

# Phainopepla



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## MONTHLY PROGRAMS:

Thursday, September 22, 2011, 7:00 p.m.

### Guy Commeau Presents: Flora and Fauna of Alaska and Victoria

Guy is an exceptional photographer, birder, and traveler who spent six months in Alaska and will be sharing his Alaskan adventures with us through his stories and photography. Guy is well known to our Audubon Chapter and many others from his presentations in the past. Guy will show us the beautiful Butchart Gardens in Victoria, Canada on Vancouver Island. We will also see shots from the Pribilof Islands where Guy encountered Jon Dunn and some exceptional birds. We will hear about and view his encounters with a wolf and other mammals and enjoy the beauty of the Alaskan wilderness. ♪

**San Fernando Valley Audubon's monthly General Meetings and Program Presentations are held on the fourth Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. (except July and August). We meet at the Encino Community Center, 4935 Balboa Blvd. Encino. See September 22 under Calendar of Events for directions.**

## Member Feedback Wanted

by Dave Weeshoff, President, SFVAS

As good stewards of San Fernando Valley Audubon's financial resources we frequently review each of our expenditures with a critical eye, looking for ways to achieve our chapter's mission more cost effectively, while maintaining the services and activities we know our members enjoy. Recently we've begun a review of our newsletter distribution costs. We're thinking that we might reduce some of the mailing costs (paper, printing, postage, etc.) of the Phainopepla by expanding our electronic distribution options for those members who would rather receive it that way.

If you haven't already, please visit our website [www.sfvaudubon.org](http://www.sfvaudubon.org) and view the current edition of the Phainopepla in full living color—the photos of birds are especially colorful. It's hard to appreciate them in the printed, two-color version mailed to you.

We'd like your feedback on this topic. Please send an e-mail to me, [dave.weeshoff@sfvaudubon.org](mailto:dave.weeshoff@sfvaudubon.org) and tell us what you think. Thanks. ♪



## ALLAN AND MURIEL KOTIN'S 2011 BIRDATHON: A Tale of Twenty-four Hours

Allan and I couldn't find a fully free weekend this year during the spring migration season for our Birdathon. Innovation was a necessity, so our tale began on Friday, May 6, 2011. In perfect crisp, clear weather we took a morning drive from our home in Malibu to Orange County after the rush hour. It was a leisurely beginning to our 2011 mad search for the greatest number of identified bird species we could manage in a twenty-four hour period.

We parked at the Warner Avenue entrance to the Bolsa Chica Ecological Reserve in Huntington Beach, availed ourselves of the non-plumbing, put on the usual boots, hats, and binoculars, and started the clock at exactly 11:47 a.m. The 24-hour countdown of our 2011 Birdathon had begun!!!

We ticked off Rock Pigeon as our first species of the day. Brown Pelicans soared over the beach, as they would in large numbers every time we were near any beach during this Birdathon. A Red-Winged Blackbird landed on a weed in the distance. I was delighted to be seeing so well after cataract surgery earlier this year that I could I.D. the distant bird! A European Starling flew over the firehouse across the road, a Western Gull flew by, and a Crow sat on the roof of a Jack-in-the-Box Restaurant.

We reached the main entrance to Bolsa Chica at noon. Quickly we found terns galore, Forster's, Caspian, Elegant, and Least, many of them flying with fish in their bills, even passing fish to one another in flight. We could see that some were nesting in the pickleweed. A Willet stood in shallows, a Common Yellowthroat posed briefly, two Ospreys circled high in the sky. Three Eared Grebes swam by, one showing the "ears" of breeding plumage. A pair of Mallards swam by as well. A Turkey Vulture soared, while Double-Crested Cormorants flew by.

As we walked toward the up coast end of the reserve a Savannah Sparrow flew and landed nearby. A mystery sandpiper with short legs, long bill and rather rusty crown stumped our powers of identification. Ring-billed Gulls rested with Brown Pelicans. Large sandpipers appeared here and there among the low plants: Marbled Godwit, Long-billed Curlew and Whimbrel. A Ruddy Turnstone pecked at an algae mat. An American Coot grazed at the water's edge below PCH, not far from a flock of Ruddy Ducks resting on the water. A flock of Western Sandpipers fed at water's edge, refueling for their northward migration. Four Red Knots, with red wash on their breasts provided us a good look at a species we rarely see. Black-bellied plovers appeared, one with the black belly of breeding season, as did Long-billed Dowitchers. One Great Blue Heron ate a fish, while another carried nesting material in its bill into the fronds of a tall palm tree. A Semi-palmated Plover landed on low land, while a Red-tailed Hawk perched on a shrub. A Canada Goose rested on low land, while a Red-breasted Merganser rested on the water. A local birder pointed out Snowy Plovers nesting in protective cage-like structures well

beyond a fence to keep out people and other intruders. Also in the distance were resting Black Skimmers.

After two lovely and productive hours at Bolsa Chica, we drove the short distance down the coast to Harriet Wieder Park. Upon arriving at 2:15 p.m., we were greeted by amorous Great-tailed Grackles in the small grassy park. Mourning Doves and Lesser Goldfinches moved about in the border of willows. Cliff Swallows chased insects overhead. From the bluff we could see Black-necked Stilts, American Avocets and Killdeer in the shallow waters of the lagoon. On the water were ducks: Gadwall and Cinnamon Teal. Northern Rough-winged Swallows flew over the water. Back in the little park, despite a group of kids playing tag and a Cooper's Hawk looking for a meal of small bird, there was much activity in the willows: a California Towhee, Wilson's Warbler and Warbling Vireo. Barn Swallows and White-throated Swifts zipped about in the sky, while two kinds of flycatchers hunted insects from willow branches: a Western Kingbird and Olive-sided Flycatcher.

Making a brief stop at a Huntington Beach Starbucks we added House Sparrow to our list. We arrived at Upper Newport Bay at 3:40 p.m. We heard a Song Sparrow singing to us as we drove along Back Bay Road, but the area was very unbirdy.

We found the usual route to the San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary in Irvine blocked by construction. While we looked for and found signs describing an alternate way in we did manage to find House Finches and a Mockingbird.

We finally reached the San Joaquin Marsh at 4:30 p.m. A Yellow Warbler hung out with a Wilson's Warbler in the eucalyptus trees edging the parking lot and a male Anna's Hummingbird performed his display flight of up... up... up... plunge. As usual at this sanctuary, many Tree Swallows flew about, grabbing insects from the air and flying into nest boxes provided for them. We managed to spot a Black-crowned Night Heron and Green Heron despite their excellent camouflage. A few Black Phoebes worked at their flycatching, a Spotted Sandpiper walked on the beach of a small island, busily bobbing its tail, and a group of three Lincoln's Sparrows fed on small insects or seeds under the shrubs edging the path. The only duck species besides the inevitable Mallard was one Northern Shoveler. We headed back to the coast, stopping at the overlook over the upper end of Upper Newport Bay. There were plenty of Black Skimmers, but the only new species for the stop was a Hooded Oriole singing nearby.

We arrived at Crystal Cove State Park at 6:50 p.m. Two California Thrashers sat in a bush next to a restroom and a Say's Phoebe perched on an outdoor shower. A Wren-tit sang to us from a small shrub and allowed us to get good looks at it. We found California Quail walking along the trail, but otherwise the place was quiet. At 7:35 p.m. we declared a sunset, although there was still enough light to see birds



if there were any. We headed home, stopping for dinner in Westminster at S. Vietnam Fine Food.

The next morning, Saturday, May 7, we left our home at 6:00 a.m. and drove a mile to the local Pavilions, in hopes of seeing the parakeets and parrots that hang out there. We heard squawks from the nearby residential area, but couldn't identify the species making the racket. We drove on to the headlands of Pt. Dume. Along the way we saw a Scrub Jay and heard the "oww" of a feral Peafowl. On the Headlands at 6:20 a.m. we found a Bullock's Oriole and saw Common Ravens soaring, while hearing the barks of sea lions. Back in the car, we headed up Kanan Road. Stopping at the Backbone Trail parking lot, we found a Dark-eyed Junco.

We were delighted that the gates to Cheeseboro Canyon were open when we arrived there at 7:25 a.m. We parked and headed up the main trail. Western Bluebirds pounced on ground insects from lower branches of the oaks and Cassin's Kingbirds sallied forth after flying insects. Acorn Woodpeckers and Oak Titmice were busy in the oaks. House Wrens sang loudly from hiding spots behind leaves, while a Blue Grosbeak sat out in the open. A White-breasted Nuthatch walked along the underneath of a horizontal branch, as few other birds can do. An Allen's Hummingbird flashed his gorgeous gorget, most likely to attract a less gorgeous female Allen's. It was after 8:00 a.m. Malibu Creek State Park should be open, so we turned around to go there.

Waiting for a traffic light at Lost Hills and Las Virgenes roads, we found a Red-shouldered Hawk perched in a tree. Soon we were at Malibu Creek S.P., where we were dismayed to find that hordes of runners had taken over the park for an Xterra Race or some such. The place was overrun by runners, the parking lots and surrounding areas were overflowing with cars, generators were generating major rackets. We briefly visited Tapia Park, but it was birdless.

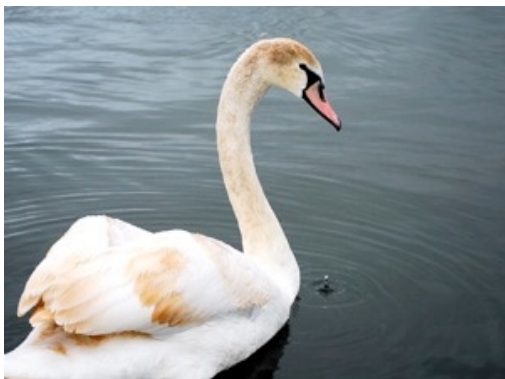
Re-evaluating our plans we drove up Malibu Canyon/Las Virgenes and went to King Gillette Ranch, formerly Soka University. Pretending to be in an "authorized vehicle," we explored some of the inner roads, finding a Black-chinned Hummingbird and American Robin. Next we drove the entry road of Diamond X Ranch just to the east. We found a Brown-headed Cowbird in the weedy fields and heard a Nuttall's Woodpecker.

We drove to the north end of Las Virgenes Road and arrived at Upper Las Virgenes Open Space at 10:00 a.m. The only new species we found there was a Black-headed Grosbeak. The place seemed pretty quiet this late in the morning. We decided we might do better at the coast, despite our having already seen most of the water birds we were likely to find.

We got to Malibu Lagoon at 10:47 a.m., with 59 minutes remaining of our twenty-four hours. We did manage to find some more species. Great Egrets sat on their nests in a tree in the shopping center parking lot across PCH. A Pied-billed Grebe swam along the main channel, with a pair of Bonaparte's gulls resting not far away. A few California Gulls joined the many Western Gulls on the beach. Six Brant's Cormorants sat on the offshore rocks, and a Pelagic Cormorant flew low over the ocean. Out on the ocean were a couple of Pacific Loons, one in winter plumage, the other in breeding finery, along with a Common Loon and a Red-necked Phalarope.

We managed only 102 species this year. Much of the drop from last year's count of 110 was that we dipped on ducks. Maybe that was due to holding our Birdathon about a week later this year. For next year we will rethink where we do our morning birding in Los Angeles County, as we probably would not have added many more species, even if Malibu Creek State Park had not been overrun by a special event. In any case we had some excellent birding in Orange County, lovely weather throughout, and raised funds for a favorite cause. ♣

## PHAINOPEPLA Photo of the Month



This month's winning photo was submitted by a new member of our San Fernando Valley Audubon chapter, Marietta Ewing. Her photograph of a juvenile Mute Swan was taken December 18, 2010 at Anthony Beilenson Park (Balboa Lake). Taken with a Nikon D80. Lens: Nikkor VR Lens 55-200mm F/4-5, Focal Length: 55mm, 1/100 sec – F5, ISO 100.

She is a self-taught nature photographer and two of her photographs have been published in Photographer's Forum, "Best of Photography 2009" and "Best of Photography 2010".

Please submit your photos to [Lynn.Maddox@sfvaudubon.org](mailto:Lynn.Maddox@sfvaudubon.org). Only one picture per photographer per month please! Ideally, the picture will be taken within our area and the information will include the location and the date it was taken, what camera and lens was used, a short account of how the picture was taken, and profile of the photographer. Good shooting! Thanks, Lynn.

## Audubon-at-Home Mailbox by Alan Pollack

Please e-mail Alan Pollack, our Audubon-at-Home Chair, with any questions you have with regard to creating a wildlife-friendly garden that can be used for publication. Alan offers FREE consultation/landscape design to help you make your yard wildlife friendly. He also gives a FREE, PowerPoint slide show/lecture to community groups, high school, and college classes on attracting wildlife to your garden and sustainable gardening practices. He can be contacted at (818) 340-2347 or at [alan.pollack@sfvaudubon.org](mailto:alan.pollack@sfvaudubon.org). ♣



# Calendar of Events

## August

**Saturday, August 6. Castaic Lake Bird Walk. 8:00–10:00 a.m.** Directions: Take closest freeway to I-5 North and exit at Parker Road. Turn right and proceed to stop sign (Castaic Road), proceed to next stop sign (Lake Hughes Road), proceed to next stop sign (Castaic Lake Drive) and turn right. Entrance to the park is on the right. Parking is in Lot 4, so make a right turn after the kiosk, then an immediate left turn into the lot, parking to the left. Leader: Roger McClure. For information, contact the staff.

**Sunday, August 7. Sepulveda Basin Bird Walk. 8:00 a.m.** Directions: Exit the San Diego Freeway (I-405) on Burbank Blvd. Go west about one-half mile to Woodley Avenue and turn right (north). Travel about one-half mile to the second possible right turn (at sign for the Water Reclamation Plant and Japanese Garden). Turn right and go east about one-half mile to Wildlife Area parking at the end of the road. Leader: Kris Ohlenkamp. Contact him at (818) 986-7785 or kris.ohlenkamp@sfvaudubon.org.

**Saturday, August 13. Placerita Canyon Nature Center Docents' Bird Walk. 9:00 a.m.** Directions: Take the 405 or 5 Freeway north to the 14 Freeway. Exit the 14 at Placerita Canyon. Turn right at the end of the off ramp and continue about 1.5 miles to the park entrance. Turn right and park at the Nature Center. Leader: Bob Fischer. For more information, call the Nature Center at (661) 259-7721.

**Sunday, August 14. Descanso Gardens Bird Walk. 8:00 a.m.** Meet at the first wide place after entering the gardens. Admission is FREE for early birders. Located at 1418 Descanso Drive, La Cañada. Leader: Karen Johnson or Nancy Herron Knode. For more information, contact Dottie Ecker, (818) 790-0659.

**Tuesday, August 16. O'Melveny Weekday Walk at O'Melveny Park, Granada Hills. 9:00 a.m.** Directions: Take the 118/Ronald Reagan Freeway and exit at Balboa Blvd. Turn north, driving two miles to Sesnon, turn left going west 0.6 miles, turn right at park entrance. Meet in the parking lot. RAIN CANCELS. Contact Carolyn Oppenheimer at, (818) 885-7493, with any questions (before 7 p.m.) or carolyn.oppenheimer@sfvaudubon.org.

**Saturday, August 20. Santa Monica Mts. Conservancy Bird Walk at Towsley Canyon. 8:00–10:00 a.m.** Directions: Go north on I-5 through Santa Clarita, exit Calgrove and turn west (left) under the freeway and then left again on the Old Road. Watch for the sign, "Ed Davis Park at Towsley Canyon." Turn right and park in the back lot. Meet at the kiosk. Leader: Roger McClure. For further information, call (661) 252-6187.

**Saturday, August 20. Monthly Field Trip to Chilao. 7:30 a.m.** Birding the San Gabriel Mountains along the Angeles Crest. Meet at the Chilao Visitor Center at 7:30 a.m. We will look for Hairy and White-headed Woodpeckers, Mountain Chickadee and many other montane species. Bring lunch and water. Directions: Take the 210 Fwy. east to Angeles Crest Highway (Hwy 2). Go north for about 45 minutes, look for the Chilao Campground signs and take the second entrance road to the Visitor Center. Your vehicle must exhibit a National Forest Adventure Pass or Golden Age Pass. Leader: Richard Barth, (310) 276-0342.

**Sunday, August 21. Malibu Creek State Park Bird Walk. 8:00 a.m.** Meet at the second (lower) day-use parking lot. Entrance to the park is on the west side of Las Virgenes Road, just south of Mulholland Hwy. Entrance fee is \$12 per car. Leader(s): Muriel Kotin, muriel.kotin@sfvaudubon.org, (310) 457-5796, and/or Art Langton, (818) 887-0973.

**NO August General Membership Meeting.**  
See you September 22.

**Sunday, August 28. Descanso Gardens Bird Walk. 8:00 a.m.** See August 14 for details.

## September

**Saturday, September 3. Castaic Lake Bird Walk. 8:00–10:00 a.m.** See August 6 for details.

**Sunday, September 4. Sepulveda Basin Bird Walk. 8:00 a.m.** See August 7 for details.

**Tuesday, September 6. Antelope Valley Audubon Bird Meeting. 6:30 p.m.** The Prime Desert Woodland Preserve in the Elyze Clifford Interpretive Center, at 43201 35th Street, Lancaster. Contact Bob or Bonnie Weatherman at (661) 269-2051. [www.avaudubon.com](http://www.avaudubon.com).

**Saturday, September 10. Placerita Canyon Nature Center Docents' Bird Walk. 9:00 a.m.** See August 13 for details.

**Sunday, September 11. Descanso Gardens Bird Walk. 8:00 a.m.** See August 14 for details.

**Saturday, September 17. Santa Monica Mts. Conservancy Bird Walk at Towsley Canyon. 8:00–10:00 a.m.** See August 20 for details.

**Saturday, September 17. Monthly Field Trip to Huntington Central Park and Bolsa Chica Ecological Reserve (in Huntington Beach). 7:30 a.m.** Meet at the Slater Avenue parking lot at 7:30 a.m. Directions from the San Fernando



Valley: Take the San Diego Freeway (405) south and exit at Golden West. Go south approximately three miles on Golden West to Slater. Turn left on Slater to the parking lot on the right. Bring lunch. We will picnic at the park and afterwards caravan to Bolsa Chica. Leader: Richard Barth, (310) 276-0342.

**Sunday, September 18. Malibu Creek State Park Bird Walk. 8:00 a.m.** See August 21 for details.

**Tuesday, September 20. O'Melveny Weekday Walk at O'Melveny Park, Granada Hills. 9:00 a.m.** See August 16 for details.

**Thursday, September 22. SFVAS General Membership Meeting. 7:00 p.m.** Encino Community Center, 4935 Balboa Blvd., Encino. Located between Moorpark and Ventura

Blvd., on the west side of Balboa, just south of the Presbyterian Church. Guy Commeau Presents: Flora and Fauna of Alaska and Victoria. For more information see Monthly Program, page 1.

**Sunday, September 25. Descanso Gardens Bird Walk. 8:00 a.m.** See August 14 for details.

**Monday, September 26. SFVAS Board Meeting. 7:00 p.m.** Balboa Mission Town Hall, 16916 San Fernando Mission Blvd., at Balboa (southeast corner) in Granada Hills.

Future Field Trips: (Details later)

**October 15.** El Dorado Park (Long Beach)

**November 19.**

Ventura Harbor and Water Treatment Ponds ♣

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## May March through Chatsworth Nature Preserve by Art Langton

Chapter participants in the Mother's Day tour through Chatsworth Preserve found a total of sixty-six species on the unseasonably cool but pleasant morning of May 8th. This number was remarkably good considering the absence of any expected warblers, save the Common Yellowthroat, vireos, or tanagers. Notable finds included the sighting of a Long-tailed Weasel as it crossed a road and the flushing of a Common Poorwill from its roost under a bush by the side of the road leading to the west end of the ecology pond. Long suspected of being part of the Preserve avifauna this was the first verified sighting of a poorwill in approximately fifty years of visits and bird counts within the Preserve and may be attributed to the absence of any night time surveys or field trips within the Preserve.

Other highlights included three Blue Grosbeaks, five Barn Owls, numerous orioles, Ash-throated Flycatchers, many Western and Cassin's Kingbirds and Phainopeplas, plus a Western Wood Pewee. Added interest was provided by the return of a White-tailed Kite, two late-migrating Sharp-shinned Hawks, and the usual contingent of resident Cooper's Hawks, Red-tailed Hawks, and kestrels. Overhead the sky was crowded with White-throated swifts, a single

Vaux's Swift, at least 150 Cliff Swallows building nests in the flood control tunnel plus sizable numbers of Rough-winged, Violet-green, and Barn Swallows.

On the ground two Killdeer nests were found, while in the muddy remains of the west basin seasonal marsh, dozens, maybe hundreds, of young Western Toads and Pacific Tree Frogs were found. Some were utilizing the deep imprints of coyote and bobcat tracks as shelter or hiding places. Some of the larger footprints held at least half a dozen toads. Snakes were limited to just two: the resident west basin litter pile rattlesnake and a Black-headed Snake.

The seasonal ponds still with water attracted Great and Snowy Egrets probably feasting on tadpoles and toads while the ecology pond still had a Pied-billed Grebe, Mallard with young, a female Bufflehead, American Wigeon and numerous Red-winged Blackbirds nesting in the reeds and cattails.

The Chapter thanks the personnel of the LA DWP for its cooperation and assistance in arranging access for a most satisfying, pleasant, and enjoyable morning for all in attendance. ♣

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## 2011 BIRDATHON Submitted by Rosemary Leibowitz



Once again, I wish to thank everyone who participated in and/or contributed to our Birdathon this year. The total is just over \$9,000 before expenses! The highlight of the event this year for me was our first Children's Birdathon. Two children (and adult supporters) came and counted birds on a beautiful Saturday morning. The enthusiasm was infectious; one family spotted 33 species while the other found 35. Then they began the hard work and raised \$381 for us in redeemed pledges. Thank you so much Alyssa and Parker and your families and friends. This photo was taken by Parker's mother and she gave us permission to print it.

Watch for more 'different' Birdathon events next year. Any ideas will be gratefully received; it would be wonderful to get some new team leaders and destinations. ♣



## Monthly Fieldtrip Report by Richard Barth

On May 14 we birded Walker Ranch and Whitney Canyon, with a brief stop at crowded Placerita Canyon Park to eat lunch. The weather was pleasantly cool and a bit overcast. Warbler migration took the day off...we saw only Yellow and Hermit (one each). Black-headed Grosbeaks and Western Tanagers were moving through in good numbers and we managed two Lazuli Buntings. A spiffy male Black-chinned Hummingbird posed for us at Whitney. Other species of interest found on the day were Phainopepla, Ash-throated Flycatcher, Western Wood-Pewee, Western Kingbird, Wrentit, White-breasted Nuthatch, White-throated Swift, Bullock's Oriole, California Thrasher, California Quail and Spotted Towhee. Among the most abundant species seen were House Wren, Oak Titmouse, Western Bluebird and Acorn Woodpecker. Western Scrub-Jay was in larger numbers than expected.

We visited Rancho Sierra Vista Preserve in Ventura County on June 11. A Greater Roadrunner greeted us at the edge of the parking lot. Target species Blue Grosbeak and Lazuli Bunting were readily seen. A number of species, including White-tailed Kite and Say's Phoebe, featured recently fledged young. We heard Wrentit and Yellow-breasted Chat. Ash-throated Flycatcher, California Thrasher, Black-headed Grosbeak and Bullock's Oriole were good finds. Also of interest: Red-shouldered Hawk, California Quail, Cassin's Kingbird, Cliff and Violet-green Swallows, Oak Titmouse, Nuttall's Woodpecker, House Wren, Western Bluebird, Common Yellowthroat, Spotted Towhee, Song Sparrow, Lesser and American Goldfinches, Brown-headed Cowbird and Red-winged Blackbird. A few Grasshopper Sparrow pairs were reportedly nesting in the preserve again this year, but we came up empty looking for them. ♣

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## Arctic Wildlife Refuge 50th Anniversary by Heather Medvitz



Note: Background for this article was obtained from materials developed by Alaska Wilderness League, Sierra Club and National Audubon Society\* Photo: Arctic Tern, Lancaster Sewage Treatment Ponds, May 2011, by Jim Hardesty

The Arctic Wildlife refuge is home to many species of mammals including the Porcupine Caribou Herd of more than 125,000 animals that migrate through the Refuge to their calving grounds every spring. It also provides important denning habitat for Polar Bears. As the summer ice has been dramatically melting in the past decade and a half, the Polar Bears are increasingly denning on coastal lands instead of on the ice. Moose, Grizzly Bears, Musk Oxen, and other mammals find their home here as well. Millions of migratory birds return from across North America and the world to nest and raise their young prior to their fall migration south.

Emphasis on saving this pristine wilderness was the topic of our May 26 General Meeting. GOAL: Calling for protection of the 1.5 million-acre coastal plain through permanent wilderness designation. Many attendees filled out postcards addressed to President Obama requesting permanent wilderness designation for the area.

Pressure to open the Refuge to oil exploration is very strong and would create a huge network of roads and vast patches of scraped out land to house the rigs that would pump out the oil. Waste pits would be dug into the fragile tundra and would release toxic chemicals into the natural system. On average, oil spills are a daily occurrence on the developed North Slope. In Prudhoe Bay 56,000 tons of nitrous oxides are emitted annually, contributing to smog and acid rain. Untold amounts of greenhouse gases are emitted, making a major contribution to global warming. Scientists predict that it would take ten years before any oil could be harvested from the area and it would produce a very small amount of what the U.S. uses in one year, barely four percent\*

Birds that breed in the Arctic have ranges that include all 50 states and six continents. To raise awareness of birds that pass through our states, an ARCTIC REFUGE SPRING MIGRATION BIRDING CHALLENGE was organized. Birds seen from a specific list of over 200 bird species that migrate north to the Arctic Wildlife Refuge during spring were noted by teams in each state. Two of our Audubon Chapter's participants were Jim Moore with 102 species and Art Langton who submitted his list of 80 species seen. Some of these birds breed in the Arctic as well as in California and some only migrate February 18 and May 31, 2011.

Some ways to make a difference on this issue: 1) Call or write your Members of Congress and encourage them to show their support for the Arctic Refuge by cosponsoring the Udall-Eisenhower Arctic Wilderness Act (H.R. 39 in the House and S.231 in the Senate.) 2) Write a letter to your newspaper to call attention to the issue. 3) Set up a meeting while your members of congress are home from Washington in their in-district offices. ♣



**JOIN THE SAN FERNANDO VALLEY AUDUBON**  
 To get started with your membership,  
 use the following form and mail to:  
 SFV Audubon Society  
 Attn: Membership  
 P.O. Box 7769  
 Van Nuys, CA 91409  
 Make all checks payable to SFV Audubon.

**SFVAS Membership**

- Regular 1-yr Chapter Membership....\$20      \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Student 1-yr Chapter Membership....\$10      \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Optional First-Class Postage.....\$5      \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Contributions to SFVAS.....\$      \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Total.....\$      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

New Member \_\_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_ School \_\_\_\_  
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 How did you learn about SFVAS? \_\_\_\_\_

**Save a tree! I DO NOT** want to receive a hardcopy of the *Phainopepla*; I'll get my news online

The PHAINOPEPLA, published ten times a year, is the newsletter of the San Fernando Valley Audubon Society, P.O. Box 7769, Van Nuys, CA 91409, 818-347-3205. San Fernando Valley Audubon Society is a chapter of the National Audubon Society, a non-profit conservation/education organization, and is dedicated to "the conservation of wildlife and natural resources."

Articles, letters, drawings, and photographs concerning conservation, the science and ecology, birding, chapter activities, and articles of interest to the membership are welcome for publication in the PHAINOPEPLA.

Material from other newsletters or newspaper should include the source and date. Copy for the PHAINOPEPLA should be in the hands of the editor by the 3rd of the month to be included in the following month's newsletter.

An introductory membership to the National Audubon Society is \$20 and should be sent separately to:  
 National Audubon Society, Membership Data Center  
 P.O. Box 422250, Palm Coast, FL 32142-2250. Be sure to write "C1ZC120Z" on the form to assure assignment to our chapter. For renewals, use the form in the National Audubon magazine, "Audubon".

If you have any questions about membership, renewals, change of address or any other membership concerns, please contact Rose Leibowitz at (818) 990-5405 or e-mail her at [rose.leibowitz@sfvaudubon.org](mailto:rose.leibowitz@sfvaudubon.org).

**SAN FERNANDO VALLEY AUDUBON SOCIETY**

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Christmas Bird Count:	Art Langton	(818) 887-0973
Community Outreach:	Sharon Ford	(818) 780-5816
Conservation:	Kris Ohlenkamp	(747) 444-9683
Coordinating Council Rep:	Jim Hardesty	(818) 346-6712
Descanso Bird Station:	Dottie Ecker	(818) 790-0659
Descanso Bird Walks:	Nancy Herron Knode	unpublished
Descanso Bird Walks:	Karen Johnson	(818) 790-1687
Education Classroom:	Dave Weeshoff	(818) 618-1652
Education-Sep. Basin:	Carolyn Oppenheimer	(818) 885-7493
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For Chapter leaders' email addresses, see our web site:

**[www.SFVAudubon.org](http://www.SFVAudubon.org)**



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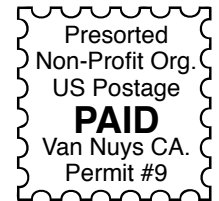




## Phainopepla

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## Membership

SFVAS is pleased to welcome the following new members. We hope you will get involved with our many field trips and activities. Please contact Rose Leibowitz, Membership Chair, with any questions at [rose.leibowitz@sfvaudubon.org](mailto:rose.leibowitz@sfvaudubon.org).

**Local:** John Phillips, Marnie Trevis. **National:** Arthur Alisi, Eli Berger, Patricia Bryant, Gerald Casale, Penny Coleman, Charles Colvin, Mr. Cresse, Janice Crockett, Doris Dent, Sandra Duham, J. Gediman, Bernard M. Gus, M & P Kalechstein, Ivy Lo, Patty Magana, Ken Marshall, Gail Nelson, Claudia Pedersen, Pirjo Pellon, Cherie Peterson, Ann H Sheppard Robison, Jeff Rubinstein, Kent Small, Matthew South, The Swearingens, Mary Trulik, Margaret Utterback, Tori Watson Daryl Yedis, Karyn Yound. ♪

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