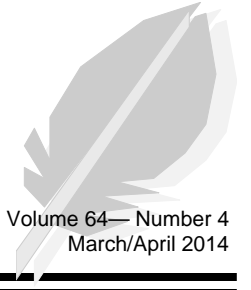


San Bernardino Valley Audubon Society

WESTERN MEADOWLARK

Volume 64— Number 4
March/April 2014



CLIMATE CHANGE: WHAT DOES THE FUTURE HOLD FOR DESERT ECOSYSTEMS

Presented by Allan Schoenherr
Wednesday, March 19, 2014, 7:30p.m.



The causes and consequences of global warming are well documented. Among the predictions of climate change are that already dry regions will become drier, and wet regions will become wetter. Desert regions, therefore, will likely become hotter and drier. What does that mean for plants and animals that already may be living on the margins of their envi-

ronmental tolerances? It could be that spring will arrive earlier and summer will last longer. Blooming seasons could be altered and pollinator abundance may not be synchronous with abundant flowers. Distribution of some species would likely become shifted northward or to higher elevations, whereas plant associates may not be able to keep up with the change. Some extinctions are likely to occur. Allan will talk about the potential climate change and what consequences we may anticipate for our local desert regions.

Dr. Schoenherr is an emeritus Professor of Ecology at Fullerton College. He also has taught a variety of ecology classes at the University of California, Irvine, and California State University at Fullerton. He has taught extension courses on desert biology for the University of California at Riverside and University of Southern California, and his PhD from Arizona State University. In 2000, he was awarded Teacher of the Year by faculty and students of Fullerton College.

A recognized authority on California, he is the author of two major books on the state. A NATURAL HISTORY OF CALIFORNIA (University of California Press, 1992) is a 772-page compendium on the plants, animals, and geology of California. NATURAL HISTORY OF THE ISLANDS OF CALIFORNIA (University of California Press, 1999), is a 491 page discussion of all the islands of California including those in San Francisco Bay. A new book entitled WILD AND BEAUTIFUL: A NATURAL HISTORY OF OPEN SPACES IN ORANGE COUNTY (Laguna Wilderness Press, 2011) is now in book stores. An accomplished nature photographer, he has provided the photographs to illustrate his books and he has received two awards for his images of California Gray Whales.

Most of all, Dr. Schoenherr is a lover of the outdoors. He has traveled, hiked, and photographed all over the world. He has lead month-long hiking excursions in the Sierra Nevada of California and he worked for the Yosemite Association as a loop trip leader to the high sierra camps in Yosemite Park. He has

been the naturalist on many shipboard excursions including trips to Iceland, Greenland, Russia, Alaska, the Arctic and the Antarctic, the lagoons of Baja California, the South Pacific, and the Caribbean. As a biology professor on the Semester at Sea program he has four times traveled around the world teaching marine biology and ecology. He was the coordinator of the Global Studies program on the Spring 09 voyage of Semester At Sea sponsored by the University of Virginia.

Please come out to enjoy what is certain to be a wonderful program. Everyone is always welcome. Our doors open at 7P.M. and the meeting opens at 7:30P.M.

A Journey in India

Presented by Sherry Schmidt
Wednesday, April 16, 2014

As of this writing our speaker, Sherry Schmidt, is somewhere in India photographing wildlife and the natural world. She only barely managed to send her just-taken wild tiger photographs. In a remote area with the internet so very difficult she was unable to send us her write-up. In the past she has given three talks to our chapter and all were wonderfully informative and full of fabulous images. On her website she writes: The research I did for my masters thesis was conducted in the Cottonwood Basin of the southern Sierra Nevada. I compared the ability of two species of shooting star (*Dodecatheon*) to control water loss.



I started teaching full time at Mount San Antonio College right after I got out of graduate school. I have had the opportunity to teach a number of courses including zoology, botany, natural history of California, and conservation of natural resources. I am currently teaching general biology, marine biology and conservation biology.

My primary academic interests today are in the natural history of desert and mountain ecosystems and in conservation biology. In my free time I love to camp, hike, and travel. I also love photography. I traveled through the eastern half of Australia for four months as part of my sabbatical. I have also had the opportunity to travel to Costa Rica, Mexico, the Galapagos, Antarctica, Madagascar, the Peruvian Amazon, Peninsular Malaysia and Borneo, Brazil and Patagonia.



Local Sightings

By Tom Benson

The period of December to February is a time when the last of the fall migrants are passing through, and our wintering birds are settling in, and birders scour local parks and birding hotspots for those wintering gems. It is also the time for Christmas Birds Counts, that annual tradition that is great for turning up unusual birds in rarely birded locations. The highlights of the season provide good examples of this, with Riverside County's first record of RED-THROATED PIPIT (Dec 17-21) found in Moreno Valley on the San Jacinto Lake CBC, and second record of WINTER WREN (Dec 13-15) found at the UC Riverside Botanical Gardens. A WHITE IBIS in Winterhaven Jan 26+ provided the sixth state record and the second from Imperial County. Also of note continuing from the fall were the BROWN BOOBY and BLUE-FOOTED BOOBY at Lake Havasu, and two BLUE-FOOTED BOOBIES at Lake Skinner (all through February).



wintering on a reservoir in Mentone Nov 26-Jan 26 was quite rare for the coastal slope. Other non-passerines of note included a very cooperative RED PHALAROPE at Garst Road/Rock Hill Dec 16-Jan 5. A LONG-EARED OWL was seen near Niland on the CBC Dec 17. A BROWN PELICAN was on Lake Havasu Jan 23, a first winter record for San Bernardino County.

A few notable passerines were also encountered, many found on CBCs. The Salton Sea South CBC on Dec 17 turned up a number, including three SWAMP SPARROWS, PALM WARBLER, BANK SWALLOW, and NORTHERN WATERTHRUSH. The Salton Sea North CBC on Jan 4 tallied a CASSIN'S KINGBIRD, rare anywhere in the Salton Sink. A SCISSOR-TAILED FLY-CATCHER in Corona on the Santa Ana River CBC Dec 15 was probably the same individual seen previously at Prado Regional Park. An AMERICAN REDSTART was along the Parker Strip Dec 7. A STELLER'S JAY, casual in the lowlands, was in Red Park. An AMERICAN REDSTART was along the Parker Strip Dec 7. A STELLER'S JAY, casual in the lowlands, was in Redlands Jan 24-28. The San Jacinto Wildlife Area, always a reliable location for some rarity, hosted one or two wintering SWAMPS SPARROWS and a female BLACK-THROATED BLUE WARBLER, the latter not found until Feb 4.

Winter provides ample opportunities to sort through flocks of gulls, and this year has been no exception. San Bernardino, a generally gull-deprived county, was treated to a MEW GULL at Lake Havasu Dec 8, and a MEW GULL and a GLAUCOUS-WINGED GULL at Prado Regional Park Jan 5. On the other hand, Riverside County, the gull capital of California (or North America?), hosted at least two LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULLS in the San Jacinto Valley (Dec 6+) and at least two more at the north end of the Salton Sea (NESS; Dec 25+), MEW GULLS at Riverside (Jan 5) and NESS (Dec 27+), and a LAUGHING GULL at Salt Creek (Dec 27). Another MEW GULL was in Calipatria Dec 17. The

clear gull highlight of the season, however, was the adult BLACK-HEADED GULL in Mecca Jan 8-14.



Winter is also a good time for waterfowl and loons, though this year seems to be below average for rare ducks. A male BARROW'S GOLDENEYE was at Lake Havasu (Jan 9-18), while up

to three were a little further south at Senator Wash Reservoir (Dec 14-Feb 8) and another was at Salt Creek (Dec 12). A LONG-TAILED DUCK continued at the south end of the Salton Sea (SESS) through Dec 18. Up to three WHITE-WINGED SCOTERS were at Lake Havasu Jan 9-23, while one was at Poe Road (SESS) on Jan 11. EURASIAN WIGEONS were scarcer than usual with one at Spring Valley Lake Dec 12-29 and two in Ontario Jan 19. A RED-THROATED LOON appeared at Lake Skinner (Dec 14-Jan 26) and up to two were at Lake Havasu along with a PACIFIC LOON through January or February. A COMMON LOON

Calling All Citizen Scientists

Tricolored Blackbirds were reported to be among the most abundant birds in California. During the 1930's, the population has declined dramatically from several million to an estimated 150,000 in 2011. Biologists working closely with the species estimate the current population to consist of fewer than 100,000 birds. Because the global population of Tricolored Blackbirds lives almost entirely in California, it is up to Californians to conserve the species and help to sustain it indefinitely into the future, As a major component of on-going efforts to monitor the species, a Tricolored Blackbird Statewide Survey will again be conducted this April 18-20. The results of this effort will provide an estimate of the population of this species throughout California in 2014. Recent Statewide Surveys have been conducted by more than one hundred volunteers, including local birders, consultants, and state and federal biologists. All will donate their time and expertise to count tricolors at their breeding colonies throughout the state.

This year, California Audubon is asking chapter members to participate in the 2014 Tricolored Blackbird Statewide Survey and to help count Tricolored Blackbirds. Many chapters have participated in the past, and both experienced

(continued, page 4, Tricoloreds)

Bird of the Month: Red-shouldered Hawk

By Steve Myers



The Red-shouldered Hawk (*Buteo lineatus*) breeds across much of the eastern U.S., and from down the Pacific coast from extreme southern Oregon to the middle of Baja California. In California, it nests generally west of the Sierra Nevada crest and the deserts, but it does nest fairly commonly along the Mojave River, and at least sporadically at a few other western desert localities. A few breeding locations have also been found recently in western Nevada and Arizona. Its nesting habitat in California is usually riparian woodlands and forest, including those dominated by cottonwoods, willows, oaks, and even conifers. Along the California coast and coastal slope inland valleys, *Eucalyptus* trees and other nonnative trees are also used for nesting. Nests are typically 20 to 60 feet high, and are bulky twig structures between 18 and 24 inches in diameter. Nesting begins as early as January, and is usually finished by the end of June. Two or three eggs are usually laid, but clutches of four, or exceptionally

five, are sometimes laid. Both sexes incubate the eggs, which hatch in about 24 days. The chicks become active at about 10 days, start growing feathers at about 2 weeks, and leave the nest 5 to 6 weeks after hatching.

Red-shouldered Hawks have a varied diet. Small mammals, amphibians, reptiles, and invertebrates (especially crayfish in some areas, such as in the photo below from Glen Helen Regional Park) form the bulk of the diet. Small birds, fish, and insects are taken less frequently. They are perch hunters of forest understory, swooping down when prey is spotted.

Some populations of Red-shouldered Hawks in the eastern U.S. are migratory, but in California they are year-round residents. Birds that occasionally show up in unexpected portions of southern California are usually dispersing juveniles.

An adult Red-shouldered Hawk is not likely to be confused with other *Buteo* hawks in our area. Red-shoulders are small *Buteos*, with almost entirely orangish-red underparts, a black and white banded tail, and (in flight) translucent “windows” at the base of the outer primaries. Juvenile Red-shoulders have dark vertical streaking below.



Chapter Membership Renewal Information

We are changing our chapter membership billing procedures to simplify the process and get everyone on the same billing cycle. For the last several years we have not sent bills for chapter members, expecting members to pay on the honor system. This has not been effective, primarily because people expect a bill for their membership. As a result we have collected only a nominal amount of chapter dues.

The annual chapter membership dues are now \$24. Everyone will be converted to calendar year membership for this renewal. This is a billing notification for calendar 2014 chapter dues. If you paid a chapter membership in 2013 that extended into 2014, you may adjust your payment in 2014 to pay the unpaid 2014 months at \$2 per month. For example, if you paid your chapter membership in September 2013 through August 2014, you would pay \$8 (four months unpaid in 2014) for your 2014 chapter dues.

Why do we have chapter dues? It's necessary to run our chapter activities, including the *Western Meadowlark* newsletter, quality speakers for monthly programs, and advocacy for conservation issues. If you pay dues to National Audubon, they provide the chapter with about \$2 per member for the entire year, which is woefully inadequate to run our chapter. While we encourage you to be a member of National Audubon, it is not mandatory.

We are taking steps to reduce costs, such as eliminating one issue of the newsletter, changing the paper and binding of the printed copy to save bulk rate postage, and keeping our administrative expenses to a bare minimum. We continue to ask members if they are willing to receive the Meadowlark online, rather than a printed copy. If you are willing to receive the newsletter online rather than in printed form, please indicate that on your chapter membership renewal.

UCR Extension: A Field Study of Birds: Spring

Course: Bio X405.1 Section 134=CPF-F23

Through field trips to Mystic Lake, Imperial beach, Salton sea, Imperial Valley, Morongo Valley, High Desert and San Jacinto Mountains, you will learn how to identify birds during the spring migration and in their breeding territories. Emphasis on identification of breeding plumages.

Note: This course may be taken twice for credit toward the Specialized Study Program in Field Ornithology. Visitors are not permitted. Enrollment is limited. Vertebrate course for Certificate in Field Ecology Elective for Specialized Study Program in Field Ornithology.

Instructor: Eugene A. Cardiff, B.A., retired Curator of Natural History, San Bernardino County Museum, Redlands. Cardiff is Extension's longest-standing instructor. He has taught over 100 ornithology classes since 1968.

Credit: 2 units

Dates/Times: Tues., 7:30-9:30 p.m., Apr. 15. Field trips all day Sat. Apr 19, 26, May 3, 17, and June 7. (6 meetings)

Location: SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY MUSEUM in Redlands, 2024 Orange Tree Lane

Text: — Field Guide to the Birds of North America, || 5th edition, Jon L. Dunn and Jonathan K. Alderfer ISBN 0792253140

Fee: \$255/\$235 each for couples and family members/ \$215 each with PINE discount

How to enroll: Online at www.extension.ucr.edu, Phone: (951) 827-4105; (760) 834-0997, Toll free (800) 442-4990. In person: 1200 University Avenue, Riverside, Ca.

Note: to receive a discount for couples and family members, registration must be done by phone.

Preregistration: Requested by April 11th

(Tricoloreds, cont.)

and first-time volunteers are encouraged to participate and to help to make this count as thorough as possible. Tricoloreds need your help. Please contact Monica Iglecia (miglecia@audubon.org) or Robert Meese (meese@ucdavis.edu) to volunteer to participate and learn how you can help make this year's count as complete as possible. You will be assigned to a county and will communicate with the Survey's county coordinator to integrate you into a survey team. Please provide the following information: Your name, Your contact information (phone number and email), Your county preference.

What is the difference between a bird and a fly? Well, a bird can fly...but a fly can't bird.

Bird Banding Workshops at Starr Ranch Spring 2014 Beginning & Advanced Banding Workshops March 8-9 and March 15-16

Audubon California's 4000-acre Starr Ranch Sanctuary in southeast Orange County invites you to our spring bird banding workshops for adults. Starr Ranch Bird Observatory runs two long-term bird monitoring programs, one in winter and one during breeding season in spring and summer. We operate mist nets throughout the winter in order to examine the over-winter survivorship of migrant and resident bird populations on the ranch. The MAPS (Monitoring Avian Productivity and Survivorship) breeding season bird banding station is part of an international network of over 500 stations examining breeding bird populations. Because of the specialized nature of these workshops, we are asking that only serious students and potential Starr Ranch bird banding volunteers attend. The workshops will be taught by ornithologist Megan Garfinkel, a North American Banding Council (NABC) certified bird bander who has run three banding stations.

Beginning Bird Banding Workshop – This workshop is for those with little or no bird banding experience. Participants will learn mist-net set-up and operation and practice extracting songbirds from nets. They will learn how to hold, band, and take measurements on birds in the hand. Afternoon discussions will focus on bird identification, banding safety and ethics.

Dates and Times: March 8-9, 7:30 AM – 3:30 PM daily
Cost: \$160 or \$165 if camping (BYO lunch, morning coffee & bagels provided)

Advanced Bird Banding Workshop – This workshop is for more experienced banders who want to take their skills to the next level. Participants will focus mainly on advanced ageing and sexing of birds in the hand by plumage. Afternoon discussions will focus on detailed analysis and understanding of the molt cycle and bird plumage characteristics, as well as advanced use of the Pyle guide.

Dates and Times: March 15-16, 7:30 AM – 3:30 PM daily
Cost: \$160 or \$165 if camping (BYO lunch, morning coffee & bagels provided)

Reservations and Questions: Megan Garfinkel,
mbgarfinkel@gmail.com; 949-858-0309



Feed Your Yard Birds and Help SBVAS

Wild birdseed will be sold at all general meetings of SBVAS as a regular fundraiser for the organization. The seed is a good blend for the area and will be available in 25 pound bags for \$20.

To get your seed and help SBVAS maintain a regular monthly fundraiser, please pay at the sales table and get a receipt. Then see Kirk Stitt in the parking lot to load your seed.

If possible, you should preorder seed by phoning Kirk at (909) 886-5513. Leave a message about the type of seed you want (thistle, black-oil sunflower, or general purpose mix) and your seed will be ready for pickup at the next general meeting.

**Sunday, April 20, 2014 - 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, sloop 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 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.



Tiger photo by Sherry Schmit
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 turn-off. 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 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 now on Facebook.

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.



SBVAS Officers 2013/2014
www.sbvass.org &
www.inlandplanet.org

President: Kirk Stitt (909) 886-5513
First Vice-President, Program Chair: Dori Myers (714) 779-2201
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Pete Clark (951) 212-2467
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tbenson@csusb.edu

SBVAS BOOKSTORE AND GIFT SHOP:
Nancy Manning (909) 337-9401

CALENDAR

Board Meetings: March 5 and April 2, 2014

General Meetings: March 19 and April 16, 2014

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.



Sunday, March 2, 2014 - 8:00-10:00 am

Beginning Bird Walk at San Jacinto Wildlife Area ([map](#))

[Brad Singer](#) (909) 838-7951

Visiting the wildlife area in winter allows great opportunities to view waterfowl, shorebirds and raptors. 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 water and binoculars. The walk is free and no reservations are needed. Everyone is welcome. We will meet at the main parking lot at the wildlife headquarters. From Riverside go south on I-215 then east on Ramona Expressway. Turn north (left) on Davis Road which soon becomes dirt. The entrance to the wildlife area is approximately 3 miles down Davis Road on the right. Turn here and the parking area will be on your left. You can no longer enter the wildlife area from the north. Please contact Brad Singer for further information. Rain or other conditions may cause last minute changes. You may call ahead to confirm location and time.

Saturday, March 15, 2014 - 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 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.

Sunday, April 6, 2014 - 8:00-10:00 am

Beginning Bird Walk at Glen Helen Regional Park ([map](#))

[Dave Goodward](#) (909) 783-2417

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 Ash Cove parking lot at the north end 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-Sunday, April 5-6, 2014

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, and 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 Saturday at the Bun Boy Restaurant ([map](#)) in Baker and then head into the wilderness. 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, including camping gear. Once we leave Baker we will probably not see gas or stores again until the end of the day on Sunday. If you want to spend Friday night somewhere close, lodging of sorts is available in Baker, but read the online reviews and you might choose Barstow instead. We will camp Saturday night and 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), 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!

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... ☺

Calendar for Field Trips 2013 to 2014

 **March 2, 2014 - 8:00-10:00 am, Beginning Bird Walk at [San Jacinto Wildlife Area](#) ([map](#)), Brad Singer (909) 838-7951**

 **March 15, 2014 - 8:00 am, Bolsa Chica & Orange County Coast [Dori Myers](#) (714) 779-2201 (h) or (714) 336-1420 (m)**

 **April 6, 2014 - 8:00-10:00 am, Beginning Bird Walk, Glen Helen Regional Park, Tom Benson (909) 648-0899**

 **April 5-6, 2014, East Mojave [John Green](#) (951) 686-2956**

 **April 12-13, 2014, Sage Grouse, Brad Singer (909) 838-7951**

 **April 19, 2014, Shorebird Migration at the Salton Sea**

[Chet McGaugh](#) (951) 781-3699 **April 20, 2014, San Jacinto Wildlife Area [Tony Metcalf](#) (951) 242-7038**

May 3, 2013 - 7:00 am, [Big Morongo](#) [Chet McGaugh](#) (951) 781-3699

May 4, 2014 - 8:00-10:00 am, Beginning Bird Walk location and, leader TBA

May 4, 2014 - 8:00 am, [Box Springs Mountain](#) [John Green](#) (951) 686-2956

May 10, 2014 - 8:00 am, [Whitewater Canyon](#) [Steve Myers](#) (951) 634-9767

May 17, 2014 - 9:00 am, Baby Birds at [Bearpaw Ranch](#) [Cin Greyraven](#) (909) 794-0509

May 18, 2014, Dos Palmas-NESS, John Green (951) 686-2956

June 7, 2014 - 7:30 am, Wrightwood & Blue Ridge [Gene Cardiff](#) (909) 875-5358

June 15, 2014, San Bernardino Mountains [Brad Singer](#) (909) 838-7951

July 12-13, 2014, Greenhorn Mountains & the Southern Sierra [Steve Myers](#) (951) 634-9767

July or August, 2014 - 6:00 am, Insane Jaunt to the Salton Sea [Tom Benson](#) (909) 648-0899

!!!Special Notice Regarding Field Trips!!!

High School students and other underage minors will not be allowed on field trips without a parent or a teacher/advisor with a parent permission slip accompanying them.

**Saturday, April 19, 2014 - 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, sloop 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 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 20, 2014 - 7:00 am
San Jacinto Wildlife Area**

[Tony Metcalf](#) (951) 242-7038 and [Chet McGaugh](#) (951) 781-3699

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March/April 2014

Western Meadowlark

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

Nonprofit Organization
U. S. Postage
PAID
Permit No. 1774
San Bernardino, CA

Everyone is always welcome!

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
2,393

To reach the Museum, take the Cali-
fornia 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** elec-
tronically

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
C4ZC110Z

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

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