



Chaparral Naturalist

A Publication of
Pomona Valley Audubon Society

www.pomonavalleyaudubon.org

MAY - JUNE 2016 / Volume 56, No. 3

Feeder Bird Change in April Dan Guthrie

I've been doing two things this year that are different from previous years. First, I've placed a bunch of bird feeders outside the window by my desk so that while I am working on the computer I can watch the birds. I have also joined Feederwatch, a program where you record the greatest number of each species that comes to your feeder for two days each week through the winter. I have also been regularly visiting the cemeteries in our area to record bird species.


Both activities have documented the changes in bird population this April. At Pomona Cemetery the flickers numbered up to 15 through the winter and there were over 20 robins. On April 1 there were no robins and only 5 flickers. By April 12 the flickers were gone and the yellow-rumped warblers, numbering 32 on April 1 were down to 2 by April 12.

Changes at my feeders have also occurred. My 20 plus white-crowned sparrows gradually disappearing in April --- the last one seen on April 17th. Surprisingly the white-throated sparrow was still feeding at that date. They were certainly behaving differently. Through the winter they all fed peacefully together but as breeding season approached, there was a lot of squabbling at the feeders and less tolerance of each other. Interestingly, the fighting is only within a species. Little goldfinch feed under the feet of towhees and sparrows with no problem and the band-tailed pigeons and quail also feed peacefully together. The only other 'aggression' is male mourning doves chasing females. Titmice, downy woodpecker, fox and Lincoln's sparrows are all gone, presumably spending time nest building elsewhere. My house finch and lesser goldfinch, which nest locally, are paired up and come to the feeders in pairs rather than in flocks as they did though the winter. I hardly ever see more than one scrub jay at my feeders but, thanks to the banding of jays with color coded bands by researchers at the nearby college field station, I have identified 6 different jays coming to my feeders. April brought back my first migrants, a pair of hooded orioles. I am hoping to see lazuli bunting and black-headed grosbeak at my feeders any day now. With luck maybe a calliope hummingbird will put in an appearance. It would be a new yard bird for me!



Hooded orioles arrive while white-crowns leave for nesting grounds at higher elevations.

In this issue...

-  Feeder Bird Change in April
-  Thompson Creek Bird Oasis?
-  New Members
-  PVAS Spring 2016 Field Trips
-  Membership Meetings
-  Annual PVAS Celebration

Summer break...
Expect next edition
of Naturalist toward
the end of August...



Happy Summer Birding, Everyone!

Watch for new nesters in our area due to climate warming. There are already reports of 2 pair of Vermilion Flycatchers nesting in the Oak Glen Cemetery in Glendora as they expand their territories northward. Can we find any more anywhere?



How many birds can you find here?

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.



Thompson Creek Bird Oasis? Anne Stoll

I've been walking the Thompson Creek Trail for exercise nearly every morning for some 23 years, picking up trash, etc. About nine months ago, when it was so hot and dry, it occurred to me to start bringing water (and eventually seed) to the wild birds up at the Pomelo Drive junction of the trail. Thought you might like to see what I'm doing because perhaps this could be a PVAS project someday? — not just because the birds appreciate it, but because so many people who use the trail have expressed interest and ask questions about the birds.

Chino: **Dawn Fitzgerald, Harmony Larson**

Chino Hills: **Srisamorn Donchuanchom, Stephen Drum**

Claremont: **Sudhakar Menon, Rebecca Tedder, L Troyer, Jane Anderson, J McDonald, Barbara Arnold, Robbert Flick, Marcia Norsworthy, Michelle Mitchell, Karen Lebacqz, Kathy Leonard, James C. Higdon, James T. Martin, Robert Mezey, Christine Kayashima Romero, Claire Shaver, Kym Buzdygon**

Corona: **Donna Curtner, Alan Lundquist, Laura Ramon**

Covina: **Brant Tessinger, Alicia Copeland**

Diamond Bar: **Christin Whatley, Louise Bowden**

Glendora: **Linda J Carlson, A Rosenberg, Paul C Terhune, Pam Vanoosten**

La Verne: **Louis Perez, Darleen Stoner, Carol Elek, Kathryn Brouse, Amelita Cabaero, Mary Lewellen, Marilyn Whitney**

Mira Loma: **Linda T Stephens**

Mt Baldy: **Pam Walton**

Montclair: **Janet Immekus**

Norco: **Iria and Richard Silva**

Ontario: **Raymond Smith, Erica Castellanos, Lucille Lopez, Robin Ikeda**

Pomona: **Ron Sasse, Sarah Waskon, Craig Samson, Val Jean Swanson**

Rancho Cucamonga: **A Rosenberg, Genevieve Bloomfield, Linda J Carlson, Christine Saunders**

San Dimas: **Kathi Ellsworth, Cynthia A. Stuart, Meredith and Pat Culligan, Nancy McDonald**

Upland: **Janet Bell, Louis Brenner, Janet Smith, Kaylee Teague, Robert Weiner, Sharon Thompson, Art Yarnell, Skip Prusia, Susan Miller, Renee Middleton, Susan Biegel, Patricia Flinn, Jeryl Boring**

Walnut: **National Taiwan Normal, Carol A. Coy**

West Covina: **Nancy Dipaola, Audrey L. Lynberg, Greg Carnero, Joe Lona, Eleanor J Thibault**

National Audubon and Pomona Valley Audubon Chapter Membership

We invite you to become a member of the National Audubon Society and the Pomona Valley Audubon Society chapter. Members of National receive the monthly glossy Audubon magazine and our local PVAS Chaparral Naturalist newsletter (bi-monthly by email). A one year NEW MEMBERSHIP or a RENEWAL is \$20 for an individual or family. _____ JOIN or RENEW either online or by mail _____

1. ONLINE: At the Pomona Valley Audubon Society (PVAS) website: www.pomonavalleyaudubon.org click on "Membership" at the top of the page and link to the National Audubon membership page. With a donation of \$20 or more, you will automatically become a member of both National Audubon AND Pomona Valley Audubon Society.

2. BY MAIL: Use the form below and send it (with your check made out to NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY) to **National Audubon Society, 225 Varick Street, 7th Floor, New York, NY 10014. Attn: Chance Muehleck.** Please put Chapter Code C08 on check.

Note that you also have the option to join ONLY our local Audubon chapter (PVAS) and NOT National Audubon with a \$20 donation for a one year individual or family membership. Fill in the form below and send it (with your check made out to POMONA VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY) directly to: **PVAS, 2058 N. Mills, PMB426, Claremont, CA 91711.**

Name _____ Chapter Code C08
Address _____ Telephone _____
City, State, Zip _____
Email _____

Check with leader for any additions or changes.

Pomona Valley Audubon field trips are offered at no cost (unless otherwise specified) and open to all individuals. ALWAYS call the trip leader if you plan to attend and to verify start time, meeting location, and confirm trip status. In case of rain, call the trip leader the night before. For your comfort and enjoyment, participants should plan to bring the following items:

Saturday, May 7, 2016

Big Morongo Canyon

A famous desert oasis at the height of western migration. Non-walkers are welcome to come and watch the activity at the bird feeders.

Leader: **Dan Gregory (909) 944-2259** or **DanRCRenee@verizon.net**

Saturday, May 14, 2016

Prado Wetlands

Bird the largest constructed wetlands on the west coast with our host Bonnie Johnson, Orange County Water District biologist. Prado Wetlands supports the largest population of endangered Least Bell's Vireo, while its 45 shallow ponds provide ideal habitat for wading and shore birds, waterfowl, raptors and more. Last spring we even saw baby

Western Screech and Barn Owls in nesting boxes placed by the district's biologists. Our walk is about 4 hours over 3 miles of good trail. Lunch will be at outdoor shaded tables. Bring lunch, snacks and water. Trip is limited to 12 people. Call for start time, carpooling and trip status. Leader: **Tina Stoner (909) 292-3900** or **tinastoner@earthlink.net**

Saturday, June 4, 2016

Big Bear Lake Area

A trip to the Big Bear Lake area during breeding season. Leader: **Dan Gregory (909) 944-2259** or **DanRCRenee@verizon.net**

First Sunday Birdwalk ----

at the Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Gardens

Join us for our monthly bird walk. Family friendly, the walk is slow paced and lasts approximately 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.) Entry fee is waived for all participants.

Leader: **Fraser Pemberton (909) 624-6451.**

Sunday, May 1, 2016

Sunday, June 5, 2016

Fourth Sunday----

Frank G. Bonelli Park Nature Walks---

Join us for a monthly nature walk at the Frank G. Bonelli Park. This is an easy two hour walk for beginners as well as experts. The diverse habitat makes this a great place to find Greater Roadrunner, Cactus Wren and California Gnatcatcher, along with raptors and wintering water fowl. Contact leader Rod Higbie by Email at warblerod@verizon.net or by phone at 909-599-6526 for time and directions.

Leader: **Rod Higbie (909) 599-6526.**

Sunday, May 22, 2016

- **Binoculars/spotting scope/camera** (as desired)
- **Water**
- **Snacks and lunch**
- **Dress in Layers** (Bring extra clothing in case of unexpected weather changes.)
- **Walking/Hiking shoes**
- **Sunscreen**
- **Hat**
- **Full tank of gas**

PVAS LEADERS 2016

Acting President

Vice-PresidentEd Babcock..... ed.babcock@icloud.com

SecretaryAngie Verma rosegoddess@prodigy.net

TreasurerChuck Burt chuckburt6@hotmail.com

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Field TripsPam Kling-Trier.....pamtone@verizon.net

Membership/Outreach.....Suzanne & Seth Thompson.....

.....stthompson@pomona.edu

Webmaster.....Mike Klein mklein14@verizon.net

Publicity.....Shirley Harris muggins1637@yahoo.com

HospitalityGloria Slosberg gslosberg@mac.com

Promotions.....Nancy & Bruce Strang..... bstrang51@aol.com

Programs.....Dan Guthrie..... dguthrie@jsd.claremont.edu

EducationChris Verma..... wbu.claremont@verizon.net

ConservationDan Guthrie..... dguthrie@jsd.claremont.edu

Fund Raising.....open.....

Social Media Coordinator....Brian Elliott.....brianelli@aol.com

Meeting Activities....Hank Feilen henry.feilen@verizon.net

Board MemberJim Hermanjhfinwing@msn.com

Board Member.....Tina Stoner.....tinastoner@earthlink.net

Board MemberNancy Strang..... bstrang51@aol.com

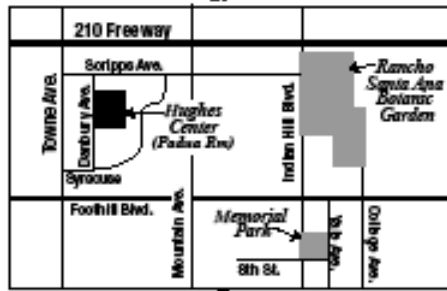
CHAPARRAL NATURALIST NEWSLETTER

EditorJudy Sugden.....eeyaa@uia.net

The Chaparral Naturalist is published bimonthly, except July and August by the Pomona Valley Audubon Society. Copy deadline is the second to last Thursday of the month. Articles may be reprinted without permission, however we require the author and Chaparral Naturalist be credited. We encourage members to submit articles and photos by email to Judy, eeyaa@uia.net. Photos should be saved at 300 dpi and in jpg format. Articles should be provided in .doc, .rtf, or .xls format. Sorry, we cannot retype your copy.

Chapter only memberships are available for \$20 per year. Make checks payable to PVAS and mail to:

Pomona Valley Audubon
2058 N Mills Ave., PMB426
Claremont, CA 91711



General Meetings are held in the Padua Room in the Alexander Hughes Center, 1700 Danbury Drive, Claremont. From Foothill Blvd., head north on Mountain or Towne Ave. and turn onto Scripps Drive. Turn south on Danbury, the Alexander Hughes Center will be on the east side. Our meetings begin with a bird identification session at 7 p.m. followed by refreshments, a short business meeting, and our evening program.



Pomona Valley Audubon Society
 2058 N Mills Ave., PMB426
 Claremont, CA 91711
www.pomonavalleyaudubon.org

Return Service Requested

Bring a friend?

Non-members are welcome!

PVAS General Membership Meetings

Thursday, MAY 5, 2016

Hummingbird Foraging Research

Presented by Dr. Elise Ferree



Dr. Elise Ferree will discuss the research that she and her students have been conducting on the foraging behavior of hummingbirds. Given the ephemeral nature of flowers, it is not surprising that hummingbirds have the ability to learn and remember the location of food sources. Dr. Ferree's lab conducted a study at the Bernard Field Station to investigate what cues Anna's hummingbirds relied on when foraging. Another project they have undertaken is to determine whether artificial light in our community has an impact on the timing of foraging by Anna's hummingbirds. Do hummingbirds in well-lit areas feed later into the night and earlier in the day than those in darker surroundings? Come to this month's meeting to find out.

ANNUAL END OF YEAR CELEBRATION

Thursday June 2nd 6:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M.
 Alexander Hughes Center

HORS D'EUUVRES, DESSERT, COFFEE and SOFT DRINKS PROVIDED BY PVAS

Silent Auction, Member Power Point Presentation, Awards, and Election of Officer

\$5.00 PER PERSON

The next PVAS General Meeting after our summer recess will be Thursday, September 1, 2016, program to be announced.