

## ILUSTRACIONES Y FOTOGRAFÍAS DE AVES



*Vireo olivaceus*  
Verderón Ojirrojo – Red-eyed Vireo

The Red-eyed Vireo is an abundant summer visitor to my home in Minnesota, but that I know because of their constant and monotonous singing all day long; I rarely see them. Drably colored, and a denizen of the tree tops, it is a neck-wrenching challenge to actually locate them, and I am happy to know they are there just by hearing their song. They spend the nonbreeding season in Central and South America, where closely related species are breeding residents. There are few places in North, Central, or South America that aren't home to a vireo or two. This painting I made for a book on the common birds of the American Midwest.

I was born in St. Croix Falls, Wisconsin, and raised in Lanesboro, a small rural community located in the wooded river valleys of south-eastern Minnesota. My family includes many artists, and I developed an avid interest in nature, especially birds, in early childhood. This led to a pursuit of natural history illustration, which still continues. I graduated from the University of Minnesota and served in the military in the former Panama Canal Zone, where I was first introduced to tropical birds. After leaving Panama, I worked as a biological illustrator at the Universidad del Valle in Cali, Colombia. After Colombia, I continued free-lance illustration work in Costa Rica. I worked with Alexander Skutch, whom I had met in Panama, illustrating his books and the Guide to Birds of Costa Rica. In 1978 I moved to Los Angeles and worked for several years with the Western Foundation of Vertebrate Zoology, and continued with various projects in Central America and Southeast Asia. During this period I illustrated field guides to Singapore, Wallacea (central Indonesia), and guides to Belize and Peru. My close association with Alexander Skutch since 1974 has led to my illustrating 18 of his books on ornithology and natural history.

**Dana Gardner**

<http://www.gardnerbirds.com>