



San Bernardino Valley Audubon Society

# WESTERN MEADOWLARK



<https://www.facebook.com/SBVAudubon/>

Volume 70— Number 4

**General Meeting  
March 18, 2020**

**General Meeting  
April 15, 2020**

## From Predation to Anthropophobia: The Consequences of Fear in Animal Populations

## Birds of Sri Lanka

### A Talk by Rustom Jamadar

### A Talk by Breanna Putman

Almost all animals face the risk of predation at some point in their lives. Hence, fear—the perceived risk of predation from actual predators or other threats—can drive behavioral and physiological traits. I have worked in various systems studying predator-prey interactions and I am now applying this knowledge to understand the effects of urbanization



Photo Credit: Breanna Putman



Photo Credit: Breanna Putman

on lizard populations in Southern California. I am looking at whether an inappropriate fear of humans filters certain species or individuals from urban habitats. Because I work in urban areas, a large barrier to collecting data is surveying across private property lines and so I work closely with community/citizen scientists. I am promoting community science opportunities in the Inland Empire through the City Nature Challenge, which is a global competition among cities using the naturalist platform. Overall, an understanding of animal responses to urbanization will be important for urban planning, management, and conservation.



Photo Credit: Breanna Putman

During January and February of 2018, Palomar Audubon member, Rustom Jamadar, traveled to India to visit friends, family, and, of course, to go birding. He birded in Northern and Western India and Sri Lanka, the pearl-shaped island that lies at the southern tip of the sub-continent. He will present his photos and talk about his trip to this remarkable island.

Rustom grew up in India and has birded many areas in that country. He has given well received presentations on his previous trips. Rustom has been a member of the National Audubon for many years and is a life member of the Bombay Natural History Society for over 35 years. He is a member of San Diego, Palomar, and Buena Vista Audubon chapters and joins them on their weekly field trips. Please come enjoy what promises to be an interesting presentation.

Sri Lanka Blue Magpie



Photo Credit: Rustom Jamadar

## January/February SBVAS Field Trips

**Sunday, March 1, 2020 8-10 am**  
**Beginning Bird Walk at Fairmount Park,**  
**Riverside**  
*Dave Goodward (909) 783-2417*

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 binoculars and water. The walk is free and no reservations are needed; however, all participants must sign a liability waiver. You may print one out ahead of time and bring it with you, or the trip leader will have forms available on site. Everyone is welcome.

**Saturday March 7, 2020 - 8:00 am**  
**Lake Skinner County Park Field Trip**  
*Charity Hagen*

Lake Skinner County Park is an oasis for birds. In the many wild and manicured areas of the park, birders can expect to see a wide range of birds. The park contains oak woodlands, Riverside Sage Scrub, riparian areas, exotic trees and shrubs, and a reservoir. This combination of habitats has attracted well over 200 species to the park. The reservoir is an important wintering ground for species such as Common Goldeneye, Common Loon, Bald Eagle, and multiple other duck and grebe species. In the park, many wintering passerine species can be found with such notable birds as sapsuckers, thrushes, multiple sparrow species, and the occasional wintering eastern warbler. On this field trip, we will scour the many different habitats and multiple shoreline access points to find as many of these birds as possible. In early spring expect to see lingering winter visitors mixed with early arrival breeders such as orioles, along with year round residents such as Acorn Woodpecker and California Gnatcatcher. Expect to see from 50-70 species during the field trip, with rarities always a possibility. Most areas can be accessed by vehicle, but be prepared to

walk up to a mile in search of the best birding locations. Meet at 8 am at the Alamos Schoolhouse Nature Center just inside the park entrance. There is a \$6 per person fee to access the park.

**Saturday, March 21, 2020 - 8:00 am**  
**Bolsa Chica & Orange County Coast**  
*Dori Myers (714) 779-2201 (h) or*  
*(714) 336-1420 (m)*

Please join us for what should be a great day of birding in the wetland areas of Orange County. Expect to see a large variety of wintering birds, including ducks, shorebirds, grebes, herons, egrets, terns and cormorants. We should find gulls, raptors, and some song birds. With any luck we will see 50 or more species just in the morning. After birding Bolsa Chica (until around noon) we will go to Newport Back Bay or the San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary to eat our lunch and finish the day. We will meet at the PCH parking lot of Bolsa Chica at 8:00 am ([map](#)). To reach Bolsa Chica, take the 91 freeway south to the 55 (Newport freeway). Continue on the 55 to the 405 and go north towards Long Beach. Exit at Beach Blvd. (south) and continue to Pacific Coast Highway. Turn right and head north on PCH, past Huntington Beach. We will meet in the parking lot of the Ecological Preserve (Bolsa Chica) on the inland side of Pacific Coast Hwy at the signal between Seagate and Warner. Please bring a lunch if you intend to stay for the day. Also bring binoculars, bird book and a scope if you have one. It can get cold along the coast in winter, so dress in layers.

**Saturday, April 18, 2020 - 7:00 am**  
**Shorebird Migration at the Salton Sea**  
*Chet McGaugh (951) 781-3699 and Tony*  
*Metcalf (951) 242-7038*

Tony Metcalf and Chet McGaugh will be leading back-to-back San Bernardino Valley Audubon Society field trips on the weekend of April 18-19, to the north end of the Salton Sea (Saturday) and the San Jacinto Wildlife Area (Sunday). As we both are big fans of the shorebirds, and the date is excellent for a good migration experience, we intend to spend most of the weekend searching mudflats, marshes, slop ponds, wet fields, barnacle beaches, and open sea and sky.

It is our hope that we can provide some knowledge about this fascinating bunch of birds, stimulate appreciation and interest in them, and mitigate some of the phobias. And have fun. As usual, the San Bernardino Valley Audubon Society field trips are open to all. We will meet at 7:00 am at the "Big Arco" ([map](#)) on the corner of 66th Avenue and the 86S Expressway in Mecca. Pick one trip or the other or both. There will be different species seen at the Salton Sea and at the San Jacinto Wildlife Area. The study of shorebirds is greatly enhanced by the use of spotting scopes, so we hope there will be plenty besides our own. Though not necessary, we suggest having rubber boots for those hard to get to spots, particularly at the Salton Sea (short wades, slogging through deep mud, barnacles). Bring lunch and snacks and drinks. Weather is likely to be excellent, and there will be many birds to see besides the waders.

**Sunday, April 19, 2020 - 8:00-10:00 am**  
**Beginning Bird Walk at San Timoteo Canyon**  
***Matt Grube (909) 253-3867***  
**[mattgrube@gmail.com](mailto:mattgrube@gmail.com)**

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 spring migrants and summer nesting birds. Please contact Matt Grube by email at [mattgrube@gmail.com](mailto:mattgrube@gmail.com) for questions.

**Sunday, April 19, 2020 - 7:00 am**  
**San Jacinto Wildlife Area**  
***Tony Metcalf (951) 242-7038 and Chet***  
***McGaugh (951) 781-3699***

Tony Metcalf and Chet McGaugh will be leading back-to-back San Bernardino Valley Audubon Society field trips on the weekend of April 18-19, to the north end of the Salton Sea (Saturday) and the San Jacinto Wildlife Area (Sunday). As we both are big fans of the shorebirds, and the date is excellent for a good migration experience, we intend to spend most of the weekend searching mudflats, marshes, slop ponds, wet fields, barnacle beaches, and open sea and sky. It is our hope that we can provide some knowledge about this fascinating bunch of birds, stimulate appreciation and interest in them, and miti-

gate some of the phobias. And have fun. As usual, the San Bernardino Valley Audubon Society field trips are open to all. We will meet at 7:00 am at the San Jacinto Wildlife Area headquarters on Davis Road, a few miles north of Lakeview and the Ramona Expressway. Pick one trip or the other or both. There will be different species seen at the Salton Sea and at the San Jacinto Wildlife Area. The study of shorebirds is greatly enhanced by the use of spotting scopes, so we hope there will be plenty besides our own. Though not necessary, we suggest having rubber boots for those hard to get to spots, particularly at the Salton Sea (short wades, slogging through deep mud, barnacles). Bring lunch and snacks and drinks. Weather is likely to be excellent, and there will be many birds to see besides the waders.

**Saturday, April 25, 2020 - 7:00 am**  
**Big Morongo Preserve**  
***Matt Grube (909) 253-3867***  
**[mattgrube@gmail.com](mailto:mattgrube@gmail.com)**

The last week of April is one of the best times 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 am. 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?

### Field Trip Checklist

Comfortable shoes or hiking boots, hat, sunscreen, insect repellent, a good map, full fuel tank, drinking water, snacks and lunch, binoculars and/or a scope, and field guide. Come and Enjoy. Call Field Trip Leader for last minute cancellations, questions or changes.

**2020 UPCOMING  
SBVAS FIELD TRIPS**

**Sunday, May 3, 2020 8-10 am  
Beginning Bird Walk; Los Rios Rancho, Oak  
Glen  
Pam Quittmeyer (951) 212-2211**

**Saturday, May 9, 2020 8:00 am  
Whitewater Canyon  
Steve Myers (951) 616-7578**

**Sunday, May 10, 2020 9:00 am  
Baby Birds at Bearpaw Ranch  
Cin Greyraven (909) 794-0509**

**Saturday, May 16, 2020 8:00 am  
San Jacinto Mountains  
Gene Cardiff & Dori Myers (714) 779-2201**

**Saturday, Sunday May 31-June 1, 2020 7:30 am  
Eastside Sierra  
Brad Singer (909) 936-5087**

**Saturday, June 13, 2020 7:30 am  
Wrightwood & Blue Ridge  
Gene Cardiff (909) 875-5358**

**Saturday, July 11, 2020 7:30 am  
Western San Bernardino Mountains  
Gene Cardiff, Dori Myers, Brad Singer**



Support our local Audubon Chapter by logging into Amazon.com via Amazon Smile.

Click on https://smile.amazon.com/ And choose San Bernardino County Audubon Society in the list of worthy groups. Amazon.com donates 0.5% of your purchase amount to our chapter!

SBVAS Officers 2018-2019 www.sbvas.org

President: Brad Singer (909) 838-7951
First Vice-President, Program Chair: Dori Myers (714) 779-2201
Second Vice President: Dave Woodward (909) 783-2417
Treasurer: Pat Cawunder (951) 687-9486
Secretary: Nancy Higbee (951) 780-9236 (951) 212-2211

Directors

Conservation Chair: Drew Feldmann (909) 881-6081
Field Trips: Gene Cardiff (951) 522-6077
Mountain Conservation Issues: Peter Jorris (909) 867-3536
Membership: Pete Clark (951) 212-2467
Anthony Metcalf (951) 242-7038
Cin Greyraven (909) 327-8795

WESTERN MEADOWLARK Editor: Kathy Cardiff kathycardiff4088@gmail.com (714) 357-7959

SBVAS WEBMASTER: Brad Singer bcsinger@gmail.com

BEARPAW RANCH: Cin Greyraven (909) 794-0509 truthraven@verizon.net

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



Photo Credit: Judith Sparhawk

CALENDAR

Board Meetings: Next Board meeting, First Wednesday of the month, Nov 6, 2019, 7 p.m.

General Meetings: Next General Meeting on November 20, 2019, 7:30 pm

All General 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.

## BIRD WALKS IN THE COACHELLA VALLEY AREA

Check the website and/or call to make sure the walk is happening.  
Websites have maps/directions.

**SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE!!!**

- Big Morongo Canyon Preserve [www.bigmorongo.org](http://www.bigmorongo.org) Free bird walks are held each Wednesday throughout the year excluding Thanksgiving Eve, Christmas Eve, or day, and New Year's Eve or day. Bird walks start at 8:00 a.m. and generally last about 3 hours.
- Whitewater Preserve [http://wildlandsconservancy.org/preserve\\_whitewater.html](http://wildlandsconservancy.org/preserve_whitewater.html) Whitewater Canyon Road was severely damaged from winter storms in February, rendering it impassable. The preserve will reopen once the road has been repaired in fall/winter 2019. Free Bird Walk second & fourth Tuesdays of the month- 8:00AM.
- Coachella Valley Preserve <http://coachellavalleypreserve.org/> Bird Walk weekly; generally Sundays and Mondays. October- May; at 7:30AM or 8:00AM. Check site or call for day and times.
- Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument <https://www.desertmountains.org/> Free Bird Walk first and third Mondays of the month, 7:30AM, November- April. Registration required. Call (760) 862- 9984. Check site or call for days and times.
- Sunnylands [www.sunnylands.org](http://www.sunnylands.org) Free Garden Bird Walk 8:45AM Fridays, November- May. Estate Bird Tours 8:45AM Thursdays and Saturdays, November- April. Tour the Annenberg estate with binoculars in a golf cart that stops to look at birds. Online reservations and fee (\$38 this season) required for Estate Bird Tours.
- Salton Sea State Recreation Area (northeast end of the Sea) <http://www.seaanddesert.org> Check the site or call to be sure. Free Bird Walk Saturdays, 9:00AM, January- April. Entrance fee: \$7/ person; \$5 for seniors.
- Coachella Valley Wild Bird Center <http://coachellavalleywildbirdcenter.org/> Free Bird Walk; first Saturday of the month, 8:00AM, October- May. Call (760) 347-2647

(Revised Sep 2019)

**CLUBS, BOOKS, ONLINE  
AND OTHER BIRDING AREAS**

- **Desert Cities Bird Club** has lots of information on local birding activities, a Palms-to-Pines Birding Trail map, and a newsletter. To get on their email list and/or to request a map, email Kurt Leuschner ([KLeuschner@collegeofthedesert.edu](mailto:KLeuschner@collegeofthedesert.edu))
- **San Bernardino Valley Audubon Society** ([www.sbvas.net](http://www.sbvas.net)) has lots of field trips. All are free and open to non-members as well as members. A few require pre-registration.
- **San Jacinto Wildlife Area** has a car route through water impoundment ponds. This is an excellent place for waterfowl as well as raptors. It is next to a duck-hunting club, so check the website CARE-FULLY to determine which days are for hunting and avoid them. About an hour west of Palm Springs. (<https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Lands/Places-to-Visit/San-Jacinto-WA> and/or <http://www.northfriends.org/sjwa.html>)
- **Inland County Birds** (<https://groups.yahoo.com/neo/groups/inlandcountybirds/info>) is the listserv for Imperial, Riverside, and San Bernardino Counties. Yes, it is a Yahoo Group, and you do have to join, but we've never had any problems with it.
- **Indian Canyons** (<http://www.indian-canyons.com/palm.html>) in Palm Springs. Several easy, beautiful, and sometimes-birdy trails with a wonderful combination of desert habitat with year-round flowing water. Admission fees: \$9.00 per adult; \$7.00 for seniors. Open all year, but days vary- check website.
- **Borrego Springs Swainson's Hawk Watch** (<http://borregohawkwatch.blogspot.com/>) Every day, February 15 to April 15. Swainson's Hawk migration can be an unprecedented spectacle. Check the blogspot for recent information. And/or sign up for evening blog posts at [rap-torhal3@gmail.com](mailto:rap-torhal3@gmail.com) . Borrego Springs is about an hour-and-a-half from the Coachella Valley.
- **Mount San Jacinto State Park** ([http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page\\_id=636](http://www.parks.ca.gov/?page_id=636)) Located near the top of Mt. San Jacinto, this park is accessed by the Palm Springs Aerial Tramway (<https://www.pstramway.com/>); heavy fee. There are many miles of hiking trails in the subalpine forests and fern-bordered mountain meadows.
- **Oak Glen Preserve** ([http://www.wildlandsconservancy.org/preserve\\_oakglen.html](http://www.wildlandsconservancy.org/preserve_oakglen.html)) is about an hour-and-a-half west of the Coachella Valley. Owned and operated by the same organization that manages Whitewater Preserve

SBVAS board meetings convene the **first** Wednesday of each month at 7:00 pm, general meetings on the **third** Wednesday of each month at 7:30 pm. Board meetings are held at 740 W. Mill, Unit A, in San Bernardino and all general meetings are held at the San Bernardino County Museum at 2024 Orange Tree Lane in Redlands. Everybody is welcome.

*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.*

<p align="center"><b>Chapter Only Membership Application</b> San Bernardino Valley Audubon</p> <p>Name _____</p> <p>Address _____</p> <p>City _____ State _____ Zip _____</p> <p>SBVAS Membership @ \$20 a/year (includes subscription to <i>The Western Meadowlark</i>)</p> <p>Email Address* _____</p> <p><b>Please enclose a check payable to SBVAS</b></p> <p><b>*We do not share your name, address or email address.</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>Membership Application</b> National Audubon Society (NAS)</p> <p align="center">MAKES A GREAT GIFT</p> <p>NAS Gift/New/Regular/Renewal Membership \$20 (includes 1 year of <i>Audubon</i> magazine)</p> <p>Name _____</p> <p>Address _____</p> <p>City _____ State _____ Zip _____</p> <p><b>Please make check payable to National Audubon Society</b></p> <p align="right">SBVAS Chapter C11</p>
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**Please clip and mail all memberships to: SBVAS Membership Chair  
P.O. Box 10973  
San Bernardino, Ca. 92423-0973**