



AUDUBON'S WARBLER

Vol. 42 no. 2 - FEBRUARY 2013
Newsletter of Kern Audubon Society
A chapter of National Audubon Society
www.kernaudubonsociety.org
www.kastehachapibird.org

KERN AUDUBON SOCIETY
Tues.. February 5, 2013 - 7:00PM
Kern Supt of Schools - 17th & L Sts.

**"A Bucket List Filled: Experiencing
Nature in All 50 States on a Budget"**
Alison Sheehey, Speaker



Join us for an evening program on Nature Ali's (Ali Sheehey) adventure driving to every drivable state and being gifted a ticket to the last state that she couldn't drive to. Since 2009, Ali has pursued visiting every state in the union and completed this goal in October 2012. The program will be a pictorial essay of wildlife and places encountered along the way.

Ali Sheehey, aka Nature Ali, is a remarkable birder and nature photographer and a "naturalized member" of the Kern County fauna. Her introduction to this land began in 1976 with her permanent migration to the Southern San Joaquin Valley in 1980. She joined Audubon in 1985 and became a member of the Kern Audubon board in 1987. She has a lifelong love of nature and looks forward to sharing her deep appreciation for all life with the Kern Audubon community.

FEBRUARY FIELD TRIPS

Sun. February 10, 2013, 1:30pm - Col. Allensworth State Park & Pixley Wildlife Refuge

The field trip committee has planned a special Sunday afternoon and early evening birding and historical experience led by Park Ranger Bill Moffat to Allensworth State Historical Park near Alpaugh followed by a last opportunity to see the Sandhill Cranes at Pixley. Bill will give a brief overview of Allensworth, the only California town to be founded, financed and governed by African Americans and which has been preserved as a state historical park. We will also do some birding at the park and then make the brief drive to Pixley to see the fly-in of the cranes at sunset, a beautiful sight. The group will meet to carpool at the Costco on Rosedale Hiway near the gas station at 1:30pm. Bring sack dinner, snacks, water, binocs. Return 7:15pm. Call Deb 805-0232 or Bill (201-9279) for info.

Wed. Walk February 20th, 8:30am - Truxtun Lake

One of the best local spots to bird is Truxtun Lake, especially if there is water in the Kern. Bill Moffat will lead the walk which should encounter over 40 species of birds (shorebirds, waterfowl, raptors and early migrants). Meet at the Truxtun Extension parking lot to the west of Mohawk Dr near painted water tower. Couple of miles of walking and conclude around 11am. Bring water, snacks, binocs. Call Deb 805-0232 or Al 833-6705 for information.

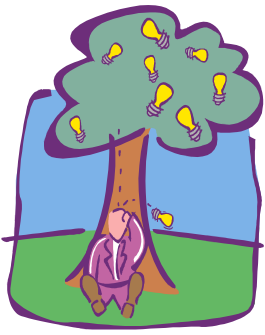
Sat. February 23rd - Piute Ponds on Edwards AFB

Member Kristie Grubb will lead this fabulous field trip to Piute Ponds, the largest freshwater wetland in Los Angeles County. Over 250 species have been documented at the Piute complex and in 2004 it was designated as an "Important Bird Area of California" by the National Audubon Society. Many recent improvements have only enhanced the value of this great birding destination. To learn more about the Piute Complex visit the Piute Ponds website at www.puiteponds.com.

In Tehachapi, meet at the K Mart parking lot near Burger King at **7:30 am**. We will carpool from there. RSVP to Angela Guy at angelaguy@att.net or 661-304-6816. Dress in layers and bring water, snacks, lunch, guidebooks, and binoculars. Make sure you have a picture ID with you as we will be on U.S. Air Force property. (Bakersfield birders can meet to carpool at the Stockdale Park n Ride between Real Rd. & Hiway 99 at **6:30am**.)



FEBRUARY WORKPARTY - PANORAMA VISTA PRESERVE



On **Saturday, February 9th, 10 AM- 12 Noon**, Kern Audubon will have its monthly work party at PVP. Last month's event had many familiar faces: Carol Gates, Paul Gipe, Bill McDonald, Madi Elsea, Vicki Boehning, Andy Honig and Harry Love as well as newcomers Pat Turner, Steve Edwards, Bob Edwards, Lori de Leon, and Marco Flores. Many thanks to all for their work at weeding around the plants. For February, the tasks will vary, so bring water, shovel, hoe, gloves, and a hat. Come out and enjoy the invigorating winter weather! Directions to PVP: north on Manor Street, exit at Roberts Lane and travel east until you reach a locked gate. For more information contact Andy at andym5@bak.rr.com or 619-4456.

KERN AUDUBON ON FACEBOOK

Kern Audubon is now part of social media! Look for us on Facebook, thanks to Anke Hodenpijl who has set up a Facebook page and account. To access our page, you need to have a personal Facebook account, so sign-up if you aren't already a member. (www.Facebook.com). Then go to Kern Audubon's page and "like" us. You will then automatically receive Kern Audubon's postings! You can also post bird photos and bird sightings!



BIRDING FESTIVALS

Bird festivals are fun! You meet other birders, visit new places, see lots of birds, hear interesting presentations, support local economies and much more. For information about festivals around the country, go to...

www.Americanbirding.org/festivals
www.birdwatchersdigest.com

For information about festivals in California, go to...
www.natureali.org/nature_festivals.htm

KERN AUDUBON EXECUTIVE BOARD 2012 - 2013

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tmurphy@bak.rr.com; 325-0307

KERN AUDUBON LIBRARY

Kern Audubon has a great library of books about birds and birding and our new librarian, David Schaad, will be bringing books to the Feb 5th meeting for checking out books. If you have a book to return, please bring to the meeting.

Questions? Call David at 428-2841.

Here's another book review:

Feeding the Birds by Jan Mahnken
Attracting birds has aesthetic benefits of observing nature close up as well as practical benefits of keeping your yard free from insect pests. This book is all about how to entice birds to get close for a good look. It describes how to create successful feeding situations, avoid dangers for the birds, such as cats and squirrels. You will learn about the right food and physical setting (e.g. trees) that attract birds. The last half of the book is about the birds themselves, one by one. When you finish you will be on your way to becoming a very knowledgeable birder!



Audubon

Kern Audubon Society, founded in 1974, is a chapter of the National Audubon Society. Its mission is to provide educational programs and services that build awareness of the importance of birds and other wildlife and to promote conservation and restoration of natural habitats, primarily in Kern County.

YEAR-END APPEAL... Once again there has been a generous response to the end-of-the-year appeal in the amount of **\$2255***. The Kern Audubon Executive Board wishes to acknowledge and thank the following persons for your extra gifts toward KAS' plans for continuing to help "create a culture of conservation in Kern County!"

Dana Adams	Pam Baugher	Herb & Sue Benham
Rose Mary Bryan	Jim & Arlene Burrow	Al Caetano
William Cooper	Roger & Barb Coley	Joann Conard & Dan Walker
Jim & Judy Collier	Ginny Dallas-Dull	Dr. Jan Elsea
Gary & Carla File	Irene C. Froyd	Carol Lawrence Gates
Elizabeth Gossett	Irene Gur	Ron & Carol Hauerwaas
Mrs. Lamar Hiatt	Steven Jacobs	Fanny Laborde-Jacobs
Jerry & Caryl Kay	Carol Lair	Janet Lund
Curtis O. Lee	Vicki Lohr	Rod McClintock
Bill & Lynn McDonald	Donna McKenna	William Meyer
Joseph Mier	Gary McKibbin	Larry & Pat Mumford
Ted & Peggy Murphy	Daniel P. Nadsady	Joanne Newberry
Roberta Owen	Gloria Pauline	Lloyd & Joann Phillips
John I. Place	Maria Polite	Marilyn Radoumis
Donna Rodriguez	Georgette Theotig	Robyn Thompson
Reed & Chana Tollefson	Ken & Rose Twisselman	Ann S. Williams
John & Deb Wilson	Doug & Elaine White	William Whiteside
Barbara Bates	Patricia Cox	

ENVIRONMENTAL VICTORIES FOR 2012

The PEW Environmental Group, a non-profit organization devoted to public interest topics, released its scoreboard for the past year. Below are some of the victories for 2012. If you wish to see the complete list, you can visit the website at: www.pewenvironment.org.

Big Win for Small Fish

From the Atlantic to the Pacific, U.S. fisheries managers reaffirmed the importance of forager fish to the health of our oceans and the marine food web. BY THE NUMBERS "1/3 for the birds"- the amount of forage fish that scientists believe should be kept in the water to preserve a healthy ecosystem

Safeguarding the Arctic

Science guided America's policy on drilling the U.S. Arctic Ocean, ending a one-size-fits-all approach to oil leasing in vulnerable area

54.5 MPG by 2025

Obama Administration set 54.5 MPG fuel efficiency standards by 2025: The new rule will double the fleet average, saving \$8,200 by each consumer over the life of a 2025 vehicle.

Roadless Protection

In October, the U.S. Supreme Court declined to hear a challenge to the 2001 Roadless Area Conservation Rule, one of the most significant and far-reaching public land preservation measures in a generation. 60 million acres of pristine national forests are protected by the Roadless Rule.

YES...FEEDING HUMMINGBIRDS IN WINTER IS OKAY!!

The Anna's Hummingbird winters in our area, so keeping your feeder stocked with sugar water is a good thing for the Hummers. Maintaining a backyard hummingbird feeder can help provide the birds with nectar critical to their survival. (Contrary to a common fear, the extra food won't stop a hummer from migrating!) Follow these steps to ensure your yard is a safe and nutritious stopover for hummingbirds:

- Instead of one large feeder, hang several smaller ones in different locations. Keep the feeders far enough apart that the hummers cannot see one another; this will prevent one bird from dominating the rest.
- Fill the feeders with sugar water, made by combining four parts hot water to one part white sugar, boiled for one to two minutes. **NEVER** use honey, which promotes the growth of harmful bacteria, or artificial sweeteners. Also avoid red food coloring.
- Hang your feeders in the shade to discourage fermentation and spoilage of the sugar solution.
- Be sure to change the sugar water regularly - before it gets cloudy, or about twice a week in warm weather.
- Clean the feeders with a solution of one part white vinegar to four parts water about once a week. If your feeder has become dirty, try adding some grains of dry rice to the vinegar solution and shake vigorously. The grains act as a good abrasive. Rinse your feeder well with warm water three times before refilling with sugar solution.

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. Feb 5, 7:00pm - Monthly meeting/program
- Sat. Feb 9, 10am - Panorama Preserve workparty
- Sun. Feb 10, 1:30pm - Allensworth/Pixley Field Trip
- Wed. Feb. 20, 8:30am - Truxtun Lake Walk
- Sat. Feb. 23 - Piute Ponds on Edwards AFB

Membership Application -- KERN AUDUBON SOCIETY (C2ZC300Z)

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

OPPORTUNITY TO HELP STUDENTS LEARN ABOUT BIRDS

On **Friday March 1** and **Friday March 8**, Edison School will be bringing students to the Panorama Vista Preserve for lessons in ecology. They will be in groups of about 10, proceeding to each learning station for 20-25 minutes demonstrations. This will happen 5 times on each day. Several groups will have booths and learning stations at the Preserve, including Kern Audubon on Friday March 8th. We will be using materials developed for children.

This is the second year for the event. Many members, such as Maria Polite and Al Caetano, helped last year. If you would like to help this year on **March 8**, I will be there with our booth. **Times: 8 AM-1PM**. Best in a 1-2 hour block of time.

If you wish to have more information about helping on March 1, contact Kathi Parks (parksark@aol.com) at Edison School.

This is a great opportunity to help express the ecological values of the Audubon Society to the next generation. *Birds matter!*

Harry Love, Conservation Chair
805-1420 love3@bak.rr.com



GO PAPERLESS with Kern Audubon

New US Postal Service regulations now require a heavier weight paper for bulk mail, as evidenced by this edition of the *Warbler*, due to problems with lighter weight paper jamming the machines. This means an increase in paper costs as well as mailing costs, probably an additional \$15 per month. We are asking that everyone with email **please sign up to receive your *Warbler* electronically** to save money as well as trees! It will only take a few minutes by emailing...

rodmlee@aol.com or call 322-7470...thank you!!



Don't miss the **2013 Point Reyes Birding & Nature Festival!**

Save the dates of April 26-28, 2013, for the San Francisco 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.

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

WEBSITES to check out...

Info about birds? To learn more about birds, go to www.birds.cornell.edu, the website of Cornell Lab of Ornithology, the world leader in the study and conservation of birds.

Kern Birding For a comprehensive website about Kern Co. birding locations go to www.natureali.org/birding.htm.

Kern County Bird Sightings/photos

For what's unusual in Kern County, go to kerncobirding@yahogroups.com You'll find recent bird sightings, reports by Bob Barnes, Michael McQuerry, Alison Sheehey, pictures by Ken Kyle and others.

Audubon California has a great website about its activities and organization: www.Audubon-ca.org

Audubon in the news - To find out more about National Audubon happenings through an electronic newsletter, email chapterleaders@audubon.org or go to www.audubon.org

How to contact lawmakers

Have a suggestion, gripe or compliment for your lawmakers? Here's the latest contact information for Kern County's representatives at the local, state and federal levels. Not sure who represents you? Go to the Kern County elections division website at elections.co.kern.ca.us/ elections and look for the "Your Districts and Representatives" link under "Popular Links" on the right-hand side of the page.

Kern County Board of Supervisors

All members

Kern County Administrative Center

1115 Truxtun Ave., 5th Floor
Bakersfield, CA 93301

Members' Bakersfield offices

Mick Gleason, District 1

Phone: 868-3650
Fax: 868-3657
District1@co.kern.ca.us

Zack Scrivner, District 2

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Fax: 868-3666
District2@co.kern.ca.us

Mike Maggard, District 3

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Fax: 868-3677
District3@co.kern.ca.us

David Couch, District 4

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Fax: 868-3688
District4@co.kern.ca.us

Leticia Perez, District 5

Phone: 868-3690
Fax: 868-3645
District5@co.kern.ca.us

Bakersfield City Council

All members

1600 Truxtun Ave.
Bakersfield, CA 93301
City_Council@bakersfieldcity.us

Phone: 326-3767

Fax: 323-3780

Mayor Harvey Hall

Office: 326-3770

Fax: 323-3780

Mayor@bakersfieldcity.us
Council members

Ward 1 (Vacant)

Office: 326-3767

Terry Maxwell, Ward 2

Office: 326-3767

Cell: 331-8438

Ken Weir, Ward 3

Office: 326-3767

Residence: 619-2472

Bob Smith, Ward 4

Office: 326-3767

Harold Hanson, Ward 5

Office: 326-3767

Jacquie Sullivan, Ward 6

Office/residence: 834-4943

Russell Johnson, Ward 7

Office: 326-3767

Cell: 203-1838

President

Barack Obama

1600 Pennsylvania Ave.,
Washington, D.C. 20500,
Comment Line: 202-456-1111, whitehouse.gov

U.S. Senate

Barbara Boxer

Capitol office: 112 Hart Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510, Phone: 202-224-3553, Fax: 202-228-3864

Fresno office:

2500 Tulare St. Suite 5290, Fresno, CA 93721, Phone: 559-497-5109, Fax: 202-228-3864, boxer.senate.gov

Dianne Feinstein

Capitol office: 331 Hart Senate Office Bldg., Washington, D.C. 20510, Phone: 202-224-3841, Fax: 202-228-3954

Fresno office:

2500 Tulare St., Suite 4290, Fresno, CA 93721, Phone: 559-485-7430, Fax: 559-485-9689, feinstein.senate.gov

House of Representatives

23rd District Rep. Kevin McCarthy, R-Bakersfield

Capitol office: 2421 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515, Phone: 202-225-2915, Fax: 202-225-2908

District office:

4100 Empire Drive, Suite 150, Bakersfield, CA 93309, Phone: 327-3611, Fax: 637-0867, kevinmccarthy.house.gov

21st District Rep. David Valadao, R-Hanford

Capitol office: 1004 Longworth House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515, Phone: 202-225-4695, valadao.house.gov/

District office: North Inwin St. Suite 110B, Hanford, CA,

93230, Phone: To come, Bakersfield office information to come

State Assembly

32nd District Assemblyman Rudy Salas

Capitol office: P.O. Box 942849, Sacramento, CA 94249-0032, Phone: 916-319-2032, Fax: 916-319-2132

District office: 1489 W. Lacey Blvd. Suite 103, Hanford, CA 93230, Phone: 559-585-7170, Fax: 559-585-7175, asmdc.org/members/a32

34th District Assemblywoman Shannon Grove, R-Bakersfield

Capitol office: State Capitol, Room 4208, Sacramento, CA 95814, Phone: 916-319-2034, Fax: 916-319-2134

District office: 4900 California Ave., Suite 100-B, Bakersfield, CA 93309, Phone: 395-2995, Fax: 395-3883, arc.asm.ca.gov/member/AD34

26th District Assemblywoman Connie Conway, R-Visalia

Capitol office: State Capitol, Room 3104, Sacramento, CA 95814, Phone: 916-319-2026, Fax: 916-319-2126

District office: 113 N. Church St., Suite #505, Visalia, CA 93291, Phone: 559-636-3440, Fax: 559-636-4484, arc.asm.ca.gov/member/AD26

State Senate

16th District state Sen. Michael Rubio, D-Bakersfield

Capitol office: State Capitol, Room 5061, Sacramento, CA 95814, Phone: 916-651-4016, Fax: 916-327-5989

District office: 1122 Truxtun Ave. Suite 100, Bakersfield, CA 93301, Phone: 395-2620, Fax: 395-2622

18th District state Sen. Jean Fuller, R-Bakersfield

Capitol office: State Capitol, Room 3063, Sacramento, CA 95814, Phone: 916-651-4018, Fax: 916-322-3304

District office: 5701 Truxtun Ave., Suite 150, Bakersfield, CA 93309, Phone: 323-0443, Fax: 323-0446, cssrc.us/web/18

GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT

The GBBC is a joint project of:



Canadian partner:



Great Backyard Bird Count February 15 - 18, 2013

The Great Backyard Bird Count is an annual 4-day event that engages bird watchers of all ages in counting birds to create a real-time snapshot of where the birds are.

Beginning in 2013, GBBC checklists will be accepted from anywhere in the world!

Everyone is welcome--from beginning bird watchers to experts. It takes as little as 15 minutes on one day, or you can count for as long as you like each day of the event. It's free, fun, and easy—and it helps the birds.

Scientists and bird enthusiasts can learn a lot by knowing where the birds are. Bird populations are dynamic; they are constantly in flux. No single scientist or team of scientists could hope to document and understand the complex distribution and movements of so many species in such a short time. Scientists use the GBBC information, along with observations from other citizen-science projects, such as the Christmas Bird Count, Project FeederWatch, and eBird, to get the "big picture" about what is happening to bird populations.

How to participate:

1) **Count birds anywhere** you like for at LEAST 15 minutes—or even longer if you wish. Keep track of the kinds of birds you see and how long you watched.

2) **Make your best estimate** of how many birds you saw of each species. For example, 5 American Goldfinches, 3 American Crows. Huge flocks may be a challenge, but your best guess is still valuable. 3) **Enter your list(s) online** at www.BirdCount.org. You put in a new list for each time you count, whether it's on the same day, a different day, at the same place, or at a new location.

For more information go to www.birdcount.org and register to participate. It's free, it's easy, it's fun and it's for a good cause! The GBBC is co-sponsored by National Audubon Society!