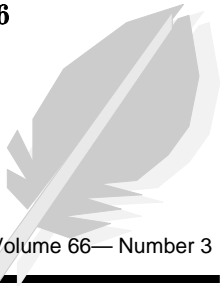




San Bernardino Valley Audubon Society

WESTERN MEADOWLARK



Volume 66— Number 3

ATTENTION SBVAS AUDUBON MEMBERS

This is the last printed version of the Western Meadowlark. Our chapter is going digital, as have many other Audubon Chapters across the country. The Western Meadowlark Newsletter can always be found on the SBVAS Website (sbvas.net) and we are working on a system to notify you when the new edition is uploaded.

We need you to work with us to ensure that you receive notice of a new newsletter being ready. **To do that, please send an email to our new SBVAS email address: esbvas@gmail.com with your name and your email address.** We will compile those email addresses and send out bulk emails with the link to the Newsletter on the website. If you do not have email, please contact the newsletter editor by phone, the number is on page 5, and she will write down your address and provide you with printed copies via mail.

Thank you for cooperating with us. This move will allow us to use the money usually spent on printing for important conservation projects and other chapter costs.

General Meeting - January 20, 2016

San Bernardino County Big Day

With SBVAS Chapter President Brad Singer

Ever wonder what might possess someone to defy sleep and see as many birds as possible in a single day? Such a feat is actually fairly common among birders, and is known as a "Big Day". Believe it or not, Brad has attempted a Big Day multiple times in San Bernardino County. Last April, he was joined by Michael Woodruff, Johnny Bovee, and Matt Grube in an attempt to beat the record.

We'll learn about what it takes to plan and execute a Big Day, and what luck and misfortune

will surely arise. How many species did they find? What were the unexpected finds and misses? How many miles were covered? How long was the day? Was the record broken? Please come for an entertaining talk to learn the answers to these questions and many more.

Our doors open at 7:00 pm and our meeting starts at 7:30 pm. Everyone is always welcome.



Photo Credit: Brad Singer

General Meeting - February 17, 2016

Iceland and Beyond; Birding and Travel Adventures with Michael Woodruff

Michael Woodruff is a young birder who is quite new to southern California. He grew up in Spokane, Washington, and found himself birding nonstop and also enthralled with bird photography at a young age. He and his wife Mindy now live in Loma Linda where he is studying Medicine at Loma Linda University. They love the area and have had fun exploring. He has driven across the Mojave Desert more times than he ever imagined in pursuit of San Bernardino County's rare birds.



Photo Credit: Michael Woodruff

Both Michael and his wife love traveling more than anything. Michael will be sharing pictures and stories from various trips and adventures. You'll hear what it's like to be north of the Arctic Circle in Iceland. He'll describe what it's like to live and work in Ecuador. If time allows he'll talk about a four month trip through Europe and eastern Africa. He is grateful for the experiences he has had and is excited to share stories and photos.

Our doors open at 7:00 pm and our meeting starts at 7:30 pm. Everyone is always welcome.

Local Sightings: Fall 2015

by Tom Benson

This issue of local sightings covers the fall migration period from September through November. So far this fall we have seen an irruption of montane species into the area, with Clark's Nutcrackers, Red-breasted Nuthatches, Purple Finches, Red Crossbills, and Evening Grosbeaks occurring in the lowlands in greater than usual numbers. Coverage proceeds by county from north to south.

The highlight of fall migration in San Bernardino County was the first record of WINTER WREN (Nov 11-12) at Horse Thief Springs, pending review by the California Bird Records Committee. It was a rather good fall for vagrant warblers with rare finds throughout the county. Limited space prevents me from listing them all, but the best were a CANADA WARBLER (Sep 22) in Big Bear, a BLACKBURNIAN WARBLER (Oct 3-6) at Cal State San Bernardino, single WORM-EATING WARBLERS at Mojave Narrows Regional Park (RP; Oct 1-2) and Primm Valley Golf Club (Oct 10), and a CHESTNUT-SIDED WARBLER in Redlands (Oct 7-18). Most of the good finds were at Mojave Desert oases, as usual. One or more BOBOLINKS (Oct 9-13), a DICKCISSEL (Oct 3-5), a COMMON GRACKLE (Oct 8), a BROWN THRASHER (Nov 11), and an ORCHARD ORIOLE (Sep 29) were seen in Baker. Another ORCHARD ORIOLE (Oct 8) and a GRAY CATBIRD (Oct 18) were at Zzyzx. Fenner hosted an EASTERN PHOEBE (Oct 22) and a late PAINTED BUNTING (Nov 27). The real standout location this fall was solar ponds at Kramer Junction. The ponds themselves held a RED PHALAROPE Nov 3-5, but a small adjacent patch of grass and oleander hedge contributed a RUDDY GROUND-DOVE (Oct 10-14), a HARRIS'S SPARROW (Oct 25), and a BLACK-THROATED BLUE WARBLER (Oct 4). The underbirded agricultural fields of Fort Mohave north of Needles also yielded a number of surprises: up to five SPRAGUE'S PIPITS (Oct 26-Nov 18), three MCCOWN'S LONGSPURS (Oct 27-Nov 18), two CHESTNUT-COLLARED LONGSPURS (Oct 31), and a LAPLAND LONGSPUR (Nov 1-3). A pair of CURVE-BILLED THRASHERS (Nov 3+) is wintering at Black Meadow Landing after a four-year absence, while up to two SURF SCOTERS (Nov 7-20) were on Lake Havasu. The San Bernardino Mountains also had their share of rare birds this fall. A PACIFIC LOON (Nov 19-20) and a BARROW'S GOLDENEYE (Nov 21-22) were on Big Bear Lake, a SHORT-EARED OWL (Nov 19-20) was at Baldwin Lake, and an EASTERN PHOEBE (Nov 29-Dec 2) provided a first record for the mountains. On the coastal slope, notable birds included a BOBOLINK (Sep 15) at Glen Helen RP, a SANDHILL CRANE (Oct 31) and a RUFF (Nov 24) at Mill Creek Wetlands, a returning wintering TROPICAL KINGBIRD (Oct 16+) at Prado RP, and another TROPICAL KINGBIRD (Nov 27) in Chino Hills. The irruption of montane species brought single EVENING GROSBEAKS to Glen Helen RP (Oct 9) and Morongo Valley (Oct 11), a flock of eight RED CROSSBILLS (type 2; Oct 31-Nov 1) to Glen Helen RP, and a flock of four RED CROSSBILLS (type 3; Nov 26) to Prado RP.

Photo credit: Tom Benson

All of the rare fall warblers in Riverside County were found on the coastal slope, with a cooperative TENNESSEE WARBLER (Sep 6-7) and a BLACK-THROATED BLUE WARBLER (Oct 5) at the San Jacinto Wildlife Area (SJWA), and another TENNESSEE WARBLER (Sep 16), a VIRGINIA'S WARBLER (Sep 17), and a BLACKPOLL WARBLER (Sep 17) in Moreno Valley. Other coastal slope, vagrant, non-warbler passerines included a BOBOLINK (Sep 22) at Lake Perris, and a LEAST FLYCATCHER (Nov 15-23) and an apparently wintering EASTERN PHOEBE (Nov 15+) at SJWA. Out on the desert, notable finds were a ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEAK (Oct 9) and a GRAY CATBIRD (Oct 29-Nov 6) at Cactus City, a BROWN THRASHER (Oct 16-17) at Thousand Palms Oasis, and up to two potentially wintering BRONZED COWBIRDS (Nov 2+) at the north end of the Salton Sea (NESS). A number of interesting ducks appeared at NESS highlighted by three LONG-TAILED DUCKS (Nov 25-28), two SURF SCOTERS (Nov 25-28), and at least two WHITE-WINGED SCOTERS (Nov 18-28). A pair of TUNDRA SWANS (Nov 25-28) visited a golf course pond in nearby Indio, while another TUNDRA SWAN (Nov 13) was at SJWA. Also at SJWA were three SANDHILL CRANES (Oct 8) with one more two weeks later (Oct 21). The irruption of montane species brought a number of EVENING GROSBEAKS to Riverside County delighting birders there: one was in Idyllwild (Oct 24-25), one was at Desert Center (Nov 1), and a flock of about 20 was in the vicinity of Lake Hemet (Nov 7-14). Birders looking for grosbeaks also found a GOLDEN-CROWNED KINGLET (Nov 14) at Hurkey Creek Park, a rather rare bird in the San Jacinto Mountains. Finally, a wayward flock of ten RED CROSSBILLS (Nov 22) appeared briefly at SJWA.



For some reason, vagrant passerines are few and far between in Imperial County. Nevertheless, a TROPICAL KINGBIRD (Sep 6-7) and a PAINTED BUNTING (Sep 7) were found in Niland, a VIRGINIA'S WARBLER (Oct 2) was in El Centro, and a PALM WARBLER (Nov 14) was in Brawley. A RED-NECKED GREBE (Oct 23) at Obsidian Butte was only the third ever in the county. A RED PHALAROPE (Nov 14-15) was at the same location; this species occurs almost annually. Other non-passerines of note included single SURF SCOTERS (Nov 7 & 19) and a GLAUCOUS GULL (Nov 27) on the Salton Sea and four HOODED MERGANSERS (Nov 28) at Sheldon Reservoir. Coverage of the Colorado River Valley produced a number of good finds including a number of irruptive montane species that are normally quite rare in Imperial County. PINE SISKINS were noted at several locations along the river during November. Around Bard notable finds included a ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEAK, TOWNSEND'S SOLITAIRE, and PURPLE FINCH (all Nov 14). At Picacho SRA, good birds were a RED CROSSBILL (Nov 7), EASTERN PHOEBE and PLUMBEOUS VIREO (Nov 14), TOWNSEND'S SOLITAIRE (Nov 14-15), and a PURPLE FINCH (Nov 15).

Bird of the Month:

By Steve Myers

Each fall many southern California birders await the arrival of species that breed at latitudes well north of us, but spend the winter here. Among these is the beautiful Cedar Waxwing (*Bombycilla cedrorum*), a fruit-feeding specialist that has a plumage perhaps best described as “sleek.” The term “waxwing” refers to the red, wax-like tips on the secondaries. The number of feathers with waxy tips varies, depending on the age and sex of a given bird; adult males have the greatest number, which can be as many as all nine of the secondaries. At all ages one of the most noticeable plumage characteristics is the “slicked-back” crest.

Cedar Waxwings breed all across the northern United States and much of Canada, north to about 54° latitude. In California, the breeding range is restricted to the northwestern and northeastern corners of the state. The wintering range includes areas from near the U.S.–Canada border south throughout Mexico, and uncommonly to rarely in Central America. Numbers of wintering Cedar Waxwings in southern California varies from year to year, and during “invasion” years our local Christmas Bird Counts can tally many hundreds. During some winters they are scarce.

This species is one of the most frugivorous birds in North America, and its diet is almost entirely fruit. As with many fruit-eating bird species they consume arthropods during the nesting season, when a more protein-rich diet is needed for reproduction. Historically, wintering Cedar Waxwings have congregated in areas with cedar trees, feeding on cedar berries. Fruits of many other plant species are eaten during winter, including (in our area) Toyon (*Heteromeles arbutifolia*), mistletoe (*Phoradendron* spp.), fan palms (*Washingtonia* spp.), and Pyracantha (*Pyracantha angustifolia*).

Cedar Waxwings are highly social throughout the year, and do not defend breeding territories. Even during nesting they are known to feed in flocks. Breeding habitat can be in either deciduous or coniferous forests. They begin nesting late, typically not laying eggs until early June or later. They build nests at the forks of branches in trees, and the nests can be anywhere from 3 to 50 feet above the ground. Various studies have shown average nest heights between about 6 and 12 feet up. Nests are open, bulky cups made from twigs, grasses, leaves, roots, horsehair, string, bark, and many other materials, and have an outside diameter of about 5 inches. Clutch sizes are from 2 to 6 eggs, with most studies showing average clutch sizes of just over 4 eggs. Incubation is by the female only, and the male feeds the female while she is on the nest. Eggs hatch after 12 days of incubation, and the nestlings fledge after 15-16 days post hatching. Brown-headed Cowbirds (*Molothrus ater*) attempt to parasitize Cedar Waxwing nests fairly frequently, but the waxwing is a species known to reject cowbird eggs, resulting in a low rate of successful parasitism by cowbirds.

A commonly seen behavior of Cedar Waxwings involves their consumption of fermented fruit. Birds may become intoxicated, and have been seen falling to the



Photo Credit: Steve Myers

ground. These falls can sometimes be fatal. Another unique behavior often observed is the passing of food items from bird to bird. I have seen birds lined up on a Pyracantha branch and berries being passed from the bird nearest a cluster of berries to birds further out on the branch! Food passing is also a known pair bond behavior in this species.

Populations of Cedar Waxwings appear to be stable, or even increasing, throughout its range. Planting of ornamental fruiting shrubs and trees has probably contributed to these positive trends.

Interested in learning more about Cedar Waxwings?

Check out the Birds of North America online account: Witmer, M. C., D. J. Mountjoy and L. Elliot. 2014. Cedar Waxwing (*Bombycilla cedrorum*), The Birds of North America Online (A. Poole, Ed.). Ithaca: Cornell Lab of Ornithology; Retrieved from the Birds of North America Online: <http://bna.birds.cornell.edu.bnaproxy.birds.cornell.edu/bna/species/309>
doi:10.2173/bna.309

**A Field Study of Birds: Winter
Course Number: BIOL X405.1**

Learn the natural history and how to identify the wintering birds of Southern California, including waterfowl, gulls and birds of prey. Many of the prime wintering areas are visited on the field trips. Starting Jan. 12, 2016 at San Bernardino County Museum

Instructor:	Eugene Cardiff
Schedule:	Orient. Tue. 7:30-9:30 p.m., Jan. 12, Field Trips all day Sat. Jan. 16, 23, 30, Feb. 6, 20 (5 meetings)
Preregistration:	Requested by January 12, 2016
Location:	San Bernardino County Museum, RED-
Credit:	2 units
Fees:	\$255 Tuition
	\$255.00 Total Fees

Olympic BirdFest 2016

Come Bird With Us

Sequim, Washington, April 15-17, 2016

Grab your binoculars and join the 12th annual Olympic BirdFest 2016 celebration at the Dungeness River Audubon Center, April 15-17, 2016.

The stage is set...quiet bays and estuaries, sandy beaches, a five-mile-long sand spit, and a protected island bird sanctuary on the Strait of Juan de Fuca; wetlands, tide pools, rainforests, and lush river valleys. The players are ready ... Marbled Murrelets, Rhinoceros Auklets, Harlequin Ducks, Black Oystercatchers, Peregrine Falcons, Barred and Pygmy owls will be sporting their finest spring plumage for this celebration. Enjoy guided birding trips, boat tours; and a gala banquet. Our featured speaker this year is noted artist Tony Angell, "Revealing the Secret Lives of Owls".

Come bird with us and experience with others the spectacular landscapes of the Olympic Peninsula ...you just might go home with a new bird for your life list! Check out the offerings by going online (www.olympicbirdfest.org).

Precede your BirdFest weekend with a three-day, two night birding cruise of the spectacular San Juan Islands on April 12-14, 2016. Visit San Juan and Sucia Islands, and more. Stay at the historic Roche Harbor Resort. Get cruise information and register online at: www.pugetsoundexpress.com/audubon.

Extend your Birdfest weekend with the Neah Bay post-trip, April 17-19, 2016: two days exploring north-west coastal Washington, a region rarely seen by birders.

Contact us by phone, at 360-681-4076, E-mail us at info@olympicbirdfest.org, *Dungeness River Audubon Center* P.O. Box 2450 Sequim, WA 98382

GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT 2016

The Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC) is a free, fun, and easy event that engages bird watchers of all ages in counting birds to create a real-time snapshot of bird populations. Participants are asked to count birds for as little as 15 minutes (or as long as they wish) on one or more days of the four-day event and report their sightings online at birdcount.org. Anyone can take part in the Great Backyard Bird Count, from beginning bird watchers to experts, and you can participate from your backyard, or anywhere in the world.

Each checklist submitted during the GBBC helps researchers at the [Cornell Lab of Ornithology](#) and the [National Audubon Society](#) learn more about how birds are doing, and how to protect them and the environment we share. Last year, more than 140,000 participants submitted their bird observations online, creating the largest instantaneous snapshot of global bird populations ever recorded.

The 19th annual GBBC will be held **Friday, February 12, through Monday, February 15, 2016**. Please visit the official website at birdcount.org for more information and be sure to check out the latest [educational and promotional resources](#). "This count is so fun because anyone can take part—we all learn and watch birds together—whether you are an expert, novice, or feeder watcher. I like to invite new birders to join me and share the experience. Get involved, invite your friends, and see how your favorite spot stacks up." - Gary Langham, Chief Scientist Bird populations are always shifting and changing. For example, 2014 GBBC data highlighted a large irruption of Snowy Owls across the northeastern, mid-Atlantic and Great Lakes areas of the United States. The data also showed the effects that the polar vortex had on bird movement around the country. For more on the results of the 2015 GBBC, take a look at the [GBBC Summary](#), and be sure to check out some of the images in the [2015 GBBC Photo Contest Gallery](#). The data also showed the effects that the polar vortex had on bird movement around the country. For more on the results of the 2015 GBBC, take a look at the [GBBC Summary](#), and be sure to check out some of the images in the [2015 GBBC Photo Contest Gallery](#). On the [program website](#) participants can explore real-time maps and charts that

show what others are reporting during and after the count. Be sure to check out the [Explore a Region](#) tool to get an idea of what you can expect to see in your area during the next GBBC. For questions and comments, please contact the Cornell Lab of Ornithology or the National Audubon Society:

Cornell Lab of Ornithology
 Inside the US: (800) 843-2473
 Outside the US: (607) 254-2473
gbbc@cornell.edu

National Audubon Society
citizenscience@audubon.org

AUDUBON ADVENTURE KITS

[Audubon Adventures](#) introduces young people, their families, and their teachers to the fundamental principles by which the natural world functions. The lessons that *Audubon Adventures* teaches offer an exciting, science-based exploration of those principles at work anchored in nonfiction reading and outdoor and classroom activities that help kids to care for the planet by helping birds and other wildlife.

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Classroom kits: \$38 plus shipping and handling
 Individual kits: \$20 plus shipping and handling
 To learn more, visit the [Audubon Adventures website](#)

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 923396
 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.



Photo Credit: Ninad Thakoor

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www.sbvas.org &
www.inlandplanet.org

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RARE BIRD ALERT: Tom Benson (909)-648-0899 or (909)-537-3309 or

CALENDAR

Board Meetings: January 5 and February 2, 2016
General Meetings: January 20, 2016 and February 17, 2016
 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. Meetings, except potlucks, start at 7:30 and doors open at 7. Potlucks begin at 6:30.

**Upcoming Field Trips
January/February 2016**

**Sunday, January 3, 2016 - 8:00-10:00 am
Beginning Bird Walk at Prado Regional Park (map)
Tom Benson (909) 648-0899**

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 species. The walk is free, but there is an entry fee for the park; see below. No reservations are needed. Everyone is welcome. We will meet at the marina parking lot in the center of the park. If you do not have a San Bernardino County Regional Parks pass, you will have to pay the \$10 daily entry fee for the park. Please contact Tom Benson for further information. Rain or other conditions may cause last minute changes.

**Saturday, January 9, 2016 at 7 a.m.
Salton Sea Goose & Crane Trip Chet McGaugh (951) 781-3699 & John Green (951) 686-2956**

This trip at times has been called the "waterfowl trip," the "goose trip," and "a wonderful field trip." It is all of that, and more. Perhaps a glimpse at some of the species seen on previous trips will help stoke the fires of desire: American White Pelican (hundreds), American Bittern, White-faced Ibis, Roseate Spoonbill, Snow Goose (thousands), Ross's Goose (hundreds), Greater White-fronted Goose, Bald Eagle, four falcon species, Sandhill Cranes, Lesser Black-backed Gull, Burrowing Owl, Mountain Bluebird, and American Redstart. We usually tally over 100 species, and don't have to count individuals (for an opportunity to count every single bird on and around the sea, join us at the Salton Sea North Christmas Bird Count). We will meet at the Wister Unit of the Imperial Wildlife Area at 7:00 am (map). Exit Highway 111 at Davis Road and look for us in the parking lot there. We will bird around the south end of the sea; also the surrounding agricultural lands looking for raptors, Mountain Plovers, and the always entertaining Sandhill Cranes.

**Sunday, January 10, 2016 7:30 am
Seal Beach Naval Weapons Station – Brad Singer (909) 838-7951 and Tom Benson (909) 648-0899**

Located next to the Pacific Ocean on the border of Orange and Los Angeles Counties, the Seal Beach National Wildlife Refuge hosts a wonderful array of raptors, shorebirds, waders, herons, rails, ducks, and sparrows. Because the refuge sits on an active naval weapons base, access is by special permit only. Field trips to the refuge regularly see Pacific Golden-Plover, Ferruginous Hawk, Ridgway's Rail, Large-billed Savannah Sparrow, and the

much sought after Nelson's Sparrow. Other rarities include Reddish Egret, Short-eared Owl, Lapland Longspur, and Cackling Goose. SBVAS has booked a trip during high tide, so that the sparrows and rails can be seen more easily. This is a half-day trip to the Refuge. Following our stay there, we will have lunch and then pursue wintering rarities in the nearby vicinity in the afternoon. Space is extremely limited on this trip. A sign-up sheet will be at the SBVAS December General Meeting (Potluck), December 16. Those not making it will be put on a waiting list. There is a two-week vetting process by the Navy for all visitors. Questions, email me at bcsinger@gmail.com.

**Saturday, January 16, 2016 8:30 am
Silverwood Lake
Barge Trip - Steve Myers 951-616-7578**

This trip will primarily be an "inland pelagic trip." The kind folks at the Silverwood Lake State Recreation Area will motor us around all portions of the lake on a barge that can hold 25 people. Similar trips in the past have resulted in sightings of a wide variety of interesting water birds, including Common and Pacific Loon, Western, Clark's, Pied-billed, Eared, Horned, and Red-necked Grebes, Long-tailed Duck, White-winged Scoter, Surf Scoter, Hooded Merganser, and uncommon to rare gulls such as Thayer's, Mew, and Glaucous-winged Gulls. Each winter the lake is host to a handful of Bald Eagles. Following the voyage, we will bird at selected spots around the lake. Silverwood Lake is perhaps the most reliable spot in southern California to find wintering Lewis's Woodpeckers, and there are several present this winter. Other land birds that are possible include up to three species of sapsuckers, and an interesting mix of chaparral-mixed coniferous forest species. We will be meeting at the marina at 8:30 am. To reach the marina from the Inland Empire, go north on I-15 toward Cajon Pass, exiting at Highway 138. Go east on 138 approximately 11 miles to the Silverwood Lake exit. Turn left and follow the road to the park entrance. There is a \$10 entrance fee per vehicle (which the park may waive if you mention you are there for the "barge tour"). Past the entrance follow signs to the marina. This will be a long 1/2 day trip, lasting until 1-2 pm.



Photo Credit: Steve Myers

**Sunday, February 7, 2016 - 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 pas-
time 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 in-
troduce 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 wel-
come. 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 per-
mit (\$5) from the kiosk attendant on Coyote Drive or
from the automated permit dispensers. Please contact

**Calendar for Field Trips
January through August 2016**

**Sunday, January 3, 2016 - 8:00-10:00 am
Beginning Bird Walk at Prado Regional
Park**



**Saturday, January 9, 2016 - 7:00 am
Salton Sea Goose & Crane Trip**



**Saturday, January 10, 2016 - 7:30 am
Seal Beach Naval Weapons Station**



**Saturday, January 16, 2016 - 8:30 am
Silverwood Lake Barge Trip**



**Sunday, January 25, 2016
San Jacinto Valley and Lake Perris**



**Saturday, February 6, 2016 - 8:00-10:00 am
San Jacinto Valley and Lake Perris**



**Sunday, February 7, 2016 - 8:00-10:00 am
Beginning Bird Walk at Cal State
San Bernardino**



**Saturday, March 5, 2016 - 8:00 am
Bolsa Chica & Orange County Coast**

**Sunday, March 6, 2016 - 8:00-10:00 am
Beginning Bird Walk at San Jacinto Wildlife Area**

**Sunday, April 4, 2016 - 8:00-10:00 am.
Beginning Bird Walk at Glen Helen Regional Park**

**Saturday-Sunday, April 9-10, 2016
East Mojave**

**Saturday - Sunday, April 16-17, 2016
Eastern Sierra Greater Sage Grouse Trip**

**Saturday, April 23, 2016 - 7:00 am
Shorebird Migration at the Salton Sea**

**Sunday, April 24, 2016 - 7:00 am
San Jacinto Wildlife Area**

**Saturday, April 30, 2016 - 7:00 am
Big Morongo Preserve**

**Sunday, May 1, 2016 - 8:00 am
Box Springs Mountain**

**Saturday, May 7, 2016 - 8:00 am
Whitewater Canyon**

**Saturday, May 14, 2016 - 9:00 am
Baby Birds at Bearpaw Ranch**

**Sunday, May 22, 2016
Palm Springs Aerial Tramway/San Jacinto Mountains**

**Saturday, June 4, 2016
San Bernardino Mountains**

**Saturday, June 11, 2016 - 7:30 am
Wrightwood & Blue Ridge**

**Saturday-Sunday, July 9—10, 2016
Greenhorn Mountains & the Southern Sierra**

**Saturday, August 2016—TBA Insane Jaunt to the
Salton Sea**

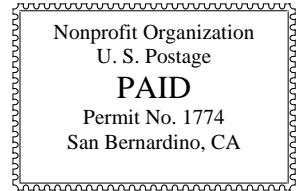
Field Trip Checklist

Comfortable shoes or hiking boots, hat,
sunscreen, insect repellent..
A good Road Map,
Full fuel tank, drinking water, snacks and lunch, bin-
oculars and or a scope, field guide
Come and Enjoy. Call Field Trip Leader
for last minute cancellations,

January/February 2016

Western Meadowlark

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 Tue.
General meetings are the 3rd Wed.
SBVAS Membership currently at 2,393

To reach the Museum, take the California Street exit off the 10 Freeway and go north 1 block to Orange Tree Lane—turn right. The museum will be on your left...



Chapter Only Membership Application
San Bernardino Valley Audubon

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

SBVAS Membership @ \$24 a/year (includes subscription to *The Western Meadowlark*)

I wish to receive the *Western Meadowlark* **only** electronically

Email Address _____

Please enclose a check payable to SBVAS



Membership Application
National Audubon Society (NAS)

NAS New Member/ Gift Membership \$20 (renewal will be \$35, includes 1 year of *Audubon* magazine, 1 year Chapter membership, 1 year subscription to *Western Meadowlark* if in SBVAS area)

NAS Regular/Renewal Membership \$35 (includes 1 year of *Audubon* magazine)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Please make check payable to National Audubon Society

SBVAS Chapter
C2ZC140Z

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

DATED MATERIAL - Please Expedite