



# San Bernardino Valley Audubon Society

# WESTERN MEADOWLARK

Volume 58 — Number 5  
May/June 2008

Endemic Birds and Other Wildlife of Ethiopia

Presented by Kurt Leuschner

Wednesday, May 21, 2008 at 7:30pm

Thanks to the support from San Bernardino Valley Audubon, Kurt Leuschner had the unique opportunity this past November to travel to Ethiopia on a 10 day National Audubon-sponsored study tour. Ethiopia and neighboring Eritrea are home to over 30 endemic bird species, making this a must-see region for world listers. From White-cheeked Turacos to Black-winged Lovebirds, you'll be amazed at the variety of unusual species found here and nowhere else in the world! But birds were just one reason that Leuschner and 13 others from Audubon and the Sierra Club journeyed so far.

Audubon's *Population and Habitat Campaign* has been drawing much-needed attention to the often-detrimental effects of (Ethiopia... Continued on page 7)

## Earthworms Found to Contain Chemicals from Households and Animal Manure

Earthworms studied in agricultural fields have been found to contain organic chemicals from household products and manure, indicating that such substances are entering the food chain.

Manure and biosolids, the solid byproduct of wastewater treatment, were applied to the fields as fertilizer. Earthworms continuously ingest soils for nourishment and can accumulate the chemicals present in the soil.

The chemicals investigated are considered indicators of human and animal waste sources and include a range of active ingredients in common household products such as detergents, antibacterial soaps, fragrances, and pharmaceuticals. Some of the detected chemicals are naturally occurring such as plant and fecal sterols and fragrances. All of these chemicals tend to be concentrated in the municipal waste distribution and disposal process and are referred to as anthropogenic waste indicators (AWI).

U.S. Geological Survey Scientists and their colleague from (Earthworms...Continued on page 6)

JUNE POTLUCK DINNER,

Ends Audubon's Year

June 18, 2008

Program for Wednesday at 6:30 PM

Help us celebrate the end of our chapter's year, the beginning of summer and the joy of nature at our June potluck dinner. We will begin our evening of camaraderie at 6:30 p.m., an hour earlier than usual at the San Bernardino County Museum. SBVAS will supply a turkey and a ham as well as beverages. Please bring a dish to share either a salad, vegetable, casserole, or dessert. Please remember to bring your own table service. Officers will be installed. This usually takes only a few minutes and then our members will provide the program by bringing 10-15 of their favorite nature slides to share. This is a great annual event and is fun for everyone. *Come enjoy good friends, food and what is certain to be a terrific evening.* ☘

## Forgotten Wasteland to Wonderland for Learning

by Nanci Larsen

Inspired by a story about a Northern California school that turned part of a playground into a native garden, Carolyn Linderman, a first grade teacher at Alcott Elementary School, in Riverside, has created a wonderland for learning at her school. It all began with an unused space behind the portable classrooms that once was a baseball diamond, forgotten and overgrown with weeds, Carolyn, her husband Gary, and friends have turned it into a native garden paradise complete with an orange grove that includes 25 different varieties of citrus.

*The native plants, existing large trees, and the new citrus grove have resulted in an increase and return of many species of birds, owls, bats, and butterflies*

The journey began with a Reef grant given to local teachers in Riverside, California in the fall of 2006. Carolyn wrote the grant and after receiving the \$1,000 in the winter of 2007, she began design of the garden. With two more grants for \$500 from the school's non-profit organization on campus and \$1,000 from

(Garden... Continued on page 2)

(Garden... Continued from page 1)

the local water district the work began.

With the aid of her husband Gary, Carolyn began clearing the 1/2 acre lot of weeds and leftover debris to begin the layout of her handcrafted design. Help came along from a grandfather of two of her students, he has a grove maintenance business in the local area, and he introduced her to local nurseries owners and donated many of the native plants. Along with his crew, Carolyn, and her husband, they added a drip water system; bender boards to define the beds, mulch and began planting plants. Next was the addition of decomposed granite for paths which was completed by her husband and friends. Gless Ranch, a local orange grower, donated 25 varieties of citrus trees to create a grove that was completed by May 2007.

Throughout the summer, Carolyn, her husband, and friends maintained the garden, added a birdbath, and additional plants. With another grant from the state, Carolyn was able to add three arched pergolas leading into the garden and a fence around the perimeter. Once again friends, the grandfather, her husband, and Carolyn performed all the labor. With a few sprinkler repairs, the work was completed by December 2007.

The native plants, existing large trees, and the new citrus grove have resulted in an increase and return of many species of birds, owls, bats, and butterflies. All attracted by the native color and water features. Just last week Carolyn enjoyed the donation of birdhouses, owl's boxes, and even a bat box. Instructions for building the boxes were included so that 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders can help build more boxes for the learning garden.

The process is ongoing and today Carolyn's planning a fund raiser to acquire outdoor benches. The benches will provide seating for the 1 or 2 classes in the outdoors among the birds and native plants. Future plans include a shade cover for the late afternoon sun, created by plants forming a natural pergola along with a flag pole.

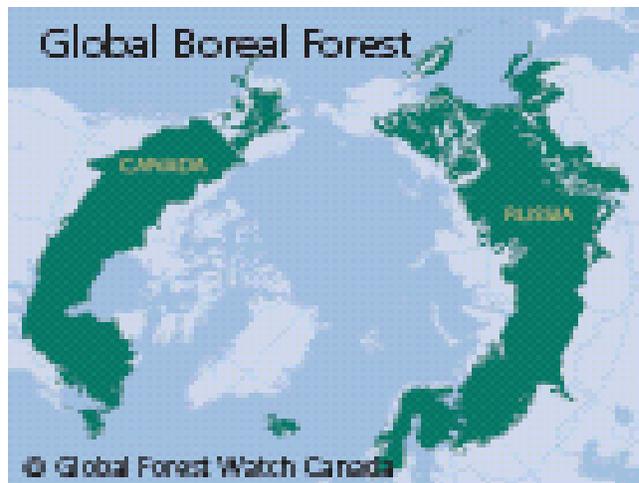
*What better way for children to learn about birds, water, plants, and the environment than by being outside in the middle of all those things. This legacy will live on thru Carolyn's dedication, insight, hard work, along with all the children that use the garden for learning now and in the future. While creating a natural habitat for native plants and animals, Carolyn has inspired us all to help bring nature back into learning and our daily lives by reclaiming a forgotten wasteland.*

Many thanks Nanci for sharing Carolyn's story.



## Why is the Boreal Forest so important to birds?

About three billion birds fly north to the Boreal Forest each spring to build nests and lay eggs. These birds arrive in the Boreal Forest after spending the winter in South and Central America, Mexico, the Caribbean, and the United States. North America's Boreal Forest stretches across the continent from Newfoundland to Alaska, covering 1.5 billion acres. 325 bird species – that's almost half of all the bird species in North America! – depend on the Boreal Forest. There are nearly 100 species of which 50% or more of the entire population breeds in the Boreal Forest. About 3 billion of North America's land birds, 26 million of its waterfowl, and 7 million of its shorebirds breed here. Up to 5 billion birds – adults and their new babies – migrate south from the Boreal Forest each fall.



## The Boreal Forest Bird Nursery of the North *The baby birds of the Boreal Forest need your help!*

About **30% of the Boreal** (almost five hundred million acres) has already been allocated for industrial uses – logging, oil and gas, mining and hydro-electric dams.

Each year, about **2.5 million acres** of Canadian timber is cut. In some areas, forest loss is equal to rates in tropical rainforests. Destruction of the Boreal contributes to **global warming**, which has al-

ready affected migration for some North American birds. Many of North America's most **rapidly declining birds** are among those most reliant on the Boreal Forest for their survival; 40 different land bird species that breed in the Boreal are in decline. **Only about 8%** of the Boreal has been conserved in protected areas by Canadian laws. Land-use planning decisions made over **the next 5-10 years** will determine the fate of the Boreal.

**The Boreal Forest  
Bird Nursery of the North  
BOREAL SONGBIRD INITIATIVE**

[www.borealbirds.org](http://www.borealbirds.org)

Here's what you can do:

**BUY RECYCLED**

Use paper, tissues, and paper towels made from recycled material in your home, school, and office to reduce logging.

*For a guide to recycled paper products, visit:*

[www.borealbirds.org/birdshopguide](http://www.borealbirds.org/birdshopguide)

**CONSUME LESS**

Read your favorite newspapers and magazines on the web, and ask catalog and marketing companies to remove your name from their mailing lists, to cut down on junk mail.

*Remove your name from mailing lists online at:*

<http://dmaconsumers.org/consumerassistance.html>

**JOIN A GROUP**

Become a member of a conservation group that works to protect the Boreal Forest and the billions of birds that depend on it.

*Find local conservation groups to join at:*

[www.audubon.org](http://www.audubon.org)

[www.nwf.org](http://www.nwf.org)

[www.nature.org](http://www.nature.org)

**SPREAD THE WORD**

Give a presentation at a local school, library, or nature club to let your community know about the Boreal Forest and its [link with your neighborhood birds](#).

**BE EFFICIENT**

Use energy-efficient appliances, light bulbs, and vehicles. Set your thermostat lower, use less water and light, and drive less. *Find tips for being energy-efficient at:*

[www.aceee.org/consumerguide/mostenef.htm](http://www.aceee.org/consumerguide/mostenef.htm)

[www.ucsusa.org/publications/greentips](http://www.ucsusa.org/publications/greentips)

[www.climatesolutions.org/pages/15%20things.htm](http://www.climatesolutions.org/pages/15%20things.htm)

[www.fueleconomy.gov](http://www.fueleconomy.gov)

**LEARN ABOUT BIRDS**

Go birding and find birds that breed in the Boreal Forest in the nearest woods or lakes – or right in your own backyard! *To learn all about Boreal birds, visit:*

[www.borealbirds.org/birdguide](http://www.borealbirds.org/birdguide)

*To learn about the Boreal Forest, visit:*

[www.nrdc.org/land/forests/boreal/intro.asp](http://www.nrdc.org/land/forests/boreal/intro.asp)

[www.borealcanada.ca](http://www.borealcanada.ca)

[www.borealnet.org](http://www.borealnet.org)

**ASK FOR SUPPORT**

Write to companies as well as local and federal governments asking them to adopt Boreal-friendly policies such as FSC certification and the Boreal Conservation Framework. *You can find letter-writing campaigns at:* [www.borealbirds.org/action.html](http://www.borealbirds.org/action.html)

## International Migratory Bird Day MAY 10, 2008

### Tundra to Tropics:

### Connecting Birds, Habitats, & People

Migratory birds travel long distances between breeding and non-breeding sites throughout the Western Hemisphere. In 2008, IMBD will explore the birds that make these fantastic journeys, the habitats on which they depend, and the people who are important to the conservation of birds and their habitats along the way. International Migratory Bird Day is officially celebrated on the second Saturday in May in the U.S. and Canada. While most events will take place on May 10, 2008, we encourage you to organize your program, event, or festival when it best suits you and the birds. IMBD materials are not dated and may be used year-round.

In Latin America and the Caribbean, IMBD is celebrated in the fall, when migratory birds have returned to non-breeding grounds. So no matter where you are in the Western Hemisphere, you might find an IMBD event near you!

The 2008 theme provides a wonderful opportunity to recognize the important habitats in your locale and the groups and individuals that contribute to their protection. Explore what each habitat offers migratory birds, whether it is a place to rest, a nesting site, or a winter home. [www.birdday.org](http://www.birdday.org)

**Sunday, May 4, 2008**

**8:00-10:00 am**

### Beginning Bird Walk at Fairmount Park

Doug Karalun (909) 425-5355

For those of you who are just beginning the wonderful pastime of bird watching, please join us for a fun, slow-paced morning of birding in one of our local wildlife habitats. Our goal will be to teach you enough basic birding techniques and identification skills so that you will feel comfortable birding on your own or joining our longer birding trips throughout the year. We will introduce you to some of our local bird species. You may be surprised at what wonderful birds can be seen!

Binoculars and bird guides will be provided for use during the walk. However, please bring your own if you have them as supplies are limited.

*Wear comfortable walking shoes,  
hats and sunscreen and bring water.*

*The walk is free and no reservations are needed.  
Everyone is welcome and student lists will be signed.*

To reach Fairmount Park from downtown Riverside take Market Street north to the signal at Fairmount Park and turn left. (just before the train engine) Turn immediately to the left towards the tennis courts then right into the parking lot. Follow the lot all the way to the end and park near the bandstand. Please contact: Doug Karalun (909) 425-5355 for further information. Rain or other conditions may cause last minute changes. You may call ahead to confirm location and time.

## Field Trip Schedule

### BIG MORONGO

**SATURDAY, MAY 3, 2008 - 7:00 AM**

**LEADER: GENE CARDIFF (909) 875-5358**

**OR A SUBSTITUTE**

**(CHET IS UNABLE TO MAKE IT THIS YEAR)**

The first week in May is about the best time for observing migrant land birds in Southern California and Big Morongo is one of the best places for it. In addition to migrant warblers, vireos and flycatchers, we expect to see the breeding specialities including vermilion flycatcher, yellow-breasted chat, summer tanager, blue grosbeak, Bullock's oriole and hooded oriole.

Join us for a morning birdwalk on the trails and roads of the preserve and surrounding areas. We will meet at the preserve parking lot at 7:00 a.m. To get there, take I-10 to Highway 62, go north ten miles to Morongo Valley, then turn right on Park Avenue to Covington Park. Turn left at Covington Park, then do a quick right-left-right into the preserve. Weather is typically good this time of year. Bring water, snacks and lunch if you plan to make a day of it. Some of us will probably stay out all day. Who knows where the afternoon will lead us?

### TWO TREES CANYON & BOX SPRINGS MOUNTAIN PARK

**SUNDAY, MAY 4, 8:00 AM**

**(PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE IN DATE)**

**LEADER: JOHN GREEN (951) 686-2956**

**e-MAIL: BEWICKWREN@EARTHLINK.NET**

We will meet at the upper parking lot of Box Springs Mountain Reserve. Our main target birds here will be Black-chinned, Rufous-crowned, and "Bell's" Sage Sparrows, which should be present and singing. We'll look for them and more while going on a figure eight loop hike through the fragmented chaparral and sage scrub and past several springs. A few of the other resident and/or breeding birds to be expected on the trip include Greater Roadrunner, Black-chinned and Costa's Hummingbirds, Nuttall's Woodpeckers, Wrentit, Rock and Canyon Wrens, California Thrasher, and Bullock's and Hooded Orioles. We will, of course, also be hoping for a nice crop of migrants including flycatchers, vireos, warblers, buntings, gros-

beaks, and??? Over 170 species of birds have been recorded in the Box Springs, but 40 species is a more realistic goal for this trip. We should also see some wildflowers and shrubs in bloom, and a variety of butterflies, reptiles, mammals, etc. as well. **THIS INCLUDES RATTLESNAKES**, which have been encountered on the trip in recent years. Other concerns include ticks, poison oak, and stinging nettle. None of these are abundant, and can be avoided with reasonable care.

The walk is all on official trails, but some are narrow. The full hike is about 3.5 miles, with a couple of climbs, and a maximum elevation gain of about 650 feet. Those not wanting the full walk can break back to the parking lot at the end of the first loop of the figure eight (that first loop is about 1.25 miles and 450 foot elevation gain). Expect to arrive back at the parking lot by lunchtime.

We will meet at 8 AM. From Highway 60 in Moreno Valley take the Pigeon Pass Road / Frederick Street exit. Take Pigeon Pass north and continue for about 4.2 miles. When Pigeon Pass makes a sharp turn to the right, you will continue straight on Box Springs Mountain Road for about 1.3 miles to the parking area. There is a \$2 per person park fee box. We will do a lot of walking, so wear appropriate shoes and dress comfortably in layers. Some trails may be overgrown, long pants are advised. Carry water and snacks. There are picnic tables at the parking area, so bring a lunch if you'd like to eat after the hike. See you there!

**IMPORTANT:** This trip is not suitable for large groups, only a limited number of students can be accommodated. A maximum of five students can attend, but only if they call and register with me in advance. Students are expected to show interest, have a binocular, and attend the full trip. Signature for school credit will be provided at the end of the walk. I may be able to loan a binocular if arranged well in advance. There is a Beginning Bird Walk available at Fairmount Park on the same day as this trip for those desiring an easier walk, or if this trip is full.

### WHITE WATER CANYON

**SATURDAY, MAY 10, 8:00 AM -**

**LEADER: STEVE MYERS (951) 369-8060 -**

**FAX (951) 369-8035 - CELL (951) 634-9767**

**STEPHENMYERS@EARTHLINK.NET**

This trip is a new addition to the SBVAS field trip lineup. Portions of Whitewater Canyon have long been more or less closed to public access, but the former trout farm is now the "Whitewater Canyon Preserve," managed by The Wildlands Conservancy. If you visited the trout farm in the past, you will not know the place now. Most of the facilities have been removed, and habitat restoration is under way. There are still a few ponds with trout, but riparian and desert scrub habitat should be teeming with birds on this trip. The canyon hosts nesting Summer Tanagers and Brown-crested Flycatchers, and migrants should be easy to find. In addition to the Preserve, we will visit Bonnie Bell, a small community in the canyon that contains excellent cottonwood and willow forest and woodland, somewhat reminiscent of Big Morongo.

#### Field Trip Checklist

Comfortable shoes or hiking boots, hat, sunscreen, insect repellent..

A good Road Map,

Full fuel tank, drinking water, snacks and lunch,

binoculars and or a scope, field guide

Come and Enjoy Call Field Trip Leader

for last minute cancellations,

questions or changes... 

Meet at the Whitewater Canyon Preserve at 8:00 am. To reach the Preserve, go east on I-10, past the turn-off for Highway 111, and take the Whitewater exit. Turn left, pass over I-10, and watch for Whitewater Canyon Road on your left. The Preserve is at the end of Whitewater Canyon Road, approximately 5 miles north of I-10. Bring sturdy footwear, water, lunch, and the usual essentials.

**BABY BIRDS AT BEAR PAW  
SATURDAY, MAY 17, 9:00 A.M.**

**LEADER: CIN GRAYRAVEN 909-794-0509.**

Join us for a trip into the hidden world of nesting birds at Bearpaw Nature Sanctuary in Forest Falls. Biologist Cin Greyraven will lead the group in its search for evidence of breeding behavior in the common birds of the chaparral and forest. Since 1994, Bearpaw Sanctuary has been part of the National Nest Box Trail system, offering homes to Western Bluebirds, Oak Titmice, House Wrens, Mountain Chickadees, and Ash-throated Flycatchers. Learn what types of nest boxes work best and how monitoring data by average citizens across the continent can contribute to scientific research. Learn how to monitor a nest box without disturbing the nesting effort. Enjoy a peek inside the usually inaccessible world of cavity nesters, and learn to recognize different species by their nests, eggs, and chicks. Bring binoculars for long-distance viewing and cameras for close-up snapshots. Children are welcome. The gate code is #7282. Call for additional information..

**WRIGHTWOOD & SAN GABRIEL MOUNTAINS  
SATURDAY, JUNE 7, 7:00 A.M.**

**LEADER: GENE CARDIFF (909) 875-5358**

**EMAIL: - E.CARDIFF@WORLDNET.ATT.NET**

The San Gabriel Mountains trip will start at the California Department of Forestry Mormon Rocks Station on Highway 138 at 7:00 a.m. Take I-15 north from San Bernardino or south from the Victor Valley and turn toward Palmdale on Highway 138. The CDF Station is located 1.5 miles up Hwy 138 on the left side of the road, opposite the large sandstone formation called the Mormon Rocks. (There are no restrooms at the CDF Station, use the restrooms at the gas stations near the off ramp.) After birding that area for 30-45 minutes, we will proceed up Lone Pine Canyon Rd into Wrightwood. We will enjoy a snack at the Twin Lakes Club and then will proceed up Highway 2 to the Arch Picnic Grounds at Big Pines and to the Table Mountain Campground amphitheater. We will have lunch at Table Mountain. After lunch, we will proceed to Valyermo where we will bird the Paradise Springs area and St. Andrew's Priory. If the cherries are ripe, we will stop to pick fresh cherries.

Bring a lunch, liquids and a good pair of shoes. We will

look for mountain birds such as the white-headed woodpecker, Clark's nutcracker, red crossbill, green-tailed towhee, Townsend's solitaire, and black-chinned sparrows. Please don't forget : You will need an Adventure Pass (we will stop at the ranger station)

***DATES CHANGED! PLEASE NOTE***

**SATURDAY-SUNDAY, JULY 12-13, 2008  
WEEKEND TRIP - SOUTH FORK KERN RIVER & THE  
GREENHORN MOUNTAINS  
STEVE MYERS (760) 843-4009**

This is a joint trip with the Mojave Desert Bird Club. Meet at 5:00 am at the Victorville Park & Ride at I-15 and Bear Valley Road for carpooling. Exit I-15 at Bear Valley Road, turn left, and left again onto the frontage road (Amargosa Road). The park and ride is another left, almost immediately. We will arrive at the South Fork Kern River Preserve around 7:00 am, and will look for specialties such as the Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Summer Tanager, Brown-crested Flycatcher, and the endangered Southwestern Willow Flycatcher. As the day heats up, we will head up into the relatively cool Greenhorn Mountains. The Greenhorns are at the southern end of the Sierra Nevada, and offer extensive coniferous forests, wet meadows, and spectacular views. We expect to see many of the typical high mountain birds, and the Greenhorns are the southern range limit of birds such as the Pileated Woodpecker, Northern Goshawk, and Winter Wren (note that these are not guaranteed!). On Saturday night we will be camping at a primitive campground (no water or toilets of any kind) in the Greenhorns. This trip can be terrific for both birds and butterflies.

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 24, 2008 - 5:30 AM  
INSANE JAUNT TO THE SALTON SEA  
JOHN GREEN (951) 686-2956**

How would you like to see birds like Wood Stork, Stilt Sandpiper, Laughing and Yellow-footed Gulls, Gull-billed and Black Terns, Burrowing Owl, Gila Woodpecker, and Bronzed Cowbird? All those and more may be yours at the mere price of 110 degree average daily highs in the pungent glory and spectacle of the Salton Sea in summertime. With luck, perhaps something like an Anhinga, Tricolored Heron, Roseate Spoonbill, or Magnificent Frigatebird will appear (or is it just the heat?). Highlights on last year's trip included Reddish Egret, Ruff, and Gray Flycatcher. More information in July/August Issue or on the website... [www.sbvass.org](http://www.sbvass.org) 

(Earthworms... Continued from page 1)

Colorado State University at Pueblo published their new findings today in *Environmental Science and Technology*. The results demonstrate that organic chemicals introduced to the environment via land application of biosolids and manure are transferred to earthworms and enter the food chain.

Scientists found 28 AWIs in biosolids being applied at a soybean field for the first time and 20 AWIs in earthworms from the same field. Similar results were found for the field where swine manure was applied. Several compounds were detected in earthworms collected both from the biosolids- and manure-applied fields, including phenol (disinfectant), tributylphosphate (antifoaming agent and flame retardant), benzophenone (fixative), trimethoprim (antibiotic), and the synthetic fragrances galaxolide, and tonalide. Detergent metabolites and the disinfectant triclosan were found in earthworms from the biosolids-applied field, but not the manure-applied field.

Biosolids are made from the sludge generated by the treatment of sewage at wastewater treatment plants. Biosolids are used as fertilizer by farmers, landscapers, and homeowners when it satisfies U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and local regulations for nutrient, metal, and pathogen content. About half of the 8 million dry tons of biosolids produced in the U. S. each year are applied to the land. Biosolids have been found to be rich in AWIs compared to levels in wastewater treatment plant effluent. In addition, the 1.3 million farms raising livestock in the U. S. generate an estimated 500 million tons of manure annually, much of which is also applied to fields as fertilizer for crops.

This study is part of a long-term effort by the USGS Toxic Substances Hydrology Program to determine the fate and effects of chemicals of emerging environmental concern in aquatic and terrestrial environments, and to provide water-resource managers with objective information that assists in the development of effective water management practices. It was funded in part by a Research Corporation Cottrell College Award and a Faculty Research Grant from Eastern Washington University.

More information can be found by visiting:

<http://toxics.usgs.gov/highlights/earthworms.html>

USGS provides science for a changing world.

For more information, visit [www.usgs.gov](http://www.usgs.gov).

For release: February 20, 2008

\*\*\*\* [www.usgs.gov](http://www.usgs.gov) \*\*\*\*

## BIRD MONITORING INTERNSHIPS IN TORTUGUERO, COSTA RICA:



Positions are available for volunteer bird banding interns at our bird monitoring station in Tortuguero throughout the year. Participants are expected to have experience in identifying birds, and they usually have removed from mist nets and processed at least 200 landbirds. The minimum length of stay is usually one month. All volunteers receive their room and board while they are staying at the station of the Caribbean Conservation Corporation, Estacion Biologica, in the lovely coastal Caribbean town of Tortuguero. We and our collaborators in Costa Rica have been operating five monitoring stations near the village for six years. A recent volunteer wrote of his experiences at the station in "Wonderful world, beautiful people and fantastic birds: A season of bird monitoring in Costa Rica."

We operate mist nets for resident and migrant species and conduct migration censuses of the millions of diurnal migrants moving along the coast. Some of the species a participant might encounter are listed in the "Checklist to the birds of Tortuguero." Volunteers are responsible for their own travel to and from Costa Rica. Primary Banders, those who have extensive experience operating a capture and monitoring station, can be awarded up to half their airfare.

Please send an indication of your interest, number of birds extracted and processed from mist nets, level of experience in bird identification, dates of availability, and names and phone numbers of references. If you have any questions, send them to C. John Ralph (email: [cjr2@humboldt.edu](mailto:cjr2@humboldt.edu) or [cralph@fs.fed.us](mailto:cralph@fs.fed.us); Phone: 707-825-2992; fax: 707-825-2901), U.S. Forest Service, Redwood Sciences Laboratory, 1700 Bayview Drive, Arcata, California 95521.

Photos courtesy of Tortuguero Integrated Bird Monitoring Program / Anna Thaler. April 2, 2008

(Ethiopia... Continued from page 1)

fects of human population growth on habitats for birds and other wildlife. With Ethiopia being the second most populous country in Africa, it was a logical place to hold the second annual *Population, Health and Environment (PHE) Conference*. For 3 days at the United Nations in Addis Ababa, important global and regional issues concerning population growth and its effects on human health and the environment were discussed, ideas were exchanged, and future work was planned. Field trips before and after the conference to various U.S.AID-funded project sites afforded the U.S. group of delegates the opportunity to see your tax dollars at work. Along the way the group had the chance to see to many of the bird and mammal species that reside only in Ethiopia. In this program you'll be introduced to these East African specialties and to the environmental challenges facing Ethiopia and the world.

Kurt Leuschner has been a member of Audubon since the 1970's – active with Los Angeles Audubon leading field trips to Ballona Wetlands and participating in Christmas Bird Counts in Malibu and Los Angeles in his early years, and later, after moving to Palm Desert, joining San Bernardino Valley Audubon and founding the Desert Cities Bird Club in 1995 – serving the birders of the Coachella Valley area. When he's not leading birding trips to Joshua Tree, the Salton Sea, Anza-Borrego, Zzyzx, Arizona, or Africa, you'll find him teaching at College of the Desert – courses in Conservation, Birds, Native Plants, and Entomology. Lately he has become more aware of the importance of grass-roots activism and he'll be traveling to Washington D. C. in June with the other PHE delegates to do some lobbying on behalf of Audubon for foreign aid and the environment.

Please come enjoy Kurt's program.

Everyone is always welcome.

### Faster More Colorful Western Meadowlark

Please email Membership Chair Crispin Rendon at [crisrendon@earthlink.net](mailto:crisrendon@earthlink.net) and let him know what you think.

Add your photos to our newsletter.

Include your name as it appears on you Western Meadowlark newsletter Thanks 

## SBVAS Officers 2007/2008

[www.sbvas.org](http://www.sbvas.org) &  
[www.inlandplanet.org](http://www.inlandplanet.org)

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Crispin Rendon [crisrendon@earthlink.net](mailto:crisrendon@earthlink.net) (951)-686-7121

### SBVAS Bookstore and Gift Shop:

Nancy Manning (909) 337-9401

### COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

CONSERVATION: OPEN POSITION  
FUNDING & GRANTS: Pete Clark (951) 657-7081  
FIELDTRIPS: Gene Cardiff (909) 875-5358  
PROGRAMS: Dori Myers (714) 779-2201  
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RARE BIRD ALERT: Tom Benson (909)-648-0899 or (909)-537-3309 or [tbenson@csusb.edu](mailto:tbenson@csusb.edu)



## CALENDAR/FIELD TRIPS

### 2007-2008

May 3 - Sat - Big Morongo - Chet McGaugh  
May 4 - Sun - VBBW - Fairmount Park - Doug Karalun  
May 4 - Sun - Box Springs Mountain - John Green  
May 10 - Sat - White Water Canyon - Steve Myers  
May 17 - Sat - Baby Birds at Bear Paw - Cin Grayraven  
June 7 - Sat - Wrightwood Field Trip - Gene Cardiff  
July 12 & 13 - Weekend trip - \*\*\*\* DATE CHANGE  
South fork of the Greenhorns - Steve Myers  
August 24 - Sun - Insane Jaunt/Salton Sea - John Green  
VBBW... Very Beginning Bird Walk  
SJWA... San Jacinto Wildlife Area  
GO TO SBVAS.ORG FOR FIELD TRIP UPDATES...

All meetings in the San Bernardino County Museum 2024 Orange Tree Lane, Redlands

**Board Meetings are the 1st Wed. General meetings are the 3rd Wed. SBVAS Membership currently at 1,743**

Everyone is always welcome



**SBVAS Calendar**

May 7, 7:00.. Board Meeting  
May 21 14, 7:30.. General Meeting  
June 4, 7:00. Board Meeting  
June 18, 6:00..... End of the Year  
..... Potluck & Meeting

**N**ominating committee names nominees for officer and directors" The nominating committee is pleased to announce that the following individuals have agreed to place their names in nomination for office or board positions for SBVAS for the 2008-2009.

- President: Drew Feldmann
- First Vice-president: Dori Myers
- Second Vice-president: Pete Clark
- Treasurer: Nancy Higbee
- Recording Secretary: Cin Greyraven
- Corresponding Secretary: Deb Bennett

As our bylaws require, this slate of names will have been presented to the general membership at the April general meeting. At the May general membership meeting, we will vote to elect new officers and directors and the installation takes place at the last general membership meeting of the year in June.

*The following people have agreed to be nominated for directors: Deb Bennett, Gene Cardiff, Pete Clark, Dave Goodward, Cin Greyraven, Nancy Higbee, Peter Jorris, Tim Krantz, Tony Metcalf, Crispin Rendon, Kirk Stitt and Linda Stitt*

Thank you to those who responded to be editor of the newsletter . Linda Stitt (rare bird alert contact) has agreed to be the Editor and will take over in September. Tom Benson has taken over as the rare bird alert contact. The summer issue will be my last. Thanks, Melissa



Bearpaw Ranch is SBVAS's 70 acre nature sanctuary, operated by the San Bernardino Audubon Society and may be visited 7 days a week from dawn 'til dusk by members of Audubon and their guests. Bearpaw Ranch is nestled on the north slope of scenic Mill Creek Canyon at 4,500 feet elevation, surrounded by the towering peaks of the San Bernardino National Forest. To reach Bearpaw Ranch, take Highway 38 to the Forest Falls turnoff. Go only a few car lengths on Valley of the Falls Dr. and look for our small wooden sign on the right. We have a new paved road, the entry is easy for almost all normal passenger cars. There is a electronically operated entry gate. Members who wish to visit the Sanctuary should call ahead for the security code. Access to the code may be had by calling—Bearpaw at (909) 794-0509. Bearpaw Sanctuary, 38801 Valley of the Falls Drive P.O. Box 88; Forest Falls, CA 923396

**National Audubon Society (NAS):**

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- NAS Gift Membership \$20.
- Senior/Student (with id) Membership \$15

Please make check payable to **National Audubon Society**  
Includes chapter membership & Meadowlark if in SBVAS area  
**Also includes the National issue of Audubon magazine**

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- SBVAS Membership & WESTERN MEADOWLARK only \$16
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- SBVAS Donation \_\_\_\_\_

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May 2008

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