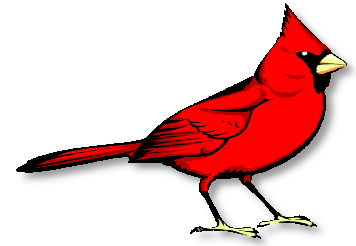


THE OBSERVER



Calendar

January 10. Beginner bird walk at Sycamore Canyon. Meet at the Sycamore Canyon trailhead at **8:00 AM**. The trail is located adjacent to Rose Hills Cemetery gate 17, but note that the trail is **not** in the cemetery! The entrance to Sycamore Canyon is a driveway just southwest of the entrance to the cemetery. Joan Powell leads. Rain or recent rain cancels.

January 15. Monthly meeting and program 7:30 PM at the Whittier Community Center. Claire Schlotterbeck, executive director of Hills for Everyone, will be our speaker. Details at right.

January 17-18. Weekend field trip to the Salton Sea. Jay Oberholtzer leads. Details at right.



JANUARY FIELD TRIP TO THE SALTON SEA

BY JAY OBERHOLTZER

WE ARE GOING TO THE SALTON SEA! This is a great wintering spot for just about every bird there is. Between flooded fields, a huge, foul-smelling body of water, acres of disgusting mud, all surrounded by a desert hell-hole, anyone can see that it is a great place for birds. We will meet and leave promptly from the Townhouse Inn & Suites, 135 Main Street, Brawley, CA 92227 (formerly known as the Brawley Motel) at 7:30 a.m. on Saturday morning, January 17. We will caravan through a bunch of places, stopping for lunch when the time is right. We will definitely have our traditional wine and cheese party, so bring something for that. We will try for a spot where we can watch the Sandhill Cranes come in to roost. Sunday we will leave at the same time and bird our way in the general direction of home.

This area in winter is great for raptors, shore birds and all kinds of migrants. It is just south enough that all kinds of rarities show up. Because the ecology is so varied, we can expect to see a lot of species. Some of the roads will be unpaved, but should be fine for passenger cars with average clearance. It is probably best to leave the Ferrari at home.

Jay Oberholtzer (562-945-2838) or email me to let me know if you are planning to attend.

JANUARY MEETING AND PROGRAM

BY LINDA OBERHOLTZER

Claire Schlotterbeck, Executive Director of Hills for Everyone, will be the speaker at the January 15, 2014 meeting of the Whittier Area Audubon Society. The meeting takes place at 7:30 p.m. at the Whittier Community Center, 7630 Washington Ave., Whittier, CA. The Whittier Community Center is located at the corner of Washington Ave. (not to be confused with Washington Blvd.) and Mar Vista St. in the City of Whittier, across the street from the Whittier Public Library and next to a softball field.

Hills For Everyone keeps an eye on the protected and unprotected lands of the Puente-Chino Hills Wildlife Corridor, which spans four counties and 12 cities. In some instances, development proposals threaten the integrity of the Corridor, while in other cases, our protected lands are threatened with poorly planned infrastructure projects. Where appropriate, HFE gets involved in the local land use, planning, and environmental review process.

The Puente-Chino Hills Wildlife Corridor lies in four of southern California's most urban counties - Los Angeles, Orange, San Bernardino and Riverside. One measure of their continuing wildness is the presence of golden eagles. Despite the many threats from encroaching urbanization and wildfires, the undeveloped hills remain a functioning ecosystem. Learn how 18,000 acres of protected lands came about and what still remains to be done to secure their future.

The program is free. Light refreshments will be served.

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Whittier Area Audubon's web site is located at <http://www.whittieraudubon.org>. Our Yahoo group is called whittieraudubon. And we're on Facebook...search for Whittier Area Audubon!



YAHOO!

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JOIN WHITTIER AREA AUDUBON SOCIETY!

EVERY MEMBERSHIP SUPPORTS AUDUBON'S VITAL EFFORTS to protect birds, wildlife, and natural habitats. For \$30 per year you can support Whittier Area Audubon, receive 10 issues of our chapter newsletter, *The Observer*, and support our local projects and events.

To join our **local** chapter, make your check payable to Whittier Area Audubon and send it to Whittier Area Audubon, P.O. Box 548, Whittier, CA 90608-0548.

To join National Audubon, make your check payable to Audubon and send to National Audubon Society, PO Box 42250, Palm Coast, FL 32142-2250. Please include a letter with your name, mailing address, and any other personal contact information you wish to share (e.g., email address, phone number) along with Whittier Area Audubon Society's code, C4ZC170Z. As a member of National Audubon, you will receive Audubon's bimonthly magazine and our Chapter's newsletter, *The Observer*.

You can find your membership expiration date on the mailing label on your *Observer*.

BRING YOUR CANS!

Reminder: Bring your aluminum cans to our monthly meetings. We can raise funds by recycling your cans.