



San Bernardino Valley Audubon Society

WESTERN MEADOWLARK

Volume 63— Number 2
November-December 2012

Butterfly Gardening By A Butterfly Lady November 14, 2012 (please note date change)

A program by Monika U. Moore

It is always questionable writing about oneself. What do acquaintances really want to know about us? How far back do we dare go? My love for butterflies began as a child. Our family pediatrician had butterflies all over the waiting room and I fell in love with the blue morpho butterfly. The iridescent colors of its wings were irresistible to my eye and they mesmerized me. I was hooked.

In 2002 our family moved to Fullerton, California. Having



lived in a condominium, for fourteen years this was our first real garden. My dream was of a butterfly garden and we transformed the hard-scape in our backyard one small section at

a time. With guidance from Butterfly Gardening by E. O. Wilson, within two years the magic began to happen. Now we have many hungry caterpillars and plants to feed them and we have Monarchs.

Over the years I have learned a lot about caring for my little friends. I have written a book called Monarch Garden Adventures that contains many of my insights. It contains many beautiful pictures I have taken in our garden. I have visited numerous classrooms and groups with my little friends and introduced many children to them. I hope to encourage both young and old to garden. It is deeply rewarding educating people about gardening and butterflies. We are also part of the Cal Poly San Luis Obispo tagging program tracking migration patterns of the monarch butterfly.

We are all so busy removing weeds from our gardens that we do not realize that many butterflies need them to lay their eggs on. If more of us plant some milkweed we can help strengthen monarch numbers. After all, butterflies are beneficial pollinators as well as beautiful.

This is just a small part of my story and I hope it is enough to inspire you to come and enjoy my program. You can check out these web sites: www.monarchwatch.org. Our number is 5375, which is my garden. Also check out: thebutterflydy.etsy.com. Our doors open at 7P.M.....come early to visit with friends, enjoy refreshments, and shop at our book tables. Everyone is always welcome.

Dori Myers, Program Chair

Holiday Potluck Wednesday, December 19, 2012—6:30

Come and Celebrate the Holidays

Our traditional potluck dinner will be held at the San Bernardino county Museum at 6:30P.M. 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. Our program will be provided by our members who should bring 10-15 nature pictures to show and share. 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.

Would you like Audubon meeting in your area?

Kirk Stitt

SBVAS covers substantially all of San Bernardino and Riverside counties, which is an extremely large area. Our regular monthly meetings are held at the San Bernardino County Museum in Redlands., which can often seem to exclude those who live in the farther reaches of our chapter. We would like our chapter to sponsor meetings at various locations throughout the area. Before that can happen, though, we need to determine the level of interest in various cities throughout our region. If you have an interest in a meeting in your area please contact Kirk Stitt at kstitt@earthlink.net and use subject "Audubon meeting" or call him at (909)886-5513. Please consider possible meeting room locations and the local members who would be interested in helping with notices, set-up, etc. Good birding to you!



This handsome black-throated grey warbler was seen on the Bearpaw field trip on October 13. For other field trip pictures see the rest of this newsletter.

San Bernardino Valley Audubon 2012-20143 Sponsored Christmas Bird Counts

Once again the San Bernardino Valley Audubon Society is sponsoring nine 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 Tom Benson to post it on the website.

Redlands (Mill Creek): Saturday December 15, 2012
7:00a.m.

Compiler: Gene Cardiff email: e.cardiff@worldnet.att.net , (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 7:00a.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: Date TBD 7:30a.m.

Compiler: Dee Zeller (760)363-7190, birdee@verizon.net and Margaret Hogan, mhandbb@earthlink.net

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 Dee or his wife Betty for information, or simply arrive at the Parking Lot at Big Morongo, 11055 East Dr. at 7:30a.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.

Idyllwild: Monday, December 16, 2012

Compilers: Sherri Stange (951) 925-4007
Steve Adkison (951) 652-2907

Meet at the Lake Hemet Store at 8:00a.m. After viewing the birds on and around the lake we will divide into smaller groups and, with a leader, canvass the count circle. Expert or beginner, we need you eyes! Come prepared! Although, over the years, the weather has been remarkably cold, clear, and mostly snow free, anything can happen. If the forecast is for very bad weather, the count will be postponed to the next possible day. Call Sherri the night before if the weather looks questionable. *Bring binoculars, field guide, sack lunch, and a hot drink. Dress in layers. We will regroup at the Anchor*

Restaurant in Hemet at 5:30p.m. to tally and admire who found what. Come join us in the mountains. After 20 plus years off compiling the Idyllwild CBC, Steve and Sheri are retiring as compilers of the Idyllwild CBC after this year. If you are interested in taking over as a CBC compiler, please contact Steve or Sherri at the phone number above.

Santa Ana River Valley: Sunday, December 16, 2012, 6:45p.m.
Compiler: Larry LaPre (951)276-1213 (home) (951)607-5218 (work) 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 6:45a.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 6:45a.m. **To enter Lake Norconian, the Navy requires the names of all participants in advance. Call Larry LaPre to get the details.**

San Jacinto Lake: Tuesday, December 18, 2012

Compilers: Tony Metcalf (909) 242-7038 ametcalf@csusb.edu
Tom Benson (909) 648-0899 thomasbenenson@aol.com

We will meet at 7:00a.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 at 6:00p.m. at Coco's at the corner of Perris and Sunnymead Blvd. in Moreno Valley to tally and compile our findings.

San Bernardino Valley: Friday, December 22, 2012

Compiler: Dori Myers (714)779-2201 (home) dori-myers88@gmail.com.

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

5:30p.m. at the Denny's in Redlands to share stories and tally the day's findings.

Mojave River Valley: Saturday, December 29, 2012, 6:30a.m.
Compiler: Steve Myers (951) 247-3027(h) or (951) 369-8060
(w)stephenmyers@earthlink.net, Bill Truesdell (760) 362-4123

The meeting place is the same as the past years: The Starbucks in the Vons shopping center parking lot on the northeastern corner of the inter-section 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.

Joshua Tree National Park: TBA, 7:00a.m.

Compiler: Joe Zarki (760)367-5520 (work) (760)366-8913 (home) and Bill Truesdell (760) 362-4132

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 7:00a.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 7:00a.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. Group 2 covers higher elevation habitats from 3000-5000 feet so temperatures are 5-10 degrees cooler.

Salton Sea North : Monday, January 5, 2013 6:30a.m.

Compiler: Chet McGaugh (909)781-3699 (home) or (951)369-8060 (work) chetmcgaugh@earthlink.net

We will meet at 6:30a.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.

Photo Quiz

By Brad Singer

Welcome to the fifth in the series of photo quizzes, a column used to better your identification skills, and ultimately, a way in which to become more accustomed to perusing our wonderful online newsletter at <http://www.sbvas.org/meadowlark.htm>. If you would like to participate in our quiz, email your answers to sbvasbird.id@gmail.com. Please include your name, home city, and the common name of the bird as it appears in the ABA checklist. I appreciate the excellent response to last issues quiz. For those that participated, answer the next two quizzes, (correctly or incorrectly), and you will receive a copy of the new National Geographic Field Guide to Birds of North America. This issue's photo was submitted by Tom Benson, our resident Webmaster, San Bernardino County birding guru, and professional birder. He will supply the answer in the next issue.



Mystery bird photo taken in September in San Bernardino

Answer to September/October mystery birds: Terns can be difficult to identify, partly because they spend much of the time in the air, darting, dropping and seemingly always flying away from you. Finding a small flock of terns on the beach, such as these Santa Barbara birds, provides a great opportunity for observation. What is most noticeable are their long, elongated, yellow-orange bills, slightly pale at the tip that become slightly darker towards the basal end. This, along with their shaggy crests and a broad black patch across their crowns, coupled with short, black feet and a front-heavy appearance are all good field marks for adult, nonbreeding, **Elegant Terns**. Royal Terns are slightly similar, but have shorter, stouter bills, and a black crest that is much shorter in length. In full nonbreeding plumage, Royal Terns show white around the eyes whereas Elegant Terns always show a portion of the eye surrounded in black. Unlike Royal Terns, Elegant Terns are primarily Pacific coast birds, breeding either locally or in the Gulf of California. A few birds have been recorded in Texas and there is only one accepted east coast record, a bird found in Virginia in 1985.

Bird of the Month: Bushtit

By Steve Myers

One of the most sociable of songbirds is the Bushtit (*Psaltriparus minimus*). These cute little bundles of energy form impressive flocks in the nonbreeding season, sometimes numbering several dozen.

During the nesting season, pairs establish territories, but other Bushtits are fairly well tolerated within the territories. The nest is from 5 to 35 feet above the ground, and is a hanging pocket nest up to about 12 inches long. The entrance hole is near the top of the nest. The nest is made of spider web, grasses, moss, leaves, and small twigs, with a lining of animal hair and plant down. Five to seven eggs are laid. Incubation is about 12 days, and is performed by both parents. The young fledge in about 15 days. Two broods per year is normal.

Following the nesting season, family groups come together in flocks that move continuously through riparian woodland and scrub, chaparral, oak woodland, and coastal sage scrub. Foraging flocks are very vocal, twittering almost con-



stantly. They forage on small insects, such as leafhoppers, aphids, small larvae, and also eat some spiders, berries, and seeds. They can be quite acrobatic, sometimes hanging upside down at the ends of twigs.

Bushtits are unlikely to be confused with other species. They are tiny, about 4-1/2 inches long, with proportionately long tails. The "coastal" subspecies (*P.m. minimus*) is gray except for an obvious brown head. A different subspecies occurs in the Great Basin/Rocky Mountain region, the "Lead-colored" Bushtit (*P.m. plumbeus*), and yet another, the "Black-eared" Bushtit (*P.m. melanotis*) occurs from southeastern Arizona east to



Texas. The latter two subspecies both have gray heads. The Lead-colored Bushtit is resident in the ranges of our eastern desert, including the Providence, New York, and Little San Bernardino mountains.

Males have dark eyes (see photo above), and adult females pale eyes (see photo at left). Juveniles of both sexes have dark eyes, with females' eyes lightening by the first fall.

Bushtits are in the "Long-tailed Tits" family, and are the family's only species in the New World. This family primarily occurs in Asia.



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.

You can also 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.



Trip leader Gene Cardiff and others check out the feeders at Bearpaw Ranch on October 13.

Board of Supervisors Approves Cadiz Project With Significant Public Opposition

Kirk Stitt

The San Bernardino County Board of supervisors recently approved the Cadiz water extraction operation in the Fenner Valley (south of I-40 and east of Amboy) against the objections of many concerned citizens including San Bernardino Valley Audubon Society. We oppose the project because it is not sustainable. The water draw down will be substantially more than the recharge. This aquifer is between Mojave National Preserve and Joshua Tree National Park. There is great concern about the impact on the area because of the draw down of the water table. We have joined Center for Biological Diversity, Sierra Club and the National Parks Conservation Association in a lawsuit over the project.

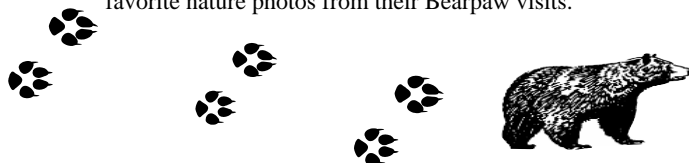
We also believe that there are many conflicts of interest in this project. The Los Angeles Times reported that all of the county supervisors have received combined campaign contributions exceeding \$98,000 from Cadiz or its principals. The Press Enterprise reported over \$107,000. This makes one wonder if this project is in the best interests of the County of San Bernardino, or rather Cadiz, the campaign contributors. In addition, the Santa Margarita Water District was the responsible agency for reviewing the EIR. They are conflicted because they are the entity that benefits financially from the project. What caused the County to negotiate with Cadiz to allow the project with so many questionable scientific assumptions? Even Senator Diane Feinstein asked the supervisors to delay approval of this project until an independent study of the recharge rate can be made. The County water ordinance sets a standard that a water project must not remove more water than is typically recharged into an aquifer. This ordinance was established over a decade ago when Cadiz proposed a similar project. The County Board granted an exception to that ordinance to allow Cadiz to remove 50,000 acre feet per year. Scientific studies indicate a recharge rate of 5,000 acre feet per year. Cadiz estimates the recharge to be 30,000 acre feet per year, 6 times the amount determined by hydrologists funded in part by SBVAS.

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 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 923396

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 2011/2012
www.sbvass.org &
www.inlandplanet.org

President: Kirk Stitt (909) 886-5513
 First Vice-President, Program Chair: Dori Myers (714) 779-2201
 Second Vice President: Dave Woodward (909) 783-2417
 Treasurer: Nancy Higbee (951) 780-9236
 Secretary, Meadowlark Editor: Linda Stitt (909) 886-5513

Directors

Field Trips: Gene Cardiff (909) 875-5358
 Mountain Conservation Issues: Peter Jorris (909) 867-2526
 Pete Clark (951) 212-2467
 Dave Woodward (909) 783-2417
 Anthony Metcalf (951) 242-7038
 Brad Singer (909) 838-7951
 Kyri Freeman (831) 239-2917
 Steve Myers (951) 634-9767
 Deb Bennett (951) 544-2650
 Cin Greyraven (909) 720-0138
 Nancy Manning (909) 337-9401

COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

MEMBERSHIP:
 FIELD TRIPS: Gene Cardiff (909) 875-5358
 CONSERVATION: Drew Feldmann (909) 881-6081

WESTERN MEADOWLARK: Editor:
 Linda Stitt (909) 886-5513
linda-stitt@usa.net

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

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

CALENDAR

Board Meetings: November 7 and December 5, 2012

General Meetings: November 14 (Note early date) and December 19, 2012

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.



An Anna's Hummingbird leaves the feeder at Bearpaw Ranch.

Local Sightings

By Brad Singer

The gods must be smiling on **San Bernardino County** this fall. Numerous vagrants have appeared, two of them being county records. On August 31, a White Ibis appeared at the Baker sewage ponds and stayed nearly a week to the delight of many birders throughout California. On the other end of the size spectrum, a juvenile Varied Bunting appeared at Horse Thief Springs on October 10, found by our conservation co-chairman, Dave Goodward. Also, rarely seen in San Bernardino County, a 2nd year Heermann's Gull was found floating on the Daggett evaporation ponds. A Parasitic Jaeger and four Sabine's Gulls made a brief appearance at Lake Havasu, Horned Grebes were located at Silver Lakes, Kramer Junction, and Baker, and a pair of Red Phalaropes were found at Tees and Trees in Barstow. An Eastern Kingbird spent an early morning at Zzyxx, in contrast to a Lewis's Woodpecker who lounged around for over a week. A Gilded Flicker was spotted in the Cima Dome area. Numerous warblers made appearances in the Eastern Mojave as well as Glen Helen Regional Park in San Bernardino. Warblers included Black-and-White, Magnolia, Chestnut-sided, Blackpoll, Virginia's, Northern Parula, Ovenbird, Northern Waterthrush, and American Redstart. Probably the best news in the county is that the pair of Mid-hills Zone-tailed Hawks not only returned for the third straight year but successfully bred.

Riverside County was not quite as active, but still produced some nice birds. The excellent habitat at San Jacinto Wildlife Area enticed Stilt Sandpiper, Semipalmated Sandpiper, Red Knot, Sanderling, and Baird's Sandpiper. A Heermann's Gull and Sanderling were found at the north end of the Salton Sea (NESS). A rare inland Black Skimmer was found at Lake Skinner. A Ruddy Turnstone, Sanderling and Reddish Egret turned up in Blythe. A pair of Sandhill Cranes migrated through Desert Center as did a pair of Broad-winged Hawks. Brown Pelicans found a temporary home at Lake Elsinore. An American Dipper was located in the San Jacinto Mountains. Warblers were found throughout the county. They included Magnolia, Palm, Blackpoll, Black-throated Blue, American Redstart, and Northern Parula. Clay-colored Sparrows were found near Blythe, and a Dickcissel and Red Crossbill were found at Desert Center.



A Nuttall's Woodpecker checks out a feeder at Bearpaw Ranch. In the next column is a Cooper's Hawk checking out the Bearpaw visitors.

Sunday, November 4, 2012 - 8:00-10:00 am Beginning Bird Walk at San Jacinto Wildlife Area (map) Brad Singer (909) 838-7951

Visiting the wildlife area 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 three 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.

Sunday, November 18, 2012 - 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. From Riverside go south on 215 then east on Ramona, then north on Davis road three miles to the 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 St., west on Ramon and north on Davis Rd. 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.

Sunday, December 2, 2012 - 8:00-10:00 am
Beginning Bird Walk at Glen Helen Regional
Park ([map](#)) [Tom Benson](#) (909) 648-0899

Our goal will be to teach you enough basic birding techniques and identification skills so that you will feel comfortable birding on your own or joining our longer birding trips throughout the year. We will introduce you to some of our local species. The walk is free, but there is an entry fee for the park; see below. No reservations are needed. Everyone is welcome.

We will meet at the 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, December 8, 2012 - 8:00 am
Daggett & Newberry Springs

[Gene Cardiff](#) (909) 875-5358

We will look for wintering birds at Newberry Springs and Daggett areas in the alfalfa fields and ponds, especially birds of prey. If we have the time we may head over to Harper Dry Lake and see what we can find there. We will meet at the Denny's on Lenwood Road in Barstow at 7:00a.m. (before breakfast) or 8:00a.m. (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.



A Red-tailed hawk soars above Bearpaw Ranch.

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... ☺

May 18, 2013 - 9:00 am, Baby Birds at Bearpaw Ranch [Cin Greyraven](#) (909) 794-0509 [NORTH H.S. STUDENT CREDIT POLICY](#)

June 8, 2013 - 7:30 am, Wrightwood & Blue Ridge [Gene Cardiff](#) (909) 875-5358

June 15, 2013, San Bernardino Mountains [Brad Singer](#) (909)
July 13-14, 2013, Greenhorn Mountains & the Southern Sierra [Steve Myers](#) (951) 634-9767

August 17, 2013 - 6:00 am, Insane Jaunt to the Salton Sea [Tom Benson](#) (909) 648-0899

Calendar for Field Trips 2012 to 2013

November 4, 2012 - 8:00-10:00 am, Beginning Bird
Walk at San Jacinto Wildlife Area ([map](#)) [Brad Singer](#) (909) 838-7951

November 18, 2012 - 7:00 am, Northern San Jacinto
Valley

[Tony Metcalf](#) (951) 242-7038 and [Dave Woodward](#) (909) 783-2417

December 2, 2012 - 8:00-10:00 am, Beginning Bird
Walk at Glen Helen Regional Park ([map](#)) [Tom Benson](#) (909) 648-0899

December 8, 2012 - 8:00 am, Daggett & Newberry
Springs

[Gene Cardiff](#) (909) 875-5358

December 14, 2012 - January 5, 2013 [113th Annual](#)
Christmas Bird Count (see pages 2 and 3)

January 6, 2013 - 8:00-10:00 am, Beginning Bird Walk at
San Jacinto Wildlife Area ([map](#)) [Doug Karalun](#) (909) 425-5355

January 12, 2013 - 7:00 am, Salton Sea Goose & Crane Trip
[Chet McGaugh](#) (951) 781-3699 & [John Green](#) (951) 686-2956

January 27, 2013, San Jacinto Valley and Lake Perris
[Chet McGaugh](#) (951) 781-3699 & [Tony Metcalf](#) (951) 242-7038

February 3, 2013 - 8:00-10:00 am, Beginning Bird Walk at
Cal State San Bernardino ([map](#)) [Tom Benson](#) (909) 648-0899

February 9, 2013, Silverwood Lake [Brad Singer](#) (909) 838-7951

March 3, 2013 - 8:00-10:00 am, Beginning Bird Walk at
San Jacinto Wildlife Area ([map](#)) [Brad Singer](#) (909) 838-7951

March 16, 2013 - 8:00 am, Bolsa Chica & Orange County
Coast [Dori Myers](#) (714) 779-2201 (h) or (714) 336-1420 (m)

April 7, 2013 - 8:00-10:00 am, Beginning Bird Walk at Ran-
cho Jurupa Park ([map](#)) [Doug Karalun](#) (909) 425-5355
[NORTH H.S. STUDENT CREDIT POLICY](#)

April 13-14, 2013, East Mojave [John Green](#) (951) 686-2956

April 20, 2013, Shorebird Migration at the Salton Sea
[Chet McGaugh](#) (951) 781-3699 [NORTH H.S. STUDENT CREDIT POLICY](#)

April 21, 2013, San Jacinto Wildlife Area
[Tony Metcalf](#) (951) 242-7038 [NORTH H.S. STUDENT CREDIT POLICY](#)

May 4, 2013 - 7:00 am, Big Morongo [Chet McGaugh](#) (951) 781-3699 [NORTH H.S. STUDENT CREDIT POLICY](#)

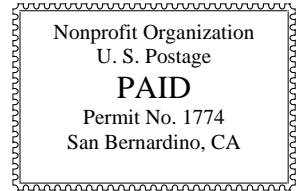
May 5, 2013 - 8:00-10:00 am, Beginning Bird Walk at Fair-
mount Park ([map](#)) [Doug Karalun](#) (909) 425-5355 [NORTH H.S. STUDENT CREDIT POLICY](#)

May 5, 2013 - 8:00 am, Box Springs Mountain
[John Green](#) (951) 686-2956 [NORTH H.S. STUDENT CREDIT POLICY](#)

May 11, 2013 - 8:00 am, Whitewater Canyon
[Steve Myers](#) (951) 634-9767 [NORTH H.S. STUDENT CREDIT POLICY](#)

Accept that some days you're the pigeon, and some days you are the statue.
James Allen

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

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



Chapter Only Membership Application
San Bernardino Valley Audubon

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

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

___I wish to receive the *Western Meadowlark* **only** electronically _____

Email Address _____

Please enclose a check payable to SBVAS



Membership Application
National Audubon Society (NAS)

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

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

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Please make check payable to National Audubon Society

SBVAS Chapter
C2ZC120Z

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

DATED MATERIAL - Please Expedite