



San Bernardino Valley Audubon Society

WESTERN MEADOWLARK

Volume 63— Number 4
March-April 2013

Ecuador

A Program by Jon Feenstra

Wednesday, March 20, 2013, 7:30 p.m.

Raised in the Appalachian ridges of northwestern New Jersey, Jon Feenstra's playground was the outdoors. He grew up holding a fishing pole and a pair of binoculars. After college he moved from New Jersey to Los Angeles to complete graduate research in physical chemistry at the California Institute of Technology. There he became active in southern California birding: leading field trips, writing articles on bird distribution and local issues, and spending time exploring the diverse and bird-rich area. He finished his Ph.D and decided to make birding his full-time passion. When not traveling the country or the world, Jon lives in urban Los Angeles and works as a free-lance ecological consultant. He volunteers for the Pasadena and Los Angeles Audubon Societies, has served on the board of directors of Western Field Ornithologists, leads most of Southern California's pelagic trips, and has contributed to several publications on terrestrial and pelagic bird distribution. During any other time he reads widely, supports the local music scene, and plans his next adventure.

Known to many as a leader for Wings, Jon has led birding tours to many locations world wide and to Ecuador in particular. He writes that: "Ecuador is a country approximately the size of Arizona and hosts about 1600 bird species. Despite its small size, its remarkable diversity is due to a sweeping geography that includes Pacific coast, the snow-capped Andes and the epic lowland Amazon rainforest. In this presentation, Jon will give a virtual tour of the various regions of Ecuador with comments on the habitat, stories from the field, and, of course, photos of birds.

Come enjoy what is certain to be an interesting and entertaining program. Everyone is always welcome. Our doors open at 7:00p.m. and our meeting starts at 7:30p.m.

Dori Myers, Program Chair



J. Feenstra 2012



IZ Does AZ

A Program by Chet McGaugh

Wednesday, April 17, 2013, 7:30p.m.

On November 18 of last year Irma Zuniga and I rode the Qantas tube for fourteen hours, having left L.A. at midnight, crossed the International Dateline over the Pacific Ocean, dropped into Sydney, New South Wales for a three hour layover before an indeterminate length flight (crazy time zones) to Darwin, Northern Territory, and the coastline of the Timor Sea, awaiting The Wet. After long dreamed of days of Top End shorebirding and a side trip to glorious Kakadu, and a bird to report to the Northern Territory Rare Bird Alert, and Salties, we hopped down to Alice Springs and the red center of the continent and saw a big rock. A flight to Perth took us to the far southwest of West Australia and we stuck our toes into the Indian Ocean and the Great Southern Ocean, experienced the wettest early summer on record, walked in and above the ancient forest, wrangled an escaped Emu, saw the biggest snake ever, learned that a rooster's got nothing on a morning Kookaburra, met other travelers, met the locals, met the REALLY locals. Oh yeah, took some pictures. Not to worry, if you come out, you won't see most of the 8000.

Chet is a consummate birder and nearly a professional photographer. As a field biologist he has led many field trips for our Audubon. Over the years he has shown and shared many of his prize photographs to our members. Please come join us for what promises to be a wonderful program. Everyone is always welcome. Come early to enjoy refreshments and visit with friends. Our doors open at 7:00p.m. and the program starts at 7:30p.m.

Dori Myers, Program Chair

Nature provides a free lunch, but only if we control our appetites
—William Ruckelshaus

A Field Study of Birds: Spring

Course Number: BIOL X406

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

Programs:

Vertebrate course for Certificate in Desert Ecology
Vertebrate course for Certificate in Field Ecology
Elective for Specialized Study Program in Field Ornithology

124-CPF-F23 starting Apr. 16th, 2013 at San Bernardino County Museum

Instructor: Eugene Cardiff

Schedule: Tue. 7:30-9:30 p.m., April 16; Field trips all day Sat. Apr 20, 27, May 4, 18, and June 1. (6 meetings)

Preregistration: Requested by April 16th

Location: San Bernardino County Museum

Textbook: "Field Guide to the Birds of North America, 5th Edition," ISBN: 9780792253143

Credit: 2 units

Notes: This course may be taken twice for credit toward the Specialized Study Program in Field Ornithology. Visitors not permitted.

\$219 Tuition

-\$20 (Optional) each for couples and family members.
For this discount, enroll by phone: 800-442-2990
-\$34 (Optional) PINE organization member discount
\$219 Total Fees

E-mail: register@ucx.ucr.edu

Beginning Birding Class

Classes: Tues., March 5, 7:30-9:30 pm at the San Bernardino County Museum, Wed., March 6, 7:30-8:30 pm at the San Bernardino County Museum

Field Trip: Sat., March 9, 8:00-10:00 am at Glen Helen Regional Park

Instructors: Jennifer Tobin and Michelle Tobin

This two-night beginning birding class will teach you the basic skills needed to find and identify birds by sight and sound. Local species will be emphasized, but the knowledge gained is universal. Following the class, there will be a weekend field trip to become better acquainted with our feathered friends and how to recognize them.

To apply, contact Jennifer Tobin (phone: 951-684-9613, e-mail: jtobi002@ucr.edu).

There will be a limit of 12 people, with acceptance on a first come, first served basis. Anyone ages 13 and up can apply.

Bird of the Month: Red-Shouldered Hawk

By Steve Myers

The Red-shouldered Hawk (*Buteo lineatus*) breeds across much of the eastern U.S., and down the Pacific coast from extreme southern Oregon to the middle of Baja California. In California, it nests generally west of the Sierra Nevada crest and the deserts, but it does nest fairly commonly along the Mojave River, and at least sporadically at a few other western desert localities. A few breeding locations have also been found recently in western Nevada and Arizona.

Its nesting habitat in California is usually riparian woodlands and forest, including those dominated by cottonwoods, willows, oaks, and even conifers. Along the California coast and coastal slope inland valleys, *Eucalyptus* trees and other nonnative trees are also used for nesting. Nests are typically 20 to 60 feet high, and are bulky twig structures between 18 and 24 inches in diameter.

Nesting begins as early as January, and is usually finished by the end of June. Two or three eggs are usually laid, but clutches of four, or exceptionally five, are sometimes laid. Both sexes incubate the eggs, which hatch in about 24 days. The chicks become active at about 10 days, start growing feathers at about 2 weeks, and leave the nest 5 to 6 weeks after hatching.

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

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

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



Both photos
©2007
Stephen J.
Myers.

Birds of Joshua Tree National Park

Yucca Valley, CA, April 26, 27 & 28, 2013 – The deceptively barren Mojave Desert landscape is home and resting grounds for numerous endemic migratory bird species. Joshua trees do not make a typical forest, the landscape is open, the climate dry and vegetation relatively sparse. Despite this, over 240 species of birds have been recorded in Joshua Tree National Park! Kurt Leuschner, Professor of College of the Desert, will guide this three-day field class through the Mojave and Colorado Deserts to identify common and rare birds.

Leuschner's focus will be on identifying individual species and separating summer and winter residents from true migrants. He will discuss nesting and feeding habits, interactions with plant life, and adaptive strategies. Participants will have the thrill of identifying the park's common spring bird species, better understand the role each plays in the high desert ecosystem, and have the chance of sighting rare species like the Pinyon Jay, Prairie Falcon, or Lawrence's Goldfinch.

Sponsored by the Desert Institute at Joshua Tree National Park, this field seminar meets at the Black Rock Visitor Center, 9800 Black Rock Canyon, Yucca Valley, CA 92284 on Friday, April 26, 6 pm – 8 pm, Saturday, April 27, 7:30 am – 4:30 pm, and Sunday, April 28, 7 am – 12 pm. This class is offered for 1 unit of credit through the University of California, Riverside Extension for \$185 (\$175 for JTNPA/PINE members) or for non-credit for \$135 (\$125 JTNPA/PINE members). For class catalog, information, and registration call (760) 367-5535 or visit www.joshuatree.org.

2013 Point Reyes Birding & Nature Festival!

Save the dates of April 26-28th for the Bay Area's best birding and nature extravaganza! Enjoy birding at the height of spring migration with some of the best naturalists around.

For more information, visit:

www.pointreyesbirdingfestival.org

Tickets go on sale in late February, and all proceeds benefit the habitat conservation work of the Environmental Action Committee of West Marin.

Audubon Convention 2013

Join Audubon's amazing network of dedicated leaders to celebrate One Audubon! Recognize our history of achievement as we launch into an exciting and challenging future. Unite around flyways for hemispheric impact. Turn passion into action!

The conference will include four days of exciting field trips, inspiring speakers, in-depth hands-on workshops, and tens of program options highlighting strategic conservation successes from the four flyways.

Skamania Lodge in Stevenson, Washington in the heart of the spectacular Columbia River Gorge is the focal point for the convention.

The website for the convention should be up and

(continued, convention, page 5)

In Memoriam

George A. Chalfant MD (7/21/24 to 11/16/12) recently passed away at his home in Palm Desert. Dr. Chalfant was a longtime resident of Alta Loma/Upland and was the area's first pediatrician. He held medical staff positions at San Antonio Community Hospital, San Bernardino County Hospital, and Pomona Valley Hospital. He practiced in Upland for over 34 years, was well loved by his patients, medical peers, and his staff. Dr. Chalfant enjoyed his pediatric practice immensely; his sense of humor was always appreciated by his patients and their parents. He enjoyed his 2nd and 3rd generation patients in his long practice. He raised his family (3 sons) in the area and was a member of the Alta Loma Elementary School Board. A longtime golfer at Red Hill Country Club, he also was an avid sailor, owner or partial owner of a wide variety of small and large sail boats including *Witchcraft* (Cal24), *Calisto* (Cal34), and *WindSwift* (Scampi30) out of Balboa Island CA. He enjoyed sailboat racing, winning many awards over the years and represented Balboa Yacht Club in the California Congressional Cup in 1969. Dr. Chalfant was a Scout Master of Boy Scout Troop 623 (Grace Lutheran Church, Upland), camp doctor at Circle B Scout Ranch, and a past president of the Ontario Rotary Club. A strong hiker, George enjoyed his times in the local mountains, Grand Canyon, and the High Sierras. As president of the Ontario Rotary, he met President George Bush when he was invited to speak to the Rotary Club and helped established a Rotary emphasis on Child Advocacy during his term. He was preceded in death by his wife JoAnn, son Chris, and wife Lynn. He is survived by his current wife Jeanne (Palm Desert), son Dan and Wife Teri (Escondido), son Tim and wife Lorene (Lancaster), Grandchildren Callie(Eureka), Michael (San Diego), Dylan (Austin TX), Charlotte (Escondido), Rebecca (Palmdale), Niki (Washington DC), Amy (Eureka), and Kayla (Encino), and 2 Grandchildren (Kaydence and Ryker). A memorial service will be held on November 25, 3:00 PM at St Marks Episcopal Church in Upland. Donations in his memory are encouraged to The San Bernardino Valley Audubon Society (PO Box 10973, San Bernardino CA 92423). Please mark your contribution in memory of George A. Chalfant.

SBVAS wishes to thank and honor the following people for their generous donations in the name of Dr. G. Chalfant:

The Wake Family

Dr. Hurley Robinson

Ms. Diane Petersen

Dr. and Mrs. Geoffrey Graham



Photo Quiz

By Brad Singer

Welcome to the seventh 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.sbvast.org/meadowlark.htm>. If you would like to participate in our quiz, email your answers to svvastbird.id@gmail.com. Please include your name, home city, and the common name of the bird as it appears in the ABA checklist. As more folks are visiting our paper on the web, it's nice to see more and more people participating in these quizzes. It is a great learning process, not only for the participants but for me as well. This issue's photo was submitted by our local birding guru Tom Benson. He will supply the answer in the next issue.



Photo taken in winter at the Salton Sea

Answer to last issues quiz: Winter, time for ducks with all their beautiful coloring and designs. However, that pertains only to the males. Unfortunately, your photo is that of a female, a gender that most people just gloss over, hoping to find them paired with a male nearby so that they can be identified to species. Worst of all, our quiz photo is one of the genus of *Anas*, which includes everything from Shoveler and Teal to Wigeon and Mallard, all fairly dull birds. At first glance we see a bird that has a brownish breast, mantle and scapulars with fairly bright white underwings. Bill size and color eliminate Teals, Shovelers, Pintails, and Wigeons. What we are left with is Mallard and Gadwall. The key distinction between these two species (female) is the color of the bill. The Mallard's bill has a dark "saddle" with orange band near tip. The Gadwall's bill is orange yellow with a dark longitudinal midsection and gray black lateral spots. Our mystery bird's bill better fits the description of a **Gadwall**, a bird I found on Big Bear Lake in the spring.

265 Groups Call on Obama Administration to Strengthen Endangered Species Act Protections for Rare and Vanishing Wildlife Across Country

Citing diminishing Endangered Species Act protections for some of the nation's rarest plants and animals, a coalition of 255 groups, representing millions of Americans, sent a letter to the secretaries of Interior and Commerce calling for increased preservation of critical habitat and the reversal of current proposals likely to undermine the ongoing conservation of wide-ranging species like grizzly bears and gray wolves.

"For 40 years the Endangered Species Act has been wildly successful at saving and recovering species under its protection," said Noah Greenwald, endangered species director at the Center for Biological Diversity. "But to meet the complex challenges of climate change and an ever-growing human footprint, the Obama administration needs to step up and reverse the tide of recent policy changes that are weakening, instead of strengthening, some of our most effective Endangered Species Act protections."

The letter, from conservation, recreation, animal welfare, religious, business and women's groups, asks the administration to withdraw a proposed policy that would sharply limit the number of species that qualify for protection under the Act, to strengthen protections for critical habitat, to keep better track of permitted harm to endangered species, and to find better ways to incentivize endangered species conservation by private landowners.

Such policy changes would allow species to be protected when they are endangered in "significant portions of their range," ensure that species and habitats are not lost through death by a thousand cuts, and increase landowner participation in wildlife conservation.

"The Endangered Species Act is a sound law that is recovering hundreds of species," said Leda Huta, executive director of the Endangered Species Coalition. "But with more species needing its full protection every day, it's critical that the administration renew its commitment to aggressive implementation of this landmark law. We hope the guardians of our wildlife and the health of our planet will take to heart the suggestions of the millions of Americans represented by these 200-plus groups."

Groups on the letter include the Center for Biological Diversity, Endangered Species Coalition, Network of Spiritual Progressives, Union of Concerned Scientists, natural Resources Defense Council, Audubon chapters from around the country and many more.

The Center for Biological Diversity is a national, nonprofit conservation organization with more than 450,000 members and online activists dedicated to the protection of endangered species and wild places.

We do not inherit the earth from our ancestors, we borrow it from our children.

—Native American Proverb

(cats, continued)

ranging cats, such as Trap-Neuter-Return (TNR) colonies, are potentially harmful to wildlife populations, but are implemented across the United States without widespread public knowledge, consideration of scientific evidence or the environmental review processes typically required for actions with harmful environmental consequences.”

Audubon Outreach Meetings Off to a Great Start

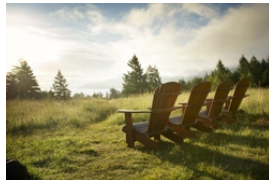
San Bernardino Valley Audubon has started coordinating offsite outreach meetings. The first, at a retirement community in Hemet, was attended by about thirty-five interested and excited individuals. Kirk Stitt provided a program on creating a native landscape to attract hummingbirds. He also shared many photos of hummingbirds.

The second program, at the Palm Springs library, was also attended by thirty plus people. Brad Singer volunteered as the speaker and provided a program on desert birds. The audience was very attentive and excited, and many asked the organization to consider setting up these outreach meetings on a regular basis.

(convention, continued)

working soon. If you want to receive email alerts when the site launches and when registration opens, send an email to convention@audubon.org titled “Convention Alerts” and include your email address, first and last name in the body of the message.

For general conference inquiries and questions, sponsorship opportunities contact Cindy Sherwood at: csherwood@audubon.org or call (802) 865-5202.

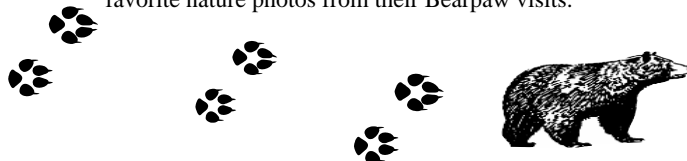


Bearpaw Ranch

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
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 Pete Clark (951) 212-2467
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 Brad Singer (909) 838-7951
 Kyri Freeman (831) 239-2917
 Steve Myers (951) 634-9767
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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: March 6 and April 3, 2013

General Meetings: March 20 and April 17, 2013

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.

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.

To assure seed is available, 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.

Outdoor Cats: Single Greatest Source of Human-Caused Mortality for birds and Mammals

A new peer-reviewed study authored by scientists from two of the world's leading science and wildlife organizations—the Smithsonian conservation biology Institute and the U.S. Fish and wildlife service (FWS)—has found that bird and mammal mortality caused by outdoor cats is much higher than has been widely reported, with annual bird mortality now estimated to be 1.4 to 3.7 billion and mammal mortality likely 6.9—207 billion individuals.

The study, which offers the most comprehensive analysis of information on the issue of outdoor cat predation, was published in the online research journal *Nature Communications* and is based on a review of more than 90 previous studies. The study was authored by Dr. Peter Marra and Scott Loss, research scientists at the Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute and by To Will from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Division of Migratory birds. It is available at : [http://www.abcbirds.org/abcprograms/policy/cats/pdf/Loss et al 2013.pdf](http://www.abcbirds.org/abcprograms/policy/cats/pdf/Loss%20et%20al%202013.pdf)

According to Dr. George Fenwick, President of American Bird Conservancy, one of the leading bird conservation organizations in the U.S. and a group that has called for action on this issue for many years, "This study, which employed scientifically rigorous standards for data inclusion, demonstrates that the issue of cat predation on birds and mammals is an even bigger environmental and ecological threat than we thought. No estimates of any other anthropogenic (human-caused) mortality source approach the bird mortality this study calculated for cat predation."

The study's estimate of bird mortality far exceeds any previously estimated U.S. figure for cats. In fact, this magnitude of mortality may exceed all other direct sources of anthropogenic bird and mammal mortality combined. Other bird mortality sources would include collisions with windows, buildings, communication towers, vehicles and pesticide poisoning.

"The very high credibility of the study should finally put to rest the misguided notions that outdoor cats represent some harmless new component to the natural environment the carnage that outdoor cats inflict is staggering and can no longer be ignored or dismissed. This is a wake-up call for cat owners and communities to get serious about this problem before even more ecological damage occurs," Fenwick said.

The study estimated that the median number of birds killed by cats annually is 2.4 billion and the median number of mammals killed is 12.3 billion. About 69 percent of the bird mortality from cat predation and 89 percent of the mammal mortality was from un-owned cats. Un-owned cats are defined to include farm/barn cats, strays that are fed but not granted access to human habitations, cats in subsidized colonies, and cats that are completely feral.

The study charges that "Despite these harmful effects, policies for management of free-ranging cat populations and regulation of pet ownership behaviors are dictated by animal welfare issues rather than ecological impacts. Projects to manage free-

(cats, continued, page 5)

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

Visiting the wildlife area in winter allows great opportunities to view waterfowl, shorebirds and raptors. For those of you who are just beginning the wonderful pastime of bird watching, please join us for a fun, slow-paced morning of birding in one of our local wildlife habitat. 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. 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 on Davis Road which soon becomes dirt. The entrance to the wildlife area is approximately 3 miles down Davis Road on the right turn here and the parking will be on your left. You can no longer enter the wildlife area from the north. Please contact Brad Singer for further information. Rain or other conditions may cause last minute changes, You may call ahead to confirm location and time.

Saturday, March 16, 2013 - 8:00 am Bolsa Chica & Orange County Coast

Dori Myers (714) 779-2201 (h) or (714) 336-1420 (m)

Please join us for what should be a great day of birding in the wetland areas of Orange County. Expect to see a large variety of wintering birds including ducks, shorebirds, grebes, herons, egrets, terns, cormorants, etc. We ought to find gulls and raptors and some song birds. With any luck we will see 50 or more species just in the morning. After birding Bolsa Chica (until around noon) we will go to Newport back Bay or the San Joaquin Wildlife Sanctuary to eat our lunch and finish the day. We will meet at the PCH parking lot of Bolsa Chica at 8:00a.m. 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 long the cold in winter so dress in layers.

Sunday, April 7, 2013 - 8:00-10:00 am Beginning Bird Walk at Rancho Jurupa Park (map) Doug Karalun (909) 425-5355

NORTH H.S. STUDENT CREDIT POLICY

Our goal will be to teach enough basic birding techniques and identification skills so that you will feel comfortable joining our longer birding trips throughout the year. Wear comfortable walking shoes, hats and sunscreen and bring binoculars and water.

The park is located at 4800 Crestmore Road in Riverside. Please see ([map](#)) for directions. Please contact Cathy Tobin for further information. Rain or other conditions may cause last minute changes.. You may call ahead to confirm location and time.

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

We will be visiting the Mojave National Preserve in early spring with the goal of seeing the sought-after specialty breeding birds of the area. These include Gilded Flicker, Juniper Titmouse, and Bendire's, Crissal, and Le Conte's Thrashers. Sage Thrashers may still be moving through, offering the possibility of a four thrasher trip. Other expected desert breeders should also be present: Black-throated Sparrow, Cactus Wren, Greater Roadrunner, Ladder-backed Woodpecker, Scott's Oriole, and more. The wintering season will be ending and migration will be getting started, so we will expect some species that are non-breeding visitor to the area as well. Wildflowers will be blooming, and we should see mammals, reptiles, butterflies and more. Hopefully a Desert Tortoise will grace us with its presence.

We will meet at 6:00a.m. on Saturday at the Bun Boy Restaurant in Baker and then head into the wilderness. Arrive in Baker early enough to top off your gas tank before the meeting. You MUST have a full tank of gas when we depart on the trip. Make sure your car, spare tire and jack are in good shape before you leave for the desert. All roads that we will go on are passable for passenger cars but many are unpaved. We will be far from services. Bring FRS radios if you have them, cell phone service is sporadic. Bring more water than you can imagine needing and ALL of the food and supplies that you will need for the trip, including camping gear. Once we leave Baker we will probably not see gas or stores again until the end of the day on Sunday.

If you want to spend Friday night somewhere close, lodging of sorts is available in Baker, but read the online reviews and you might choose Barstow instead. We will camp Saturday night and bird Sunday for as long as the leader and/or participants have interest in continuing. We may go on a couple of hikes, so bring appropriate walking shoes.

Questions? Please send them by email:

(bewickwren@earthlink.net), not by phone, if [possible]. Also, it is not required, but if you're thinking of coming, please email me so I have an idea of who and how many to expect. You are welcome, though, whether or not you have emailed me in advance. See you in Baker!

Saturday, April 20, 2013 Shorebird Migration at the Salton Sea

[Chet McGaugh](#) (951) 781-3699

[NORTH H.S. STUDENT CREDIT POLICY](#)


More information to come.. If you have questions, contact the trip leader.


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

Please contact trip leader for information, and continue to check the website.

Calendar for Field Trips 2012 to 2013

 **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 Rancho 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 Fairmount 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 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

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

Field Trip Checklist

Comfortable shoes or hiking boots, hat, sunscreen, insect repellent..

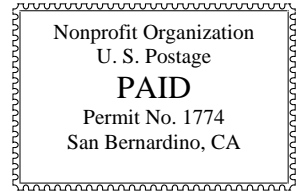
A good Road Map,

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... ☺

March-April 2013

Western Meadowlark

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
C2ZC130Z

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

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