday, February 26, 2012 Bonelli Park Monthly Bird Walk

Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the Bonelli Park headquarters on Via Verde near the 57 Fwy. for our monthly walk (4th Sunday, about 2 hours) at Bonelli Park. Leader: Rod Higbie 909-599-6526

#### Sunday, March 4, 2012 Beginner's Bird Walk Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden

Join us for our monthly (September-June) bird walk. Family friendly, the walk is flat and lasts approx. two hours. (Bring binoculars if you have them) Meets 8:00 a.m. at the front entry gate (north end of College Ave. above Foothill Blvd. 1500 N. College Ave.) Leader: Fraser Pemberton 909-624-6451.

#### Thursday, March 8, 2012 North Etiwanda Preserve

A half day trip for Sage, Rufous-crowned, other sparrows and chaparral birds. Meet at Memorial Park at 7:00 a.m. **Leader: Dan Gregory 909-944-2259.** 

#### Saturday, March 17, 2012 Lake Perris and San Jacinto Wildlife Area

Between Winter and Spring it's hard to predict what might be seen. However, raptors should be plentiful, wintering ducks now in breeding plumage will be present, Rufouscrowned Sparrow, Sage Sparrow, and Mountain Bluebird have been seen on this trip in the past. Meet at 7:00 a.m. at Memorial Park and bring a lunch.

of a California DFG Lands Pass which can be obtained by visiting <a href="http://www.dfg.ca.gov/licensing/landpass/">http://www.dfg.ca.gov/licensing/landpass/</a> Leader: Dan Guthrie 909-907-2836 or dguthrie@jsd. claremont.edu.

Participants should be in possession

#### Sunday, March 25, 2012 Bonelli Park Monthly Bird Walk

Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the Bonelli Park headquarters on Via Verde near the 57 Fwy. for our monthly walk (4th Sunday, about 2 hours) at Bonelli Park. Leader: Rod Higbie 909-599-6526



#### **PVAS 2012 FIELD TRIP SCHEDULE**

#### JANUARY 2012

Saturday, January 7 - Orange County Big Day Trip

7 a.m. Leader: Dan Guthrie

Thursday, January 19 - Santa Fe Dam

8 a.m. Leader: Dan Gregory

Sunday, January 22 - Bonelli Park Bird Walk

8 a.m. Leader: Rod Higbie

#### FEBRUARY 2012

**Sunday, February 5 - Beginner's Bird Walk**Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden 8 a.m.

Thursday, February 16th. Prado Regional Park

7 a.m. Leader: Dan Gregory

Saturday & Sunday, February 18-19 - Salton Sea

Weekend. Leader: Dan Guthrie

Sunday, February 26 - Bonelli Park Bird Walk

8 a.m. Leader: Rod Higbie

#### **MARCH**

Sunday, March 4 - Beginner's Bird Walk

Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden 8 a.m.

Thursday, March 8 - North Etiwanda Preserve

7 a.m. Leader: Dan Gregory

Saturday, March 17 - Lake Perris/San Jacinto Wildlife Area. 7 a.m. Leader: Dan Guthrie

Sunday, March 25 - Bonelli Park Bird Walk

8 a.m. Leader: Rod Higbie

**APRIL** 

Sunday, April 1 - Beginner's Bird Walk

Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden 8 a.m.

Saturday, April 14 - The Living Desert Zoo and Botanical Garden

7:30 a.m. Leader: Dan Gregory

Saturday, April 21 - Morongo Valley.

7 a.m. Leader: Dan Guthrie

8 a.m. Leader: Rod Higbie

#### MAY

Saturday, May 5 - Big Morongo Canyon

Sunday, April 22 - Bonelli Park Bird Walk

6 a.m. Leader: Dan Gregory

Sunday, May 6 - Beginner's Bird Walk

Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden 8 a.m.

Saturday, May 12 - Angeles Crest Highway

7 a.m. Leader: Dan Guthrie

Sunday, May 27 - Bonelli Park Bird Walk

8 a.m. Leader: Rod Higbie

#### JUNE

Sunday, June 3 - Beginner's Bird Walk

Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden 8 a.m.

Saturday, June 16 & 17 - Big Bear Lake Area

Leader: Pamela Kling

Pomona Valley Audubon field trips are open to all individuals. Please call trip leader if you plan to attend and for starting time & meeting location. Sunday Beginning Bird Walks meet at Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden. Bonelli Park trips meet at park headquarters on Via Verde, just off the 57 freeway. It is recommended to bring a snack (lunch if recommended), plenty of water, sun protection, and bug spray to all trips.

### PVAS South Florida Trip – April 7-14, 2012

Please join us for a very special opportunity to witness songbird movement at the height of migration! During mid-April, birds migrating from the Bahamas and the Caribbean come through Florida during the big push for migration. Bird numbers should prove to be dazzling and should give us some specialties not seen on other trips taken during migration.]. Plan to see many of the eastern warblers including Kentucky, Prairie, Cape May, and Palm, along with Florida endemics. Our past trips taken during the peak of migration, provided opportunities to see incredible numbers of migrants so close we could observe them easily without aid of binoculars.



Blocks of rooms will been reserved for those members interested in participating and space is limited. If you are interested in joining us, please contact Pam Kling at 909-240-7604.

### 2012 San Diego Bird Festival March 1-4, 2012

The San Diego Audubon Society invites you to San Diego for the 16th annual San Diego Bird Festival, being held at the Marina Village Conference Center. This year's banquet keynote speaker is Kenn Kaufman. He is a field editor for Audubon magazine and a contributor to every major birding magazine and author of Kingbird Highway, Flights Against the Sunset, and Lives of North American Birds.

We have trips going to all areas of San Diego County. Destinations include the desert and mountains, lake and lagoons, and four pelagic trips aboard the Grande. We have special event for families and children on Sunday, March 4. Kid-friendly activities include a Beginning Bird Art Workshop, the Raptor Rap Workshop, and a Bird Calling Workshop. All family events on Sunday are free with no pre-registration needed, although we do ask you to check-in at the San Diego Audubon Society registration desk at festival headquarters upon arrival for handouts and important information and announcements about Family Free Day events.

Long-time festival favorites such as social mixers, keynote banquet, silent auction, and Birding & Optics EXPO are returning in 2012. EXPO is free and open to the public from 12 to 5 daily. The social mixers are on Thursday and Friday, 5 to 8 pm each night. The keynoter banquet with Kenn Kaufmann is scheduled for Friday, March 4, 5:30 to 8:30 pm. For more information and to register, visit http://www.sandiegoaudubon.org and click on 2012 Birding Festval.

#### **PVAS OFFICERS 2011-12**

President	Dan Guthrie	909-607-2836
Vice-President	Bruce Strang	626-332-2354
Secretary	Pam Kling	909-240-7604
Treasurer		
Board Member	Ken Burgdorff.	626-962-9702
Board Member	Jim Herman	909-240-8547
Board Member	Pat Higbie	909-599-6526
Board Member	Rod Higbie	909-599-6526
Board Member	Nancy Strang	626-332-2354

#### **COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

Conservation	.Available	
Education	Dan Guthrie	.909-607-2836
Field Trips	Dan Guthrie	.909-607-2836
Membership	Dan Guthrie	.909-607-2836
Publications	Neil Gilbert	909-626-0334
Publicity	Shirley Harris	.909-982-9727
Door Prizes	Karlene Campo.	. 909-627-8191
Hospitality		
Gloria Slosbe	rg/Ed Babcock	.909-626-4754
Website	Mike Klein	.909-625-5510

#### **CHAPARRAL NATURALIST**

Editor......909-240-7604

The **Chaparral Naturalist** is published bimonthly, except July and August by the Pomona Valley Audubon Society. Copy deadline is the last Thursday of the month. Articles may be reprinted without permission, but please give credit to the author and the **Chaparral Naturalist**. We encourage members to submit articles and photos by email at **pamtone@verizon.net**. Acceptable file formats are jpg, Word and Excel.

Chapter only memberships with subscriptions to the newsletter are available for \$20 per year. Make checks payable to PVAS and mail to W. M. Keck Science Center, 925 N. Mills Ave., Claremont, CA 91711.

#### **National Audubon Membership / Membership Information Update**

Annual membership in the National Audubon Society is \$30 per year. <b>New m</b> Audubon Magazine and Chaparral Naturalist newsletter. Renewals of membersh not be sent to PVAS. However, a <u>new</u> membership may be sent directly to PVAS. Society. Mail payment with membership form below and mail to: <b>PVAS, W. M. Ket CA 91711.</b> (Please note chapter code <b>COZCO8OZ</b> on your check.)	hip are computerized by National Audubon and should Checks should be made payable to National Audubon
Information such as mailing address, email address and telephone numbers are u of the newsletter, and are published in our membership directory. Membership in turning it in to any board member. This information will be distributed only to me	nformation may be updated by filling out this form and
☐ Yes, Please sign me up as a new member! ☐ Yes, I am renewing	my membership.
☐ Please send me the Chaparall Naturalist electronically. ☐ <b>Do no</b>	t publish my information in the chapter directory.
Name	Chapter Code COZCO80Z
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Essall	

# Membership Meetings

Thursday, January 5, 2012

Dan Guthrie
"The Wonders of Namibia"

President Dan Guthrie will present a program about the Wonders of Namibia, based on his visit there last September. Despite the differences in bird and mammal life, Namibia was very reminiscent of southern California, especially the Salton Sea as it may have looked 20,000 years ago when California, too, had herds of large mammals, including elephants.



Monthly meetings are held in Bauer Forum of Claremont McKenna College. Evenings begin with a bird identification session at 7:00 p.m., followed by refreshments, a short business meeting, and our evening program.

Thursday, February 2, 2012

Robert A. Hamilton
"Local Insect
Fauna of Southern
California"

Among other accomplishments, Bob is a recognized authority on the status, distribution, and

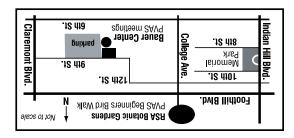


identification of birds in California. He is the lead author of two standard references describing aspects of the state's avifauna: The Birds of Orange County: Status & Distribution and Rare Birds of California. An excellent photographer, Bob has lately been fascinated by the diversity and beauty of insects that can be found in a small patch of habitat. He will share with us some of his photographic work, including a close up look at the Delhi Sands Flower-loving Flies from nearby Colton. This should be an excellent introduction to our insect fauna.

Thursday, March 1, 2012

Jim Herman
"Cruising the Galapagos,
Walking in Darwin's Footsteps"

Member Jim Herman will present a program based on his recent trip to the Galapagos. Jim is an excellent photographer and plans show some cloud forest pictures from Ecuador.



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