



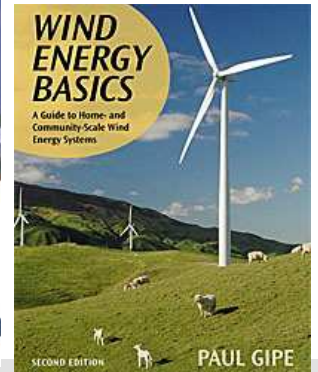
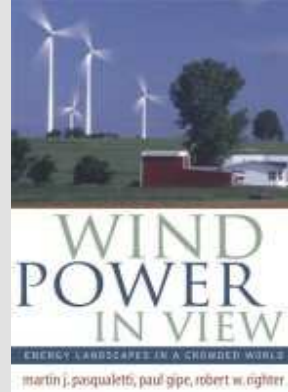
AUDUBON'S WARBLER

Vol. 40 no. 3 - March 2011
Newsletter of Kern Audubon Society
A chapter of National Audubon Society
www.kernaudubonsociety.org

KERN AUDUBON SOCIETY
Tues. March 1, 2011
7:00pm - Kern Supt of Schools
17th & L Sts. (parking garage 18th & K)

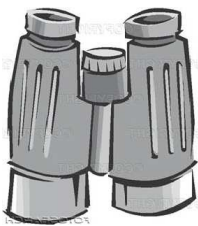
"Wind Works - Wind Energy: Environmental & Economic Sense"

Paul Gipe, Author & Renewable Energy Consultant



Paul Gipe is an award winning author, advocate, and renewable energy industry analyst who has worked with wind energy since 1976. After a trip to Denmark in 1981, Paul began emphasizing the theme that wind energy works and makes "economic and environmental sense." In 2004, Mr. Gipe launched a campaign to bring electricity "feed laws" back to North America. The campaign resulted in a continent-wide grassroots movement that has put renewable energy feed-in tariffs on the political agenda in the United States and Canada. His website, www.wind-works.org, is a wealth of information, and his most recent book, Wind Energy Basics: A Guide to Home- and Community Scale Wind Energy Systems, proves that wind energy can be done. Come to our March 1st Kern Audubon meeting to learn more and interact with Paul Gipe, a dynamic speaker and advocate for renewable energy, a hot topic nationwide and in Kern County!. Wind energy is also of concern because of its impact on birds and bats, so come and ask your questions!

MARCH FIELD TRIPS



MARCH 5-6 Carrizo Plain/Morro Bay

Join Kern Audubon for a weekend of birding in the Carrizo Plain and Morro Bay areas where we may see Golden eagles, owls, bluebirds, raptors, shorebirds and waterfowl. This will be a caravanning trip with Scott Frazer as leader. Meet Sat. March 5, 7:30am at the Loves gas station in Lost Hills, Hiway 46 and bird from there to Carrizo Plain. Bring water, snacks, lunch Late afternoon we will head for Morro Bay, meeting at a restaurant for dinner. Motel reservations need to be made by participants. Birding begins Sunday 8am and concludes about noon. Contact Scott if you are planning to attend: 319-1243 or email him for information: scott_Frazer@fws.gov

Wed. March 16 , 7:30am - Poso Creek area

Come and explore this riparian area north of Bakersfield with Bill Cooper and State Park Ranger Bill Moffat. Meet at 7:30 am for breakfast at The Sugar Mill Restaurant, 2523 North Chester (& China Grade Loop) in Oildale or in the parking lot at 8:30; returning by 1:30. Bring water, binocs, sunscreen, snacks, good walking shoes, etc. Roger Coley, 832-1820, for info.

Sat. March 19, 7:30am - Tehachapi Area (Brite Lake, etc.)

Field trip leader is Richard Sparks, an extraordinarily experienced birder very familiar with the areas we will be visiting. Meet at the Chevron Station/Jack in the Box at the corner of Union Ave & Brundage (Union exit north off Hiway 58) for a 7:30 am departure, returning by 2pm. Bring water, binoculars, sunscreen, etc. Roger Coley 832-1820 for more information.

Sat. March 26, 2:30pm - Kern Foothills & Granite Station

We will be visiting the Granite Station home of Audubon members Lucy Clark & Clyde Golden. Meet at the Costco parking lot (Rosedale Highway) near the gas station for carpooling and departure at 2:30 PM. Directions will be provided at that time. There will be a good chance to view a variety of foothill birds, including a colony of tri-colored blackbirds, bluebirds, raptors, etc. Bring binoculars, sunscreen, water and definitely food, as we may enjoy the birds from the comfort of their deck while eating. We should be back by 7pm, possibly earlier. Call Roger Coley, 832-1820, for more information.

Tricolored Blackbird Survey April 15-17, 2011

This April, as part of Audubon California's effort to help save one of California's most sensitive birds, volunteers will scour California for the rare Tricolored Blackbird. And your help is needed!

Audubon California and the Tricolored Blackbird Working Group are conducting the triennial statewide survey April 15-17 to estimate the current population of this imperiled species. Volunteers will survey known, historical colony sites as well as scout for new, unknown colony sites that have escaped detection. No prior experience is necessary and any help, big or small, is welcome.

To prepare for the survey, training sessions will be held for volunteers to learn the basics of surveying for North America's most colonial landbird. Wondering how to ID a Tricolored vs. a Red-winged Blackbird? Or how to accurately estimate the size of a 60,000 bird megacolony? These are the types of questions that will be answered at the training. For "veterans" of Tricolored Blackbird surveys past are encouraged to attend to get updated information on survey protocol, meet fellow volunteers, and help train the new recruits.

The training session for the San Joaquin Valley:
Los Banos Fish and Wildlife Office
Date: April 9th, Saturday
Time: 9:30am-11:30am

To take part in the survey, please contact Kellier Kyle, Audubon California's Tricolored Blackbird Conservation Coordinator, by email at kkyle@audubon.org, or by phone at (916) 649-7600, Ext. 114

KERN AUDUBON EXECUTIVE BOARD 2010 - 2011

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The Kern Audubon Executive Board will meet on Wed. March 16, 7pm. Meetings are open to interested members; contact a board member for meeting locations

BIRDING FESTIVALS

Bird festivals are fun! You meet other birders, visit new places, see lots of birds, hear interesting presentations, support other local economies and much more. Here's a listing of upcoming California bird festivals...

Godwit Days Spring

Migration & Bird Festival

April 14-20, 2011 - Arcata CA

Keynote: Scott Weidensaul, Author/naturalist
www.godwitdays.com
1-800-908-WING

Kern River Valley Spring Nature Festival **Audubon's Kern River Preserve**

Sat. April 23, 2011

<http://kern.audubon.org/KRVSNF.htm>

Point Reyes Birding & Nature Festival

April 28 – May 2, 2011

Marin & Sonoma Counties
email: aweiss@eacmarin.org

CA Redwoods Bird & Nature Festival

May 6-8, 2011 - Crescent City CA

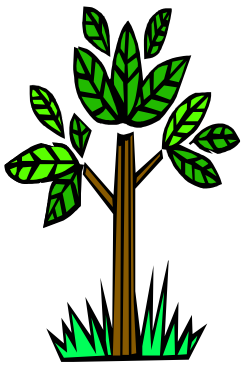
Keynote: Mark Rauzon, Pacific
Seabird Researcher
www.calredwoodsbirdfest.org
1-800-343-8300

Membership Information

The Executive Board is pleased to announce that DEBBY KROEGER has agreed to fill the position of Membership Data Coordinator for Kern Audubon. This position is responsible for communicating membership information (new members, address changes, etc.) to the National Audubon Society and preparing the labels for the monthly *Audubon Warbler*. We thank ROD LEE for handling this job for the last nine months and welcome Debby!

In case you might wonder when to renew your Audubon membership, check the upper righthand corner of your address label for the date your membership expires. For example: Exp:10/14 means membership expires October 2014. Renewals (\$35/year) are handled through National Audubon and you will receive a notice from NAS when the expiration date is approaching. However, if you have a problem or question about your membership, feel free to contact Debby (email: decay@att.net) and she can communicate with the national membership data center.

Looking ahead to Tues. April 5: Mike White, Tejon Ranch Conservancy biologist, speaking about the Tejon Ranch Purple Martin colony



MARCH 5TH - PANORAMA VISTA PRESERVE

Saturday, March 5, 9-11 AM, is Kern Audubon's monthly workparty at Panorama Vista Preserve. This month's job is to plant new trees and shrubs as the nursery is booming with growing plants that need 'a new home'. With the weather warming, spring is almost here and the plants are beginning to bud. What to bring: shovel, gloves, and water. Meet at the east end of Roberts Lane (take Roberts Lane exit off Manor Drive) at 9AM. Contact Andy Honig (andym5@bak.rr.com or call 325-0026 or 619-4456cell) for additional information.

The February work day was well attended by these great workers: Carol Gates, Al Caetano, Dana Adams, Andy Honig, Michael Trihey, Diane Bachtel, Lynn & Bill McDonald, Lynn James, Jan Graves, and Sean Jenson from the Foothill High School Interact Club. The first crop of sycamores was planted!

BIRDING ARIZONA WITH MICHAEL MCQUERRY

Southeast Arizona is legendary in US birding. The mountains of Mexico extend just into Arizona in the form of the "Sky Islands" of soaring mountains: Huachuca's, Chiricahua's, the Santa Rita's. The birds of Mexico and Central America follow these mountains into the US only in Arizona. There are nearly 100 species which occur nowhere else in the United States. Michael McQuerry, Kern Audubon member and frequent field trip leader, has birded southeastern Arizona summers for 30 years and has volunteered to lead a July birding trip for Kern Audubon. Below is a summary of what Michael is recommending for the trip, July 23-30. The cost is based on lodging (motels or camping) and food, to be arranged by each participant. Please email Michael with your questions and to sign-up: macbirder@juno.com

Sat. July 23 - Arrival, set up camp and hotels in Sierra Vista

July 24-25: Hummingbirds at Ramsey, Miller, and Ash Canyons (13 species of hummingbird)

July 26: Patagonia loop: *Thick-billed Kingbird, Varied Bunting, Gray Hawk, Violet-crowned Hummingbird*

July 27: San Pedro River: *Tropical Kingbird and sparrows, Gilded Flicker*

Evening, owling: *Elf, Whiskered Screech, Whip-poor-will, Common Poorwill*

July 28: Ft. Huachuca: *Sparrows (Botteri's, Cassin's, Rufous-winged), canyon birds, Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher, Buff-breasted Flycatcher, and all the myiarchus flycatchers.*

July 30: Departure. Those who wish to continue, we'll head to the Chiricahua Mountains. If we haven't found it already, the *Elegant Trogon* is common, here. One of our days here, we will head to the high country to get *Mexican Chickadee* and the highland warblers: *Olive Warbler, Red-faced Warbler, and Grace's Warbler*. They aren't common, but always there somewhere.

Those new to this area should have at least 35 lifers and maybe as many as 45. It's stunning birding. I love southeast Arizona. Two of my top five birding memories are there. This will be another memorable trip and I hope you can join us.

Michael McQuerry ...macbirder@juno.com

AUDUBON CHAPTERS - ACTING LOCALLY

I am constantly amazed and impressed by the work that I see Audubon chapters carrying out in their local communities. I spend most of my weekdays throughout the Central Valley and Sierra Nevada, and the Audubon chapters I visit are working on an incredible range of issues and projects. From outdoor education programs that connect children with nature, to riparian restoration projects, to native plant gardens, to people conducting citizen science surveys...and all this done entirely by volunteers. There seems to be no end to the energy and resources being put into improving circumstances for birds.

And it's a good thing - because without these efforts, our birds would undoubtedly be suffering.

The ongoing and uphill nature of working to protect wildlife and natural resources can sometimes be overwhelming. Between increasingly gloomy climate change scenarios, the constant threat of drought, and our disappearing natural landscapes, it's easy to get discouraged. Political leaders often appear disconnected from what's really happening in local communities, and even those with the very best intentions often struggle to realize their conservation promises.

The importance of local involvement in the conservation movement really cannot be overstated. It just makes sense. Nobody understands the beauty, history, and significance of your landscape better than you. And no one will work harder to protect it. Conservation groups that have lasting impact realize that even projects and issues that appear small may have significant impact over time, and that every step we take today brings us closer to a brighter conservation future.

If you are interested in getting involved, contact your chapter board and find out what's going on in your community. You can also visit www.ca.audubon.org to find out more about statewide conservation initiatives.

Thank you for all you do!!

Jordan Wellwood, Conservation Coordinator
AUDUBON CALIFORNIA

SALAD BOWL...A wooden salad bowl and two wooden spoons were left after the Christmas potluck. If this is yours, please email Harry: love3@bak.rr.com

NEED INFORMATION ABOUT BIRDS?

A great website for learning about birds and bird behavior is www.cornellbirds@cornell.edu. This is the website of Cornell Lab of Ornithology, the world leader in the study and conservation of birds.

We thank Joseph V. Higbee for the Audubon's Warbler photo used as the newsletter logo. Used by permission.
(www.pbase.com/jvhigbee)

AUDUBON'S WARBLER

Kern Audubon Society
PO Box 3581
Bakersfield CA 93385



www.kernaudubonsociety.org

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Join KERN AUDUBON for these activities...

- Tues. March 1, 7:00PM - Evening program with Wind Energy expert Paul Gipe
- Sat. March 5, 9-11am - Workparty at Panorama Vista Preserve
- Wed. March 16, 7:30am - Poso Creek Field Trip
- Sat. March 19, 7:30am - Tehachapi Field Trip
- Sat. March 26, 2:30pm - Granite Station Field Trip

Membership Application -- KERN AUDUBON SOCIETY (C30)

If you would like to be part of a grass-roots conservation organization with a distinguished history, join the National Audubon Society and Kern Audubon! Please complete the form below and send with your check !

Membership includes *Audubon Magazine* (6 Issues) and the *Audubon's Warbler* (10 issues)
____ New Member \$20

Make check payable to **NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY**

Send this form and your check for \$20 to:

Kern Audubon
PO Box 3581
Bakersfield CA 93385

Name(s) _____ Amount enclosed _____

Address _____ E-mail _____

City _____ Zip Code _____ Phone # _____

Please indicate if you would like to receive your *Audubon's Warbler* electronically: ____yes ____no