



San Bernardino Valley Audubon Society

WESTERN MEADOWLARK

Volume 67— Number 2



David Bell

Wednesday, November 16, 2016
7:30 p.m.
General Meeting

AND THERE BE DRAGONS PRESENTED BY DAVID BELL

Do you enjoy birding and want to learn more about some of the other flying critters? Dragonflies are a great place to start. This talk is intended to help birders and other nature enthusiasts get started with enjoying dragonflies and damselflies. The best way to get started is ... to get started! We will talk about what equipment you'll need (binoculars or a camera), where and when to go and review some simple and more advanced resources to help you learn. The talk will also help you get to know some of the most common species in our local area. David Bell grew up in Pasadena and is the creator of many free apps for birders: BirdLog (created in partnership with eBird.org and now called eBird Mobile), Merlin (created in partnership with the Cornell Lab of Ornithology), BirdsEye and most recently the Dragonfly ID App (in partnership with OdonataCentral.org.) found at <http://www.birdseyebirding.com/apps/dragonfly-id-app/>

David Bell is a lifelong birder who has spent his career in businesses devoted to improving the environment. His most fun project was helping to found the Reva Electric Car Company in India, which is now among the largest electric vehicle manufacturers in the world. Dave is the leader of our flock, an enthusiastic county birder, and a bit obsessive about product quality and data integrity. As an undergrad, Dave worked as research assistant to Ernst Mayr and ornithology curatorial assistant to Raymond Paynter in the MCZ. Years of intensive birding therapy have helped Dave partially recover from his undergraduate degree in Physics from Harvard, his Ph.D. in Robotics from the University of Michigan and MBA from Columbia. Dave's job is to keep the trains running on time.

Wednesday, December 21, 2016—
6:30 pm
General Meeting

Come and Celebrate the Holidays Annual Potluck

Our traditional **potluck dinner** will be held at the San Bernardino County Museum at **6:30 pm**. Turkey, ham and beverages will be provided. Please bring your own table service and your favorite dish to share: a salad, vegetable, casserole, side dish, or dessert. Come early to visit with friends and to do a little last minute **holiday shopping** at our bookstore.

Please be sure to bring bird and nature photos to share for our member **slideshow program**. We ask that members bring 10-15 nature pictures. Will we see some Stints?

We'll also be having a **silent auction** to share the book collections of our members. If you have a nature-related book or two you would like to donate, please bring them to the potluck. Or, perhaps you'd like to bid on the treasured bird book brought by another member. Either way, plan on an enjoyable evening.



POTLUCK DINNER

Dori Myers, Program Chair

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

Local Sightings: Fall 2016 by Tom Benson

This issue of local sightings covers the peak of fall migration from mid August to mid October. Unfortunately, I am unable to include all of the rarities in this report, so many "low-end" or annual vagrants are omitted (e.g., Northern Waterthrush, Clay-colored Sparrow, Indigo Bunting, etc.).

To start, there were three first county records in this two-month period, all in the shorebird category. The first was a juvenile RED-NECKED STINT at the San Jacinto Wildlife Area (SJWA) Sep 5-9; it is remarkable in being only the third record of a juvenile in North America outside of Alaska. The second, at the same location, was a juvenile LITTLE STINT Oct 9-15; you could say it was a good year for stints in Riverside County. Finally, San Bernardino got in on the action with a BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER at Harper Dry Lake Oct 10-11; this species was my #3 pick for next most likely county bird.

The San Jacinto Wildlife Area continues to produce good birds on a regular basis. In addition to two first county record stints, it also hosted a PACIFIC GOLDEN-PLOVER (Aug 27-30), STILT SANDPIPER (Sep 29-Oct 10), REDDISH EGRET (Sep 6-13), LAUGHING GULL (Sep 19), OVENBIRD (Oct 10), and VIRGINIA'S WARBLER (Sep 6). Other notable birds on the coastal slope included a VIRGINIA'S WARBLER (Sep 15-20) and a TENNESSEE WARBLER (Oct 18), both at UC Riverside, and a RUDDY TURNSTONE at Lake Elsinore (Sep 3-13). The deserts of Riverside County were productive as well, with Lake Tamarisk Golf Club being the center of activity in the desert. Highlights here included EASTERN KINGBIRD (Aug 27-28), BROAD-BILLED HUMMINGBIRD (Sep 17), BROAD-WINGED HAWK (Sep 17), and BLACKBURNIAN WARBLER (Sep 17). Nearby desert oases contributed PAINTED REDSTART (Sep 19, Corn Spring), BROWN BOOBY (Sep 13, found dead at Cactus City), and RUFOUS-BACKED ROBIN (Oct 13-17, Chiriaco Summit). Along the Colorado River, a ZONE-TAILED HAWK was at Palo Verde Ecological Reserve (Aug 29) and four STILT SANDPIPERS were in Blythe (Aug 30-31). Notable sightings at the north end of the Salton Sea included a PARASITIC JAEGER (Sep 17) and up to four SABINE'S GULL (Oct 3-12).



Little Stint
Tom Benson

In Imperial County at the south end of the Salton Sea, the highlight was a toss-up between the 13 MAGNIFICENT FRIGATEBIRDS around Morton Bay and Obsidian Butte (Sep 11), and an EASTERN KINGBIRD at Red Hill (Sep 1-3). The former was probably the more spectacular sight, while the latter was probably the better bird. Pelagic birds made a showing at the Salton Sea with PARASITIC JAEGER (Sep 11, 18, and 23), and up to two SABINE'S GULLS (Oct 6-16); two more SABINE'S GULLS were at Fig Lagoon (Oct 13). A SEMIPALMATED SANDPIPER was seen Aug 23, and the long-staying REDDISH EGRET was last reported Sep 18. An immature ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEAK in Brawley (Sep 11) was one of few passerine vagrants reported so far this fall.

While not a first county record (it was in fact the 9th record), a MAGNIFICENT FRIGATEBIRD at Big Bear Lake (Aug 27) challenges the Buff-breasted Sandpiper for the title of best bird in the county during the period. Many of the good birds this fall have been at Harper Dry Lake or Kramer Junction solar evaporation ponds. The former hosted a SANDERLING (Aug 29-30), RED-THROATED PIPIT (Oct 12), PALM WARBLER (Oct 15), SHORT-EARED OWL (Oct 8-17), LAPLAND LONGSPUR (Oct 10-17), and SURF SCOTER (Oct 17); with only one record prior

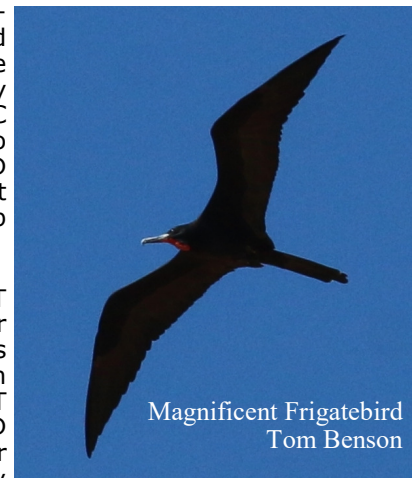


Red-necked Stint
Tom Benson

to 2016, the pipit provides the 4th county record following two together at Big Bear Lake this May. The latter location had a SANDERLING (Aug 28), two PALM WARBLERS (Sep 28-Oct 6), and RED PHALAROPE (Sep 28-Oct 1). The best bird from the eastern Mojave Desert so far this fall was a one-day wonder CANADA WARBLER at Hole-in-the-Wall (Oct 5). Other notable birds from the region included single PAINTED BUNTINGS from Afton Canyon (Aug 30-31) and Primm Valley Golf Club (Sep 13), and BALTIMORE ORIOLE (Aug 31) and DICKCISSEL (Sep 19) at Zzyzx. Covington Park had a very cooperative adult male BALTIMORE ORIOLE (Sep 19-20) and a BROAD-WINGED HAWK (Sep 19). In the southwestern corner of the county, Prado Regional Park produced a presumably continuing BLACK SKIMMER, an AMERICAN BITTERN, and a SABINE'S GULL (all Oct 8).



Buff-breasted Sandpiper
Matt Grube



Magnificent Frigatebird
Tom Benson

Bird of the Month: Western Screech-Owl

By Steve Myers



Western Screech-Owl (adult), Whitewater Preserve, Riverside County. ©2009 Stephen J. Myers; (2) Western Screech-Owl (fledgling), Whitewater Preserve, Riverside

The Western Screech-Owl (*Megascops kennicottii*) is widespread throughout much of western North America, occurring from southeastern Alaska south and east to eastern Colorado and New Mexico, and central Texas. Its distribution continues into Mexico to at least as far south as Puebla, Michoacan, and Jalisco. This species is nonmigratory throughout its range.

In southern California, the Western Screech-Owl can be found in a wide variety of habitats, such as lowland riparian forest and woodland (dominated by Fremont Cottonwoods and willows), fan palm oases, oak woodlands, desert microphyll woodlands (desert washes), and even suburban neighborhoods with large exotic trees. The highest densities of birds in the lowlands can be found in oak habitats. Although it is mainly associated with lower elevations, it also occurs in the mountains, at least to elevations up to about 5,000 feet in areas with abundant oaks.

During nesting season, males begin courting females in January and February by calling near a nest site. Nests are in tree cavities, with old flicker cavities commonly used; they also use natural cavities (such as knot holes and cavities formed by large branches breaking off) and nest boxes. In palm trees nests are located in hollows within dead palm fronds. No nest material is placed into nests, with the eggs simply being laid on whatever is on the bottom of the nest cavity. Entrances into nest cavities are usually about 7 cm (2-3/4 inches) in diameter. Two to seven white eggs are laid, with most clutches between three and five eggs. The female incubates the eggs and broods the nestlings, and the male brings food to the female during this time. When the nestlings are about three weeks old, the female will begin to take breaks from brooding, and join the male in hunting prey. Various studies have shown that the incubation period is

anywhere from 26 to 34 days, and fledging occurs between 28 and 35 days following hatching.

Western Screech-Owls eat a wide variety of small animals, both vertebrates and invertebrates. They are a "sit-and-wait" predator, perching on a twig or branch and swooping after prey when it is sighted. Main prey items vary depending on the geographic location of the owls and the time of year. Prey can include small mammals, birds, frogs, crayfish, fish, and a wide variety of arthropods. Amazingly, prey items as large as adult cottontail rabbits and a female Mallard have been found in nest sites. Like other owls, and several other groups of birds, Western Screech-Owls cast pellets of indigestible material.

The oldest known Western Screech-Owl living in the wild was 13 years old, and a captive pair lived to the age of 19. A banding study in Idaho showed average lifespans of less than two years for this species.

As is the case with most bird species trying to coexist with humans in our modern world, the Western Screech-Owl faces many threats. Collisions with vehicles along roads, shooting, and pesticides may have small effects on owl populations, but loss of habitat has likely resulted in declines, especially the loss of riparian and oak habitats. They are known to readily use nesting boxes, so if you live in an area with suitable habitat (lots of trees) you may want to consider installing such a box; you may be rewarded with the familiar "bouncing-ball" calls of the Western Screech-Owl outside your window!

Want to learn more?

Cannings, Richard J. and Tony Angell. (2001). Western Screech-Owl (*Megascops kennicottii*), The Birds of North America (P. G. Rodewald, Ed.). Ithaca: Cornell Lab of Ornithology; Retrieved from the Birds of North America: <https://birdsna-org.bnaproxy.birds.cornell.edu/Species-Account/bna/species/wesowl1>
DOI: 10.2173/bna.597

Bearpaw Ranch

Bearpaw Ranch is a 70 acre nature sanctuary, operated by the San Bernardino Audubon Society and may be visited 7 days a week from dawn 'til dusk by members of Audubon and their guests. Bearpaw Ranch is nestled on the north slope of scenic Mill Creek Canyon at 4,500 feet elevation, surrounded by the towering peaks of the San Bernardino National Forest. To reach Bearpaw Ranch, take Highway 38 to the Forest Falls turnoff. Go several car lengths on Valley of the Falls Dr. and look for our small wooden sign on the right. Our driveway is on the right, marked 38801. The driveway is paved and unpaved road that meanders across Mill Creek wash and up the bluff to an electronically operated entry gate. Members who wish to visit the Sanctuary should call any board member in advance to get the gate code. It is not a requirement that the caretaker is at home for you to visit. If the gate does not open because of mechanical failure, you are welcome to walk in or stop for birding along the creek bed.

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



San Bernardino Valley Audubon 2016-2017 Sponsored Christmas Bird Counts



Once again the San Bernardino Valley Audubon Society is sponsoring eight Christmas Bird Counts in Riverside and San Bernardino counties. Everyone is welcome to participate in as many of these counts as he or she likes. For further information, please contact the compilers at the phone numbers or email addresses listed below. Reservations are not necessary, but it can't hurt to call the compiler for last minute changes in plans and also to give him or her an idea of how many participants to expect. National Audubon is no longer charging a participant fee, so the CBC is now FREE! Most counts finish the day at a local restaurant to eat supper and to compile the results. That's often half the fun! For more information call or e-mail your count compiler (listed below). Bring a friend and enjoy the day. Count compilers who wish to change their information should contact Brad Singer (bsinger@gmail.com) to post it on the website.

Redlands (Mill Creek)

Saturday, December 17, 2016 7:00a.m.

Compiler: Gene Cardiff

email: ecardiff4084@roadrunner.com

(909) 875-5358

We will meet at the Mill Creek Ranger Station, just north of the intersection of Mill Creek Rd. (State Hwy. 38) and Bryant St. at 7:00 a.m. The portion of the count circle, which you would like to help count can be arranged at that time, or a prior choice can be made. At the end of the day, around 5:00p.m., we will meet at the Casa Maya Mexican restaurant to share the day's experiences, enjoy some good food (on a no-host basis—order from the menu) and do a quick tally of the count. Casa Maya is located at 1837 Mentone Blvd. in Mentone, near the Post Office and the hardware store.

Morongo Valley

Saturday, December 17, 2016 7:30a.m.

Compiler: Joe Zarki (760) 366-

8913 jwzarki@gmail.com

Let's hope that this year brings a few more rarities, but more than that, let's hope that our regular birds continue to be found in healthy numbers. Please call Joe for information, or simply arrive at the Parking Lot at Big Morongo, 11055 East Dr. at 7:30 a.m. sharp. Note that volunteer counters may be assigned to any of the eight areas within a 15 mile radius of Big Morongo Canyon Preserve. We'll compile as a group by a cozy wood stove at the Big Morongo Canyon Preserve Office while munching pizza and seasonal treats. Please note: It will probably be very cold during count day, so remember to wear warm clothing.

Santa Ana River Valley

Sunday, December 18, 2016 6:45 a.m.

Compiler: Larry LaPre (951)276-1213 (home) email:

lflapre@aol.com

The Santa Ana River Valley CBC covers most of the cities of Riverside, Corona, and Norco. Within the count circle are some outstanding riparian areas like Prado Basin and Rubidoux Nature Center, and some duck filled lakes, like Lake Norconian and Lake Mathews. Meeting places and time for the sub-groups are listed below.

Rubidoux Nature Center:

Meet at the Nature Center parking lot at 6:45 a.m. Take Riverview (Limonite) from Mission Ave. in Rubidoux to Riverview Dr. in Rubidoux to Riverview Dr. (watch for sign), then bear left and go about a mile to the Nature Center.

Prado Basin, Lake Norconian and Hidden Valley Wildlife Area:

Meet at the gate to Hidden Valley, located at the dirt road entrance off Arlington Ave. across from the cemetery at 6:45 a.m. To enter Lake Norconian, the Navy requires the names of all participants in advance. Call Larry LaPre to get the details.

Idyllwild

Sunday Dec. 18, 2016 8:00 a.m.

Compiler: Bob Packard 951-742-7935 packard90@hotmail.com

If you like high-elevation birding in the snow and cold, join us for the Idyllwild Christmas Bird Count begun in 1952! If you are assigned a territory you may begin the day in that area. Otherwise we will meet at the Lake Hemet store on Rte. 74 at 8:00 a.m. Temperatures may be quite brisk in the morning, so wear layers, and bring food and drink. Some areas may also require hiking, so please dress appropriately. Please e-mail Bob Packard for more information, or show up at Lake Hemet at 8:00 AM. Note that volunteer counters may be assigned to any of the fifteen territories within a 15 mile radius. Maps and checklists available on request. Beginners will be paired up with more experienced birders. We will tally species as a group at Idyllwild Pizza in Idyllwild (54391 Village Center Drive) at 5:00 PM.

San Jacinto Lake

Tuesday, December 20, 2016 7:00 a.m.

Compilers: Tony Metcalf (909) 242-7038 ametcalf@csusb.edu

Tom Benson (909) 648-0899

We will meet at 7:00 a.m. on the corner of Bridge St. and the Ramona Expressway about three miles east of Lakeview. The San Jacinto Lake Count is in the top 1-2% of all North American Christmas Bird Counts, and regularly leads the nation in species diversity for inland CBCs. We average over 150 species. The San Bernardino Audubon Society is very fortunate in having so many talented and enthusiastic birders who regularly find the time to count birds all day on a certain brisk Tuesday in December. Call it the San Jacinto flu. This year, as in past counts, we will be working closely with the San Jacinto Wildlife Area biologist in ensuring that we have another successful count. We will try to have group leaders in the same count areas as last year. Please notify Tony Metcalf prior to count week if you are interested in a particular area. So, for science, for the birds, and mostly for the fun, grab a friend and join us for another great count. At the end of the day, we will meet for dinner to tally and compile our findings.

San Bernardino Valley

Friday, December 23, 2015 7:00 a.m.

Compiler: Dori Myers (714)779-2201 (home) dorimyers88@gmail.com

Come join San Bernardino Valley Audubon's longest running count. We will meet at 7:00 a.m. at the San Bernardino County Museum. From there we will form

form small groups to cover the count area. Remember, the counts are for pleasure as well as science. Anyone can help and the more pairs of eyes out there in the field, the more birds we find. We will regroup around 5:30PM at the Denny's in Redlands to share stories and tally the day's findings.

Mojave River Valley

Saturday, December 24, 2015 6:30 a.m.

Compiler: Bill Deppe (760) 953-6947 or email

bdeppe@gmail.com The meeting place is the same as the past years: The Starbucks on the southwest corner of the intersection of Bear Valley Rd. and Hesperia Rd. This intersection is just over three miles east of I-15 (take the Bear Valley Rd. exit). We will meet at 6:30a.m. A post count compilation will take place at a restaurant to be specified at the meeting place. It can get mighty cold (and windy) on the count, so bring plenty of layers.

Salton Sea North

Friday, December 30, 2016 6:30 a.m.

Compiler: Chet McGaugh (951)781-3699 chetmcgaugh@gmail.com

We will meet at 6:30 a.m. at the big ARCO just off of the expressway near Mecca. Dress warmly. It can be cold in the early morning hours. We will form six or seven groups and spread out over the count circle for a day of counting the multitudes of birds that spend the winter around the north end of Salton Sea.

Bird identification skills are helpful but not a prerequisite; the group leaders will handle any identification problems. Counting ability is a prerequisite. Each group leader needs people to count common birds (like Eared Grebes, Ruddy Ducks, American Coots, gulls), and someone to record the numbers, so that he/she can concentrate on finding the unusual and hard-to-find species. If you want a mellow day of birding at Salton Sea, save yourself \$6 and we'll see you in January on the field trip. If you want a rather intense day of birding, and would like to contribute to the ever-growing (since 1969) data bank, come on out. You will see lots of birds. We typically record 130-140 species. After the count we will compile our results at a local restaurant.

Joshua Tree National Park

Monday, January 2, 2017 7:00 a.m.

Compiler: Joe Zarki (760) 366-8913 jwzarki@gmail.com

The daily use fee for the park will be waived for the Christmas count participants. Bring layers of clothing, it can be cold and windy or it can be warm and calm, we've had everything from 78 degrees to snow blowing straight at you. Also bring snacks, good walking shoes, lunch and drinks, or you can pick up lunch in Twentynine Palms if you choose Group 1. Group 2 will have to rough it, no phones, no restaurants, but just beautiful country. Some Group 1 and Group 2 routes require hiking on trails or in rough, rocky terrain. We will meet at 5:30 p.m. at a restaurant in Joshua Tree to compile the results.

Group 1:

Meet the group leader at 7:00 a.m. at the Indian Cove Ranger Station on Indian Cove Rd. This is off Hwy. 62 on the western side of Twentynine Palms at the entry of the park leading to Indian Cove Camp Ground. Birders meeting here will cover the north side of the count

circle including the Indian Cove area, 49 Palms Oasis, the Oasis of Mara, and the North Park Entrance area of the park. In-town locations include Knott Sky Park, Luckie Park, the Twentynine Palms Inn, and any place birds can be found. Group 1 covers low elevation areas of the count so temperatures are fairly mild.

Group 2:

Meet the group leader at 7:00 a.m. at the West Entrance of the Park. Take Park Blvd. from the town of Joshua Tree, parking is just behind the entry station. Areas covered include hidden Valley, Lost Horse area, Barker Dam, Keys Ranch, Ryan Ranch area, Queen Valley, Jumbo Rocks, and the Geology Tour Road.

SBVAS Officers 2015/2016

www.sbvass.org

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Second Vice President: Dave Woodward (909) 783-2417
Treasurer: Nancy Higbee (951) 780-9236
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Mountain Conservation Issues: Peter Jorris (909) 867-3536
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Cin Greyraven (909) 327-8795
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truthraven@verizon.net

RARE BIRD ALERT: Tom Benson (909)-648-0899
or (909)-537-3309 or tbenson@csusb.edu

SBVAS BOOKSTORE AND GIFT SHOP:

CALENDAR

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

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

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

UPCOMING NOVEMBER/DECEMBER FIELD TRIPS

Sunday, November 6, 2016 - 8:00-10:00 am Beginning Bird Walk at San Timoteo Canyon Leader: **Matt Grube** (909) 253-3867

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 meet at the dirt lot along San Timoteo Canyon Rd just south of Fern Ave at 8 am. The walk is free, and all are invited to join. Expect to walk 2-3 miles on level dirt paths as we look for our winter resident birds. Please contact Matt Grube by email at mattgrube@gmail.com for questions.

Sunday, November 13, 2016 - 7:00 am Northern San Jacinto Valley

Tony Metcalf (951) 242-7038 and **Dave Goodward** (909) 783-2417

Ah, cooler weather. Wintering birds of prey and waterfowl, coastal sage scrub and wetlands, all close by. Please join us for our fall field trip to the northern San Jacinto Valley. We have two goals for this trip. First is to have fun. Second, is to see 100 species. We always accomplish the first goal and have come very close to the second. Maybe this is the year. The northern San Jacinto Valley is known for its high species diversity. We have ranked highest in number of bird species seen for inland areas in North America for Audubon's Christmas Bird Counts, and are usually in the top 1-2% for all counts. At the heart of the region is the public San Jacinto Wildlife Area. We will meet at the parking lot at the gates of the San Jacinto Wildlife Area ([map](#)). From Riverside go south on 215 then east on Ramona, then north on Davis road three miles to parking lot. From Hemet, go west on Ramona to Davis road. From Redlands, go east on 10, then south on 215, then east on 60 or go south on Redlands Blvd, east on 60, East on Gilman springs, south on Bridge Street, west on Ramona and north on Davis road. As Davis is a dirt road, it is not recommended if there have been recent rains. The dirt roads are too dangerous for normal travel when wet. You can call or e-mail Tony Metcalf or the San Jacinto Wildlife Area headquarters (951-654-0580) for updated road info to the Wildlife Area.

Saturday, December 3, 2016 - 8:00 am Daggett & Newberry Springs Gene Cardiff (909) 875-5358 or (951) 522-4933

We will look for wintering birds at Newberry Springs and Daggett areas in the alfalfa fields and ponds, with a particular interest in birds of prey. If we have the time we may head over to Silver Lakes and see what we can find there. We will meet at the Denny's on Lenwood Road in Barstow ([map](#)) at 7:00 am (before breakfast) or 8:00 am (after breakfast). To get there, take I-15 north to Barstow and turn right at the Lenwood Road offramp. Denny's will be on the right hand side. Bring a lunch, water, snacks and warm clothes, because summer may be over by then. After lunch we will caravan and do some more looking for hawks and other birds. For more information on weather etc., call Gene at the number above.

Sunday, December 6, 2016 - 8:00-10:00 am Demuth Park, Palm Springs Brad Singer (909) 838-7951

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 parks. 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. Everyone is welcome. Meet at 8 am at the parking lot near the tennis courts on E. Mesquite Blvd. near Vella Road.

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



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



For lodging and visitor information,
call 800-942-4042 or click
www.olympicpeninsula.org



www.visitsunnysequim.com
800-737-8462

For more information:
www.olympicbirdfest.org
info@olympicbirdfest.org
or 360-681-4076



Olympic Birdfest, April 7-9, 2017. Enjoy guided birding trips, boat tours, live auction & raffle, gala banquet, and more. Our featured speaker: noted nature photographer Bonnie Block. Join our festival pre-trip: a three-day, two-night birding/sightseeing cruise of the San Juan Islands, April 4-6, 2017. Register separately at www.pugetsoundexpress.com/audubon. Extend your festival with our Neah Bay post-trip on April 9-11, 2017: two days exploring northwest coastal Washington. BirdFest registration at www.olympicbirdfest.org.

Western Meadowlark

SCHEDULED 2016/2107 FIELD TIPS

Sunday, November 6, 2016 at 8 a.m.
Beginning Bird Walk
San Timoteo Canyon

Sunday November 13, 2016 at 7 a.m.
SJWA/San Jacinto Valley

Saturday, December 3, 2016 at 8 a.m.
Daggett Newberry Springs

Sunday, December 4, 2016 at 8 a.m.
Beginning Bird Walk
Demuth Park Palm Springs

Saturday, January 7, 2017 at 7 a.m.
Goose/Crane South End Salton Sea

Saturday, January 14, 2017 at 8 a.m.
Malibu

Sunday, February 5, 2017 at 7 a.m.
San Jacinto Wildlife Area

Sunday, February 5, 2017 at 8 a.m.
Beginning Bird Walk Prado – Tom Benson

Saturday, February 11, 2017 at 7:30
a.m.
Seal Beach NWS

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

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

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

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

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

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

7

November/December

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

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

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

Sunday, May 7, 2017
Box Springs Mountain

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

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

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

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

Sunday, June 11, 2017
Palm Springs Tram

Saturday, June 17, 2017
Wrightwood Area

Saturday, June 24, 2017
Insane Jaunt - 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, binoculars and/or a
scope, field guide.
Come and Enjoy. Call Field Trip Leader
for last minute cancellations,
questions or changes...🐦

November 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 SBVAS Board Meeting 7 p.m.	2	3	4	5
6 Beg. Bird Walk San Timoteo Canyon 8 a.m.	7	8	9	10	11	12
13 Field Trip SJWA/ San Jacinto Valley 7 a.m.	14	15	16 SBVAS General Meeting 7:30 p.m.	17	18	19
20 Beginning Bird Walk Demuth Park 8 a.m.	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

December 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3 Field Trip Daggett Newberry Spring 8 a.m.
4	5	6 SBVAS Board Meeting 7 p.m.	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17 CBCs Mill Creek At 7 a.m. <u>and</u> Morongo Valley at 7:30 a.m.
18 CBCs Santa Ana River 6:45 a.m. <u>and</u> Idyllwild 8 a.m.	19	20 CBC San Jacinto Lake at 7 a.m.	21 Holiday Potluck Slideshow/Silent Auction 6:30 p.m.	22	23 CBC San Bernardino Valley at 7 a.m.	24 CBC Mojave River Valley at 6:30 a.m.
25	26	27	28	29	30 CBC Salton Sea North 6:30 a.m.	31

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

THE WESTERN MEADOWLARK

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

Everyone is always welcome!

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

Board Meetings
are the 1st Tuesday

General meetings
are the 3rd Wednesday



SBVAS Membership
currently at 1900

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

Chapter Only Membership Application

San Bernardino Valley Audubon

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

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

Email Address _____

Please enclose a check payable to SBVAS



Membership Application

National Audubon Society (NAS)

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

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Please make check payable to National Audubon Society

SBVAS Chapter
 C11

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