



San Bernardino Valley Audubon Society

WESTERN MEADOWLARK

Volume 57 — Number 5
May & June 2007



Be a West Nile Watcher

Report all dead birds and tree squirrels to the California Department of Public Health

WEST NILE VIRUS and DEAD BIRD HOTLINE
(877) 968-BIRD (2473) or online at westnile.ca.gov

Hotline Operators are available seven days a week

8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (please leave a message after hours)

Why should you report dead birds and tree squirrels?

The State of California uses ALL reports to help identify "hot spots" of West Nile virus activity, even if the reported bird or tree squirrel is not tested. Local mosquito control agencies receive reports immediately. Local health departments are alerted of community risk. When reporting dead birds and tree squirrels, please provide the following: Location of animal (city, zip code, street address or intersection) Description of animal (color, size, and type; see examples on back) Date found and condition of animal (intact, runover) Help us protect you and your community by reporting dead birds and tree squirrels in your area! If you forget the WNV Hotline number call Directory Assistance at 411 (charges may apply). ☘

Attorney General Challenges

*San Bernardino County
General Plan*

*Joins Conservationists in
Global Warming Concerns*

SAN BERNARDINO, Calif.— Attorney General Edmund G. Brown, Jr. today, April 10, 2007, filed a lawsuit against the County of San Bernardino's new general plan two days after conservation groups filed a similar suit. The attorney general, filing the suit under the California Environmental Quality Act, argued that San Bernardino County failed to evaluate and disclose the impending impacts of the plan on climate change and air quality.

"This is a tremendously important action by the attorney general," said Center for Biological Diversity attorney Adam Keats. "It is clear support for what we've been trying to tell the county: global warming is real, it is serious, and we have to

(General Plan... Continued on page 2)

*San Bernardino Valley Audubon Society
presents:*

Birding on \$4 per Gallon

By Kimball Garrett

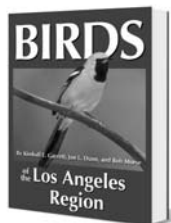
Wednesday,

May 16, 2007 at 7:30 PM

**About the Los Angeles
Region Birds**



Given the wide array of habitats and birds in the Los Angeles area, it is little wonder that the people of the Los Angeles Region enjoy seeing and studying our local birds. The area is blessed with an abundant variety of bird life with over 500 species found in the region. Now, for the first time, there is a photographic guide to the birds of the entire Los Angeles Region – from the sea to the mountains. Garrett will show some of the stunning color photographs from the book by acclaimed local wildlife photographers **Brian Small** and **Larry Sansone** and a host of national and international photographers. Garrett will explain that you don't have to spend a lot of money on gas and travel to far off places to watch birds when there are so many good bird



(LA BIRDS... Continued on page 2)

JUNE POTLUCK DINNER, ENDS AUDUBON'S YEAR

June 20, 2006,

Program for Wednesday at 6:30 PM

Help us celebrate the end of our chapter's year, the beginning of summer and the joy of nature at our June potluck dinner.

We will begin our evening of camaraderie at 6:30 p.m., an hour earlier than usual at the San Bernardino County Museum.

SBVAS will supply a turkey and a ham as well as beverages. Please bring a dish to share either a salad, vegetable, casserole, or dessert.

Please remember to bring your own table service. Officers will be installed. This usually takes only a few minutes and then our members will provide the program by bringing 10-15 of their favorite nature slides to share.

This is a great annual event and is fun for everyone. Come enjoy good friends, food and what is certain to be a terrific evening. ☘

(LA BIRDS... Continued from page 1)

patches and great bird diversity in the Los Angeles region. According to Garrett, "Birding puts people in touch with the natural world around them; even in our largest urban centers. The Los Angeles region is almost unmatched in its variety of excellent birding spots but many people find that a backyard bird feeder is a great way to enjoy the beauty and antics of the local birds."

About the Speaker

Kimball L. Garrett is a lifelong resident of Los Angeles and serves as the Ornithology Collections Manager at the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County. He is past-President of Western Field Ornithologists, member of California Bird Records Committee, and co-editor of the Southern California regional reports for *North American Birds*. With Jon Dunn, he co-authored *Warblers* as well as *Birds of Southern California, Status and Distribution*.

Birds of the Los Angeles Region will be available for purchase at the program. Have Kimball Garrett sign a personal copy of his book for you. 🐦

(General Plan... Continued from page 1)

deal with it. The law requires this and the people of California expect it." During the Plan's development, the attorney general, along with conservationists, had submitted comments that urged the county to analyze greenhouse gases and climate change in its blueprint for the future. The county chose to ignore the comment.

"We're glad that the attorney general joined this fight," said Drew Feldmann of the San Bernardino Audubon Society. "It's time for San Bernardino County to become part of the solution to this crisis."

"San Bernardino County has to take responsibility for the impacts of global warming and its actions and policies that contribute to it. Approving sprawl development, encouraging motor vehicle use and dismissing the increasing risks of wildfire is wrong," said Steven Farrell of the Sierra Club. "Warming may be a global issue, but it requires a local response."



The Center for Biological Diversity is a nonprofit conservation organization with more than 35,000 members dedicated to the protection of imperiled species and habitat.

www.biologicaldiversity.org.

The San Bernardino Valley Audubon Society advocates for protection of wildlife and habitat throughout Riverside and San Bernardino Counties. www.sbvsa.org.

The Sierra Club is dedicated to the conservation and preservation of the nation's natural resources. www.sierraclub.org

Adam Keats, Center for Biological Diversity, (415) 845-2509
Drew Feldmann, San Bernardino Valley Audubon Society,
(909) 881-6081

Steven Farrell, Sierra Club, (310) 362 8410 🐦

Sixth Annual Mono Basin Bird Chautauqua June 15-17, 2007 / Lee Vining, California

It is our mission to enhance appreciation and understanding of the Mono Basin's diverse and abundant bird life and to educate the public about this area's value to birds and people.

Registration begins on April 16, 2007

<http://www.birdchautauqua.org/>

Questions? Email us at: birding@monolake.org

*What better way to do this than to
attend the Mono Basin Bird Chautauqua!*

The Mono Basin is known worldwide for its immense populations of migratory and nesting birds. In fact, Mono Lake is a Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network (WHSRN) site and was just recently designated a globally significant Important Bird Area (IBA) by both the American Bird Conservancy and the National Audubon Society.

The natural beauty of this area and its diverse bird life will provide the ideal backdrop for the Annual Mono Basin Bird Chautauqua. Through the course of this festival, we hope to show you the connection between the birds and people. We're glad you're here to share it with us!

Enjoy your weekend!

Confirmed 2007 Program Leaders and Presenters!
(in alphabetical order):

Don Banta, Ted Beedy, Roy Churchwell,
Susan Colletta, Pete Devine, Jon Dunn, Margaret Eissler,
Lisa Fields, Kimball Garrett, Thomas Hahn, Sacha Heath,
Ann Howald, Jack Laws, Burleigh Lockwood,
David Lukas, Jeff Maurer, Chris McCreedy,
Paul McFarland, Peter Metropulos, Kristie Nelson,
Melissa Pitkin, Michael Prather, Cathy Rose,
Ane Carla Rovetta, Dave Shuford, Rich Stallcup,
Lee Stetson, Greg Stock, Sarah Stock, Erik Westerlund,
David Wimpfheimer, and Dr. David Winkler

Bird Chautauqua Etiquette

Life full of social morays, laws, Acts of Patriots, and so forth. We don't mean to burden you with more, but we do consider the following rules more than just good Chautauqua etiquette:

1. Children attending field trips or workshops must be accompanied by a parent or designated guardian.
2. No dogs or pets allowed on any Chautauqua event, workshop, or program. Please leave Fido with friends or family and not in the car during a field trip.

What to Bring

June weather in the Mono Basin is typically pleasant but can vary significantly and you should be prepared for all conditions—including rain, wind, or very warm weather. Cool to cold mornings are guaranteed so dress in warm layers that can be easily shed. Other essentials include: water, sunscreen, bug repellent, hat, rain gear, suitable footwear, daypack, and a lunch for those events that extend through mealtime. Binoculars, scopes, field guides and other birding essentials are advised. 🐦

LA'S DESERT-POWER PLAN ENCOUNTERS RESISTANCE

Wednesday, April 4, 2007

By DOUGLAS QUAN... The Press-Enterprise

Plans by the city of Los Angeles to generate "green" energy by tapping into geothermal fields near the Salton Sea came under fire Wednesday from several Inland environmental and community groups.

The groups are concerned that a network of transmission towers and roads will be built along corridors that cut through the San Bernardino National Forest, parks, nature preserves and sensitive areas within the purview of the federal Bureau of Land Management.

Los Angeles "just planned new corridors with disregard for the land," David Myers, executive director of the Wildlands Conservancy in Oak Glen, said in a phone interview. "We're not going to stand for it."

David Nahai, president of the Board of Water and Power Commissioners, the panel that sets policy for the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, said Wednesday that the criticism is premature and that a full public-consultation process could begin this summer. "We're at the beginning of the public environmental-review process," Nahai said. "There will be full public discourse." However, he added, "We could've done a better job of reaching out to these groups at an earlier point." Nahai said Los Angeles officials are considering a number of options, including building a transmission corridor that would skirt the San Bernardino National Forest.

He said that while it is impossible to build a corridor without having some environmental impact, Los Angeles officials are operating under a guiding principle to do the "least possible harm."

The Green Path Project has been touted by Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa as a way for the city to rely less on fossil fuels and achieve its goal of obtaining 20 percent of its energy from renewable resources by 2010. However, Nahai said construction of the transmission corridor likely won't be completed until 2011.

Geothermal power is generated by using heat from the earth. The Imperial Valley is one of 14 areas in the state that uses this type of energy to generate electricity. The Los Angeles Department of Water and Power is investing more than \$200 million in the project. It is working with the Imperial Irrigation District and Citizens Energy, a nonprofit corporation that helps low-income residents pay their utility costs.

In a joint news release issued Wednesday, several environmental and community groups said one proposed transmission corridor would "destroy habitat and hack off hill tops and ridgelines" in Wildlands Conservancy nature preserves at Oak Glen, Mission Creek and Pioneertown Mountains.

Twenty-seven miles of new roads and graded ridge tops within the San Bernardino National Forest would be "like scrawling graffiti across the face of a famous masterpiece," said Drew Feldmann, president of the San Bernardino Valley Audubon Society.

Environmental groups are also concerned that a proposed corridor would cut through the Big Morongo Canyon area, which includes habitat critical to the survival of many species of native plants and wildlife. Rather than build a new corridor, the project should use existing designated utility corridors, the groups said. Nahai said it would be inefficient to share corridors used by other utilities. Such a solution would lead to higher costs for consumers, he said.

Reach Douglas Quan at 951-368-9479 or dquan@PE.com ☽

ELECTIONS ARE HERE AGAIN & YOU CAN PARTICIPATE

Any member of San Bernardino Valley Audubon may nominate a candidate. Suggestions for nominations of Officers or Board members may be submitted by contacting the nominating committee. The committee then nominates a slate of candidates to fill offices and board positions whose terms are expiring or are vacant.

Nominations from the floor are also called for at our March, April and May general meetings. Voting takes place at our May general meeting and those elected are installed at our annual meeting/potluck dinner in June.

So here is your chance to participate in your Audubon Society.

Come forward and nominate someone to SBVAS's or submit your own candidacy it is very rewarding.

Contact information for the above committee members;

Gene Cardiff...e.cardiff@worldnet.att.net (909) 875-5358

Pete Clark... petec3@verizon.net (951)-212-2467

Melissa Culley... mculley515@aol.com (909) 874-3301

OFFICIAL NOMINATIONS

For 2007/2008

President: Drew Feldmann

First Vice-President: Dori Myers

Second Vice President: Tony Metcalf

Treasurer: Nancy Higbee

Recording Secretary: Cin Greyraven

Corresponding Secretary: Deb Bennett

DIRECTORS:

Gene Cardiff

Pete Clark

Melissa Culley

Dave Woodward

Peter Jorris

Tim Krantz

Wendy McIntyre

Nancy Manning

Crispin Rendon

BIG MORONGO**Saturday, May 5, 7:00 A.M.****Leader: Chet McGaugh (909 781-3699)**

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 specialities including vermilion flycatcher, yellow-breasted chat, summer tanager, blue grosbeak, Bullock's oriole and hooded oriole.

Join us for a morning birdwalk on the trails and roads of the preserve and surrounding areas. We will meet at the preserve parking lot at 7:00 a.m. To get there, take I-10 to Highway 62, go north ten miles to Morongo Valley, then turn right on Park Avenue to Covington Park. Turn left at Covington Park, then do a quick right-left-right into the preserve.

Weather is typically good this time of year.

Bring water, snacks and lunch if you plan to make a day of it. Some of us will probably stay out all day.

Who knows where the afternoon will lead us. ☘

BOX SPRINGS MOUNTAINS**Sunday, May 6th, 8:00 A.M.**

Leader: John Green (951) 686-2956 or e-mail: bewickwren@earthlink.net

We will meet at the upper parking lot of Box Springs Mountain Reserve. Our main target birds here will be Black-chinned, Rufous-crowned, and "Bell's" Sage Sparrows, which should be present and singing. We'll look for them and more while going on a figure eight loop hike through the fragmented chaparral and sage scrub and past several springs. A few of the other resident and/or breeding birds to be expected on the trip include Greater Roadrunner, Black-chinned and Costa's Hummingbirds, Nuttall's Woodpeckers, Wrentit, Rock and Canyon Wrens, California Thrasher, and Bullock's and Hooded Orioles. We will, of course, also be hoping for a nice crop of migrants including flycatchers, vireos, warblers, buntings, grosbeaks, and??? Over 170 species of birds have been recorded in the Box Springs, but 40 species is a more realistic goal for this trip. We should also see some wildflowers and shrubs in bloom, and a variety of butterflies, reptiles, mammals, etc. as well. **THIS INCLUDES RATTLESNAKES**, which have been encountered on the trip in recent years. Other concerns include ticks, poison oak, and stinging nettle. None of these are abundant, and can be avoided with reasonable care.

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

We will meet at 8 AM. From Highway 60 in Moreno Valley

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

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

ANNUAL SBVAS CAL STATE PANCAKE BREAKFAST & BIRDWALK**Saturday, May 12, 8:00 A.M.****California State University, San Bernardino****Leaders: Gene Cardiff (909 875-5358)****& Tony Metcalf (909 242-7038)**

Our SBVAS Spring Breakfast Birdwalk at one of our favorite spots in past years, Cal State University, San Bernardino, we are all looking forward to eating and birding on this beautiful campus. The crew will be cooking pancakes, eggs, bacon, coffee and juice beginning at 8:00 AM. We will be there to set up at 7:00 AM, but be prepared to be put to work! We will be serving from 8:00 to 9:00. Then we are off for the walk. Don't forget to bring your own table service for eating breakfast. After breakfast, Gene will be leading us on a birding trip around the campus. It is a good time to be looking for both resident and migratory birds.

The campus has parkland and coastal sage scrub habitat, making it a good spot for a variety of species, maybe a vermilion flycatcher!

It should be a wonderful morning!

To reach the campus from the Riverside area, go north on the 215 to north San Bernardino. Stay on the 215 past where Hwy 30 breaks off. From the 215, take the University Parkway exit. Turn right on University Parkway. Go about 1 mi. on University Parkway to North Park Blvd. Turn right and proceed about 1/2 mi. to the traffic light at Coyote Dr. Make a left turn on Coyote Drive into the campus. At the end of Coyote Drive turn right into parking lot G. Drive toward the right side of the parking lot and look for the Audubon signs near the tennis courts. We will be on the far side of the tennis courts.

You must pay for parking, so don't forget... ☘

BABY BIRDS AT BEAR PAW Saturday, May 19, 9:00 A.M.

Leader: Cin Grayraven 909-794-0509.

Join us for a trip into the hidden world of nesting birds at Bearpaw Nature Sanctuary in Forest Falls. Biologist Cin Greyraven will lead the group in its search for evidence of breeding behavior in the common birds of the chaparral and forest. Since 1994, Bearpaw Sanctuary has been part of the National Nest Box Trail system, offering homes to Western Bluebirds, Oak Titmice, House Wrens, Mountain Chickadees, and Ash-throated Flycatchers. Learn what types of nest boxes work best and how monitoring data by average citizens across the continent can contribute to scientific research. Learn how to monitor a nest box without disturbing the nesting effort. Enjoy a peek inside the usually inaccessible world of cavity nesters, and learn to recognize different species by their nests, eggs, and chicks. Bring binoculars for long-distance viewing and cameras for close-up snapshots. Children are welcome. The gate code is #7282. For additional information, call 909-794-0509. ☘

WRIGHTWOOD & SAN GABRIEL MOUNTAINS Saturday, June 9, 7:00 A.M.

Leader: Gene Cardiff (909) 875-5358

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

Bring a lunch, liquids and a good pair of shoes. We will look for mountain birds such as the white-headed woodpecker, Clark's nutcracker, red crossbill, green-tailed towhee, Townsend's solitaire, and black-chinned sparrows.

Please don't forget : You will need an Adventure Pass (we will stop at the ranger station) ☘

OWLING IN SAN BERNARDINO Saturday evening, June 16, 5:00 P.M.

Leader: Dave Goodward

We will meet at Heart Bar State Park on Highway 38 at 5:00 PM. After an hour or so of leisurely evening birding (White-headed Woodpeckers, Green-tailed Towhees), we will have a picnic dinner (bring your own!) and at dusk, carpool to the Fish

Creek Trailhead. (Brave souls who do not need restrooms and picnic tables may opt to go to the trailhead right away for Olive-sided and Dusky flycatchers.) After dark, we will look for Flammulated Owls, seen there the last two years, and have a chance for Saw-whet as well. Poorwills are also a good possibility. Last year we had a couple of Flammulated Owls "treed" but we never got a glimpse of them. Perhaps we will be luckier this time. Be forewarned that we were out until midnight last year.

Highway 38 begins at Interstate 10 in Redlands. Follow 38 past Barton Flats, and about 2 miles past South Fork Campground. Look for the turn on the right-hand side of the road, and drive a short distance to the small parking lot on the right just before the entrance to the park.

If you come late and miss us, follow Forest Service Road 1N05 about 7 miles to the trailhead, just past Mission Springs. Do not stop at the first Fish Creek trail, which is only about 2 miles from Heart Bar, and do not turn toward Coon Creek Jump-off. NOTE: this is a rough gravel road. High clearance vehicles strongly suggested.

Please be aware that most owl species took a hit from the drought, and have been difficult to find in the San Bernardino Mountains for the last few years.

Please dress warmly, bring a flashlight, and be prepared to stay quiet as we try to call in the owls. See you there! ☘

INSANE JAUNT TO THE SALTON SEA Sunday, August 26, 2007 - 5:30 A.M.

Leader: John Green (951) 686-2956

How would you like to see birds like Wood Stork, Laughing and Yellow-footed Gulls, Gull-billed and Black Terns, Ruddy Ground-dove, Burrowing Owl, and Bronzed Cowbird? All those and more may be yours at the mere price of 110 degree average daily highs in the pungent glory and spectacle of the Salton Sea in summertime. With luck, perhaps something like an Anhinga, Tricolored Heron, Roseate Spoonbill, or Magnificent Frigatebird will appear (or is it just the heat?). Last year's highlights included Piping Plover and, for the diehards, stunning views of a Blue-footed Booby to finish the day.

DO NOT **COME ON THE TRIP** **WITHOUT: LOTS OF WATER,**

a large ice chest, lots of ice, lunch, and snacks, a hat and sunscreen, a working air conditioner, and a full tank of gas (top off in Indio).

Meeting place will be at the Wister Unit of the Imperial Wildlife Area. Going south on Hwy 111 along the east shore of the Sea, turn right at Davis Road which is signed for the Wister Unit. Proceed to the parking lot on your left. If you reach the town of Niland on Hwy 111 you have gone 5 miles too far. We'll meet at 5:30 am, just before sunrise to beat the heat as much as we can, and we'll bird until we've had enough. Our route will be determined by where the Wood Storks are and where other birds of interest are being seen. Motels are available in Calipatria, Brawley, and Indio for those wishing to spend Saturday night in the area. ☘

You are invited to take part in the California Snapshot Photo Contest celebrating California's rich cultural and geographic diversity. Winning photos selected by judges from the California State Fair will be displayed on the home page of the California State Portal.

Any California resident can enter; you need not be a skilled or professional photographer. All you have to have is a camera and an eye for the people, places, things and events that make California unique.

Here are the rules:

Who may enter? Any California resident is eligible to enter a photograph. There will be two categories:

1. Photographs taken by persons age 18 or over;
2. Photographs taken by persons 17 and under.

Entries need to include specific birth dates to indicate age cutoff.

What photographs are eligible? You may enter any photograph of persons, places, things or events taken in California. These are snapshots of California life and the California experience. Photos must be suitable for publication on a website accessible to the general public.

What format should the photographs be in? Photographs may be either black and white or color. They must be prints no smaller than 3x5 and no larger than 5x7. Please do not send slides. Please provide prints of photos taken digitally.

What information should be provided with the photo? On a label attached to the back of the photo (please don't write on the back of the photo itself), please give the name, address and age of the photographer. Please include the date, location and a brief description (about 25 words or less) of the subject matter of the photo. Please also fill out the entry form below and send it along with the photo.

How should the photo be sent? Please use a suitable photo mailer. Include the completed application form and place the information label on the back of the photo. Please do not send negatives or your only copy of the print. No entries will be returned.

How often may I enter? You may enter no more than three photographs for each contest period. The current contest deadline has passed.

Where do I send the photo? Send it to:

California Snapshot Photo Contest
 California Exposition and State Fair
 P.O. Box 15649
 Sacramento, CA 95852

Disclaimer:

Entrants must sign the statement on the application form affirming they are the person who took the photo and that they have full rights to the content of the photograph. The photographer agrees to hold the State of California harmless in case of any dispute over the identity of the photographer. If the photograph is of a person or persons, the photographer affirms the person(s) photographed has (have) given their permission to be included in the photograph and for the photograph to be displayed on the California State Internet Portal home page without any fee or other form of compensation and, further, provide written proof of such consent.

Winning entrants will be notified within 30 days of the end of the contest period. The photographic images remain the property of the photographer, but no entries will be returned. By entering the contest, the photographer agrees to have his/her photograph displayed on the home page of the California Web Portal *without any fee or other form of compensation.*

The State of California assumes no responsibility for lost or damaged photographs or those that do not arrive at the contest post office box.

Except for having the winning photo displayed with the name and home city of the photographer, winning entrants will receive no prize or consideration.

California Snapshot Photo Contest Entry Form

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip Code _____

Age _____ Date of birth _____

Brief description of photo _____

Date of photo _____

Location where photo was taken _____

I agree to have my photograph displayed on the home page of the California Web Portal. I affirm that I am the person who took the photo and that I have full rights to the content of the photograph. I agree to hold the State of California harmless in case of any dispute over the identity of the photographer. I affirm that any person(s) appearing in the photograph have given their permission to be included.

Signed _____ Date _____

VERY BEGINNING BIRD WALKS

For those of you who are just beginning the wonderful pastime of bird watching, please join us for a fun, slow-paced morning of birding in one of our local wildlife habitats.

Our goal will be to teach you enough basic birding techniques and identification skills so that you will feel comfortable birding on your own or joining our longer birding trips throughout the year. We will introduce you to some of our local bird species. You may be surprised at what wonderful birds can be seen!

Binoculars and bird guides will be provided for use during the walk. However, please bring your own if you have them as supplies are limited. Wear comfortable walking shoes, hats and sunscreen and bring water.

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

Fairmount Park

Sunday, May 6, 2007 - 8:00 A.M. until 10:00 A.M.

Leader: Doug Karalun

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

To reach Fairmount Park from downtown Riverside take Market Street north to the signal at Fairmount Park and turn left. (just before the train engine) Turn immediately to the left towards the tennis courts then right into the parking lot. Follow the lot all the way to the end and park near the bandstand.

Please contact: Doug Karalun (909) 425-5355 for further information. Rain or other conditions may cause last minute changes. You may call ahead to confirm location and time.

Visit our web site at: <http://www.sbvass.org/calendar.htm> for directions to each site. 🐦

Jennifer Bowles

<http://www.beloblog.com/>

[Pe_Blogs/environment/](http://www.beloblog.com/Pe_Blogs/environment/)

Jennifer has covered environmental issues for the Press-Enterprise since 1999, and often travels across the vast Inland region to get her stories. Before coming to the I.E., she was one of five journalists selected nationwide to attend a year-long fellowship at the University of Colorado, Boulder, where she studied natural resources law, policy and science. Born in Canada, she began her journalism career at the Associated Press in Los Angeles. There, she worked for 10 years as a general assignment reporter, TV columnist and editor.



SBVAS Officers 2006/2007

www.sbvass.org & www.inlandplanet.org

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Crispin Rendon crisrendon@earthlink.net (951)-686-7121

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Nancy Manning (909) 337-9401

COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

CONSERVATION: Dave Woodward (909) 783-2417

FUNDING & GRANTS: Pete Clark (951) 657-7081

FIELDTRIPS: Gene Cardiff (909) 875-5358

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MEMBERSHIP: Crispin Rendon (951) 686-7121

POPULATION & HABITAT:

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WESTERN MEADOWLARK: Editor:

Melissa Culley (909) 874-3301

SBVAS WEBMASTER: Tom Benson (909)-648-0899 or (909)-537-3309 or tbenson@csusb.edu

BEARPAW RANCH: Cin Grayraven (909) 794-0509

greyraven@wildmail.com

RARE BIRD ALERT: Kirk and Linda Stitt
at secalrba@earthlink.net or call (909) 793-5599 option 3
to leave a report on the RBA phone machine. 🐦

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... 🐦

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



Access to the code may be had by calling—
Bearpaw at (909) 794-0509.

Bearpaw Sanctuary, 38801 Valley of the Falls Drive
P.O. Box 88; Forest Falls, CA 92339

San Bernardino County Museum
2024 Orange Tree Lane, Redlands
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...

All meetings in
the San Bernardino County Museum
2024 Orange Tree Lane, Redlands
Board Meetings are the 1st Wed.
General meetings are the 3rd Wed.
SBVAS Membership currently at 1,743

SBVAS Calendar

May 2, 7:00 Board Meeting
May 16, 7:30 General Meeting
June 6, 7:00 Board Meeting
June 20, 6:30 Potluck Dinner



Our Programs begin at 7:30 PM but the doors open at 7:00 PM so plan to come early to the San Bernardino County Museum to visit with friends, shop at our book tables and enjoy refreshments.

*Everyone is always welcome.
Program Chair Dori Myers*

Adult Wildlife Research Camps at Starr Ranch

Audubon California's Starr Ranch Sanctuary in southeast Orange County invites you to our overnight research camps for adults. Join staff biologists for a peaceful weekend at the beautiful 4000-acre Ranch and experience nature hands-on as a wildlife researcher. Our May 18-20 camp will focus on bird research in the rare coastal sage scrub habitat. The June 2-3 campers will investigate small mammals, invertebrates, and reptiles & amphibians of oak woodlands. For more information, visit <http://www.starr-ranch.org> or call 949-858-0309. For reservations call 949-858-0131.



Faster More Colorful Western Meadowlark



Please email Membership Chair Crispin Rendon at crisrendon@earthlink.net and let him know what you think. Add your photos to our newsletter. Include your name as it appears on you Western Meadowlark newsletter Thanks

National Audubon Society (NAS):

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- NAS Regular Membership* \$35
- NAS Gift Membership \$20.
- Senior/Student (with id) Membership \$15

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

Includes chapter membership & Meadowlark if in SBVAS area

Also includes the National issue of Audubon magazine

San Bernardino Valley Audubon Society (SBVAS):

- SBVAS Membership & **WESTERN MEADOWLARK** only \$16
- Subscription to **WESTERN MEADOWLARK** only \$16
- First class subscription to **WESTERN MEADOWLARK** \$21.00
- SBVAS Donation _____

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SBVAS Chapter
C117XCH
May 2007

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c/o San Bernardino Valley Audubon Society

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