

AUDUBON'S WARBLER

Vol. 47 no. 11 – November 2018

Newsletter of **Kern Audubon Society**

A chapter of National Audubon Society

KERN AUDUBON PROGRAM *Tues, November 6th 7pm* **Kern County Supt. Of Schools**
1300 17th St, Bakersfield, CA 93301

BIRDING ALONG THE BIKE TRAIL AND ENVIRONS

Be prepared for an interactive exploration of local birding adventures with our own member Alex Merrill. He developed an increased interest in birding after retiring from 30 years of medical practice in Bakersfield. Surprised by the number and variety of birds found locally, he decided to combine his other activities of cycling and photography with a survey of Kern River flora and fauna. In this pursuit, during the second half of 2017 alone, he documented over 100 different species! By sharing his works he hopes you will be inspired to further appreciate our unique environment and be motivated to protect and preserve it. Come enjoy his stories, knowledge, and wisdom.



November Field Trips

Sat. Nov. 10th 8:00 am - Panorama Vista Preserve in Bakersfield

Join Kern Audubon for a short, early morning outing along the banks of Kern River on PVP's 900 acres of riparian and restored woodland habitat. We should be finished by around 9:00. ***Some birders may then want to join any PVP volunteers working that morning. Wear warm clothes and shoes suitable for wet grass. PVP is located below Bakersfield's Panorama Bluffs.*** Directions: take Union Ave north, veering left onto Manor St when Union Ave ends. After crossing the Kern River, take the Roberts Ln on ramp. At the top of the ramp, turn left (east) on Roberts Ln. Proceed about ½ mile past horse stables on your right. Park in the lot to the left of the gate at the end of Roberts Ln. Loaner binocs available. For info: call Mac McCarthy at 589-7768.

Tues. Nov. 13th 8:30 am - Uplands of the Kern River Parkway

Margaret Dolan will lead a morning bird walk in this hidden gem of a park spanning both banks of the Kern River behind Sam Lynn Ballpark. There are several observation decks overlooking the river. We'll be looking for Great Blue and Green Herons, Egrets, Cormorants, black Phoebe's, Canada Geese and other winter visitors. Loaner binoculars available. Meet in the parking lot behind Sam Lynn Ballpark and its big green backstop. Directions: Take Chester Ave. north past the traffic circle and past the clock tower on your left. Turn left at 40th St. in front of the big red, white and gray Sam Lynn Ballpark sign. Go straight ahead ¼ mile along the asphalt drive keeping Sam Lynn Ballpark on your right. Then find small road off to the right leading behind Sam Lynn and its big backstop. You'll see the metal sign for Uplands of the Kern River as you go behind Sam Lynn. For info: call Margaret at 330-9059.

Sat. Nov. 17th 11:30 am – Atwell Island outing followed by 3:00pm-“Return of the Cranes” Festival at Pixley NWR

11:30am – Deb See & Bill Moffat will lead a pre-crane festival field trip from Bakersfield to Atwell Island and other nearby birding spots. Meet at the Rosedale Costco parking lot near the gas station at 11:30am to carpool. Bring \$5 for gas, sack lunch, snacks, water, binoculars, flashlight and a warm jacket and hat for evening. This outing will finish with the Crane Festival at Pixley NWR at 3:00pm. Questions? Contact Deb (809-6135) or Bill (805-0232) for information. **3:00pm**-Sandhill Cranes are now present at Pixley National Wildlife Refuge where they will be for the winter. Pixley NWR and Kern NWR staff will host in the parking lot an opportunity to learn about the cranes, enjoy some refreshments provided by Kern and Tulare Audubon and see thousands of cranes as they fly in at sunset from nearby agricultural fields to the safety of the refuges' ponds for the night. Bring a flashlight, warm jacket+hat and walking shoes for the 1/2 mile walk to the viewing platform. (Handicapped access can be arranged.) Also, the parking lot has great views as well. This outing ends at sunset so prepare for darkness and cool weather. To meet at the Festival at 3:00 on your own, take Hwy 99 to Ave 56. Go west to Rd 88, and turn north to the Pixley Refuge.

November Tehachapi trip will be Saturday, December 1st 8:15 am

this change is to avoid Thanksgiving weekend. Trip will be to the "Tehachapi Ponds," visiting Gene Lake (a groundwater discharge basin), the sewage ponds by the Home Depot, and Tom Sawyer Lake. With hopes to see various waterfowl! Meet at the Burger King in Tehachapi at 8 am to carpool to the 3 sites.

Thurs. Nov. 3 - Registration opens for the Morro Bay Bird Festival (Jan 18-21) On Martin Luther King weekend, join over 500 California bird festival lovers at Morro Bay, a Globally Important Bird Area, to see, photograph, and learn more about birds. This nearby festival is a favorite of Kern Audoboners. Over 200 bird species usually seen during the festival. Field trips mostly fill up right after registration opens on Nov 3. <http://morrobaybirdfestival.org>.



WORKPARTY AT PANORAMA VISTA PRESERVE THIS NOVEMBER 10TH AFTER THE BIRD OUTING..PLEASE CONSIDER STAYING AND JOINING IN ON THE FUN!!



In the September Warbler **Susan Castle** noted the importance of limiting our use of plastic. To get your own reusable "multiuse" utensil go to smile.amazon.com and put "Light My Fire Spork" in the search column - available in reusable Plastic, Stainless Steel or Titanium.



Last month our presenter, John Rowden illustrated how vital native plants are for the survival of birds. Here are some nurseries where you can find native plants:

Local

Robbie's and White Forest Nurseries

Nearby

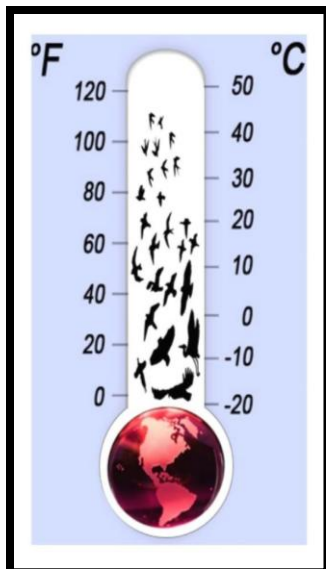
Las Pilitas Nursery - www.laspilitasnursery.com 805-4385992 Santa Margarita, CA

Matilija Nursery - www.mantilijanursery.com 805-523-8604 Moorpark, CA

Intermountain Nursery - www.intermountainnursery.com 559-855-3113 Prather, CA

Climate Corner: Newest Recruits in California's War on Climate Change: Carbon Farmers

More than 80 farmers now engaged in a state-funded program aimed at increasing carbon concentrations in California's soil. Part of the state's overarching goal of curbing greenhouse gas emissions to mitigate climate change, the California Healthy Soils Initiative took effect a year ago, when the state's cap-and-trade program made \$7.5 million available in small grants to farmers. That money is used to encourage and implement carbon farming—the buzz term for any strategic agricultural practice that helps suck carbon atoms from the air and into plant tissue and the ground faster than carbon cycles back out. Over time, the process creates rich, carbon-black soil. A growing community of scientists now believe carbon farming will be essential in helping curb global warming trajectories.



Participating farmers add heavy layers of compost to invigorate plant growth while avoiding tilling, which exposes raw soil to the air and allows carbon atoms to bond with oxygen and float off as carbon dioxide, a potent greenhouse gas.

More than half of the Earth's historic soil carbon has been released into the atmosphere by unsustainable farming, according to researchers in the field, and the mission of California's new policy is to put some of that carbon back in the ground.

U.S. carbon farming eventually could lead to annual carbon sequestration of 83 million tons per year on agricultural soils. Given all available lands in the country, including forests, as much as 475 million tons of carbon could be put into the ground each year. That's significant, if not huge: California alone emitted 472 million tons of CO₂ equivalent, in 2016, according to the state's Air Resources Board. The California Department of Food and Agriculture, which manages the soils program, has handed out carbon farming grants to growers in more than 30 counties, including some conservative ones where climate science skepticism may be relatively common.



FIELD TRIP FUN: from outing group to Hart Park
on September 18th

KERN AUDUBON ON FACEBOOK

"Like" us and add your comments, photos, bird sightings, and get updates on field trips and programs! Laura Fahey manages our Facebook, email her at: ityzmom@sbcglobal.net.



Kern Audubon Executive Board 2017-2018

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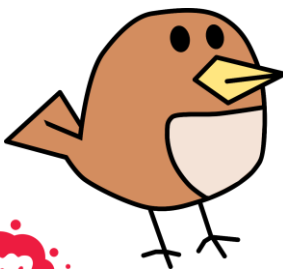
angelic_iz04@icloud.com; (661) 345-7859

Board Meeting Nov. 20, 2018 7PM

Raffle Items Needed



Have more than one item at home?
Received a gift that you do not need? If
you answered 'yes' to one of these
questions, please bring the item (or buy
one) to our monthly meeting. We need
more items for our raffle.



Want to know about
upcoming outings
for Kern Audubon?

Want to find out
what similar groups
are doing? Sign up
for **Meetup!**

[www.meetup.com/
Kern-Audubon-
Society](http://www.meetup.com/Kern-Audubon-Society)

Many thanks to
Carly Summers for
updating events
on the site.



Do you use
Amazon for your
shopping needs?
If so, sign up for
AmazonSmile.
A percent (0.5%)
of your purchases
will go to the Kern
Audubon Society.
Sign up today on
your Amazon
account home
page. There is no
cost to KAS or to
you, an
AmazonSmile
customer.

Old Audubon Magazines Needed

Have copies of your
Audubon magazine? We
need them to give to
students at Science Camp.
Bring them to the any
monthly meeting.

Quick Announcements from Kern Audubon!

**Kern Audubon Board of Directors
meetings are open to any member.**
Meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday
of the month Aug-May, except Dec.
Usually at 6:00 pm in the same
location as for our monthly meetings,
at Kern Co Sup of Schools at
17th + L Sts. Contact is Harry at
805-1420 harrylove1944@gmail.com

**Kern Audubon's website is looking for
members' bird photos.** If you've taken
bird photos in Kern County that might
look good on our website, send them
to Harry Love at
harrylove1944@gmail.com Be sure to
include your name, the name of the
bird, and where you took the photo.

Senior Day at the Fair

On Friday, September 21, several of our members were at our booth explain the benefits of joining the Kern Audubon Society. Our volunteers were *Mac McCarthy, Fran Hersh, Linda McMillian, and Harry Love*. Over 100 seniors stopped by.



Science Night at Juliet Thorner School

On Friday, September 20, KAS was invited to tell elementary school children and their parents about the 'wonderful world of birds'. Children were able to learn about owls, wingspan of birds, and what makes birds special.



Thanks to: *Mac McCarthy, Fran Hersh, Wendy Hodash, and Bob Hodash* for speaking to students and parents.

California Condor: A Bird in Our Backyard

A holdover from prehistoric times, the great condor is one of our largest and most magnificent birds -- and one of the rarest. Soaring over wilderness crags, feeding on carcasses of large dead animals, reproducing very slowly, it was not well suited to survival in modern-day southern California. Headed toward extinction in the 1980s, the last birds were brought in from the wild in 1987, to be bred in captivity for eventual release into the wild again. The captive breeding program turned out to be surprisingly successful, and flocks of released condors are surviving in several areas of California and in the region of the Grand Canyon.

Outing to Tehachapi Mountain Park on September 29.

Leader: Greg Hargleroad.

Photos courtesy of:
Ron Worgul



Kern Audubon Society

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Bakersfield, CA 93385

Kernaudubonsociety.org

MEMBERSHIP FORM

The basic membership dues cover the cost of your subscription to the Warbler. Please consider joining or renewing at a higher level to support the important environmental education and conservation projects critical to the protection of wildlife and the environment. All of your membership dues will be used to support our local education and conservation efforts.

(Note: Membership in Kern Audubon Society does not make you a member of National Audubon. You must complete a separate membership form with National Audubon on its website. See link at bottom of this page.)

Check all boxes that apply to your membership in KAS.

_____ I am a new member

_____ I am a renewing member

_____ Individual membership \$20

_____ Student \$15

_____ Family membership \$35

_____ Benefactor Membership \$100

_____ Condor life time membership \$1,000

Donations: _____ \$5 supporter (recurring monthly) _____ \$10 sustaining (recurring monthly)

One time: _____ \$30 _____ \$50 _____ \$100 _____ \$250 _____ \$500 _____ Other amount _____

Print this form. Make your check for membership in KAS and any additional donations payable to **Kern Audubon Society**. Mail check and this membership form to:

P.O. Box 3581, Bakersfield, CA 93385

If you wish to pay by credit card, you may use the Pay Pal button on our web site
(kernaudubonsociety.org)

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Kern Audubon Society will not sell or distribute any member information to any other organization.

If you want to also join National Audubon go to: <https://www.audubon.org>