



San Bernardino Valley Audubon Society

# WESTERN MEADOWLARK

Volume 67— Number 4

**General Meeting  
Wednesday, March 15, 2017**

**Industrial-scale Solar Development  
in California: Implications for Birds,  
and Opportunities for Citizen-  
Scientists**

**Presented by Dan Cooper**

Beginning in the late 2000s, the California desert started seeing an unprecedented explosion of solar facilities, fueled by directives to move away from fossil fuel toward renewables. Very quickly, biologists had to develop ways of assessing these sites, even as thousands of acres of desert and agricultural habitat was cleared for solar panels. On the other side, wildlife agencies charged with permitting these projects had to develop their own impact analyses for a brand-new technology. More than a decade later, the landscape is clearly changed, literally and figuratively. The pace of new development has slowed, and more is now known about what species are most at risk, and how to mitigate those risks. Still, we don't have a good idea about avian usage of some of the more remote and little-visited areas of the desert.

One way to address this is through citizen-science programs like "avicaching", a system of transects used by birders to survey birds and compete with each other for prizes. Of the four main solar resource zones around the California desert, the one that includes Barstow, Hinkley, and Newberry Springs is particularly poorly-birded, and will likely remain of great importance to both solar companies and birds. We're hoping that Audubon members can help get more involved in studying these areas, and will marshal the combined forces of Audubon, Cornell, eBird, and others to do it.

Daniel S. Cooper is a southern California native and a former California Director of Bird Conservation for the National Audubon Society. Cooper has been collecting and analyzing ecological data, and communicating findings to resource managers and decision-makers, for the past 20 years. The author of Important Bird Areas of California (Audubon California 2004) and more than two dozen peer-reviewed papers on California natural history, Cooper has worked as an independent consultant on land use and ecological issues for public and private clients around the state and in Latin America. He lives in Ventura County near Thousand Oaks with his wife and two children

We meet at the San Bernardino County Museum, in Redlands. The doors open at 7:00 for refreshments and fellowship, and the meeting and program begin at 7:30 pm. Everyone is always welcome.

**General Meeting  
Wednesday, April 19, 2017**

**To be announced - please keep an eye on  
our website - sbvas.net for details.**

**June 10, 2017  
SBVAS Pelagic Trip – Dana Point**

Join SBVAS for a 9-hour pelagic trip aboard the Ocean Institute's (Dana Point) R/V Sea Explorer in search of pelagic birds, marine mammals, and other oceanic wildlife. We expect to see Pink-footed and Sooty Shearwaters, Black Storm-Petrel, Cassin's Auklet, and Scripps's Murrelet. We have a reasonable chance of seeing Pomarine Jaeger, Sabine's Gull, and Red Phalarope, as well as marine mammals such as Common Dolphin, and Blue, Humpback, and Fin Whales. The cost for the trip is \$70. We will meet at the Ocean Institute in Dana Point at 6:30 AM. The trip departs promptly at 7:00 AM and will not be held for late arrivals; it returns at 4:00 PM. **To reserve a space on the trip, email Tom Benson ([thomasabenson@aol.com](mailto:thomasabenson@aol.com)) with your name and phone number, the number of spaces you want to reserve, and the names of those in your party.** For more details please see the trip description on the [SBVAS website](#).

**CONSIDER A QUALIFIED  
CHARITABLE  
DONATION TO SBVA**

A QCD is a direct transfer of funds from your IRA custodian, payable to a qualified charity. QCDs can be counted toward satisfying your minimum required distributions (MRDs) for the year, as long as certain rules are met.

**WHEN CAN YOU MAKE A QCD?**

While many IRAs are eligible for QCDs—Traditional, Rollover, Inherited, SEP (inactive plans only), and SIMPLE (inactive plans only)\*—there are requirements: You must be 70½ or older to be eligible to make a QCD. QCDs are limited to the amount that would otherwise be taxed as ordinary income. This excludes non-deductible contributions. The maximum annual amount that can qualify for a QCD is \$100,000. This applies to the sum of QCDs made to one or more charities in a calendar year. (If, however, you file taxes jointly, your spouse can also make a QCD from his or her own IRA within the same tax year for up to \$100,000.)



# OWENS LAKE

— BIRD FESTIVAL —

Lone Pine, California  
 April 28th, 29th and 30th

Friends of the Inyo invites all birders and lovers of wildlife and beautiful landscapes to celebrate with us during the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Owens Lake Bird Festival, April 28-30, 2017 in Lone Pine, California. The Owens Lake Bird Festival promises greater opportunities for experiencing a special place during the height of an awe inspiring migration of birds travelling between hemispheres. Registration is now open.

This year's festival includes:

Friday evening reception at the Western Film History Museum and Saturday and Sunday outings led by expert guides

Explore on and off Owens Lake through trips that cater to beginners and experts, and cover natural and cultural history

New outings include a Keeler walking history tour, a bird and botany exploration in the Alabama Hills, and an Owens River Exploration

Saturday evening reception including "The Amazing Shorebirds of Owens Lake" by Tom and Jo Heindel

Visit their website for more details: <http://friendsoftheinyo.org/foiD7/owenslakefestival>

separately at [www.pugetsoundexpress.com/audubon](http://www.pugetsoundexpress.com/audubon). Extend your festival with our Neah Bay post-trip on April 9-11, 2017: two days exploring northwest coastal Washington. BirdFest registration at [www.olympicbirdfest.org](http://www.olympicbirdfest.org).

## Donate to SBVAS by shopping on Amazon.com!

SBVAS has an account on AmazonSmile. It's easy to use and it does not cost any more to you!

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support your favorite charitable organization every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com), you'll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to your favorite charitable organization. Of course, we want that to be us!

To shop at AmazonSmile simply go to [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) from the web browser on your computer or mobile device. You may also want to add a bookmark to [smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com) to make it even easier to return and start your shopping at AmazonSmile.

## THE PRINCETON PHAINOPEPLA PROJECT NEEDS YOUR HELP!

Princeton University researchers are banding and attaching GPS transmitters to phainopeplas at Afton Canyon near Mojave NP to study their movement in Southern California. We are calling on all SoCal birders to keep an eye out for phainopeplas with four leg bands (two on each leg) - one metal and three brightly colored - to help us determine where they go after breeding in the deserts in Spring. This will be especially critical in the fall/winter when we attempt to recapture birds wearing GPS transmitters. You can help solve the mystery of phainopepla migration and dual breeding!

If you see a phainopepla with bands, try and record the colors in the following order: top left, bottom left, top right, bottom right. The metal band will always be on the bottom left. Note the date, time, location, and sex of the bird. Even if you can't identify the specific colors, re-sighting a banded bird is a big deal! You might even see one with a little antenna sticking up off its back!

Please send your sightings to Dr. Daniel Baldassarre, Princeton University.

Email: [danieltb@princeton.edu](mailto:danieltb@princeton.edu)

Website: [danbaldassarre.weebly.com](http://danbaldassarre.weebly.com)

Twitter: @evornithology

## Olympic Birdfest April 7-9, 2017

Enjoy guided birding trips, boat tours, live auction & raffle, gala banquet, and more. Our featured speaker: noted nature photographer Bonnie Block. Join our festival pre-trip: a three-day, two-night birding/sightseeing cruise of the San Juan Islands, April 4-6, 2017. Register

Olympic Peninsula April 7-9, 2017  
**BirdFest**  
 Come bird with us!

- San Juan Island Cruise
- Neah Bay Birding Excursion
- Guided Birding Trips
- Bird Drawing Class
- Photography Workshop
- Gala Banquet with Speaker Bonnie Block

For more information:  
[www.olympicbirdfest.org](http://www.olympicbirdfest.org)  
[info@olympicbirdfest.org](mailto:info@olympicbirdfest.org)  
 or 360-681-4076

Olympic Peninsula  
 For lodging and visitor information, call 800-363-4662 or visit [www.olympicpeninsula.org](http://www.olympicpeninsula.org)

SEQUIM WASHINGTON  
 800-737-8462

## Local Sightings: Fall 2016-Winter 2017 by Tom Benson

This issue of local sightings covers the end of fall migration through winter, from mid October to mid February. Notable throughout the region was a minor invasion of Tundra Swans, with birds at Harper Dry Lake Dec 15-16, up to nine wintering in Blythe Jan 3+, up to five at the south end of the Salton Sea Dec 14-20, at least four at Fig Lagoon Jan 1-10, and one wintering at Vendel Road Jan 7+.

In Imperial County the highlight was the second county record of HUTTON'S VIREO at Cattle Call Park Feb 8-16; the only previous record was a wintering bird in Brawley 30 Oct-15 Dec 2004. A BELL'S VIREO was at the same location Jan 21. A presumed migrant BROWN THRASHER was at Picacho SRA Nov 13, while a wintering individual was in El Centro Dec 27-Feb 13. Other wintering rarities included a NORTHERN WATERTHRUSH near the west end of Grubel Road Dec 17-31 and a HARRIS'S SPARROW along the Rock Hill Trail Dec 20+. Notable non-passerines included a LONG-TAILED DUCK at the All-American Canal Dec 17, a RUFF at the south end of the Salton Sea Dec 13, and a PARASITIC JAEGER at Obsidian Butte Nov 11-12.



In San Bernardino County the highlights were the second county records of both WINTER WREN (Crystal Spring Nov 5-7) and DUSKY-CAPPED FLYCATCHER (Cucamonga-Guasti Regional Park Jan 21+). Long-staying wintering rarities included a WHITE-WINGED SCOTER at Lake Arrowhead Jan 10+ (with a second bird present on Feb 13) and the Prado Regional Park TROPICAL KINGBIRD returning for what is probably its 9<sup>th</sup> winter. Up to 17 MOUNTAIN PLOVERS at Fort Mohave Dec 6-8 were likely wintering locally; they occur less than annually. Other potentially wintering birds were a RUDDY GROUND-DOVE in Newberry Springs Dec 3, single EASTERN PHOEBES in Highland Nov 23-Dec 11 and Lake Arrowhead Dec 19, a WESTERN KINGBIRD in Yucaipa Dec 17, a BELL'S

VIREO in Ontario Jan 24, and a PACIFIC WREN at Big Morongo Canyon Feb 12-19. Among the more obvious fall migrants were another EASTERN PHOEBE at Big Morongo Canyon Oct 29, a GRAY CATBIRD at Zzyzx Oct 22-31, a PROTHONOTARY WARBLER at Zzyzx Oct 29, and a CHESTNUT-SIDED WARBLER at Glen Helen Regional Park Oct 29-Nov 12. LAPLAND LONGSPURS were seen in above average numbers with one each at Zzyzx Nov 10 and Harper Dry Lake Nov 16, and up to two birds at Luckie Park Nov 28-Dec 2.

The highlight of fall passerine migration in Riverside County was a STREAK-BACKED ORIOLE at Lake Tamarisk Golf Club (LTGC) Oct 23-24; this was a first county record and only the ninth record for California. It was also a good fall for RUFOUS-BACKED ROBINS; following one at Chiriaco Summit in early October, another was at Cactus City Oct 23, and a third enjoyed an extended stay at LTGC Nov 12-Dec 12. Additional fall highlights from LTGC included a NORTHERN PARULA and a HARRIS'S SPARROW Nov 16, an AMERICAN TREE SPARROW Nov 18, and a CHESTNUT-COLLARED LONGSPUR Oct 23-25, while a BROWN THRASHER was at nearby Chiriaco Summit Oct 21. The coastal slope enjoyed a few rarities as well, with a GRAY CATBIRD in Riverside Nov 6, TENNESSEE WARBLER in Murrietta Nov 15-16, and up to three LAPLAND LONGSPURS Nov 4-19 and up to four MCCOWN'S LONGSPURS Nov 4-20 in Perris. A FRIGATEBIRD at the north end of the Salton Sea Oct 24 was rather late and followed a fall in which a number of Magnificent Frigatebirds were



seen throughout southern California. The most notable of the wintering rarities were a BLACK-HEADED GULL (along with a LAUGHING GULL) in Oasis Dec 30+, and a PACIFIC WREN at Coachella Valley Preserve Thousand Palms Oasis Dec 3-Feb 12. A HARRIS'S SPARROW at LTGC Feb 3-15 was likely the same as the one there Nov 16. A ZONE-TAILED HAWK was reported in Blythe Nov 1 and again Jan 28. A RUFF was at the north end of the Salton Sea Dec 30, while the Whitewater River delta hosted a LONG-TAILED DUCK Dec 12 and a WHITE-WINGED SCOTER Nov 22-Dec 12. Finally, Lake Perris had a Red-throated Loon Dec 23 and multiple SHORT-EARED OWLS Jan 26.

**SCHEDULED 2017 FIELD TRIPS**

Sunday, March 5, 2017  
Beginning Bird Walk  
Cal State San Bernardino

Saturday, March 11, 2017 at 8 a.m.  
Bolsa Chica

Saturday April 1, 2017  
Orange Coast

Sunday, April 2, 2017  
Beginning Bird Walk Los Rios Ranch

Sunday, April 2, 2017 at 6 a.m.  
East Mojave

Saturday, April 15, 2017 at 7 a.m.  
Shorebird Migration Salton Sea

Sunday, April 16, 2017 at 7 a.m.  
Shorebird Migration San Jacinto Wildlife  
Area

Saturday, April 22, 2017 at 8 a.m.  
Laguna Beach

Saturday, April 29, 2017 at 7 a.m.  
Big Morongo Preserve

Saturday, May 6, 2017 at 8 a.m.  
Whitewater Canyon

Sunday, May 7, 2017 at 8 a.m.  
Box Springs Mountain

Sunday, May 7, 2017 at 8 a.m.  
Beginning Bird Walk  
San Timoteo Canyon

Saturday, May 13, 2017 at 9 a.m.  
Bearpaw Ranch

Saturday, May 20, 2017 05/20/17  
San Jacinto Mountain Area

Saturday and Sunday May 27 to May 28,  
2017  
Eastern Sierra Trip

Saturday, June 10, 2017 6:30 a.m.  
Pelagic Trip - Dana Point

Saturday, June 17, 2017  
Wrightwood Area

Saturday, June 24, 2017  
Insane Jaunt - Salton Sea

**MARCH/APRIL 2017 FIELD TRIPS**

**Sunday, March 5, 2017 - 8:00-10:00 am**  
**Beginning Bird Walk at Cal State San Bernar-**  
**dino**

**Tom Benson (909) 648-0899**

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! Wear comfortable walking shoes, hats and sunscreen and bring binoculars and water. The walk is free and no reservations are needed, however, all participants must sign a liability waiver. You may print one out ahead of time and bring it with you, or the trip leader will have forms available on site. Everyone is welcome.

We will meet at the northeast corner of parking lot G near the Student Recreation and Fitness Center (map). If you do not have a Cal State San Bernardino parking permit you must purchase a daily parking permit (\$5) from the kiosk attendant on Coyote Drive or from the automated permit dispensers. Please contact Tom Benson for further information. Rain or other conditions may cause last minute changes.

**Saturday, March 11, 2017 - 8:00 am**  
**Bolsa Chica & Orange County Coast**

**Dori Myers (714) 779-2201 (h) or (714) 336-1420 (m)**

Please join us for what should be a great day of birding in the wetland areas of Orange County. Expect to see a large variety of wintering birds including ducks, shorebirds, grebes, herons, egrets, terns, cormorants, etc. We ought to find gulls and raptors and some song birds. With any luck we will see 50 or more species just in the morning. After birding Bolsa Chica (until around noon) we will go to Newport Back Bay or the San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary to eat our lunch and finish the day. We will meet at the PCH parking lot of Bolsa Chica at 8:00 am ([map](#)). To reach Bolsa Chica, take the 91 freeway south to the 55 (Newport freeway). Continue on the 55 to the 405 and go north towards Long Beach. Exit at Beach Blvd. (south) and continue to Pacific Coast Highway. Turn right and head north on PCH, past

*Cont on p. 7*

Huntington Beach. We will meet in the parking lot of the Ecological Preserve (Bolsa Chica) on the inland side of Pacific Coast Hwy at the signal between Seagate and Warner. Please bring a lunch if you intend to stay for the day. Also bring binoculars, bird book and a scope if you have one. It can get cold along the coast in winter so dress in layers.

#### **April 1, 2017**

##### **Orange Coast---including Upper Newport Bay**

**Leaders: Gene Cardiff & Dori Myers (714) 779-2201**

Meet at beautiful Heisler Park near the Laguna Beach Museum of Art and Las Brisas Restaurant, 361 Cliff Drive, in Laguna Beach at 8:00AM. There is a gazebo and we will gather there. Bring quarters or a credit card for the parking meter. We will bird the area for 1-2 hours then drive up the coast stopping to overlook the cliffs, rocks and beach and hunt for shorebirds. We plan to have lunch in Newport Back Bay where we should see more shorebirds, ducks and other birds. Bring your lunch, water, snacks and dress in layers. Bring a spotting scope if you have one.

#### **Sunday, April 2, 2017 8-10 am**

##### **Beginning Bird Walk; Los Rios Rancho, Oak Glen Pam Quittmeyer (951)212-2211**

Come out to the foothills to get some fresh air enjoy slow-paced birding at the Oak Glen Preserve. The area is transitional with some mountain species as well as birds common in the valleys. Expected birds include Oak Titmouse and Acorn Woodpecker and maybe we can find a few early migrating birds. We will see what waterfowl are out on the ponds. The walk is good for beginners and there is no charge to park or for the trip. Everyone is welcome. We will meet at the entrance to the Wildlands Conservancy at Oak Glen Preserve (Los Rios Rancho parking lot) at 8 a.m.. Please contact Pam Quittmeyer for further information. Rain or other conditions may cause last minute changes. Wear comfortable shoes and bring binoculars.

#### **Sunday, April 2, 2017**

##### **East Mojave**

**John Green (951) 686-2956**

We will be visiting the Mojave National Preserve in early spring with the goal of seeing the sought-after specialty breeding birds of the area. These include Gilded Flicker, Juniper Titmouse, and Bendire's, Crissal, & Le Conte's Thrashers. Sage Thrashers may still be moving through, offering the possibility of a four thrasher trip. Other expected desert breeders should also be present: Black-throated Sparrow, Cactus Wren, Greater Roadrunner, Ladder-backed Woodpecker, Scott's Oriole, and more. The wintering season will be ending and migration will be getting started, so we will expect some species that are non-breeding visitors to the area as well. Wildflowers will be blooming, and we should see mammals, reptiles, butterflies and more. Hopefully a Desert Tortoise will grace us with its presence. We will meet at 6:00 am on Sunday at the Denny's, 72415 Baker Blvd in Baker. Arrive in Baker early enough to top off your gas tank before the meeting. You MUST have a full tank of gas when we depart on the trip. Make sure your car, spare tire and jack are in good shape before you leave for the desert. All roads that we will go on are passable for passenger cars, but many are unpaved. We will be far from services. Bring FRS radios if you have them, cell phone service is sporadic. Bring more water than you can imagine needing and ALL of

the food and supplies that you will need for the trip. Once we leave Baker we will probably not see gas or stores again until the end of the day. If you want to spend Saturday night somewhere close, lodging of sorts is available in Baker, but read the online reviews and you might choose Barstow instead. We will bird Sunday for as long as the leader and/or participants have interest in continuing. We may go on a couple of hikes, so bring appropriate walking shoes. Questions? Please send them by email ([bewickwren@earthlink.net](mailto:bewickwren@earthlink.net)), not by phone, if possible. Also, it is not required, but if you're thinking of coming please email me so I have an idea of who and how many to expect. You are welcome, though, whether or not you have emailed me in advance. See you in Baker!

#### **Saturday, April 15, 2017 - 7:00 am**

##### **Shorebird Migration at the Salton Sea**

**Chet McGaugh (951) 781-3699 and Tony Metcalf (951) 242-7038**

Tony Metcalf and Chet McGaugh will be leading back-to-back San Bernardino Valley Audubon Society field trips on the weekend of April 19-20, 2014 - to the north end of the Salton Sea (Saturday) and the San Jacinto Wildlife Area (Sunday). As we both are big fans of the shorebirds, and the date is excellent for a good migration experience, we intend to spend most of the weekend searching mudflats, marshes, slop ponds, wet fields, barnacle beaches, and open sea and sky. It is our hope that we can provide some knowledge about this fascinating bunch of birds, stimulate appreciation and interest in them, and mitigate some of the phobias. And have fun. As usual, the San Bernardino Valley Audubon Society field trips are open to all. We will meet at 7:00 am on Saturday at the "Big Arco" ([map](#)) on the corner of 66th Avenue and the 86S Expressway in Mecca. On Sunday will will meet at 7:00 am at the San Jacinto Wildlife Area headquarters ([map](#)) on Davis Road, a few miles north of Lakeview and the Ramona Expressway. Pick one trip or the other or both. There will be different species seen at the Salton Sea and at the San Jacinto Wildlife Area. The study of shorebirds is greatly enhanced by the use of spotting scopes so we hope there will be plenty besides our own. Though not necessary, we suggest having rubber boots for those hard to get to spots, particularly at the Salton Sea (short wades, slogging through deep mud, barnacles). Bring lunch and snacks and drinks. Weather is likely to be excellent, and there will be many birds to see besides the waders.

#### **Sunday, April 16, 2017- 7:00 am**

##### **San Jacinto Wildlife Area**

**Tony Metcalf (951) 242-7038 and Chet McGaugh (951) 781-3699**

Tony Metcalf and Chet McGaugh will be leading back-to-back San Bernardino Valley Audubon Society field trips on the weekend of April 19-20, 2013 - to the north end of the Salton Sea (Saturday) and the San Jacinto Wildlife Area (Sunday). As we both are big fans of the shorebirds, and the date is excellent for a good migration experience, we intend to spend most of the weekend searching mudflats, marshes, slop ponds, wet fields, barnacle beaches, and open sea and sky. It is our hope that we can provide some knowledge about this fascinating bunch of birds, stimulate appreciation and interest in them, and mitigate some of the phobias. And have fun. We will meet at 7:00 am on Saturday at the "Big Arco" on the corner of 66th Avenue and the 86S Expressway in Mecca. On Sunday will will meet at

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7:00 am at the San Jacinto Wildlife Area headquarters (map) on Davis Road, a few miles north of Lakeview and the Ramona Expressway. Pick one trip or the other or both. There will be different species seen at the Salton Sea and at the San Jacinto Wildlife Area. The study of shorebirds is greatly enhanced by the use of spotting scopes so we hope there will be plenty besides our own. Though not necessary, we suggest having rubber boots for those hard to get to spots, particularly at the Salton Sea (short wades, slogging through deep mud, barnacles). Bring lunch and snacks and drinks. Weather is likely to be excellent, and there will be many birds to see besides the waders.

### Saturday, April 22, 2017 Laguna Beach

Gene Cardiff

More info to follow.

### Saturday, April 29, 2017 - 7:00 am

Big Morongo Preserve

Chet McGaugh (951) 781-3699

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 specialties 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 am ([map](#)). 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

### Bearpaw Ranch

Bearpaw Ranch is a 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 several car lengths on Valley of the Falls Dr. and look for our small wooden sign on the right. Our driveway is on the right, marked 38801. The driveway is paved and unpaved road that meanders across Mill Creek wash and up the bluff to an electronically operated entry gate. Members who wish to visit the Sanctuary should call any board member in advance to get the gate code. It is not a requirement that the caretaker is at home for you to visit. If the gate does not open because of mechanical failure, you are welcome to walk in or stop for birding along the creek bed.

Bearpaw Sanctuary,

38801 Valley of the Falls Drive

P.O. Box 88; Forest Falls, CA 92339

Bearpaw Sanctuary is on Facebook; message us with questions and comments. If you type "Bearpaw Sanctuary" into the SEARCH function, you'll find us. Bearpaw visitors are encouraged to report interesting wildlife sightings and share their favorite nature photos from their Bearpaw visits.

### 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...🐦

### SBVAS Officers 2015/2016

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

President: Brad Singer (909) 838-7951  
First Vice-President, Program Chair: Dori Myers  
(714) 779-2201  
Second Vice President: Dave Goodward (909) 783-2417  
Treasurer: Nancy Higbee (951) 780-9236  
Secretary, Meadowlark Editor: Pam Quittmeyer  
(951) 212-2211

### Directors

Conservation Chair: Drew Feldmann (951) 212-2467  
Field Trips: Gene Cardiff (909) 875-5358  
Mountain Conservation Issues: Peter Jorris  
(909) 867-3536  
Desert Conservation Issues: Seth Shtier  
(760) 332-9776  
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Cin Greyraven (909) 327-8795  
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RARE BIRD ALERT: Tom Benson (909)-648-0899  
or (909)-537-3309 or [tbenson@csusb.edu](mailto:tbenson@csusb.edu)  
SBVAS BOOKSTORE AND GIFT SHOP:  
Nancy Manning (909) 337-9401

### CALENDAR

**Board Meetings:** No meeting in July.  
First Tuesday of the Month, September 6,  
2016, 7 pm

**General Meetings:** September 21, 2016,  
7:30 pm

All meetings are in the San Bernardino County Museum, 2024 Orange Tree Lane, Redlands. Board meetings are the first Wednesday of the month, and General Membership meetings are on the third Wednesday of the month. To reach the museum, take the California St. exit off I-10, go north one block to Orange Tree Lane and turn right. The museum will be on your left. General meetings, except potlucks, start at 7:30 and doors open at 7. Potlucks begin at 6:30.

## March 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5 Beginning Bird Walk CSUSB 8 a.m.	6	7	8	9	10	11 Bolsa Chica Orange County Coast Trip 8 a.m.
12	13	14 SBVAS Board Meeting at 7 p.m.	15 SBVAS General Meeting at 7:30 p.m.	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

## April 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 Mojave Trip and BBW Walk LRR	3	4 SBVAS Board Meeting 7 p.m.	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16 SJWA trip 7 am	17	18	19 SBVAS General Meeting 7:30 p.m.	20	21	22 Laguna Beach Trip
23	24	25	26	27	28	29 Big Morongo Trip 7 a.m.
30						

**DATES AND TIMES SUBJECT TO CHANGE -  
CONSULT THE WEBSITE CLOSE TO THE TIME OF THE EVENT  
Don't forget the CBC on January 2, 2017 at Joshua Tree National Park at 7 a.m.**

**THE WESTERN MEADOWLARK**  
c/o San Bernardino Valley Audubon Society  
P. O. Box 10973  
San Bernardino, CA 92423-0973

*Everyone is always welcome!*

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



**Board Meetings**  
**are the 1st Tuesday**

**General meetings**  
**are the 3rd Wednesday**

**SBVAS Membership**  
**currently at 1900**

To reach the Museum, take the California Street exit off the 10 Freeway and go north 1 block to

**Chapter Only Membership Application**  
San Bernardino Valley Audubon

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_ SBVAS Membership @ \$20 a/year (includes subscription to *The Western Meadowlark*)

Email Address\* \_\_\_\_\_

**Please enclose a check payable to SBVAS**

**\*We do not share your name, address or email address.**

**Membership Application**  
National Audubon Society (NAS)

\_\_ NAS Gift/New/Regular/Renewal Membership \$20 (includes 1 year of *Audubon* magazine)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**Please make check payable to National Audubon Society**

SBVAS Chapter  
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Please clip and mail all memberships to: SBVAS Membership Chair  
P.O. Box 10973  
San Bernardino, Ca. 92423-0973