



AUDUBON'S WARBLER

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Newsletter of Kern Audubon Society
A chapter of National Audubon Society
www.kernaudubonsociety.org

KERN AUDUBON GATHERING

Tuesday JUNE 2 Deep Pit BBQ

catered by Western Kitchen 6:00 - 8:00PM



Where: CSUB Environmental Studies Area/F.A.C.T. (Turn north on Runner Drive from Camino Media, then right into the parking lot. Go thru parking lot onto dirt road to ESA fence.)

6:00pm - Tours of FACT (Facility for Animal Care & Treatment),
Cactus Garden & Desert Tortoise Compound

7:00pm - Catered DEEP PIT BBQ with
all the extras - \$10/adults; \$5 under 12

Dinner entertainment: Guitarist Dave Ogden

Dave is a Kern Audubon member, a distinguished musician and owner of Clear Creek Recording Studio located on a ranch at Hart Flat. Dave plays many instruments, especially the guitar, and specializes in Irish/Celtic music. Often you can hear him and other local musicians on Wednesday evenings at Dagny's Coffee in downtown Bakersfield. One of his clients is the local group, Banshee in the Kitchen. Dave will entertain us with traditional Celtic music on guitar & mandolin.....a soothing way to socialize & enjoy dinner!



Come enjoy a fun evening as we end our
program year!

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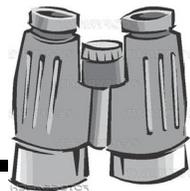
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KEEP FEEDERS CLEAN

Summer is here, so hummingbird food spoils quickly. Keep feeders clean using a solution of one part white vinegar to four parts water. Use a bottle brush to clean the inside and rinse well. Fill feeders with sugar water (four parts HOT water to one part white sugar). Never use honey and avoid red food coloring. *Change solution twice a week during the hot weather!!*

TUESDAY BIRDERS MEET 3RD TUES.

Tues. June 16th will be the next outing of the *Tuesday Birders*. Contact Brenda Kyle (871-4867) for information about time & place to meet. All birders are welcome!



SUMMER FIELD TRIP JULY 25TH

One of Kern County's best birders, Bob Barnes, will lead a field trip to the Kern River Preserve on Sat. July 25 to see some of the summer resident birds:

Yellow-billed Cuckoo

Summer Tanager

Willow Flycatcher

We will meet at the Albertson's parking lot on Mt. Vernon & Hiway 178, 6:30am. Bring water & snacks, binocs, etc. We will go to breakfast after birding at the Sierra Vista cafe in Weldon.

"Let's Go Outside" Campaign to Connect People with Nature and Create Photomosaic

This Memorial Day and all summer long, get out into nature and see some wildlife – in your backyard, at the local park or on a nearby national wildlife refuge. You'll create memories to last a lifetime, and if you take your digital camera, you'll not only capture those memories, but will have the opportunity to submit them as part of a major online "Photomosaic".

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has announced the launch of a "Let's Go Outside" initiative to create a massive compilation of nearly 10,000 publicly provided photographs capturing individuals and families creating memories in nature this summer. The assembled photographs will create a Photomosaic of an outdoor image to be revealed at the conclusion of the summer, and then made into a commemorative poster.

All digital photos submitted will be included in the Photomosaic – a picture that has been divided into equally sized sections, each of which is replaced with a photograph. When viewed at a distance, the Photomosaic seems to be one complete image, while close examination reveals it as a composition of thousands of smaller images.

Visitors to the "Let's Go Outside" web site will be able to watch the Photomosaic being built and locate their own images by using a unique code number.

The "Let's Go Outside" initiative encourages all of us, especially children, educators and parents to get outside and enjoy nature and wildlife. Submissions for the Photomosaic will be accepted from Memorial Day through Labor Day. To submit digital photos and learn about the basics of digital nature photography, visit <http://www.fws.gov/letsgooutside>.

How To Learn Bird Songs

Bob Barnes has recommended an in-depth article on learning bird songs that was published in *Western Tanager*, the newsletter of Los Angeles Audubon, May/June issue. You can access the website by using this URL:

http://losangelesaudubon.org/images/stories/pdf/WesternTanager_pdfs/westerntanager,v75n5,mayjune2009_webversion.pdf

OR...go to <http://losangelesaudubon.org> and click on the *Western Tanager* icon in the righthand column

POACHING INCREASES IN CALIFORNIA

California is experiencing an increase in poaching that led officials to call 2008 'The Year of Extreme Poaching.' Between 2003 and 2007 the number of violations more than doubled, and the rise in extreme poaching (excessive killing of fish and wildlife or repeat offenses) matched that pace. This upswing of violence has been hardest on our waterfowl, including sensitive species of ducks and geese.

Our force of courageous and dedicated fish and game wardens cannot be held responsible for this poaching epidemic. In 2008, California had fewer than 200 active-duty fish and game wardens patrolling the state's 100 million acres. This is the lowest of any state in the nation at one per 185,000 residents, and these men and women work tirelessly to protect our natural resources.

Nor can we blame the hunting community, which has a long tradition of stewardship and conservation in California. Hunters observe bag limits to protect sustainable wildlife populations, support the protection of critical habitat, and pay taxes on ammunition and licenses that support conservation and regulation of their sport.

California's weak poaching laws and the lack of adequate law enforcement are the real causes of the poaching epidemic. Poaching is only considered a misdemeanor under state law, and once a hunter has paid the penalty he/she is once again eligible to receive a hunting license and return to poach again. San Francisco District Attorney Kamala Harris claims that poachers simply build the fines into the cost of doing business.

Assembly Bill 708, authored by Assemblymember Jared Huffman (D-San Rafael), would take important strides toward ending this epidemic by enacting real deterrents to poachers, especially repeat offenders. It would increase fines and impose mandatory minimum fines so that violators cannot be let off the hook. Additional amendments to the bill will also better incentivize local prosecutions to make sure that violators get what they deserve.

What you can do to help:

Go to www.ca.audubon.org and sign up to receive our action alerts, so that you can participate in this and other important wildlife protection legislation.

Submitted by Jordan Wellwood, Central Valley & Sierra Nevada Conservation Coordinator
Audubon California (jwellwood@audubon.org)

KERN AUDUBON SPEAKERS BUREAU

Ted Murphy, Co-chair of Kern Audubon, has organized a speakers bureau to provide programs to local clubs and other groups on a wide range of topics by a number of speakers, including:

The Antiquities Act: How National Monuments Were Established

Birding in Peru

Tule Elk State Reserve

Kern-Pixley Wildlife Refuges

Bakersfield's Favorite Furry, the Urban Kit Fox

History of the Audubon Society

Global Warming

Birds of Kern County

The Early History of the Facility for Animal Care and Treatment.

Kern County Land Preserves.

Other topics may be added and additional speakers recruited. All of the presentations are illustrated with color photos and last 45 minutes with question periods following. Some topics may be adapted to a shorter time period of 20—30 minutes, depending on the type of meeting. If you need a program for your group, call Ted (325-0307). He will refer your request to the appropriate presenter who will then contact you to make the arrangements for the presentation.

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

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www.kernaudubonsociety.org

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Join KERN AUDUBON for these activities...

- Tues. June 2, 6:00pm - DEEP PIT BBQ and Irish music featuring Dave Ogden at the FACT Compound at CSUB

Membership Application -- KERN AUDUBON SOCIETY (C9ZC300Z)

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*. (11 issues)

____ New Member \$20 ____ Renewal \$35

Make check payable to NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY (not Kern Audubon)

Send check & form to ...Kern Audubon
PO Box 3581
Bakersfield CA 93385

I am enclosing an additional tax-deductible donation for the work of Kern Audubon in the amount of _____. (**Check payable to Kern Audubon**)

Name(s) _____ Amount enclosed _____

Address _____ E-mail _____

City _____ Zip Code _____ Phone # _____